



The Orchid Society of the Triangle (Durham, Raleigh, Chapel Hill) and surrounding area of North Carolina
Associated with Sarah P. Duke Gardens

Orchidaceae

Monthly Newsletter of the Triangle Orchid Society

February 2016

Orchid Panel Discussion

7:30 PM, February 8, 2016

This month, we will have an orchid grower's panel. We haven't had an orchid panel since 2013. Has something perplexing happened in your orchid collection since then? You'll want to take advantage of this meeting to find answers to some of orchids' cultural mysteries. Our panel guests are John Stanton, Charles Walker, Nick Plummer, and Harry Gallis, who will moderate the discussion. Our panel experts have a variety of specialties, some of which are noted below.

John Stanton: Cattleyas

Charles Walker: Indoor culture, Miniature orchids, Slipper orchids

Nick Plummer: Terrestrials, Encyclias

Harry Gallis: Dendrobiums, Phalaenopsis

Take a look at our new [Triangle Orchid Society Facebook](#) page. You may post any orchid questions you have ahead of the meeting.

Please remember to pay your 2016 membership dues!
(see page 16)

Photographs: Suzanne Hens (pages 3,4,6,10,11); Alan Miller (pages 5 and 6); Harry Gallis (pages 12 and 13); Philip Brindle (page 15).

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Dinner

5:30 pm - before the meeting at Carrabba's Italian Grill

5312 New Hope Commons Drive, Durham, across from New Hope Commons Shopping Center at the intersection of I-40 and US 15/501.

If you plan on attending the dinner, please contact Allan Miller. (919) 969-1612

The Triangle Orchid Society meets at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens
420 Anderson St.
Durham, NC

The Second Monday of the Month
at 7:30 pm

TriangleOrchidSociety.org



TOS Officers and Board Members

2016

OFFICERS

President

Sidney Cox (919) 489-7173
sidney269@earthlink.net

Vice President

Harry Gallis (919) 564-0007
harry.gallis@frontier.com

Secretary

Calling for nominations

Treasurer

Anne Williams (919) 493-1727
annewilliams1973@hotmail.com

Past President

Nancy Harvey (919) 401-4533
ntrharvey@gmail.com

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

At Large Trustees: 2016

Pei-fen Liu (919) 683-3066
peifenliu@earthlink.com
Kelly Nipp (315) 212-3052
klnipp07@gmail.com

At Large Trustees: 2017

Stephen McAllister
tack2west@yahoo.com
Sarah Patterson
sarahncsu@gmail.com

At Large Trustees: 2018

Axel Elling (509) 288-2077
axel.elling@gmail.com
Ralph Belk, III
ralph.belk.iii@gmail.com

January Meeting

The January 11, 2016 membership meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society, Inc. was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Sidney Cox, TOS President. Approximately 50 people attended the meeting. Anne Williams and Axel Elling attended the Welcome Table, Kelly Nipp sold raffle tickets, and Sarah Patterson sold orchids. Nancy Harvey provided refreshments. Please contact her if you can provide refreshments for the February meeting.

We would like to welcome the Board Members of 2016! See their photos on pages 3 and 4.

President

Sidney Cox

Vice President

Harry Gallis

Secretary

Call for Nominations

Treasurer

Anne Williams

Past President

Nancy Harvey

Board of Trustees

2016 Pei-fen Liu

2016 Kelly Nipp

2017 Steven McAllister

2017 Sarah Patterson

2018 Axel Elling

2018 Ralph Belk, III

Sidney discussed the upcoming regional shows and encouraged members to take part in the show for TOS by contacting Nancy Harvey or Harry Gallis. Sidney also announced the exhibit for Darwin Day in February and should be contacted to participate. He also welcomed new member, James Curtis, who is a student judge at the Carolina Judging Center and a new employee at the Orchid Trail Greenhouses in Morrisville.

Thanks to all the members who made the Raffle, the Silent Auction, and the TOS 'Jewel Orchid Sale' successful. Thank you to all the members who have paid their 2016 dues. These funds are important for covering the cost of Programs at monthly membership meetings - i.e., Speaker fees, plus the food, travel, and hotel costs necessary for hosting out of town Speakers. We thank Paul Feaver and Harry Gallis for an informative show table discussion.

The Jack Webster Award Plants were as follows.

Greenhouse Grown:

1st Place: *Paphiopedilum harrisianum*, grown by Melissa Bullard

2nd Place: *Dendrobium spectabile*, grown by Kelly Nipp and Steven McAllister

3rd Place: *Cattleya loddigesii* var. *alba*, grown by James Curtis

Non-Greenhouse Grown:

1st Place: *Angraecum sesquipedale*, grown by Charles Walker

2nd Place: *Brassocattleya* (BC) *Maikai 'Louise'* AM/AOS, grown by Sidney Cox

3rd Place: *Stenosarcos Vanguard 'Red Stripe'*, grown by Sarah Patterson

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm. Meeting minutes were submitted by Suzanne Hens and Nancy Harvey.



TOS 2016 Officers



Sidney Cox
President



Harry Gallis
Vice President



Anne Williams
Treasurer



Nancy Harvey
Past President



TOS Board of Trustees



Kelly Nipp
2016



Pei-fen Liu
2016



Stephen McAllister
2017



Sarah Patterson
2017



Axel Elling
2018



Ralph Belk, III
2018



January 2016

Jack Webster

Awards

Greenhouse Grown

1st Place: *Paphiopedilum harrisianum*,
grown by Melissa Bullard



2nd Place: *Dendrobium
spectabile*
grown by Kelly Nipp and Steven
McAllister



3rd Place: *Cattleya loddigesii* var. *alba*
grown by James Curtis



January 2016

Jack Webster Awards

**Non-Greenhouse
Grown**

1st Place: *Angraecum sesquipedale*
grown by Charles Walker



2nd Place: *Brassocattleya Maikai* 'Louise' AM/AOS
grown by Sidney Cox



3rd Place: *Stenosarcos Vanguard*
'Red Stripe'
grown by Sarah Patterson



Nick Plummer: Tropical Terrestrial Orchids

A wide variety of terrestrial orchids can be successfully grown in pots using variations on a couple of simple potting mixes. A key to success is paying close attention to the annual growth cycle of the plants.

The simplest potting medium is long-fiber sphagnum. Use clay pots for those plants that want slightly drier or cooler conditions. Plastic pots for those that require wetter conditions. Another simple mix is peat and perlite. A bale of dry, compressed peat from Home Depot or Lowes will last for many years if you are repotting a small collection. 1 part peat to 1 part perlite works well for many orchids. Look closely at perlite before purchasing. Some manufacturers are now adding fertilizer to perlite, which can be bad for your orchids and defeats the purpose of perlite as a inert soil additive. Permatill (stalite) can be substituted for perlite. Permatill is an expanded slate produced in North Carolina. Unlike perlite, it is heavier than water and won't float out of the pot, so it can also be used as a top dressing. Locally, Permatill can be purchased at Durham Garden Center and Witherspoon Rose nursery (and possibly elsewhere).

Suggested culture for some specific types of terrestrial orchids

Jewel orchids: See instructions for plants sold at the January TOS meeting (pages 8 and 9).

Spiranthinae (*Spiranthes*, *Stenorrhynchos*, *Cyclopogon*, *Sarcoglottis*)

Sphagnum or peat/perlite or peat/permatill. Full sun to shade depending upon the species. Some species have a brief dormancy during which they drop some or all of their leaves. Keep drier, but not bone dry, during dormancy.

Habenariinae (*Habenaria*, *Cynorkis*, *Pecteilis*)

Sphagnum, peat/perlite or peat/permatill. Some *Habenaria* have tuberoids that adhere to rocks. Placing some pebbles at the bottom of the pot may prevent them from adhering to the sides of the pot. Bright light to full sun. Keep moist during active growth. Many species require a completely dry dormancy for months in winter when they will lose all leaves and above ground growth. Repot tuberous roots during dormancy.

Bletia

Peat/perlite or peat/permatill with added sand or gravel. Plant pseudobulbs at soil surface and cover with top dressing of gravel or permatill. Grow in bright 'Cattleya' light. During growing season, water when soil is almost dry. Do not keep waterlogged. Requires dry winter dormancy.

Eulophiinae (*Eulophia*, *Oeceoclades*)

Peat/perlite or peat/permatill with added sand or gravel for xerophytic species. Grow in 'Cattleya' light (full sun for *Eulophia petersii*). Water as for *Bletia*. Some species are deciduous, others are evergreen.

Pterostylis

Peat/perlite or peat/permatill with added sand, fine fir bark, etc. Top dress pot with chopped pine needles. Grow in bright shade (i.e. 'Phalaenopsis' light). During the winter growing season, keep cool and moist but not waterlogged. Requires a warm and dry summer dormancy when it will lose all leaves. Can be grown with winter dormant plants like *Habenaria* to make the most efficient use of bench space.



Tropical Terrestrial Orchids:
Jewel Orchids
Sold at the January Members' Meeting

Jewel Orchids are so named because of the stunning patterns and coloration of their dramatic, often iridescent, foliage. Most are miniature in size, and they are ideal candidates for small terrariums. They can be difficult to grow in exposed, dry conditions; they thrive in a humid atmosphere without frequent misting. Grow in warm conditions and away from direct sunlight. They prefer high grade sphagnum moss as a medium and want to approach dryness at the roots between watering; keep pots on gravel above water, never submerged. Change the moss once a year being careful not to damage the hairy roots. Many people remove the flower stalks because on some the foliage deteriorates after blooming.

Anoectochilus albo-lineatus

This is an uncommon species in the trade, but a very nice orchid with lots of genetic diversity, and so has been called almost every name in the book. It has 3-13, 1/4 inch flowers with pink overtones from spring to early fall. A medium-sized warm to cool growing plant with dark green foliage and distinctive coppery veining. It tends to grow more vertically than many other jewel orchids.

Anoectochilus brevilabris

Plants have dark, ovate leaves with pale golden to orange veins and a distinct point. This is a cooler growing, small to medium sized iridescent plant from the eastern Himalayas; found as an epiphyte on moss covered rocks. It has either several to many pretty, 1/2 inch, flowers with green/copper overtones from late spring to mid-fall.

Anoectochilus formosanus

Deep green leaves with silver veins and burgundy leaf undersides; cute, heart shaped leaves. White, nicely spaced, 0.6 inch flowers with pink and yellow colors on 6 inch stalk. A winter blooming miniature, warm growing plant, which has medicinal uses in many Asian cultures. Easy, but prone to mites in low humidity, leaves tolerate misting better than some; creeps and branches well. Makes a better tasting tea than other jewel orchids with medicinal use.

Anoectochilus geniculatus

It has the typical *Anoectochilus* frilly lip flowers on a short stalk of four, 0.8 inch white blooms with pink overtones; fall to early winter blooming. A nice, miniature to small, warm to hot growing plant; it prefers to creep, and roots at the nodes. This species can vary in size depending on culture; stronger light encourages creeping, lower light encourages the plants to vine upwards.

Anoectochilus roxburghii

A pink veined jewel orchid from India; always iridescent. A nice plant, but a bit soft and leggy at times. An easy to grow, summer to fall blooming plant, with 2-15 sequential blooming, pretty, almost one inch, flowers with green/maroon overtones on a tall stalk; a hot to cool growing, miniature plant, which may tolerate mist on leaves better than most jewel orchids. Easy to grow once the plant matures into a large clump.

***Dossinia marmorata***

It has stubby, big (up to 5 inch, 13 cm) leaves; a slow growing, tuber forming, plant which benefits from a drier, cooler, rest after blooming. The leaves can be green but are redder if they have tubers; it can take more light than most jewel orchids, 1000+ foot candles. It is a hot growing plant found on leaf litter covered, mossy limestone and can take temperatures above 90F (31C). It is easy to grow if not overwatered and provided lime. Unlike many jewel orchids, it is good looking in flower; it has tall stalks of many, pretty, 0.4 inch, white flowers with pink bracts from fall until spring.

Macodes petola

Evergreen, small sized, warm to hot growing plant that tolerates a little more light than some jewel orchids. It clumps and spreads like a weed. An easy to grow, fall to winter blooming plant with many maroon, non-resupinate, 2/5 inch flowers; tends to fall apart after it flowers; reducing the water by half helps prevent this. It is used as a stimulant tea, and in Java a juice is made from the plant and then dripped into the eyes with the thought to increase proficiency in the art of writing.

Macodes sanderiana

Changes color when viewed at different angles, and changes its color as it ages, ending in a black collection of squares with yellow netting and a purplish underside. Blooms in the fall and winter on a 10 to 12 inch (25 to 30 cm) tall thin spike with many 1/2 inch, maroon, non-resupinate flowers; unremarkable flower spikes that might be best pinched off, since after it flowers the plant seems to dissolve into a yellow shriveled mess until it puts out a new shoot or two. A small sized, warm to hot growing plant which tolerates a little more light than some jewel orchids; slow growing, clumps well.

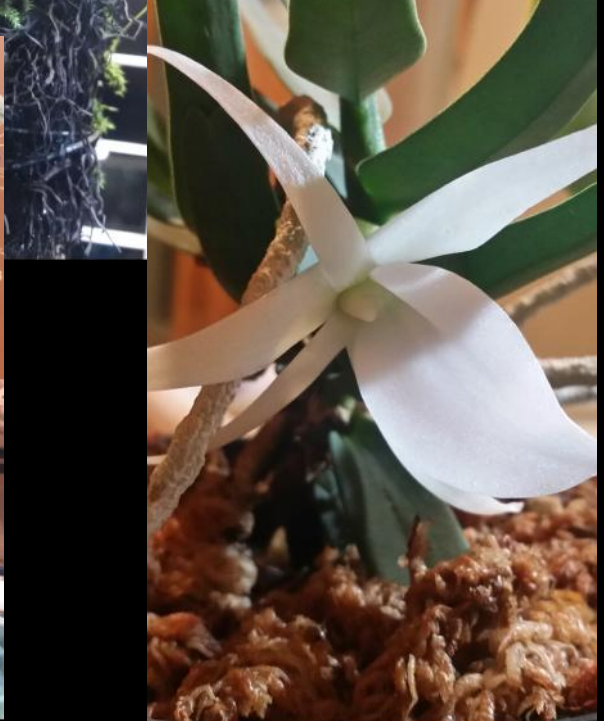
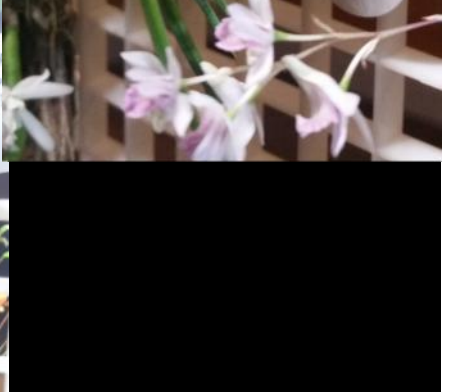
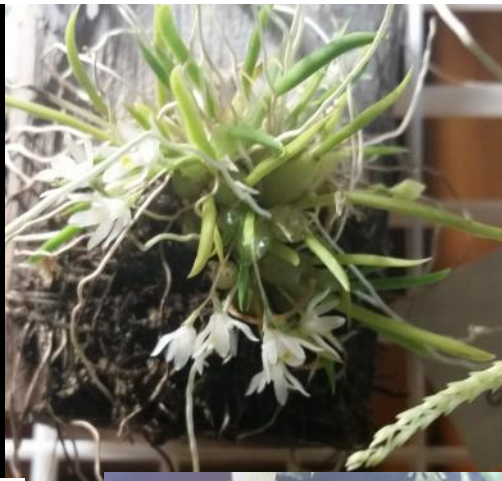


**A Few Members' Orchids From the January 2016 meeting
Greenhouse Grown**





**A Few Members' Orchids From the January 2016 meeting
Non-Greenhouse Grown**





News from the NC Piedmont Orchid Society Show Belmont, NC

Set up for the show was on Thursday Jan 21 at Daniel Stowe Botanic Garden in Belmont. As you all know, there was a snow and ice storm predicted for that weekend. Fool that I am, I packed up the car with plants from Sidney, Kelly and Steven, Sara Gallis, James Curtis and my own and put in a 16 sq. ft. exhibit.

Several societies were already finished by the time I arrived and several canceled because of the weather. We were planning to judge on Friday morning, but Daniel Stowe closed because of the weather. I had my wife's Subaru 4WD so I was set, but there was nowhere to go.

Linda Wilhelm and I persuaded them to open for us on Saturday afternoon. So Linda, Joe Dorian, their orchid grower, and I went to Daniel Stowe. I did ribbon judging, so that everyone could at least get a trophy if they were eligible. Our exhibit received three: James Curtis' *Den faciferum* was best Dendrobium, my *Phalaenopsis schilleriana* was the best Phalaenopsis (there were only TWO in the entire show and both were mine!), Kelly Nipp and Steven McAllister's *Den spectabile*, which you saw at the January meeting, received best specimen plant.

Because of the conditions on the interstates, I was stranded at Rolf and Linda Wilhelm's home until Sunday – I think we cleaned out their freezer with great dinners. Fortunately the Subaru got us up and down their 1000 ft. driveway with no difficulty! Let's hope for better weather for the February shows!

Pictures are the three trophy winners (page 13) and the view from Linda and Rolf Wilhelm's house down to the greenhouses (right).

-Harry Gallis





Upcoming Events and Shows

South Carolina Orchid Society Show

February 12 – 14

Columbia, SC

Riverbanks Zoo & Garden

Darwin Day

February 13

Raleigh, NC, Museum of Natural Sciences



Virginia Orchid Society Show

February 19 – 21

Richmond, VA, Strange's Garden Center

Triad Orchid Society Show

March 4 – 6

Greensboro, NC, The Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs



Sandhills Orchid Society Growers' Day

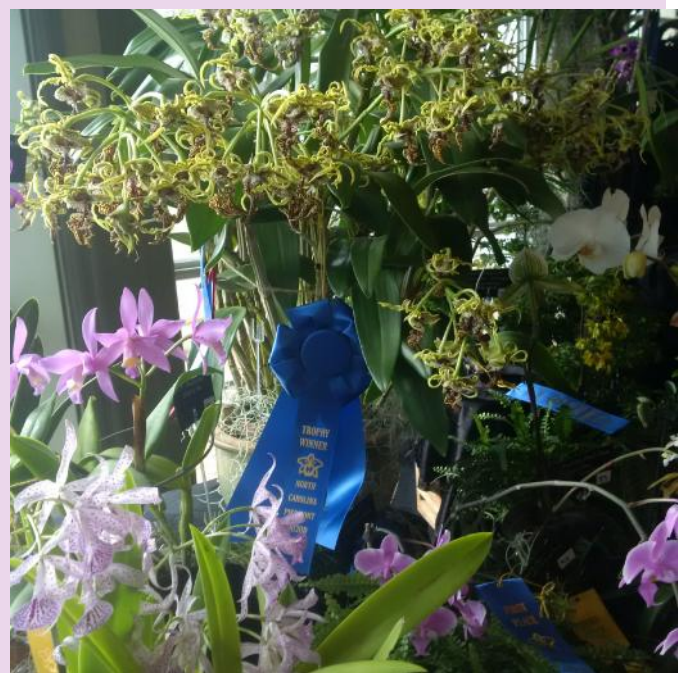
March 12

Fayetteville, NC (See page 14)

Asheville Orchid Festival

April 14 – 17

Asheville, NC, Arboretum



Photos from the NC Piedmont Orchid Society Show



Sandhills Orchid Society
presents their
Annual Growers' Day
Featuring Art Chadwick, Jr
from Chadwick and Son Orchids

Pre-register

Send your checks by March 8
payable to Sandhills Orchid
Society along with your
name, address, phone num-
ber, and email address to
5717 Weatherford Road,
Fayetteville, NC 28303

***ALL YOU NEED to KNOW to GROW
and BLOOM your ORCHID!***

This day-long event is designed for everyone, beginner to experienced, interested in learning more about growing and blooming orchids. The speakers will conduct workshops focusing on the most common home grown orchids. This years event will feature, for the first time, a 2 hour Master Class taught by guest speaker, Art Chadwick, Jr.

When: Saturday, March 12, 2016;
9:30 AM (Registration) to 3:00 PM

Where: Holy Trinity Episcopal Church
1601 Raeford Rd., Fayetteville, NC 28305

Cost: \$30.00 per person
(if received by March 9)

\$35.00 at the door
(Fee includes workshop materials, lunch,
and an orchid plant)

For additional information contact

Susan Makar
samakar1516@yahoo.com
910-867-2017





Darwin's orchid strikes a chord with TOS members

My wife Frances and I rarely make the monthly meetings as my travelling for work interferes with our social life, but Jan 11 was an exception. And, what a meeting it was! Not only did we learn a lot about terrestrial orchids from the very informative presentation by Nick Plummer, but we came home with 5 orchids to boot, one of which is absolutely jaw-dropping. Frances teaches biology to high schoolers at Carolina Friends School and is always on the lookout for interesting material to fire up the students' enthusiasm for biology. What better material for the upcoming classroom discussion on co-evolution of plants and their pollinators than a few photos of Charles Walker's fabulous specimen of *Angraecum sesquipedale* Thouars, Darwin's orchid! We, of course, voted eagerly for it when the time came and were delighted for Charles when it received 1st Place. Then, to our astonishment, whilst photographing it and discussing it with Charles he presented it to us! What a generous gift by Charles and one we so very much appreciate. Which leaves us only to say that TOS is a remarkable society with some remarkably special members!



For those members not familiar with the Darwin connection a quick visit to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iMz6lApJgu4> will reveal what a remarkable person Charles Darwin was in predicting there would be a moth with a proboscis as long as the nectary spur to pollinate *Angraecum sesquipedale*. The nighttime fragrance produced by this orchid to attract the now known hawk moth, *Xanthopan morganii praedicta*, is absolutely intoxicating! -Philip Brindle

Watch the hawk moth pollinate a Darwin's orchid:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OMVNI EWxfAU>

Don't miss the annual Darwin Day at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences on Saturday, February 13. See our TOS booth and dozens of other booths exhibiting Darwin's influence on our view of the natural world. Contact Sidney Cox if you'd like to volunteer.



DATE	SPEAKER	TOPIC
FEBRUARY 8	Gallis, Plummer, Stanton, Walker	Expert panel discussion
MARCH 14	Linda Wilhelm Woodland Orchids	Miltonias
APRIL 11	SPRING ORCHID AUCTION	

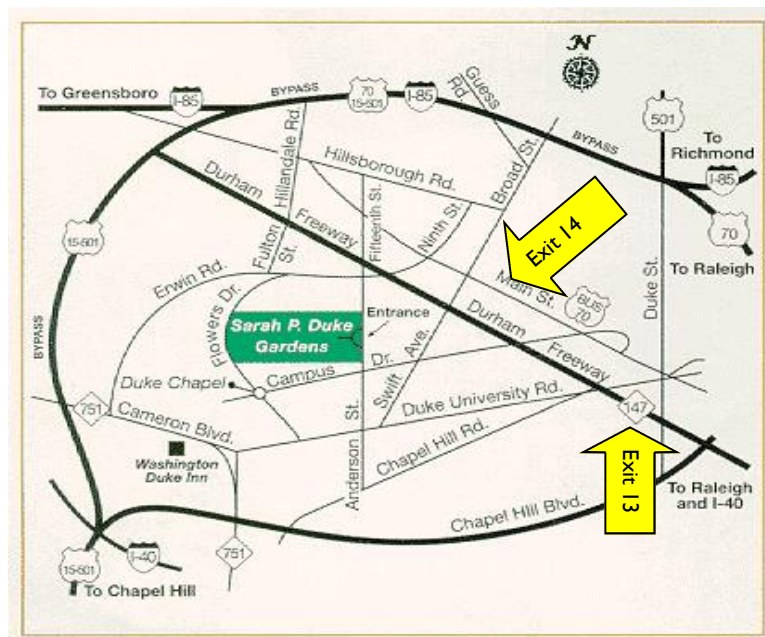
Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda

7:00-7:30	Set Up Show Tables
7:30-7:40	Business Meeting and Announcements
7:40-8:30	Program
8:30-8:50	Break
8:50-9:20	Show Table Reviews and Awards
9:20-9:30	Raffle
9:30 P.M.	Meeting Ends Take down show tables

Welcome Table

FEBRUARY	Axel Elling, Anne Williams	See a Board Member to volunteer.
MARCH	Axel Elling, Anne Williams	See a Board Member to volunteer.

Refreshments



From the East:

Durham Freeway (#147) to Exit 13.
Right on Chapel Hill Rd.
Right on Anderson St.
Sarah P. Duke Gardens (420 Anderson) on left.

From the West:

Durham Freeway (#147) to Exit 14.
Right on Swift Ave.
Right on Campus Dr.
Right on Anderson St.
Sarah P. Duke Gardens (420 Anderson) on left.

Newsletter Editor
Suzanne Hens
Phone: (919) 452-5545
E-mail: TOSnewsletter2015@gmail.com

Triangle Orchid Society Dues

\$22 per year single, or **\$30** per year for two persons living at the same address.

Send your dues to: Anne Williams, TOS Treasurer, 1506 Kent St., Durham NC 27707