

August 2023 Triangle Orchid Society Newsletter:

From the President's Desk



Dear TOS Members,

August 2023 is ending – seems almost unbelievable to me – but, it does mean our much- anticipated annual “Fall for Orchids” show is knocking at our doors. Cancel everything in your calendar for the weekend of September 8-10 because if there’s one TOS event you must not miss it is this! The Show Committee has done a phenomenal job of organizing this year’s event which will take place once again at the wonderful botanical setting of JCRA. So, come marvel at breathtaking orchid displays and pay homage to all those involved in setting them up. Looking at photographs of orchids flowering is certainly uplifting, but seeing Mother Nature’s finest creations firsthand is something I’d describe as bewitching beyond measure – you will leave the show truly inspired, believe me!

Our August 14 auction went off extremely well under the challenging conditions of being conducted with only emergency lighting due to a power loss at JCRA. But, through the calm, guiding hand of our auctioneer, plus the silent auction, as well as specifically-directed donations, \$670 was raised to support the show. Many thanks to you all, and my apologies for not being able to attend. And, kudos to those who had the foresight to include a light when designing smartphones!

An annual independent audit of TOS’ financial records by a non-board member has been completed and a report received, as per the TOS bylaws. I am pleased to inform you that your growing society is financially robust. The monthly spreadsheets maintained by TOS (tracking incomings/outgoings) were found to be consistent with the financial statements of TOS’s bank and endowment accounts. Additionally, no changes are required to the basic tax filing we do each year in order to maintain tax-exemption status under the IRS rules for 501(c)(3) organizations. A couple of minor recommendations were made which the Board will consider implementing in due course. On behalf of us all, I thank the auditor for her time and thorough work, and our Treasurer for his routine diligence in managing TOS’ finances.

Lastly, TOS needs YOU! Let's face it, TOS would not exist without you and your love of orchids.

But TOS is not an entity that runs on autopilot; it relies upon a Board of Officers and Trustees that meets via ZOOM the third Monday of each month to discuss and execute the running of the society. Accordingly, each year at this time a Nomination Committee forms to identify individuals to nominate as potential Board members. This committee has now formed and is out and about scouting interested individuals. Should you be interested but are not quite sure about what Board work entails, the Board is opening its next meeting (Monday Sept 18, 7.00 – 8.30pm) so you can experience firsthand what happens behind the scenes of TOS. Rules for asking questions will be provided at the start of the meeting. Please drop me an email if you wish to attend so I can provide you with the agenda.

Phil Brindle, TOS President

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Board of Trustees,
Triangle Orchid Society, Inc.