

July 2023 Triangle Orchid Society Newsletter: From the President's Desk



Dear TOS Members,

July, what a month of too many stiflingly humid, very hot days! Occasional thundery rain showers offered all too short-lived relief. The type of weather much loved by many orchids, but certainly not all! The cool growers (Masdevallias, Draculas, Disas to mention very few) struggle, as do I. But Fall is coming into focus with its cooler weather - hopefully - and TOS SHOWTIME, so hang in there. Our "Fall for Orchids" show is early this year, Sept 8-10 at JC Raulston Arboretum, so make sure to enter it on your calendar. The Show Committee is in full swing to deliver TOS and JCRA visitors a memorable event. So, looking for something different to expand your orchid horizons? TOS just loves its volunteers who help set up, break down or help manage and greet fellow orchid lovers who will be passing through. It is a fun, very inspiring event where the majestic plants on display from members of TOS and other societies will knock your socks off. Come join the party, tell your friends and work colleagues, and let us know you'll be volunteering, and THANK YOU!

On July 10 TOS held a very successful Ice Cream Social in combination with its Members' Sale. Lots of deliciously flavored ice creams and Italian ices were consumed, somewhat on the scale of oxygen being consumed! Some great plants and growing accessories exchanged hands and members were most generous with their donations (\$136) to the society's coffers. I sincerely thank you for your generosity. Rest assured, the buying power of every dollar is being maximized for managing this year's budget for our blockbuster show, speakers, and other events.

For most of us, growing and collecting orchids is a hobby, a very noble hobby methinks, for is there anything so aesthetically pleasing to the senses as orchids in flower? I think not, but I might be just a tad biased. Need I add, a hobby, being a vital ingredient of a healthy work-life balance recipe, needs an annual budget, just like all of life's essentials. And, it needs to be overspent by year-end! The latter makes justification of increasing one's hobby spending so much easier when considering next year's budget (see lesson 1 of middle-level corporate

management: never ever underspend one's budget!) I always seek opportunity amidst adversity – so, should an orchid be lost despite my best efforts, I rejoice in a space opening up for another because there's always money in the budget for one more orchid!

Ah, did I just allude to adding orchids to a collection? There will be a splendid opportunity to do so at our regular meeting on Aug 14 at JCRA. TOS will be holding another auction to help fund our show in the Fall. A fine selection of crackerjack plants has been shipped in especially from Hawaii. And finally, should you have any pest-free orchids (or orchid-related items) looking for a good home that you are willing to donate for the silent auction table, those plants would be much appreciated to help us meet our show expenses. Just bring them along and we will do the rest.

Phil Brindle, TOS President

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