

## ***May 2023 Triangle Orchid Society Newsletter: From the President's Desk***



Dear TOS Members,

I trust May has been a good month for you, a month filled with lots of rewarding flowers on your orchids. With nighttime temperatures now in the mid 50s I expect many members are taking the opportunity to put orchids outside for the coming months. I certainly have. The more I research orchids, the more convinced I am that a day-night temperature differential of ten or more degrees is essential for a healthy orchid, and this time of year provides just that. If putting your orchids outside is a first for you, do make sure you position them such that they are shaded from the direct rays of afternoon sun. I did not provide sufficient shade the first year I did it and consequently several of my orchids ended up with brown, dead, sunburned patches on their leaves. And, unsightly leaves can last a very long time on some orchid plants! This year more of my orchids will experience their first summer outdoors "vacation" because I intend to rework a section of greenhouse bench so I can accommodate yet more orchids. I am not quite at the point of building that bigger greenhouse, but I'm beginning to perceive tremors deep down!

I am pleased to write that the Board has agreed upon a way to replace the old TOS laptop without adversely impacting the financial well-being of the society. The new laptop will serve the growing membership for the next several years. A point that leads me nicely to my next item. Serving the needs of a steadily growing membership requires a full Board of volunteer officers and trustees, which is where YOU, the TOS members, can play a role. If you would like to help create the future of TOS, please consider joining the Board. By year-end we will have need for a couple of trustees and a secretary (yes, after 5 yrs, our very own Ajay has announced he will be stepping aside to provide another member an opportunity in the vital, secretarial role). All members are eligible (old-timers and newbie members alike), no expertise in orchids is necessary - I'm living proof of that! All that is necessary is enthusiasm, a willing "can do" attitude, and a little of your time. If you are interested, drop me an email at [president@triangleorchidsociety.org](mailto:president@triangleorchidsociety.org). It is a fun, rewarding experience, and becoming more knowledgeable about orchids and their culture is a natural spinoff of being a member of the TOS Board.

I sincerely thank all those members who attended the TOS auction on May 20. The good turnout, great plants and high bids made for a very successful auction. Plus, a special thank you to all who bought Biltmore raffle tickets. The final number sold was 72, amounting to a much- welcomed total of \$360. And, congratulations to the holder of ticket # 19, the winner of the golden ticket!

Lastly, if anyone would like a free Rion Hobby Greenhouse approx. 16' (L) x 8' (W) x 6.5' (H) fitted with polycarbonate panels please drop me an email. It is to be disassembled (an easy job) and collected from Cary within the next couple of weeks. It is in good condition and power- washed.

Phil Brindle, TOS President

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Triangle Orchid Society, Inc.