

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



Dear TOS Members,

February is almost over and many orchids are coming into their own with displays of bewitching color, fragrance, and form, all of which are key to the fabulous TOS displays that we will be supporting at other societies' shows in the coming couple of months. I do hope you will take the opportunity to get involved in these events, either by lending a helping hand to setup or take down the displays, and/or by loaning your eye-popping orchids. It really is fun stuff that makes for a great society and enables orchids to be shown at their very best in public displays that truly raise the human spirit.

Next up, the announcement of the grand Biltmore raffle (no, the Biltmore Estate is not the prize!), whereby TOS shall raffle off a pair of Biltmore tickets at our next two monthly meetings and hold the final sale of tickets and raffle draw at our May auction. The two tickets with a value of \$170, include admission to the House, and are valid through Jan 24 2024. Raffle tickets will be \$5 each. So, roll up, roll up, buy a ticket (or two, or three, or more) and may luck shine upon you!

From an organizational perspective, I am delighted to tell you of a great thing that happened at our show in September last year. Besides the post-COVID return of breathtaking orchid displays, our TOS membership experienced a significant increase. This positive trend is dear to my heart and certainly something the Board wholeheartedly endorses. Accordingly, at our January working retreat, the Board created a Membership Chair position to oversee and administer membership records, thus freeing the Treasurer and Secretary of this continual task. And, I am excited to tell you that Gloria Jahnke, a present Board Trustee, has agreed to take on the role of developing this important position for TOS. My personal thanks to Gloria!

Lastly, my appeal for your help. The Board would love to see a volunteer serve as Greeter at our monthly meetings; an existing member to welcome all members, especially new members, and any guests, as they start coming through the doors at 7.00pm. No experience necessary, just wear a big, friendly smile and voice a few words of welcome! The quicker this position is filled, the better TOS will function, so please consider yourself for this role and let us know by emailing TOS.

And, now my closing comment. Do remember to buy a Biltmore raffle ticket, and start planning your trip, because the golden ticket that awaits could be yours! The orchids in

the Biltmore Conservatory are truly magical, as is the grandiose architecture and decor of Biltmore House.

May your orchid blooms (and your society) exceed your expectations!

Phil Brindle, TOS President

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