



Dear TOS Members,

Mar 2025 – Old Father Time has yet again delivered us another glorious Spring right on cue! If you had to check which way to move the hands of the clock, try this simple, somewhat military-related mnemonic, “Spring Advance and Fall Back.”

I am no fan of the biannual changing of the clocks to meet our lifestyle. Our orchids and all other lifeforms do perfectly well with time left just as is, ushering the seasons in and out as it tick-tocks along its merry way! 😊

Business-related Matters from Mar 26 TOS Board Meeting

1. Balance of the checking account as of Mar 25, 2025 was \$7,750. The significant drop compared to last month is because TOS paid the Acadian Supply bulk purchase invoice of \$2,655.25. Participating members who took advantage of the opportunity to purchase potting media at the heavily discounted prices have been individually invoiced.
2. The silent auction of 13 donated orchids at the Mar 10 meeting raised \$446.
3. March Membership Report (Carole Saravitz, TOS Membership Chairperson)
Total Paid-up Members at end of 2024: 195+35 Partners
Total Paid-up Members thus far for 2025: 119+21 Partners
New Members joining in Mar: 6+1 Partner

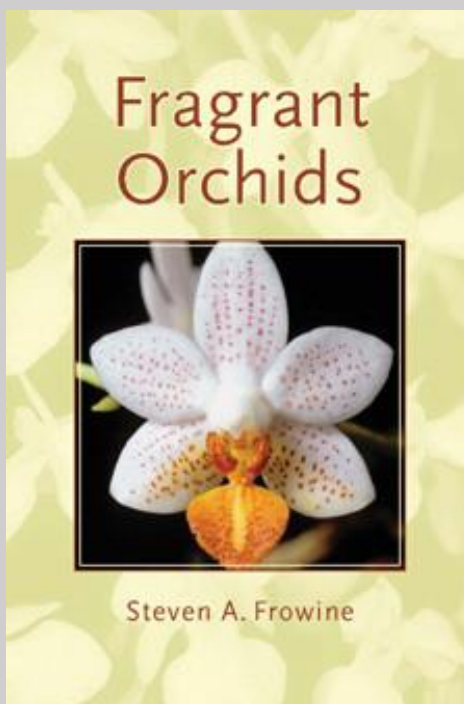
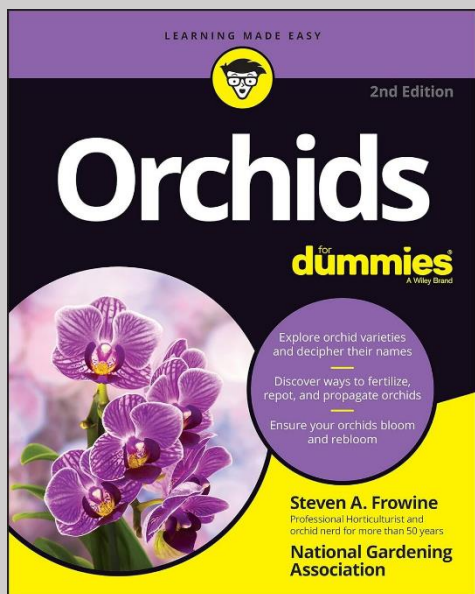
2025 membership dues are now overdue. Members who have not yet paid their dues are kindly reminded to do so prior to, or at, our upcoming meeting on April 14. Thank you.

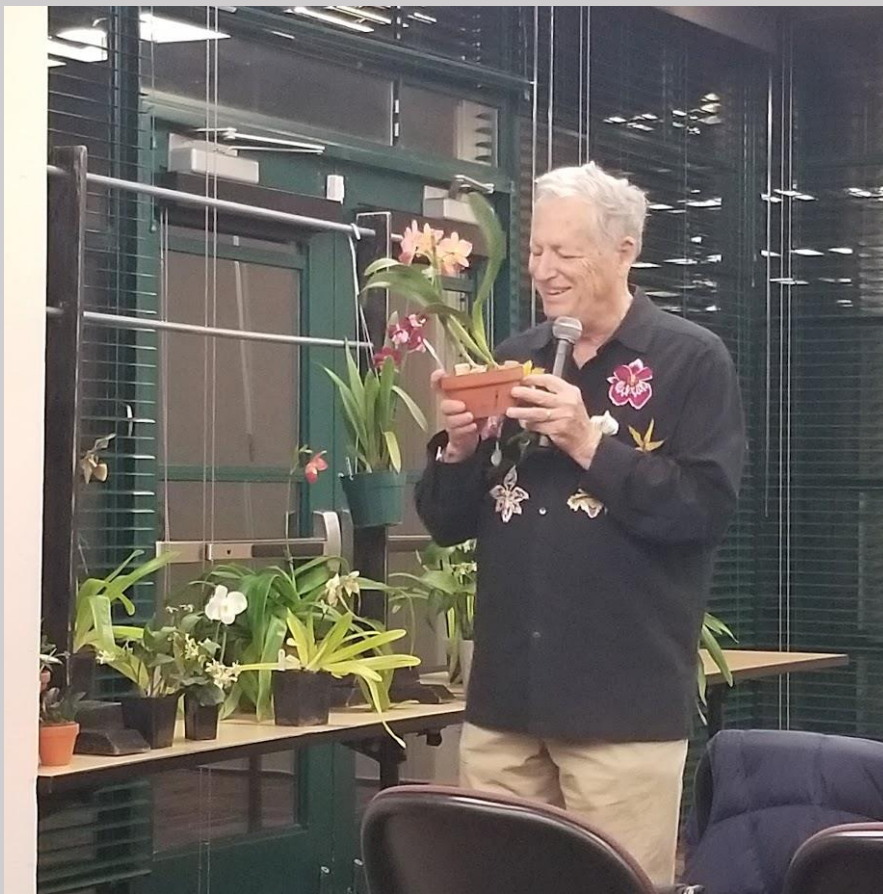
In Reflection: Mar 10 TOS Monthly Meeting at JCRA



Steven Frowine gave a well-received presentation on growing orchids without a greenhouse, which is the situation most TOS members find themselves in. He comprehensively covered all the basic requirements of light, water, temperature, and nutrients, but interspersed his talk with a little wry humor, which made for an informative, entertaining presentation. Steven's nicely-embroidered "orchid" shirt was quite a hit too. Apparently, it is a very fond legacy from the time when he lived in Mexico.

Steven's published books were also on sale at the meeting too, which he signed for those purchasing them. He also kindly made available to us the presentation from this meeting as a PDF; TOS members will receive this shortly by separate email.





As Steven described members' orchids brought in for the display table, he noted with some amusement that the owner of the orchid in his hand obviously enjoyed a bottle of wine, or two! Look closely and you will see that the orchid is growing in wine corks.

Upcoming: Away Show

The 2025 Asheville Orchid Festival of the Western North Carolina Orchid Society will be at North Carolina Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC 28806. Dates and Show hours are:

Saturday March 29th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Sunday March 30th 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

Admission is \$5.00 for all over the age of 12 years old with all exhibits, all sales areas, programs, and demonstrations included.

TOS will be entering an exhibit so take a spring weekend drive to the mountains and check out what is always a spectacular show!

Upcoming: Apr 14 at 7.30 p.m., TOS Monthly Meeting at JCRA

Nicholas Rust of Rusty's Exotic Orchids will be speaking on the topic, "The Wonderful World of Jewel Orchids." If you have not yet discovered jewel orchids, you should know

that many orchid hobbyists grow them solely for their richly-colored, patterned foliage rather than their flowers.

Nicholas will be selling plants and we shall be hosting him for dinner at Neomonde Mediterranean restaurant, 3817 Beryl Rd, Raleigh, NC 27607 prior to the meeting. Come join us because the prandial orchid conversation is always fun!

Upcoming: JCRA Event

Raulston Blooms! and Plant Sale. Saturday, April 26, 10 am – 3 pm. TOS will have a tent with display orchids there with volunteers to answer questions about orchids and our society, and Ralph Belk III will be presenting, "Orchid Care & Demonstration" at 2.00 pm.

Monthly Feature

Below is *Paphiopedilum* Julius, a primary hybrid of *Paph. rothschildianum* x *Paph. lowii*. The original cross of this hybrid was registered in 1914 by Sanders (St Albans), the vast orchid business operated by the great orchid enthusiast, Henry Frederick Conrad Sander.



Over the years, various cultivars of the hybrid have notched up over 100 American Orchid Society awards (see AOS OrchidPro), which means growing another award-winning plant is not an easy prospect. However, we are looking at the first flowering of a seedling owned by member Jeff Tucker from a cross made by Sam Tsui, former owner of the now-closed Orchid Inn nursery. Sam chose thoughtfully the parent plants for his cross, the pollen parent being an AOS FCC-awarded plant of 93 pts: *Paph. rothschildianum* 'Wide Baron'

x *Paph. lowii* 'Exotic Dancer' FCC/AOS. So, hopefully with good culture and knowing that orchids show a tendency to improve with time, plus a little Irish luck (it was in flower on St. Patrick's Day!) it offers good future potential.

Next month we will look at another promising Paph hybrid seedling from Jeff's collection, but before leaving *Paph. Julius*, let us look a tad closer at Henry Frederick Conrad Sander whose staff would have created the original cross. Sander was born in Bremen, Germany, but settled in St Albans, NW of London, England, where he established 12 very large orchid greenhouses. He was an orchid giant in his day and certainly moved in high society circles as his name is associated with many great scientists, orchid plant collectors, artists, and royalty - most likely through the connections he made after marrying Elizabeth Fearnley, who was a woman of means. Apparently, his obsession for orchids and anything to do with orchids often clouded his vision regarding financial matters concerning the running of his greenhouses as a business, a business that in its heyday had over 100 employees and its own railway siding for unloading crates of newly discovered orchids!

Sander's name is still to this day associated with new orchid hybrids registered by the Royal Horticultural Society: International Register and Checklist of Orchid Hybrids (Sander's List). But for me, one of Sander's most notable legacies is Reichenbachia (named after the great orchidologist, Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach). Reichenbachia was a Sander-commissioned, late 19th century, four volume work published in two series of life-size orchid chromolithographs, superbly produced by landscape artist, Henry George Moon, who used actual specimens from Sander's vast collections as subject matter. Sander's only daughter, Eliza Diederike, married Moon. Original chromolithographs from Reichenbachia are offered for sale occasionally online by reputable art dealers.

To learn more about Henry Fredrick Conrad Sander and his obsession with orchids and the folks he brushed shoulders with, I highly recommend the PDF presentation in the link below; it's chock full of wonderful photographs and facts about the great man. A.I. is not especially good with providing accurate information about Sander's life - it states Sander and Elizabeth Fearnley had 2 children; they actually had 4 children.

<https://fleetvillediaries.wordpress.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/sander-moon-exhibition-revised.pdf>

Feature Orchid from the Display Table



The phrag in the photo to the left was brought in for the Display Table at the March 10 TOS meeting by Kelly Nipp, a past President of TOS. It is *Phragmipedium* Don Wimber, a hybrid of the cross *Phrag. Eric Young* x *Phrag. bessae*, registered in 1995.

I find this phrag particularly stunning for its beautiful color and form. It is possibly a 4N form of the hybrid (i.e. tetraploid chromosomes), but we cannot be certain about that.

Enjoy the fantastic spring weather and begin repotting your orchids as new root initials start to appear. And, do not forget to replace the illegible, broken, or missing labels!

Phil B.

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