



Orchidacea

Newsletter of the
Triangle Orchid
Society
Associated with Sarah
P. Duke Gardens

Speaker for May 12th, 2003 Phyllis Erickson Ironwood Estate Orchids

3757 Sandy Ford Rd
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I have been married to Dale and living in Hickory for almost 24 years. We have a son Mark and Dale's sons Eric and Carter. I have a B.S. degree in Psychology from Guilford College. I began working at Siecor (now Corning Cable Systems) in 1984 & took early retirement in Dec 2001. My last position there was as an Electronic Business Analyst in the Electronic Commerce Department. Several years ago I covered Durham County while working for the NC Dept. of Social Services.

Dale and I first began growing orchids over 21 years ago.

At one time we had a small, small greenhouse. Sadly, the heater was left off by accident and all the orchids froze.

Later, the number of orchids grew and grew, covering the dining table plus a card table. Finally, we built a greenhouse behind our house.

After retiring, I decided that what I should do was to begin an orchid business. Ironwood Estate Orchids, where I am proprietress, began in 2002. The name Ironwood Estate Orchids comes from our having an Ironwood tree on our land near our drive, therefore we named our land Ironwood Estate and from that, we formed the business name. I will be bringing to the meeting an assortment of Cattleya alliance plants Blooming Size or with buds @ \$28.00 each in 4 1/2" pots. Also many Phals in 4" pots - some seedlings and some tissue culture: 48 Kaleidoscope 'Golden Treasure' 4 1/2" pots AM/AOS, 'Taisuco Day' (large white), 'New Cinderella' (large pink), Taisuco Red x (Visionary x Pell Mell) etc. All these 4" Phals will be \$7.00 each and sold at the meeting.

Phyllis Erickson

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<http://main.nc.us/brwm/ironwoodestateorchids/index.html>

Partial list on page 5. Complete List of 100+ orchids on the TOS email Newsletter List. Send your e-mail address to alanjmiller@att.net

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The Triangle Orchid Society meets at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Durham, NC
The Second Monday of the Month at 7:30 PM

www.TriangleOrchidSociety.org

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Minutes of the Last Meeting

The April 2003 meeting of the Triangle Orchid Society was called to order at 7:35 pm, by President Nolan Newton, on Monday April 14th. It was the TOS's first meeting at the Doris Duke Pavilion, in the Sarah P. Duke Gardens at Duke University in Durham, NC. Nolan marked the occasion with remarks on his undergraduate follies, and then made a few serious remarks about Doris Duke herself, who as an orchid enthusiast would surely be happy with TOS's new association with the Sarah P. Duke Gardens. The minutes of the last meeting were approved, and the Treasurer's Report was OKed. There was an appreciation of Buck Flintom and his committee for their work in negotiating our beautiful new meeting space.

Jack Webster, Show Chair for the recent Northgate Mall exhibition, gave a report: The mall loved the show, the judges thought the show was great, and most of the vendors were happy. Jack thanked the whole Society for their efforts that make the show possible, and especially recognized Merlise Clyde for registration, Alan Miller and Judith Goldstein for putting in the TOS exhibits, John Adams for hospitality organization, Buck Flintom, John Myhre, Nolan Newton and Terry Moorhead for set-up and lots and lots of work. Jack also announced that the plant order from Brazil has been delayed because of a change in government in Brazil, but he believes it will come.

Nolan called for appreciation of

Jack as Show Chair, and there was a round of applause. Other announcements: There is an exhibit of Botanical Art at the Museum Shop in Raleigh. The Triangle Orchid Society will take part in the Blue Ridge Orchid Society's show, to be held in Roanoke, VA May 1st through 4th. Volunteers are needed, and Jack Webster will head up the team. TOS's annual Spring Auction and Picnic will be held either May 17th or 18th—to be announced. Please give your e-mail address to Alan Miller to receive the newsletter electronically (and in color!).

The Show Table was then presented by Vern Block of Palm Bay Orchids, this month's guest speaker. Vern did a beautiful job, remarking on each plant.

After the refreshment break Buck announced that the TOS library books had been installed in the next room, and were available to be checked out after the meeting.

Vern Block then gave his presentation "Cattleya Species", including beautiful slides of most of the 40 to 50 ones that are grown. Vern also shared some interesting observations about growing cattleyas, cattleya breeding, the business view of cattleyas.

The raffle plant was a fabulous dendrobium grown by John Stanton. There were numerous door-prize plants too, and the Jack Webster awards were forgotten in all the excitement. The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm. Minutes submitted by Judith Goldstein, Secretary.

Orchid Shows and Events:

Jack Webster, Terry Moorhead and Judith Goldstein are putting the TOS Exhibit in the Blue Ridge Orchid Society Show in Roanoke Va. May 1st to May 4th. John Myhre and Jack Webster will be taking out.

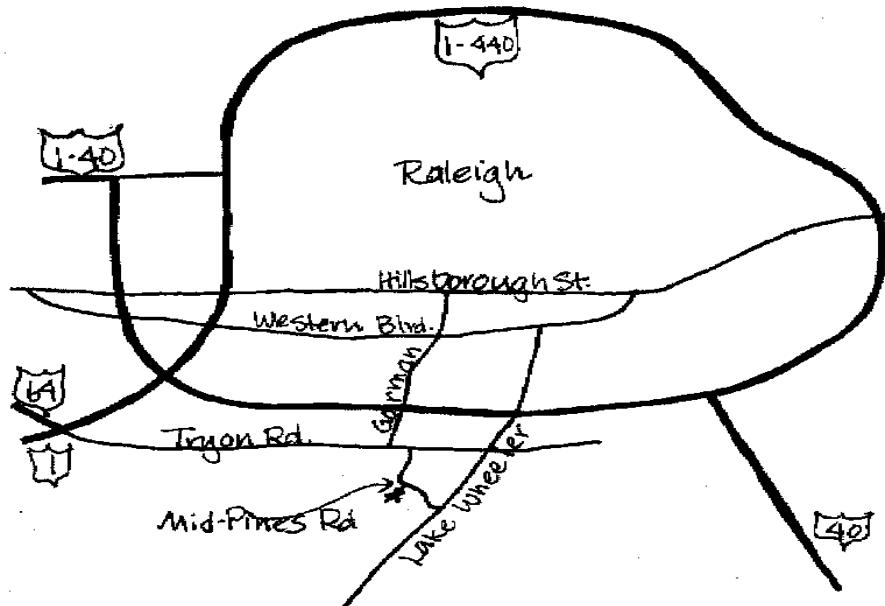


Spring Auction and Picnic

Sunday, May 18, 2003 at the Dorothea Dix Activities Center. Bring a covered dish and orchids that you haven't flowered and divisions of some of your best orchids that you can donate for our fund raising event. TOS will also be buying some orchids in flower from Carmella and Vern Bloch (our last month's speaker) to be auctioned off. Bring a covered dish. Lunch at 12 noon TOS will provide cold drinks. Auction starts at 1PM. Guest and members of the public invited. At last year's auction plants averaged about \$15 per orchid. A great way to obtain new varieties and ones that you haven't tried before. Rain or Shine. We have a covered area to protect us from the weather.



Cattleya Carl Hausermann' Spring Beauty'
From last year's TOS Auction



Sunday, May 18th

Directions to the Dorothea Dix Hospital Activities Center
At State Lake

From the west:
I-40 exit #295
South on Gorman St
Left onto Tryon Rd
Right onto Mid-Pines Rd
Right onto road to:
Dorothea Dix Hospital
Activities Center
State Lake

From the east:
I-40 exit # 297
South on Lake Wheeler Rd
Right onto Tryon Rd
Left onto Mid-Pines Rd
Right onto road to:
Dorothea Dix Hospital
Activities Center
State Lake

The Carolinas Judging Center judges have been quite busy. We have seen many lovely plants and given several awards. Below are listed the AOS awards given.

Triangle Orchid Society Show March 28, 2003, Durham

Paphiopedilum New Era 'Summit Seamist' HCC 79 points, Mark Rose, Browns Summit, NC
 Paphiopedilum micranthum 'Falls' HCC 77 points, John Martin and Jeff Bottoms, Wake Forest, NC
 Phalaenopsis philippinense 'Orchidview' HCC 79 points, HP Norton, Moncks Corner, SC
 Phalaenopsis Pink Brocade 'Hackneau' HCC 77 points, Courtney Hackney and Rose Ganuchea, Wilmington, NC

IPA Spring Meeting, April 5, 2003, Carter and Holmes Orchid Greenhouses, Newberry, SC

Cattleya schilleriana 'Tejas' HCC 78 points, Ken Avant, Kingston Springs, TN.
 Phalaenopsis amboinensis 'Tejas Treasure' AM 80 points, Ken Avant, Kingston Springs, TN.
 Renanthera Cheok Thiam Huat 'Steven' HCC 78 points, Dorcas Brogdon, Mocksville, NC
 Lockhartia serra 'Jaxon' CHM 83 points, Dorcas Brogdon, Mocksville, NC
 Cattleya Stone River 'Joyce's Choice' HCC 79 points, Ronald Cole, Athens, GA
 Epidendrum pseudepidendrum 'Mendenhall' AM 82 points,

Carter and Holmes, Newberry, SC
 Unnamed hybrid (LC Marcia Foster X LC Carl Bornshine) 'Mendenhall' AM 82 points, Carter and Holmes, Newberry, SC
 Psychopsis papilio 'Newberry Gold' AM 82 points, Carter and Holmes, Newberry, SC

Monthly Judging session, April 19, 2003, Raleigh
 LC Twilight Song 'Woodlands' HCC 77 points, Woodland Orchids, Charlotte, NC
 Oncidium Orchidum Treasured Love 'Seagrove Mingo' HCC 77 points, Seagrove Orchids, Seagrove, NC
 Phalaenopsis Linda Thorne 'Seagrove's 3D' HCC 78 points, Seagrove Orchids, Seagrove, NC
 Paphiopedilum Helen Congleton 'Hackneau' AM 81 points, Courtney Hackney and Rose Ganuchea, Wilmington, NC
 Paphiopedilum Jurgen Roth 'Itsy Bitsy Fritzy' AM 81 points, Fritz Rohde, Wilmington, NC.
 Elizabeth Sheeks,
 CJC Secretary

Look around in your book shelves for any TOS Library books that you might have taken out before we moved our meeting location and please return them at our next meeting. The TOS Library will be open again at the May 12 meeting. NO Fines will be charged.

	Welcome Table	Refreshments
May 12th	Diana Goeckerman Anne Sprague	Claudia & Rey Aponte
June 9th	Shannon Johnson	Claudia & Rey Aponte

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Partial List of Ironwood Orchids that can be pre-ordered, e-mail address & phone on page 1. Complete list on TOS E-Mailed newsletters (send e-mail address to alanjmiller@att.net)

Qty		Pot Size	Price
1	Slc	Cosmos Beau Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Den	Ioddigesii Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Enc	tampense (alba) x self Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Onc	Golden Sunset Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Ctna	Maui Maid x (C Cherry Chip x C aclandiae)	Mounted on cork w/ hanger \$15.00
1	Ctna	Why Not 'Super Nova' AM/AOS x Ctna Capri Lea	Mounted on cork w/ hanger \$15.00
1	C	C Chocolate Drop 'Kodama' AM/AOS x Enc phoeniceum	Mounted on cork w/ hanger \$15.00
1	Ctna	Ctna Maui Maid x C Elizabeth Hearn	Mounted on cork w/ hanger \$15.00
1	Rhy	Gigantea 'Red' x self Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Ctna	Keith Roth Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Phal	parishii Mounted Small plant 3 leaves	\$20.00
1	Lc	Alacheea x Enc tampense Mounted on cork w/ hanger	\$15.00
1	Den	Bill Takamatsu (Den Roy Tokunaga x johnsoniae)	4" in bloom \$25.00
1	Den	Pam Tajima (atroviolaceum x eximium)	4" in bloom \$25.00
1	Den	Winter Frost (johnsoniae x rhodostictum)	4" in bloom \$25.00
4	Den	Green Lantern (Dawn Maree x cruentum)	4" in bloom \$25.00

Triangle Orchid Society Meeting Agenda:	Calendar 2003	Speaker	Topic
7: 7:30 Set Up Show Table and Chairs	May 12th	Phyllis Erickson Ironwood Estate Orchids Hickory, NC	North Carolina Culture of Orchids
7:30-7:45 Business Meeting, Announcements	June 9th	Growers Day	TOS Members
7:45-8:10 Show Table Review	August 11th	Gene Crocker of Carter & Holmes	Orchids of Venezuela
8:10-8:30 Refreshment Break			
8:30-9:20 Program			
9:20-9:30 Show Table, Awards, Raffle and Door Prizes			
9:30 P.M. Meeting Ends			



Growing Tips for May By Courtney T. Hackney



***Coelogyne
massangeana
from
Last year's TOS
Auction***

May is the perfect time to disturb your orchids by repotting them. Cool nights and warm, long, sunny days promote root growth. A good fertilizer with the middle number highest such as 9-45-15 will help stimulate new root growth in newly repotted orchids, but is not necessary this time of year. Here is a list of what you should be doing with your plants.

Evaluate each orchid's relative health. Did it flower last year? Is the new pseudobulb or leaf bigger than last year? How long has it been in its pot? If your plant is newly purchased you must use the powers of observation that have come with your orchid growing experience. If the medium remains moist or the pot stays heavy between waterings, chances are it needs to be repotted. Most orchids purchased from retail outlets also should be repotted as they are likely potted in a medium that is designed to last until flowers

are finished and not much longer.

What medium should you use? If you have had success with a particular medium for one type of orchid keep using it for that type of orchid. If you have not enjoyed the success you think you should get try a few plants in what other growers in your area use until you find one that works well for you. Remember that as plants get bigger and require larger pots, the medium used must be coarser so that oxygen can penetrate to the center of the pot. This principle holds whether you use plastic or clay pots.

Terrestrial orchids prefer a fine mix that stays damp, while epiphytic orchids must dry between waterings. A general rule of thumb is that the larger the root of the orchid, the larger the size the medium should be. If you are a novice, be sure and ask members of your local society that bring orchids to the show table what they use for repotting different

groups of orchids. Remember to ask them their growing conditions and how often they water their plants. Most experienced growers have determined whether they over- or under water their plants and have adjusted their medium to accommodate that tendency.

Paphs are the easiest to repot. They generally have fine, softer roots so care must be taken in repotting. Squeeze the pot carefully until the plant is clearly loose. If they are in clay, lay the pot on the side and gently tap the pot on a table until it loosens in the pot. Carefully slide the plant with its medium onto a clean piece of newspaper being sure that the medium and root are always in contact with the newspaper. If you do not, the weight of the medium can break roots from the plant. Gently remove the medium from the roots and once the material starts to fall off the plant can be shaken a little to remove the remaining material.

Remember that as plants get bigger and require larger pots, the medium used must be coarser so that oxygen can penetrate to the center of the pot.

relatively easily. Repot in a fresh pot. How big should the pot be? Just large enough to hold the roots, no bigger no matter how large the leaves. Over potting is a major cause of death following repotting. For paphs, fill the medium to around the base of the new growth or a quarter inch above. Do not sink the plant in the medium so that leaves are buried.

My preference is to use dry medium during repotting, which prevents wounds from becoming infected by bacteria. This also stimulates the growth of new roots because the plant responds to the lack of water by growing more roots. This works best in spring or when orchids are getting new growth. For paphs, I put 1/2 teaspoon of dolomite lime on the surface of the medium after repotting.

Phalaenopsis also prefer a finer medium, but not as fine as paphs. Add coarse Perlite (sponge rock) if you wish to use the same basic medium to increase drainage. My preference is to re-

move flowers and wait a week or so before repotting. Removal of flowers usually stimulates the development of a new leaf along with its associated roots. When the new roots begin to grow, repot. Phal roots are much stronger than those of paphs and do not break as easily during repotting. It still pays to avoid breaking them as much as you can.

Cattleyas prefer an even better drained medium and need to dry out quickly. The medium should be relatively dry before you water again so adjust the type of medium to accommodate your ability to water. If you are home every day and can water you can even mount this group and avoid having to repot every few years. Most growers use some type of bark mix, usually fir, but this frequently is mixed with large sponge rock, charcoal, and redwood bark. Redwood bark is highly acidic and should never constitute more than 5% of the volume of a mix. Miniature cattleyas, especially those having Sophronitis in the background require

different conditions as they have finer roots. Again roots indicate preference for moisture. Many area growers pot these in New Zealand sphagnum, which is very acidic and holds large quantities of both nutrients and water. These can be repotted annually if the sphagnum degrades, a common occurrence when high levels of fertilizer are used.

Last among the general types of orchids grown are those in the Vanda Alliance. Some members of this group have roots as big as a man's thumb and hate to be covered by any medium. Nevertheless, many commercial growers successfully use very coarse bark, charcoal, or lava rock. Most though

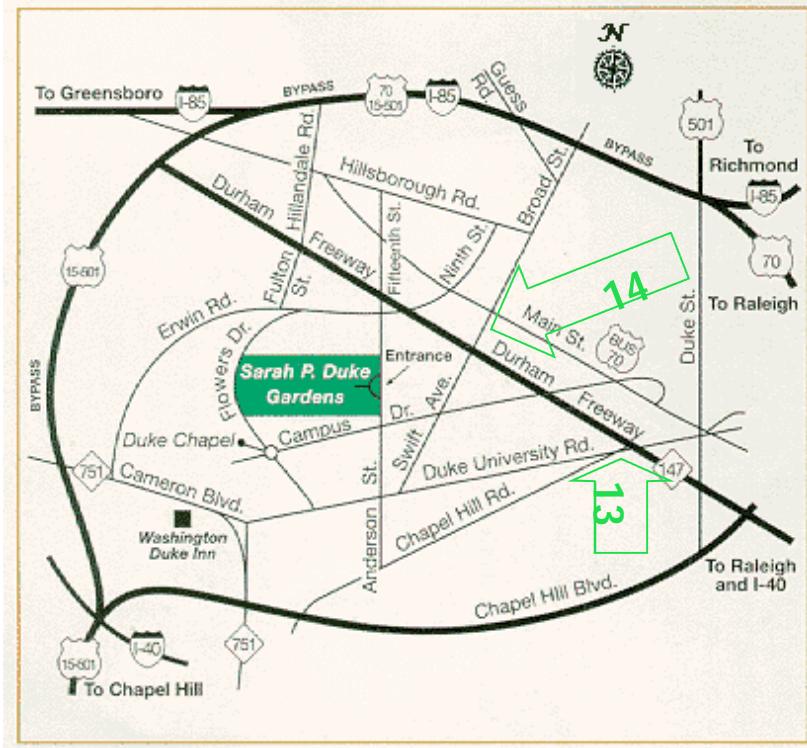
grow this group in open baskets with little or no medium. They require lots of water, but must be dry by the end of each day or risk the loss of roots from a variety of rots.

Pests may go unnoticed until a plant is repotted. Keep an eye out for scales and mealybugs under leaves. Snails and slugs tend to be in the medium or under pots.

Slime trails give slugs away, while tiny bites in new roots can tell you that pill bugs and snails are in the medium. Next month's tips column will get you started on pest control.



**Encyclia Mariae from Last year's
TOS Auction**



From **Exit 13 on the Durham Freeway (147)** South on Chapel Hill Rd., right on Anderson St., Gardens on left.

From **Exit 14 on the Durham Freeway (147)** South on Swift Ave , right on Campus Drive, right on Anderson St., Gardens on left.

The Triangle

Orchid Society meets at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens, Durham, NC
The Second Monday of the Month
at 7:30 PM

www.TriangleOrchidSociety.org

Program for May 12, 2003
North Carolina Culture of Orchids
Phyllis Erickson
Ironwood Estate Orchids
Hickory, NC



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Triangle Orchid Society
"Orchidacea" newsletter given honorable mention in AOS Newsletter Contest for 2002. There are 590 Affiliated Societies.

The Triangle Orchid Society Membership Dues are \$18 per year single, or \$24 per year for two persons living at the same address. Mail to : Michael Levy, Treasurer, 2132 Beneventum Court Raleigh, NC 27606 Visitors are Welcome!