

2005 TOS Officers



Monthly Meetings

Fourth Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m.
Bethlehem Lutheran Church
101 E 38th Street
Tacoma, Washington
www.tacomaorchidsociety.com

Help Line

Pests, Diseases, and General Culture

Barb Inman 253-848-4446
valley-orchids@msn.com

Cymbidiums

Barb Jansen 253-858-9001

Phalaenopsis and Oncidiums

Red Scheyer 253-759-8008

Membership Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

\$15 single, \$20 household

Send to:

Jan Clarke

Tacoma Orchid Society

21005 80th Ave. Ct. E.

Spanaway, WA 98387

President

Bob Worley
360-456-0725
mostlyorchids@comcast.net

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360-923-0332
rgersib@comcast.net

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253-891-7164
dmscupp@comcast.net

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253-847-4822
jclarke5@comcast.net

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253-857-0117
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Jan Whittington
253-535-1507
-sympathy cards, congratulation

Librarian

Ron Wray
253-857-7192
wray960@comcast.net

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be February 22nd at 6:30 p.m., Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Last Meeting

The last meeting was held on January 25th. The evening's program was a presentation on the genus Schomburgkia. Darlene Cupp gave a PowerPoint presentation on it. Thank you Darlene. The meeting minutes are on page 6.

TOS 2005 Dues

All memberships expired on January 1, 2005. Send in your dues now and you will be in good standing till 2006 ! The dues application is on the front page of the newsletter. If you have any questions regarding dues please contact Jan Clarke at 253-847-4822 or email at jclarke5@comcast.net.

Orchid Study Club

Puget Sound Study Club meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except in July. The club meets at various members' homes and the topic varies. The focus of the study group is species, not hybrids. The annual dues are \$10.00. If you are interested in attending, contact Darlene Cupp at 253-891-7164 or email at dmscupp@comcast.net.

The last meeting was held on 1/11/05 at Barb Inman's home. Thank you Barb.

The next meeting will be held February 8th at 6:30 p.m. Red and Lee Scheyer will be hosting the meeting at their home. Feel free to call for directions or use mapquest.com. The topic is currently open. Look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you's

Thank you Don Elliott's family for giving a table of orchids to the TOS members. Everyone had fun looking over all the orchids and picking an orchid to take home. Don will live on in the greenhouses of the TOS members.

Thank you to Donna Harmon for bringing one table of orchids to give away to TOS members. Everyone enjoyed looking over all the orchids.

Events & Shows

February 5th - 6th

Mary's Peak Orchid Society Show,

Heritage Mall, 1895 14th Ave. SE, Albany, OR.

Contact: Brian Dahl, (541) 753-6728.

February 9th-13th

Northwest Flower & Garden Show

Washington State Convention Center

7th & Pike, Seattle WA

Wednesday -Saturday 9a.m. to 9 p.m.

Sunday 9a.m. to 6p.m.

www.gardenshow.com

February 26th-27th:

Mt. Baker Orchid Society Show,

Skagit Valley Gardens

18923 Johnson Rd., I-5 Exit #221

Sale Hours: 9a.m. - 5p.m.

March 3rd-6th:

Victoria Orchid Society Show,

University of Victoria, Students' Union Building,

Finnerty Rd., Victoria, British Columbia.

Contact: Ingrid Schmidt-Ostrander, (250) 652-0753 or

ifl@telus.net

March 5th-6th:

Oregon Orchid Society Show,

Washington County Fair Complex

Main Exhibit Hall

873 NE 34th Ave., Hillsboro, OR 97124

Sale Hours: March 5th 1-5 p.m.

March 6th 10-4 p.m.

April 9th-10th:

Rogue Valley Orchid Society Show,

Medford, OR.

Contact: George E. Brown,

(541) 608-0133 or yorgob909@cs.com

May 7th and 8th:

South Central Washington Orchid Society Show,

Highland Grange Hall,

1500 S. Union, Kennewick WA.

June 3rd -5th:

Garden Show at Point Defiance,

Tacoma WA.

TOS Show and Sale

There were eight vendors at the TOS show. Thank you to all the vendors for their participation.

B&B Orchids

Bob Ellis
Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums
360-452-6764
www.bnborchids.com

Ely's Orchids

Ferrell S. Ely
Wholesale and Retail
360-736-7107

Sorella Orchids

Jimmy and Nenita Sorella
Asian Species and Vandaceous Orchids
360-896-4735
www.sorellaorchids.com

Mostly Orchids

Bob and Judie Worley
Phalaenopsis to mounted Pleurothalids
360-456-0726
mostlyorchids@comcast.net

Valley Orchids

Barb Inman
Orchid supplies
253-848-4446
valley-orchids@msn.com

Puget Sound Orchids

Carl Montgomery
Various plants
360-807-2063
pilldr2@cs.com

Clackamas Orchids

Dave Morris
Orchids and tropical plants
503-651-3438
www.clackamas-orchids.com

Baby Dragon Orchids

Vernon Geiszler and David Tallman
Various plants
503-280-5455
babydragon.www7.50megs.com

There were seven orchid nominated for awards but only one orchid won. Congratulations to Tacoma Orchid Society member Barb Inman, Phragmipedium Besseae. The really fun part is that she gets to name the orchid, which will stay with that clone forever. Barb named it Phrag. Besseae 'Barb's Best' HCC/AOS. The orchid received between 75 and 79 points for an HCC.



Ten Types of Orchid Growers

(Adapted from the Orchid Digest)

THE INNOCENT

Clutching his Home Depot orchids, the new member radiates enthusiasm and optimism. He proudly owns three orchids, although he doesn't know what they are, since the tags just say "plant". His orchids look better than yours because he just bought them. Armed with knowledge that orchids are just like any other house plant, he enthusiastically waters them every day and leaves them in the dark, and repots in soil. It starts innocently enough, this new fascination with orchids. Walking into Home Depot, he can't resist \$15 orchid in glorious bloom. He is going to buy just one. Now he dreams at night about orchids. Experienced growers know orchids contain some unknown opiate and that just one orchid is never enough, but the new member hasn't figured out why he now spends all his time visiting a hardware store. He enters his first meeting like the devoted entering a church, starry-eyed at the plants in bloom and salivating over the plants for sale. Orchids clubs love the new member. Though clueless, he radiates the infatuation and thrill of the early orchid addiction-and he will buy anything in bloom.....anything.....even is it doesn't have a tag.

more next month...

Show and Tell Winners

Judy Houle won the Hybrid-Show and Tell with her Cymbidium Twilight "Pink Contessa" Geyserland.



Melissa Rathbun won the Species-Show and Tell with her *Helcia Sanguinolent*. The seeds were collected in Ecuador for Bob Ellis of B&B Orchids.



Tacoma Home & Garden Show

Thank you to Ron Bollick for coordinating the booth at the Tacoma Home and Garden Show. Thank you to all the other volunteers for working the booth. The booth seemed to be a success, at times the lines were very long with people waiting to ask questions. 60 people signed up as being interested in attending TOS meetings. The winners of the grow lights at the Tacoma Home and Garden Show: 150 watt HPS light won by Robert MacDuff (one of our club members), 2 four foot fluorescent fixtures one red and one blue won by Carolyn Spoonmore of Lacy and 2 four foot fluorescent fixtures one red and one blue won by Frank Folmar of Federal Way.

Valentine Gift Ideas

1) Orchid light strand. In daylight, enjoy the ten *Phalaenopsis* blooms as silk flowers. After dark they become a magical floral display. For indoor use. 33 ft cord, 84 inch strand. G817007 \$29
Smith & Hawken: 1-800-776-3336 or
SMITHandHAWKEN.com



2) Orchid Digest: Their purpose is to increase the appreciation and improving the culture of orchids. This magazine comes out quarterly. The 1 year subscription (4 issues) is \$32.00 or a 2 year subscription (8 issues) is \$60.00.

www.orchiddigest.org or (626) 405-3541

3) Orchid Books: Looking for new releases, coffee table, out of print, or anything from beginners to advanced growers. Try www.orchidsbooks.com.

Wild Orchids of Washington

Rattlesnake Plantain

The Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain or *Goodyera oblongifolia* is a native orchid to Washington state. The distribution is from the Cascades and coastal mountains from southern Alaska to northern California, northern and central Sierra Nevada and eastern North America. You can find the Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain along the trail to Comet Falls on Mount Rainier.

Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain has an interesting history. This plants botanical name is *Goodyera oblongifolia*. John Goodyera was a 17th century English botanist. While oblongifolia means oblong leaves. The common name Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain comes from the early settlers. They thought the plant was from the plantain family because it resembled the plantain *Plantago major*. It was also thought by the settlers that the plants leaves resembled a rattlesnake pattern and had to cure rattlesnake bites. The northwest coast peoples, such as the Saanich, used the plants as good luck charms. Stl'al'imx children used the leaves as balloons by rubbing them until the top layers separated and blowing through the stem to inflate them. The interior plateau peoples used the plant for cuts and sores.

The Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain is a evergreen perennial with a short creeping rhizome and fibrous roots. The stem is 20 to 45 cm tall, stout, stiff and hairy. The leaves are 3 to 10 cm long, dark green and mottled or striped with white. Flowers are greenish white in a spiral one sided spike. This plant grows on humus among mosses in dry to moist, shady, coniferous forests. Their symbiotic relationship with a fungus in the soil allows them to obtain sufficient nutrients. They are very sensitive to the addition of fertilizers or fungicides since these can harm the symbiotic fungus and thus kill the orchid.

The Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain spreads rapidly by vegetative multiplication. However, please don't dig up native orchids to try to grow them in your garden. They are becoming rare in the wild due to loss of habitat and wild harvesting. They are also quite difficult to transplant successfully from the wild. If you want to grow them in your garden, there are nurseries who grow native orchids from seed who will sell plants to you.

Native Plant Nursery and Gardens in Salem, Oregon carries the Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain for \$6 + s/h for a 4 inch pot. I ordered 10 and they came in good condition. To contact the Native Plant Nursery and Gardens call 503-581-2638 or www.nwplants.com.

Fraser's Thimble Farms "The Rare Plant Specialist" in Salt Spring Island, B.C. Canada carries a wide variety of hardy outdoor orchids. They carry many species and hybrids, such as the Menzies' Rattlesnake Plantain and the Calypso Bulbosa. To contact the Fraser's Thimble Farms call 250-537-5788 or www.thimblefarms.com

Blooms: June to September

Height: 12 - 18 inches

Flower Size: 5 - 10 mm



Photos courtesy of
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www.osrbg.ca/files/GOO_OBL.HTM

Tacoma Orchid Society
Minutes for January 25th, 2005
Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Meeting opened by Dick Gersib in Bob Worley's absence at 7:00 p.m.

Topics of discussion were:

Treasurer's report- current total is 3618.63; Show at the Windmill Gardens brought in about 1,000 less than last year and the totals have not been gotten as of yet.

Reminder to pay dues for the year. For singles, 15.00 and for couples it's 20.00. Please make sure your personal information is updated as well.

A summary of the Windmill Gardens Orchid Show was given by Red Scheyer. This was the first year that the Tacoma Orchid Society had done the show by itself. A lot of help was given and very much appreciated. Thanks to ALL who helped out.

Barb Inman received an AM award for her Phrag. besseae. She named it 'Barb's Best'.

The date for next years show at the Windmill Garden's has already been set. It is going to be the 3rd weekend in January to coincide with AOS judging.

The committees have not been formed as of yet for this show but if you have any suggestions for making it better, please let Jan or Barb know as all ideas for improvement will be considered.

The Tacoma Home and Garden Show is to start tomorrow with Ron Bollick organizing the show. The booth spot is 117 which is apparently close to the entrance so that will be a lot of exposure. We will look forward to what Ron and those who helped out have to say about the show!

Several guest were present this evening: Welcome

Barbara Harrold

Robert McDuff

T.J. Farley

T.J. also had a book that he felt was a great beginner's book on Orchids. Smith and Hawken carries this book entitled "100 Orchids for the American Gardener" by Elvin McDonald. It describes the culture of the orchids well and gives some hybrids as well as species.

Reminder for the numerous resources available in our library to check out. Any questions, please contact Ron Wray

Many thanks to the Don Elliott family who donated orchids to the club after his passing.

We should remember that these gifts are given as a memento to what these men loved to do, growing orchids. Let's enjoy them with the same sense of pleasure that they did and remember them through them as well.

A handbook is in the early stages of development. We have some that were made in the past that will be used as a basis to go by. If you have any suggestions, please contact Barb Inman or Darlene Cupp.

A big thanks to Melissa for a job well done on the T.O.S. website!

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m. to Darlene's talk on Schomburgkia's.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Darlene Cupp