



## ***Monthly Meetings***

Fourth Tuesday each month at 6:30 p.m.  
Bethlehem Lutheran Church  
101 E 38<sup>th</sup> Street  
Tacoma, Washington  
[www.tacomaorchidsociety.com](http://www.tacomaorchidsociety.com)

## ***January 2006 Newsletter***

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253-857-7192  
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### **Sunshine Lady**

Judy Houle  
[No1ladybug@wavecable.com](mailto:No1ladybug@wavecable.com)  
-sympathy cards, congratulations, etc.

### **Greeter**

Tina Taylor  
360-275-6975  
[james.taylor78@att.net](mailto:james.taylor78@att.net)

### **Public Relations**

Open Position

### **Raffle Table**

Open Position

## *Next Meeting*

We will meet on January 24th at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The evening's program is a slideshow from A.O.S. on Equitant Oncidium Species. This program is a good overview of the species by Anita Aldrich. Hope to see you there!

## *TOS 2065 Dues*

All memberships expired on January 1, 2006. Dues are to be given to Arlys Bosselmann. She can receive dues in person at the next meeting or via the mail. If you have any questions regarding dues please contact Arlys Bosselmann at 253-858-4899 or email [abosselmann@comcast.net](mailto:abosselmann@comcast.net).

### *Membership Application*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\$15 single, \$20 household

Send to:

Arlys Bosselmann

Tacoma Orchid Society

2706 88<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. NW

Gig Harbor WA 98332

## *Last Meeting*

The TOS Christmas Party was held on December 6<sup>th</sup>, Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 6:30pm. An awards ceremony and show & tell followed dinner.

As for the awards:

Darlene Cupp won the Individual Award  
The Wray's won the Couple's Award

As For the Drawings:

Daphne Vint won for Food

Catheline Greer won for Show & Tell

## *Orchid Study Club*

Puget Sound Study Club meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month except 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](mailto:dmscupp@comcast.net).

The next meeting will be held March 14<sup>th</sup> at Darlene Cupp's home. Their address is 12304 24<sup>th</sup> St. E, Edgewood WA 98372. Feel free to call for directions at 253-891-7164 or use [mapquest.com](http://mapquest.com). **Remember to pay your dues at the next meeting!**

## *Upcoming Events*

January 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2006

**TOS Show and Sale**

Windmill Gardens

5823 160<sup>th</sup> Ave. E., Sumner, WA.

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup>:**

Show- 12-5p.m.

Sale- 9-5p.m.

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

Show & Sale-10-4p.m.

February 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**Northwest Flower & Garden Show**

Washington State Convention Center

April 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2006

**Spokane Orchid Society Show**

June 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>, 2006

**Native Orchid Conference**

Southern Oregon University

Ashland, Oregon

Sign-ups will be in January

Visit [wanativeorchids.com](http://wanativeorchids.com) and click on upcoming events.

## ***Show Committee***

The main show of the year is on Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Windmill Gardens in Sumner. Set up will be on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Barb Inmann and Darlene Cupp are heading the Show Committee.

There will be a TOS sales table. To assure credit, members wishing to sell plants must be sure to register with the cashier. Plants “**MUST**” have tags with the member’s name and plant price on it. TOS will retain 15% of the selling price.

Nancy Scott will coordinate the “Orchid Lunch”. This is to feed the judges, vendors and workers during the show. So, we are asking again for volunteers to provide food items. Let Nancy Scott know what you will be bringing so she can coordinate. Please contact Nancy at nscott5647@aol.com or 253-531-0550.

We still need volunteers for the show. If you are interested in helping please contact Ron Wray at 253-857-7192 or email at wray960@comcast.com.

## **TOS Show Calendar**

Friday 1/20/05

- 1) Set up 2- 8p.m.
- 2) Plants will be accepted for registration from 4- 8p.m.

Saturday 1/21/05

- 1) Ribbon judging begins at 9 a.m.
- 2) Show is open to the public 12-5 p.m.
- 3) Sales will be open 9a.m. - 5p.m.
- 4) Repotting Clinic 1- 4p.m.

Sunday 1/22/05

- 1) Show and Sale will be open 10-4 p.m.
- 2) Show tear down 4 pm to 5 p.m.
- 3) Repotting Clinic 1- 3p.m.

## ***New TOS Positions***

TOS has new volunteer positions! The positions are:

- 1) New Member Greeter
- 2) TOS Public Relations
- 3) Raffle Person

New Member Greeter duties:

- To greet new members/guests.
- Provide new members/guests with a new member packet.
- Show new members/guests the structure of a TOS meeting.

Tina Taylor has volunteered to be the New Member Greeter.

TOS Public Relations duties:

- Form a relationship with the local newspapers to publicize TOS meetings and upcoming events
- Distribute TOS meeting flyers to local nurseries and local sellers (i.e. Trader Joe’s, Lowe’s and Home Depot).

TOS Raffle Person duties:

- Purchase 2 blooming plants for the raffle table each month.
- TOS will reimburse the raffle person for the 2 blooming plants.
- Distribute and collect money for the raffle tickets.

### **The Position for TOS Public Relations and TOS Raffle Person is still OPEN!**

If anyone is interested in this position contact Melissa Rathbun at 253-857-0117 or melissa@tacwa.com.

## ***Olympia Orchid Society***

OOS has invited us to display our orchids at their orchid show. Bob Worley is willing to take the orchids to the show. If you would like to participate contact Bob at 360-456-0725.

## ***Show & Tell Winner***

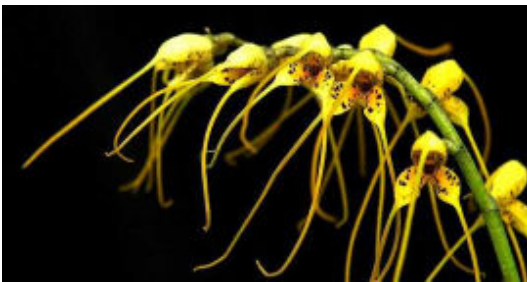
Melissa Rathbun won the Show & Tell with her *Masdevallia lehmannii*.

**Common Name:** Lehmann's *Masdevallia*. Named after a German Orchid Collector in the late 1800's.

**Found:** in Ecuador as a cool to cold growing epiphyte that is found at altitudes of 2000 to 2400 meters.

**Flowers:** several, yellow with dark red spots.

**Fragrance:** is a sweet musky smell.



*Masdevallia* is a genus of some 350 species usually from cool, misty mountains of the New World Tropics. Most species and hybrids are compact enough so that they can be easily accommodated on windowsills or under lights.

**LIGHT:** should be like that given for *phalaenopsis* and *paphiopedilums*. Plants grow well under standard fluorescent fixtures and can be summered outside in shade. In the home, place in an east or shaded south window or under artificial lights.

**TEMPERATURES:** should be cool to intermediate. The plants will grow slowly and eventually expire if temperatures remain high for long periods. Cool evenings help reduce heat stress during the day. Nights of 55 to 60 F are ideal; day temperatures should be 65 to 75 F. Avoid day temperatures higher than 80 F.

**WATER:** is critical for these plants because they have minimal water-storage tissue. Roots should be allowed to become almost dry before watering again; if drainage is adequate, constantly moist roots is fine.

**HUMIDITY:** is an important factor in the successful culture of *masdevallias*. The ideal range is 60 to 80 percent. In the home, set the plants on trays of gravel partially filled with water. In the greenhouse or enclosed growing area, humidity can be increased by use of a humidifier.

**FERTILIZE:** regularly with a dilute solution while plants are actively growing. 30-10-10 twice a month for plants in a bark-based medium. 20-20-20 for plants in other media. If weather is overcast, applications once a month are sufficient.

**POTTING:** A fine-grade potting medium, such as fine fir bark or tree-fern fiber, is often used with plastic pots. Sphagnum moss is also used. Courtesy of AOS

## ***Washington Orchids***

### ***The Genus Spiranthes***

*Spiranthes* is a group of 25 orchid species, 20 occur in North America and 2 occur in Washington State. The name *Spiranthes* refers directly to the flowers that spiral on the stem. The scientific name is derived from the Greek language. The Greek word *speira* means "coil" and *anthos* means "flower".

### ***Spiranthes porrifolia***

*Spiranthes porrifolia* or Western Ladies'-tresses or Leeked-leaved Ladies' tresses is a terrestrial orchid and can be found along streams, seepage areas and in bogs. The 3 to 4 smooth leaves are elliptic-lanceolate in shape and on the lower portion of the stem. The leaves are up to 10" in length and can be absent at the time of flowering. The 30 to 100 creamy yellow flowers spiral loosely in 2 or more rows around the upper part of the stem. The *Spiranthes porrifolia* can be confused with *Spiranthes romanzoffiana*: *S. porrifolia* is more cream colored or yellowish than *S. romanzoffiana* which is white. The petals and sepals of *S. romanzoffiana* are united to form a hood and the lip is violin-shaped. The petals and sepals of *S. porrifolia* do not form a hood. *S. porrifolia* flowers several months earlier (May-August) than *S. romanzoffiana* (June-Oct). The distribution is Washington thru California east to Nevada. In Washington State it can be found in the Columbia Basin, the Eastern and Western Cascades, Chelan, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lincoln, Okanogan, and Skamania counties.

Height: 8 to 30 inches tall

Flower Size: 10 to 12mm

Blooms: May to August



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## *Spiranthes romanzoffiana*

*Spiranthes romanzoffiana* or Hooded Ladies'-tresses is a terrestrial orchid that can be found in various habitats such as bogs, coastal grasslands, wet to dry meadows, marshes and along streams. They also appear in disturbed ground like along roadsides in ditches, worked meadows and gravel pits. This orchid was named after Nicholas Romanzoff, a Russian minister of the state who sent expeditions to Alaska. The 60 small pure white to creamy flowers are spiraled tightly around the upper stem in three rows. The *S. romanzoffiana* can be distinguished by its reflexed lip which resembles a receding chin and the prominent hood. The flowers have a sweet vanilla-like scent. The 3 to 6 leaves are smooth below and downy on the top surface. The leaves can be absent during flowering. The distribution is from Alaska across Canada and northern United States to the east coast and from Washington down to California and inland to Arizona and New Mexico. It also has a distribution in Ireland.

Height: 5 to 20 inches tall  
Flower Size: 10 to 14mm  
Blooms: June to October



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