



Monthly Meetings

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

May 2006 Newsletter

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2006 Officers

President

Dick Gersib
360-923-0332
rgersib@comcast.net

Vice President & Show Committee

Darlene Cupp
253-891-7164
dmscupp@comcast.net

Secretary

Bonnie Anderson
253-265-2194
bonniesbin@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Arlys Bosselmann
253-858-4899
abosselmann@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor & Website Designer

Melissa Rathbun
253-857-0117
melissa@tacwa.com

Librarian

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

Sunshine Lady & AOS Representative

Judy Houle
No1ladybug@wavecable.com

Greeter and Membership Dues

Tina Taylor
360-275-6975
james.taylor78@att.net

Raffle Table

Jeannine Sturman
253-752-2921
nctr2@aol.com

Public Relations

Open Position

Next Meeting

We will meet on May 23rd at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 6:30 pm. The evening's program is on Maxillaria and their tribe by Dave Morris from Clackamas Orchids. 503-651-3438 or www.clackamas-orchids.com
Hope to see you there!

Last Meeting

The Last meeting was held on April 25th at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The evening's program was on the Genus Phalaenopsis by Iris Martin. Thank you Iris and Darlene for the program!

Iris Martin gave a presentation on Phalaenopsis at the last meeting. She is now missing one of the phals that she used in her presentation. If anyone has seen it, contact Iris Martin at 253-927-4636 or imartin12345@msn.com.

New On the Web



<http://www.orchidboard.com>
This site has everything orchid from orchid book reviews, orchid chat, pest control and much more. One discussion topic is Eliminating Terrarium Pests. Check it out!

Upcoming Events

May 13th-14th, 2006

NWOS Mothers Day Sale

UW Center for Urban Horticulture
3501 NE 41st Street, Seattle, WA 98105

May 13th-14th, 2006

Oregon Orchid Society Show & Sale

Vireya Tropical Rhododendron Show

Washington County Fair Complex,
Cloverleaf & Floral Buildings
873 NE 34th Ave.,
Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Sale Hours: May 13, 11 am – 5 pm

May 14, 10 am – 4 pm

Show Hours: May 13, 1 – 5 pm

May 14, 10 am – 4 pm

May 27th, 2006: 12pm

Washington Native Orchid Society

Business Meeting

See Melissa Rathbun for more info

June 9th-12th, 2006

Native Orchid Conference

Southern Oregon University

Ashland, Oregon

See Melissa Rathbun for more info

June 24th, 2006: 12pm

Washington Native Orchid Society

Field Trip to Keeping it Green Nursery

See Melissa Rathbun for more info

July 29th, 2006

Washington Native Orchid Society

Field Trip to Hurricane Ridge

See Melissa Rathbun for more info

August 26th, 2006: 12pm

Washington Native Orchid Society

Presentation on Native Orchid Conference

See Melissa Rathbun for more info

Show and Tell Winners



Species Winner: Ron Wray with his Paph. Kolopakingii



Hybrid Winner: Fred Shelton with his Cat. Scinllation 'Virginia'



Hybrid Winner: Melissa Rathbun with her Paph. Delrosi 'Crystelle'

TOS Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers are still needed for the following Committees:

Christmas Party Committee This entails finding options for the location of the Christmas Party.

TOS Orchid Show Committee
Contact Darlene Cupp. This entails setting up the January show and exploring the option of having a smaller sale in October.

Puyallup Fair Committee
This entails setting up the Puyallup Fair display and coordinating the repotting and culture clinics.

TOS Public Relations Committee
Form a relationship with the local newspapers, nurseries and orchid sellers.

If anyone is interested in these volunteer positions, sign-up at the next meeting or contact Dick Gersib at 360-923-0332 or rgersib@comcast.net

How Does Your Garden Grow?

TOS members are invited to write an article on how they grow their hardy, native or even tropical orchids. Please send the article and 1 or 2 pictures to melissa@tacwa.com.

Article and Pictures by Melissa Rathbun-Holstein

Cypripedium parviflorum var. *pubescens* or Large Yellow Lady's Slipper is native terrestrial orchid to Washington State. I find them easy to grow in woodland gardens if you following the following culture tips.

Slugs love to eat Cypripediums!

So I use three lines of defense:

- I place a circle of copper tubing around the entire plant.
- I use Sluggo sprinkled around the entire plant.
- I also place a container filled with beer near the plant.



Media and Good Drainage is Key!

Grow in moist, but not overly wet soil. Add leaf mulch for frost protection and moisture conservation.

Plant these orchids in well drained soil. Soil Mix: 25% composted leaves or wood chips, 50% coarse sand, 25% aquatic gravel and some Perlite.

Where to plant!

Plant in full to partial shade.

Plant in an area with a soil pH of 6.5-7.0

How to Plant!

Plant by covering roots 1 to 2 inches of soil mix making sure shoots are barely under the surface. Spread out roots horizontally.

Fertilizer!

Fertilize with ¼ strength Miracle Grow, fertilize once a month when buds appear and then a month after flowering.

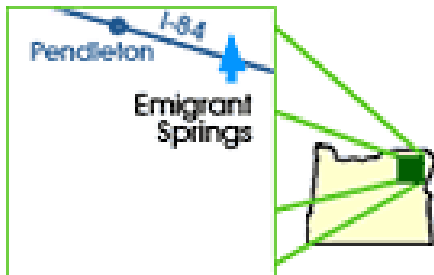
Site Preparation!

Dig a hole 2' x 2' and fill with gravel in bottom and then soil mix.

South Central Orchid Society Field Trip

SCOW will be having their annual Native Orchid Field Trip to Emigrant Springs State Park on June 17. TOS members are invited to join. Blooming at this time is Corallorhiza, Goodyera, Calypso, Listera, Cypripedium montanum, Spiranthes and Cephalanthera.

Emigrant Spring State Park is located 26 miles SE of Pendleton. Driving time from Tacoma, WA is 5.5 hours. For a driving directions visit www.oregonstateparks.org/park_23.php?md=mq.



For more information contact Bill Jasen at 509 373-0164 or wjasen@pec1.net.

TACOMA ORCHID SOCIETY MINUTES APRIL 25, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Dick Gersib, president.

Guests were welcomed and introduced, including Sylvia Butcher from Anchorage, Alaska who is active in the AOS group there.

Previous minutes were approved as printed in the monthly newsletter.

Arlys gave the treasurer's report. Current balance is \$4,972.85. Budget copies were passed out and following Dick's explanations and discussion, Vaughn Meier made a motion they be accepted. Seconded and carried. (All credit card purchases made by customers of our vendors at the show must be run through our books and this accounts for the unusual balances and expenditures following the January show.)

Ron Wray reviewed two new book purchases that just arrived and are now a part of our library. First was Growing Hardy Orchids by John Tullock, the other was Florida's Orchids by Ned Nash.

Some of our labeled library books were discovered at a yard sale and turned in to Iris Martin to return to us. We thank our Good Samaritan!! Iris also gave TOS some orchid books for our library that had been her sisters. Thank you, Iris.

Judy Houle reviewed Masdevallias by Mary Garretson and Ron Parsons. This was an interesting, informative book with beautiful illustrations.

Dick initiated a discussion regarding the percentage we charge vendors for their sales at our shows. Currently it has been 15%. We find that other societies are charging 20% to compensate for the credit card fees that must be paid. After some discussion, Walt Bosselman moved we go to 18%, Fred Shelton moved we do 20% and a show of hands was taken with the 20% amount taking the most votes. Carried.

The meeting was adjourned to Show and Tell.

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Anderson, secretary

Washington Orchids
Coeloglossum viride
var. bracteata* or *Long-bract Frog Orchid

Coeloglossum viride var. *bracteata* is also known as the Long-bract Frog Orchid. This orchid can be found in aspen stands and coniferous forests in moist areas that are wet in spring. The flowers are greenish and can be loosely or densely packed. The petals, column and lip base are sometimes tinged purple. The petals are narrower than the sepals and have upturned margins. The upper sepal is concave and broadly ovate to ovate lanceolate in shape. The lateral sepals are concave, broadly lanceolate, hooked and longer than the upper sepal. The green bracts are leaf-like and $\frac{3}{4}$ to $1\frac{2}{3}$ inch long. The spur is pale, translucent and $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ the length of the lip. The upper or basal leaves are bladeless. The lower leaves are up to 4 inches long and lance shaped. In Washington State, it can be found in Okanogan County. The distribution is Alaska south to Washington, the Rocky Mountains of Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, Nebraska, Illinois, West Virginia and North Carolina.

If you see this orchid please get a GPS location and report the sighting to the Washington State Natural Heritage Program at 360-902-1710 or www.dnr.wa.gov/nhp

Height: 8 to 20 inches tall
Flower Size: 15 to 20 mm long
Blooms: June to July



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