



## ***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)

## ***May 2007 Newsletter***

### ***In this issue:***

Next Meeting	page 2
Last Meeting	page 2
AOS Judging Center	page 2
Upcoming Events	page 2
Show and Tell	page 3
TOS Minutes	page 3
Too Trash Or Not Too Trash	page 4
Orchid Pic of the Month	page 4
Next Meetings Format	page 5
Native Orchid Pic	page 5

## ***2007 Officers***

### **President**

Ron Wray  
253-857-7192  
[wray960@comcast.net](mailto:wray960@comcast.net)

### **Vice President**

Tammy Moore  
253-847-8296  
[tammyamoore@hotmail.com](mailto:tammyamoore@hotmail.com)

### **Newsletter Editor, Website & Secretary**

Melissa Rathbun  
253-857-0117  
[melissa@tacwa.com](mailto:melissa@tacwa.com)

### **Treasurer**

Tina Taylor  
360-275-6975  
[tinataylor78@msn.com](mailto:tinataylor78@msn.com)

### **Show Committee**

Tammy Moore  
253-847-8296  
[tammyamoore@hotmail.com](mailto:tammyamoore@hotmail.com)

### **Sunshine Lady, AOS Representative & Librarian**

Judy Houle  
[No1ladybug@wavecable.com](mailto:No1ladybug@wavecable.com)

### **Raffle Table**

Jeannine Sturman  
253-752-2921  
[necr2@aol.com](mailto:necr2@aol.com)

### **Greeter**

Vern Nelson  
253-884-2946  
[gayenelson@msn.com](mailto:gayenelson@msn.com)

### **Public Relations**

Ron Bollick  
253-537-3829  
[ronbollick@aol.com](mailto:ronbollick@aol.com)

## *Next Meeting*

We will meet on **May 22nd** at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 6:30 pm. The evening's program is a members open culture discussion. The Beginners Program will be held from 6:30pm to 6:55pm by Dick Gersib. Hope to see you there!

## *Last Meeting*

The last meeting was held on April 24th at the Bethlehem Lutheran Church. The evening's program was a presentation on Orchid Photography by Mike Pearson. Thank You Mike!

## *AOS Judging Center*

The AOS's local judging center is located at the South End Neighborhood Center. 7802 S. L St., Tacoma WA. The Center provides opportunities to have plants judged monthly.

Next Judging Center Date:  
May 19th at 1:00 pm

## *Orchid Pots*

Lacquered Japanese style orchid pots: round, squared lip, and large to small never used or gently used. Other orchid pots too-some not so fancy. Approximately 50 pots total, \$20 to \$1.00.

Contact Bob Shirley 253-581-1271 or b.shirley@juno.com

## *Welcome New Member*

Richard Vargo

## *Upcoming Events*

June 1<sup>st</sup> - 3<sup>rd</sup>

### **Point Defiance Garden Show**

TOS & WNOS Display  
Friday & Saturday 10am to 6pm  
Sunday 10am to 5pm

June 9<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Washington Native Orchid Society**

Field trip to La Grande, OR  
See Melissa Rathbun for more info

July 28<sup>th</sup>

TOS Annual Picnic and Auction

## *TOS PR Events*

Ron Bollick will be giving an orchid presentation called Introduction to Orchids at the Peninsula Gardens in Gig Harbor on the 16th of June at 11am. Thanks, Ron.

Ron Bollick is asking for volunteers for informational booths at Lowe's, Home Depot, etc. Contact Ron if you are interested in volunteering.

Ron will be contacting local newspapers about our meetings and events. If you see any community papers please give them to Ron.

## *Point Defiance Flower Show*

TOS and WNOS will be sharing a booth at the Point Defiance Flower Show on June 1<sup>st</sup> to June 3<sup>rd</sup>. **The June 1<sup>st</sup> shift from 3:15pm to 6:15pm is still not filled.** A free shuttle bus can take you from the TCC bus depot or the Vashon ferry overflow parking to the show entrance. Contact Melissa Rathbun if you are interested in this volunteer shift.

## *Show & Tell Winners*

Hybrid Winner: Walter and Arlys Bosselmann with their Masd. colossus hybrid.



Species Winner: Tammy Moore with her Den. unicum.



## *TOS Minutes*

### *April 24th, 2007*

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 by Ron Wray - President.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Checking \$4654.93

Cash on hand: \$96.27

#### **Old Business:**

- October TOS Orchid Sale:

Windmill Gardens has approved TOS using the nursery for the October Orchid Sale. Windmill Gardens will get back to us ASAP about the date. We have requested the first two weekends of the month of October.

Tammy Moore contacted Oak Hill Nursery about purchasing orchids for the October Sale. We can either purchase orchids from the wholesale list or get 30% off spiking orchids of their choice. Tammy Moore and Judy Houle will be contacting Carmela and Carter & Holmes about purchasing orchids for the October Sale.

#### **New Business:**

- TOS Minutes

The April TOS minutes were approved.

- The 2007 July Picnic will be at Judy Houle's Home on the 28<sup>th</sup> of July. Thanks Judy!

- Point Defiance Flower Show:

TOS and WNOS will be sharing the cost of a raffle donation for the Rose Garden at Point Defiance. TOS will be purchasing a "Wild Orchids of the Pacific Northwest" by Paul Martin Brown for \$34.45 to go with the framed native orchid print by Tina Taylor.

## ***Too Trash Or Not Too Trash – That Is The Question...***

Life is too short to hold-on to orchids that will not grow or bloom. Why “tie-up” your limited growing space with orchids that will not grow or bloom? At some point, most orchid addicts have to decide on what to do with these orchids. This decision point usually comes to the forefront when a grower runs-out of growing space.

I recently “threw-away” some orchids that I had for over 10 years. They had never bloomed for me and they were not vigorous growers. It was hard to throw them away, but I actually felt better once they were gone (magically, I had some open growing space to get some new orchids).

Below are some things to do and consider when making the decision “too trash or not too trash”.

### **If the plant is not growing or is sickly:**

- Change how you grow it (i.e., change the lighting, temperatures, growing media, and/or watering). If the plant doesn't improve, TRASH IT!

- You can offer it to another orchid grower. You might find a “taker”. It should be noted that most orchid growers are not interested in taking a sick or a poor growing orchid. Many people have offered me their sick orchids...Sorry, but I don't operate an orchid hospital!!! TRASH IT and buy something new and exciting!

### **If the plant is healthy & growing well, but will not bloom:**

- Change how you grow it (i.e., change the lighting, temperatures, and/or watering).
- If the plant still doesn't bloom after changing its growing conditions, offer it to another grower. **As a courtesy to the other grower, you should mention that you could not bloom it.** The other grower may not want to take on the challenge of a non-bloomer.
- If you can't find another grower who wants the plant, TRASH IT and buy something new and exciting!

Courtesy of Allen Black

## ***Pic of the Month***



Eugene & Felicidad Mousel's Lc. Rosoh

## *Next Meetings Format*

I am always fascinated when I visit a fellow member's greenhouse or growing area and see the wonders within. At this meeting in May, I would like to give each person present a chance to tell the group about their orchid growing experience. Be prepared to tell the group:

- How long you've been growing orchids.
- How you grow—greenhouse, windowsill, under lights, etc. Bring us a photo.
- Your favorite orchid(s) or orchid genera.
- What do you specifically collect?
- Are you horticulturally gifted in other ways? For example, Art grows fantastic carnivorous plants that I'm sure others would be interested in growing too. Many other plants like ferns, tillandsias and bromeliads make interesting companion plants for orchids.
- If you're like me, you have a plant that blooms only between meetings. Bring a photo of the bloom. Or you have a plant that is too large or cannot be easily transported to a meeting, such as a hardy orchid planted in a bed. Please don't deprive the group of your rare and exotic beauty (I'm speaking of the plant, of course) Bring a photo.
- Maybe you are artistically talented (botanically) and draw, paint or do photography. And, yes, I know who

you are and please share this with the group. Others in the group, especially myself, may be interested in developing a latent artistic talent.

- If you're new to orchid growing, don't despair. Tell us what you find intriguing about orchids that inspired you to want to grow them or what kinds you are interested in learning to grow, etc. Are you interested in greenhouse, windowsill, or under lights culture?

And please, this isn't a time to be shy or fearful of showing off. This is a time to share your talents and abilities with our group in order that they may be appreciated and to inspire or assist others into developing their talents and abilities.

Tammy Moore-Vice President

## *Native Orchid Pic*



Listeria cordata var nephrophylla  
Tahuya State Forest, WA  
Photo by Tina Taylor