

Tacoma Orchid Society



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Upcoming Events

July 18th – 21st
7th Native Orchid Conference
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV

August 16th (Saturday) - Tacoma
Seymour Conservatory Centennial
Celebration from 10:00 to 2:00

September 5th – 21st - Puyallup Fair show

October 11th - 12th – Windmill Garden sale

(2009) January 17th – 18th – Windmill
Garden show

Last Meeting

Program

Our president, Margo, gave a demonstration on potting orchids. This was an informative talk, and Margo's background in botany was evident. Her large-scale production included the repotting of *Cymbidium*, *Cattleya*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Dendrobium*, and *Phalaenopsis*. Margo discussed and demonstrated the root types of *Cymbidium*, *Cattleya*, *Paphiopedilum*, *Oncidium*, and *Phalaenopsis*. She also mentioned the various media that could be used, including bark, bark mixes, and New Zealand sphagnum moss. Margo even explained the use of cinnamon powder as an anti-fungal agent, applied to the roots during repotting!

Show and Tell

There were no hybrids displayed, only species. There was a tie between Fred and Ron!



UPPER PHOTOS

Epidendrum x obrienianum. This is a hybrid that Fred found along the roadside in Hawaii. This plant is endemic to coastal northwestern Brazil. It has been in cultivation since the mid 19th century.

This reed -stemmed orchid needs its roots shaded and an abundance of sunlight to the rest of the plant in order for it to flower. It requires plenty of water during the growing season. In autumn it goes into a resting period so very little water is necessary.

LOWER PHOTO

Anguloa uniflora (tulip orchid) is one of 11 species from Andean South America. They are adapted to be epiphytes but are more commonly found as terrestrial. They grow in elevations of 1500 to 2000 meters. This means that they are a cold grower. The large male euglossine bees pollinate all species. They crawl between the column and the rocking lip and remove the pollen upon exiting the flower.

TOS Minutes from June 24th meeting (condensed)

Activities for the next six months were discussed.

Discussion about potlucks for September through December of this year. Margo suggested that we decide at the August meeting whether we should have four consecutive potlucks or not.

If we are unable to get a speaker for a meeting, it was suggested that we show a video on culture and repotting.

Georgia is updating the TOS membership list.

Susan will send driving directions by e-mail or U.S. mail to members regarding the July picnic.

The Seymour Conservatory Centennial Celebration and the Puyallup Fair were briefly discussed.

Tammy received the approval for our January 2009 show from the AOS.

Treasurer's report: current balance \$4,412.69; petty cash \$135.00

Next Meeting

No regular meeting in July. Instead we have our picnic on July 19th. We will resume our regular schedule on August 26th.

We meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

Location: Bethlehem Lutheran Church
101 E. 38th St.
Tacoma, WA

August speaker: TOS member, Tammy Moore, will discuss how to label plants

The beginner's program will be held from 6:30 to 6:55.

Our main program begins at 7:00 p.m.

TOS Annual Dues

Please pay your annual dues at the next meeting if you haven't already done so. This includes those of you who pay at the half-yearly rate. You can also mail payments to our treasurer, Georgia Pope. E-mail questions to: gpope@wamail.net.

Announcements



Welcome New Member

Beata Bryl

Picnic

Reminder: there will be no regular business meeting in July. We are having our annual picnic this month!

Date and Time: July 19th from 1:00 to 4:00

Place: Judy Houle's home

Contact Information: No1ladybug@wavecable.com, (360) 801-0781

Please **RSVP** to Georgia. This includes guests planning to attend. We need to know how much chicken to purchase.

It's not too late to sign up to bring food for the picnic. Contact Georgia at gpope@wamail.net.

Spouses, significant others, and friends are all welcome!

If a member is selling a plant or item at the picnic auction, they will need to write their name on it. This will help Georgia know who receives sales money and the appropriate amount. Persons donating have the right to establish minimum bids on their items. Members who are selling plants are expected to donate 15% to TOS.

Items not for sale do not have to be tagged with a name. Plants or other items with no member's name will be considered club property and will be auctioned off at the highest bidder.

Seymour Conservatory Centennial Celebration – at Wright Park in Tacoma

Date and Time: August 16th from 10:00 to 2:00

- Set-up is scheduled for 7:30 a.m. We need flowering orchids to display at this event. Please contact Margo if you have any plants to loan.

Puyallup Fair - September 5th thru the 21st. Set up is scheduled for September 4th. A sign-up sheet will be available at the picnic and at the August meeting for members to volunteer for the fair. Ron and Margo will pick up members' plants for display. Please contact one of them if you are interested in showing your orchids at this event. There will be two judgings.

Windmill Gardens

- October sale: October 11th and 12th, set-up on the 10th
- January 2009 show: January 17th and 18th, set-up on the 16th

Other Information

Our club has a digital slide projector for members to borrow. A laptop computer is needed in order to be able to use it. For more information, contact Ron.

The American Orchid Society'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.

Orchid Education in the Community

Ron was asked to teach orchid classes at the Lighthouse Activity Center in Tacoma. Last month he led a roundtable discussion on the basics of orchid growing. We ended up covering a wide range of orchid topics.

These informal classes are held once a month. They are open to everyone. TOS members are welcome to attend. Ron's next class is on July 17th at 6:30 at the Lighthouse Activity Center (5016 S. "A" Street, Tacoma).

Ron will teach afternoon classes at the Beacon Activity Center (415 S. 13th St., Tacoma) beginning in August. The dates are yet to be determined.

Orchid Culture

An alternative to using wood baskets is to use squares of wire mesh. Try to find the plastic-coated type and bend to shape. By using this method, buying a suitable size basket is eliminated. The mesh should be small enough that it will hold most kinds of compost.

Does your heart dominate or does your head dominate when growing orchids? If using your heart, you fall in love with an orchid and then try to provide the right conditions for it. If the head dominates, growers first decide what conditions they can provide and then choose an orchid that will grow for them. No matter which type of grower you are, two decisions should be made:

1. Can the adequate temperature range be achieved?
 - Is the cost of heating affordable?
 - Can you provide adequate cooling arrangements?
2. Can you provide a division to grow orchids in bright conditions and in less light?

Different types of orchids require different conditions. Not all of them can be grown in one space.

Hands, Geoffrey. (2003). *Beginner's guide to orchids*. New York: Sterling Publishing.

