

Tacoma Orchid Society



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Upcoming Events

Next TOS meeting – **Tuesday**, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

TOS booth continues at the Western Washington Fair, Puyallup through September 27th

TOS sale at Windmill Gardens – October 10th and 11th

Sunshine Lady

Jan Whittington
(253) 535-1507

Raffle Table

Jeannine Sturman
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Greeter

Vern Nelson
(253) 884-2946

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Last month's consensus was that we will continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday.

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

Instead of a guest speaker, this month we will show a video:

“Anyone Can Grow Orchids”



- 6:30 p.m. – Orchid Forum (bring your questions and receive answers)
- 7:00 p.m. – Main program and business meeting

(We hold business meetings every month except for July and December, when we have special get-togethers).

Entry to the Church for Meeting

The closed-circuit T.V. is fixed, so the doorbell should work. Press the button and you will be answered by voice or buzzer. The door should open when you **pull** on it. If not, **push in** the door and then **pull out**. If that doesn't work, just buzz us again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Show and tell winners:



Ron won the species category with his *Baptistonia echinata*.



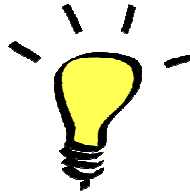
Susan won the hybrid category with her *Phalaenopsis Hebe*.

OTHER INFORMATION

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.

Don't forget that our TOS library catalogue is listed on our website.

MORE ABOUT ORCHIDS...



Indoor Light Levels

Since the days are getting shorter, I thought this would be a good topic.

Orchids grown in the home normally require supplemental lighting. Fluorescent lights are most frequently used in a one-to-one ratio of cool-white and Gro-Lux bulbs which provide nearly full-spectrum light. Growers also successfully use the newer "full-spectrum" fluorescent and high-intensity lights. Halide lights should be combined with sodium bulbs since alone they are deficient in red portions of the light spectrum, which prevents flowering in some species. Artificial lights are easily controlled by timers to provide seasonal fluctuation, increasing and decreasing light levels each month. Most species do well with 11-14 hours of light, which the following schedule provides:

JAN. (JUL.) 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
FEB. (AUG.) 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
MAR. (SEP.) 5:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
APR. (OCT.) 5:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
MAY. (NOV.) 5:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
JUN. (DEC.) 5:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

JUL. (JAN.) 5:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
AUG. (FEB.) 5:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m.
SEP. (MAR.) 5:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
OCT. (APR.) 6:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
NOV. (MAY) 6:30 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
DEC. (JUN.) 6:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

Seedlings need very low light, starting at 200 foot candles when they are just out of the flask. During the following years, light should gradually be increased to mature-plant levels as the plants reach blooming size.

Studies indicate that seedlings grow more rapidly if given 14-16 hours of light year-round. However, extending light in the general growing area may adversely affect blooming in mature plants. Consequently, either seedlings should be grown in a separate area, or the light should be blocked from other plants in the same area.

Orchidculture.com/COD/lightlevel/htm/

Minutes from August 25, 2009

Puyallup Fair

Put chairs and card table in greenhouse at the end of each day. There will be three plastic boxes with handouts – make sure they are full. We need a humidifier and electric fan to take to the fair. If anyone has either one for the club to borrow, please contact Ron.

If you sign up this evening to volunteer at the fair you will receive admission and parking tickets tonight.

[Orchid entry info handed out. Exhibit entry tags were passed around for examples].

Ron explained how to complete the entry tags:

- Orchid Division
- Exhibit # given
- Class (look at sheet)

- First show – (Sept. 13th) write the number. It will begin with a 2
- Second show – (Sept. 20th) write the number. It will begin with a 5
- Variety
- Name, address, and phone number

Take top sheet and turn it into the office.

Fold metal bottom tag to cover name, address, and phone number. Use a paper clip to keep it securely folded. This information can not be exposed.

If you sign up for the first show, the officials will re-enter your orchid(s) in the second show.

We need plants for the fair! Friday, Sept. 11th we set up around 4:00. Call Ron or Margo to pick up plants. Ron said that the floral people made a previous comment that our greenhouse was looking “naked in there.”

Miscellaneous Donation

Ten plants and \$18 were donated to the club by an individual named Janelle. Ron will nurture the plants back to health so that they can be raffled off at a future meeting.

Last Month’s Picnic

Did participating members like the location at Spanaway Park? How about the sheltered area? The consensus was “yes” to both.

Ron announced that he will not be club president next year. Mickey said so, due to Ron’s health issues. Ron mentioned this to emphasize that the 2010 president has to remember to book the Spanaway Park pavilion by the first of March for the next picnic. The sheltered areas are reserved in no time.

Windmill Sale

Margo sent three e-mails to vendors. Here are the responses:

- Olympic Orchids – Ellen agreed to be a vendor.
- Barbara Inman - Unsure; subject to Carroll’s health;
- Out on a Limb - Mark’s wife will show up but we’re not sure about him;
- Sorella - Their e-mailbox is full so we don’t know. Georgia will try to contact them.
- Clackamas - Unable to sell at this show

Should our club order and sell orchids at the sale? Ron doesn't think so because too many orchids are always left. We don't want to get stuck with them. He will leave it up to the Board to make the decision.

At our last show, Mark reduced his prices to compete with us.

Margo – 24 Phalaenopsis in 2-3" pots that we can sell or raffle. We don't want to undercut vendors.

If Sorella and Mark don't sell at our sale, we can sell our orchids.

Georgia – Should we allow Sorella to accept credit cards?

Ron: Let them use it.

Georgia: As long as they pay the commission

Margo: Yes, keep them happy.

Ron – Vendor letters should go out by snail mail. The letters to the judges should be prepared and hand delivered to them when they meet at the center.

Treasurer's Report

We paid the fee for our non-profit status and paid the church. We made \$53.75 in the raffle; \$3,983.28 in the bank.

Ron – The October sale helps our budget. We're having difficulty getting speakers for our meetings. He received e-mails asking \$250 to speak, plus airfare, room and meals. They [some speakers] want too much.

Margo mentioned that there's local talent among club members. Wait for the club to build up.

Tuesday vs. Saturday Meetings

Winter is coming and seniors don't want to drive at night. Ron has heard more negative comments than positive about changing to Saturdays.

Margo thinks it's worth a try (Saturdays) if we can do it. We can get home before dark. Not as much traffic.

Ron – Some members have chores and children on weekends.

Barbara B – Saturdays are too busy.

Jeannine – Who will come on Saturday? [Interested members raised their hands]. Who will come on Tuesday? [A larger number of members raised their hands].

TOS meetings will remain on Tuesday evenings.

Ron adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Bryant.

