

Tacoma Orchid Society



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& Events Coordinator**

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Upcoming Events

Next TOS meeting – Tuesday, November 24th at 7:00 p.m.

TOS Christmas Dinner – Fife Bar & Grill,
December 17th Cocktail hour at 6:30 p.m.;
dinner at 7:00 p.m.

Sunshine Lady

Jan Whittington
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Raffle Table

Jeannine Sturman
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Greeter

Vern Nelson
(253) 884-2946

January Windmill Garden Show and Sale –
January 16th and 17th

NEXT MEETING

Our next meeting is scheduled for **November 24th at 7:00 p.m.**

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

Guest Speaker: Our President, Ron Bollick, will discuss lighting for orchids

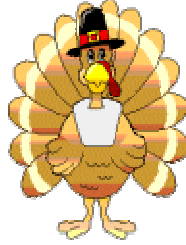
- 6:30 p.m. – Orchid Forum (bring your questions and receive answers)
Margo will lead the discussion.
- 7:00 p.m. – Main program and business meeting

(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

Our October show-and-tell hybrid winner is Bill Summerhill!

There were no entries in the species category.



C. Chocolate Drop 'Mt. View' x LC Bethune 'Indigo'

Gorgeous plant! Congratulations!

TOS Christmas Dinner

Please come to our 2009 holiday get-together!

Thursday, December 17, 2009

6:30 p.m. cocktails

7:00 p.m. dinner

Fife Bar & Grill
3025 Pacific Highway East
Fife, Washington

The club will pay for two dinners maximum for each current TOS family. Non-alcoholic beverage, tax, and tip will be covered. Additional family members or guests who wish to attend will be an additional \$23. Alcoholic beverages are available for you to purchase on your own.

To reserve your seat, you must contact Ron no later than November 24th.

Bring your best orchid that you have growing for show-and-tell (no recently purchased plants in bloom) and you might win a prize! We have a “bright” door prize to give away too!

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 available on our website.

MORE ABOUT ORCHIDS...



The subject of this month's orchid information/culture article and the orchid culture discussion before the regular meeting is twofold: Where to get and how to select a healthy orchid, and now that you've got it, what do you do with it?

There are many places to buy an orchid: local grocery and big-box stores such as Trader Joe's, QFC, Fred Meyer, Home Depot and Costco are some of the many stores that are carrying orchids at very low prices, especially when compared to prices of only a few years ago. Windmill Gardens and Watson's are two retail nurseries that sell orchids, and of course our own TOS has orchids on its raffle table as well as occasionally for sale from vendors who present programs at society meetings. Orchid shows and sales are the best places to purchase orchids since there are many different mature plants in bloom, as well as knowledgeable growers who can help select the right orchid for you.

Look for a plant with firm leaves. If you are looking at Oncidium types, the leaves should not be wrinkled, which indicates lack of water at the time the leaves were developing, and the pseudobulbs should be firm. For Phalaenopsis and Cattleyas the leaves should be firm and glossy, not wrinkled or shriveled, and Catts the pseudobulbs should be firm. Paphiopedilum leaves should be firm and not wilted. If a lot of roots are jumping out of an orchid's pot it could mean that the medium has broken down and the plant needs repotting, or the plant may have outgrown its pot.

For Oncidium types, Paphs and Catts, look for plants with many divisions; these will be older more mature plants. Healthy mature Phals usually have four-six leaves, although first bloom plants have fewer.

It is stressful for a plant to bloom and if the plant is not healthy flowering could possibly kill it or at least set it back. Buy plants with many healthy green buds and only a few flowers; the plant will stay in bloom longer. Avoid plants with withered looking reddish or yellowing buds or wilted flowers. Inspect all plants for pests and don't buy any plants that obviously need repotting unless you have the proper medium and can do it yourself.

Most of the orchids bought at retail outlets and some orchid nurseries are greenhouse grown, have been shipped in from Hawaii or Northern California, and are accustomed to uniform temperatures, bright light, and high humidity. They usually go to a warehouse where they may be held for a few days before they are put in the sales areas, which are usually colder, drier, and darker than the greenhouses where they have been grown. They also may be too wet or too dry, and are usually not watered while waiting to be sold.

When you bring your orchid home take it out of its wrapping and inspect the medium. If it's dry, water the plant and make sure the excess water drains out of the pot. Put it in a bright spot away from drafts and heating vents. Make a humidity tray - a gravel or perlite-filled tray large enough so that the plant's leaves will be over the tray and fill the tray with water to just below the surface of the gravel. Do not let the plant sit in water. If the tray is large enough you can place several plants on it. This will keep moist air around the plants and prevent bud drop and water loss from the leaves.

Come to the culture session at our next meeting - I'll have demo plants, handouts, will answer your questions, and you are welcome to bring a plant for discussion or just to find out what it is and what to do with it.

Margo Steinman

General Meeting Minutes October 27, 2009



Ron opened the business meeting.

Visitors introduced themselves: Ron Hardy, Joe Freeman, Lindanne Gores (member), Barbara Nye and Linda Duley.

TOS Christmas Dinner

Our annual Christmas get together will be held at Fife Bar and Grill [December 17, 2009]. Ron read their menu. The cost is \$23.00 per person, not including tip and tax. It was discussed whether or not

to have members pay \$10.00 towards their dinner. Barbara B. reported that we have \$4,368.00 in our bank account. Dinner will cost approximately \$1,000 total.

Do we need the money right now? What about an emergency situation? None. The general consensus was that we have the money to spend.

Jeannine brought a motion to the floor that the club pay \$23.00 a head for members and their immediate family. It was seconded. The motion passed.

TOS will pay a \$50.00 deposit to secure our dinner at the restaurant. Ron would like a head count by the next meeting. He said that the club will pay the tax and tip as well.

Ron adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Susan Bryant

