

Tacoma Orchid Society



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Upcoming Events

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

(No TOS business meeting this month.)

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

NEXT MEETING



Our next meeting is scheduled for **January 26, 2010.**

There is no business meeting this month due to our TOS dinner on December 17th.

(We hold business meetings every month except for July and December).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Show-and-Tell

Our November show-and-tell hybrid winner is Bill. He's on a winning streak! The same can be said for our species winner, Fred!



Bill's winning hybrid Catt.



Fred's winning species *Dendrobium phalaenopsis v. alba*

Sorry, Fred and Bill, for the background distractions in the photos.

TOS Christmas Dinner



There's still some time to reserve your seat at our annual Christmas dinner. Please contact Ron ASAP. (We have 30+ individuals signed up). There will be lots of good food, fun, and great company. Make your reservation and mingle with fellow orchid heads!

Thursday, December 17, 2009

*6:30 p.m.
No Host Bar*

*Between 7:00 and 7:30 p.m.
Dinner*

Fife City Bar & Grill

(253) 922-9555

3025 Pacific Highway East

Fife, Washington

The club will pay for members and one other immediate family member (maximum two dinners per family). This includes dinner, non-alcoholic beverages, tax, and tip. Alcoholic beverages are available for you to purchase on your own.

Additional family members and non TOS individuals pay \$23.00 each.

Menu for the Evening

Mouth Watering Prime Rib and Roast Turkey

Fresh Cesar Salad

Vegetables – Chef's Choice

Mashed Potatoes and Gravy

Sage Dressing

Oven Baked Bread

Your Choice of Non-Alcoholic Beverages

Awards and Door Prize

Don't forget that we have awards. Bring your best blooming orchid that you have growing for show-and-tell. Please, no recently purchased plants in bloom. There will be winners in each of the following categories:

- Couple of the Year
- Individual of the Year
- Show- and-Tell Winner of the Year
- Show- and-Tell (winner of the evening)
- Refreshment Table Winner of the Year

The grand prize (door prize) will be a grow light donated to our club by Indoor Gardens. You might just win it!



Directions to the Restaurant:

From the south:

Drive I-5 northbound. Take the Port of Tacoma exit 136. Go under the bridge and then over the bridge. Take a left at the intersection (Pacific Hwy). The restaurant is on the right hand side near Goodyear Tire and Days Inn.

From the north:

Drive I-5 southbound. If you take the Port of Tacoma exit, we were told that you will come to the same intersection as indicated above (Pacific Hwy).



Dues for 2010

It's hard to believe that 2009 is almost behind us. The new year begins in just a few weeks! This means that we are now accepting payment for 2010 dues:

Individual \$20.00 – full year
Couple \$25.00 – full year

Individual \$10.00 – 1/2 year
Couple \$15.00 – 1/2 year

Feedback Regarding our Newsletter

How can I improve our TOS newsletter?

- Would it help you to read if I increase the font (print) size?
- Is it easier to read if I change the style of font to Arial rather than Times New Roman? (The Minutes are typed in Arial).
- Do you have any suggestions as to what you would like to see in future newsletters?

Also, if you are interested in writing an article about orchids, please let me know.

Thank you,

Susan Bryant



TOS January Show at Windmill Gardens

Saturday, January 16th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Set up on January 15th at 3:00 p.m.

Windmill Gardens

5816 - 162nd Ave. E.
Sumner, Washington

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...

A Word on Plant Problems

Submitted by Mike Smith of Paradise Orchids

I can't say enough about how attractive orchids are and how they attract me. One thing that is not always on our minds is what else they attract. When bringing in plants to be among your collection, you may be bringing in other 'collections' as well that are not easily seen and very much unwanted.

Some may be:

Rhizoctonia - a black hairy mass throughout the media (below)



Rhizoctonia's mycelia can act as a moisture aid to the root, but eventually it attacks the root and causes rot. It proliferates when the media stays wet for too long a period and lacks aeration. The above roots may be still viable but if the outer layer strips away leaving a thread, then the root mass needs trimmed away. It is best to repot any good roots with fresh media in a pot that allows more air flow. The old media may have frass from soil insects, degradation of the bark of the media or any number of things that allow for more water retention... all are bad. Before repotting you can dip the roots into your favorite remedy, the real trick is to not give the disease the environment it requires. Orchid roots want air, they want to dry out in general before they get wet again, and they want room around them. All of this is antagonistic to disease. Growers often use pots for the purpose of light weight shipping...but sometimes not the best for aeration.



my bet lies on this type of pot.

Pythium and **Phytophthora** - root rot, also from too wet of root environment.

Not a visible hyphae, but when you can pull the outer root mass away from the inside string of an individual root.... You have a rotten root. It is dead. This could be Pythium or Phytophthora, Rhizoctonia, doesn't matter, the root is dead because it stayed wet too long without adequate aeration. Corrective action is to repot to a more aerated design with new media and pot. Trim away all rotted roots so they don't continue the spread. It is imperative to give the roots what they need, not the disease what it needs.

All three of the above are caused from roots being in pots where air cannot sufficiently get to them and they stay too wet for too long. Many diseases are always present, but not proliferating. In other

words the spores are there, they just need the right environment to grow and subsequently overcome their host (your orchid).

In production, at the growers end, they often get that environment. The plants are being grown at an optimum so they can have as early of turn around, therefore as much profit as possible. We as end users or distributors get them and they may have been treated with chemicals to reduce the incidence of pests or disease, but their existence may still persist. There is no such thing as eradication when you are dealing with thousands of plants and thousands of spores.

(to be continued next month)

(Definition of “frass”: the refuse and excrement of boring or leaf-eating insects)



Correction to Minutes from October 27, 2009 Board Meeting

On page one (1), under January Windmill Show, vendor “Seattle Orchid Society” should read “Seattle Orchid (Alan Matthews is the owner).”

General Meeting Minutes November 24, 2009



A special thanks to Claudia for taking the minutes

Margo called the meeting to order.

Barb gave the treasurer's report. There is \$4,264.96 in the Key Bank account.

The Christmas party will be held on Thursday, Dec. 17th at Fife City Bar and Grill starting at 6:30. Members and 1 other immediate family member, no charge. Others will be charged \$23.00 per person. Susan will send a letter for more details.

The next orchid show will be held at Windmill Gardens again in Sumner the weekend of Jan 16-17, 2010. There may be 20-25 judges at the event. We are considering the possibility of a Costco "catered" lunch for the judges, members and staff of Windmill Gardens. Potential vendors for the show: maybe Clackamas, Barb Inman, Alan Mathews (Seattle Orchid). Margo is checking other sources for vendors. A question was raised if we wanted a theme for the show and a unanimous NO was heard throughout the room. Barb and Margo will work on a display. Judging forms are available/maybe in the supply cabinet. Ribbon judging, AOS judging.

We will need help for setting up before the first day, working at the show, security and getting food. Margo stated that we have 14-15 vendor tables now. We may have more before the event.

A board meeting may be needed before Christmas.

The meeting was adjourned.



May you have a safe and wonderful holiday season. We hope 2010 brings you good health and many blooming orchids.