




Triad Orchid Society

December 14, 2014

<p>Officers President Steve Davis</p> <p>Vice-President James Curtis</p> <p>Secretary Betti Kinnamon</p> <p>Treasurer Gay Sharpe</p> <p>Board Ken Karb Don Richman Annette Hastie Janette Harris</p> <p>Triad Orchid Society meets the second Sunday of each month at the Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs Building on the campus of the Natural Science Center 4301 Lawndale Dr. Greensboro, NC 27455 at 1:00 PM</p>	<p>Triad Orchid Show Plans are underway for our annual orchid show next winter.</p> <p>The dates will be: February 27- 28, March 1, 2015.</p> <p>Don Richman will be the show chair. Don is actively recruiting members to help with the show.</p> <p>February 25th, Wednesday afternoon, will be setting up the show. We will need some folks to come in and set up tables, chairs and put plastic down on the floor for the exhibits. Members can also bring in any plants they want to put in the show that afternoon between 2pm and 6pm.</p> <p>February 26th, Thursday, will be putting in the TOS exhibit and helping visiting societies unload their plants.</p> <p>Kitchen Help: We need someone to setup/cleanup the kitchen as follows: Setup/Cleanup lunch on Thursday February 26 Setup/Cleanup Breakfast and Lunch on Friday February 27</p> <p>Clerks for Judging: We need clerks for judging on February 27th Friday morning.</p> <p>Hosts: During the show we will need some members to be present as hosts and to answer any questions our visitors may have.</p> <p>Plants and Greenery: We will also need lots of plants and greenery for the TOS exhibit.</p> <p>March 1, 2015 - Take down exhibits, tables, chairs, vacuum, etc. More details will be forthcoming.</p> <p>December 2014 Program "It's all about the Flowers! - putting together an orchid display." Dennis, Janette and Annette will be doing a presentation on how to setup an exhibit for an Orchid show. They will show photos of setting up an exhibit and talk through design ideas and concepts of what works and what doesn't. Janette will give a brief discussion of "The Process for Registering Plants Entered and Classes/Categories for Ribbon Judging and AOS Judging". With our upcoming Orchid Show in February, this will be interesting and knowledgeable. Interaction from the members is encouraged and welcomed.</p>
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<p>Not Pictured</p>			
<p>Best Specimen Epidendrum propax Goldberg</p>	<p>Best Species Den goldschmidtianum J. Curtis</p>	<p>Best Flower Onc. Sharry Baby A. Curtis</p>	<p>Cattleya alliance hybrids K.Davis</p>

These are the November show table results:

Cattleya Species

- 1 -- Epidendrum propax
- 2-- Cattleya violacea
- 3 -- Cattleya bowringiana

owner
Goldberg
K. Davis
M. Wright

Small Cattleya Hybrid Alliance

- 1 -- Blc Cherry Suisse 'Emily' FCC/AOS
- 2 -- (L briegeri x C Chocolate Drop) x L accuminata
- 3 --3 Cattleya Fort Motte x Lc Long Tone

K.Davis
J. Curtis
A. Hastie

Large Cattleya Hybrid Alliance

- 1 -- Pot Carolina Splendor 'Krull's Ruby'
- 2 -- Blc Edisto #8
- 3 -- Bc Mount Hood

K. Davis
K. Davis
J. Curtis

Phalaenopsis

- 1 -- Phal Cornutris 'KF#1' HCC/AOS
- 2 -- Phal unknown
- 3 -- Phal KV Golden Star x (Sogo Lawrence x Tying Shin Wonder)

Goldberg
W. Bottoms
S. Davis

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Paphiopedilum

1 -- Paph sukhakulii

W. Bottoms

Phragmipedium

NA

Dendrobium

1 -- Den goldschmidtianum

J. Curtis

2 -- Den lamellatum 'Sabah'

Goldberg

3 -- Den Fuch's Twist x Lasianther x compactum

S. Davis

Oncidium

1 -- Onc Sharry Baby

A. Curtis

2 -- Onc onustum

K. Davis

3 -- Mtssa Charles M. Fitch

A. Curtis

Vandaceous

1 -- Holcoglossum wangii

W. Bottoms

Miscellaneous

1 -- Schoenorchis juncifolia

Goldberg

2 -- Maxillaris variabilis

Goldberg

3 -- Dendrochilum cobbianum

Goldberg

Best Species -- Den goldschmidtianum

J. Curtis

Best Specimen -- Epi porpax

Goldberg

Best Flower -- Onc Sharry Baby

A. Curtis

Happy Thanksgiving!

Tammy

Speaker's Notes - DAVID OFF aka "Captain Orchid Plants"

Provided by Joy Lemieux

I loved David's presentation! Not only does he have a great sense of humor, but he has obviously made the effort to master his computer. I thought his Power Point, with his superb use of clip art, demonstrated his comfort with the subject matter as well as his skill as a presenter. As I looked around the room that evening, I saw a rapt audience that was smiling and laughing and obviously enjoying themselves.

David presented himself as "Captain Orchid Plants", a super hero we can all identify with. I was impressed when he began with the statement that all orchids really need is sunlight and water. Everything else is optional and

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orchids adapt to what they get. My personal experience tells me that David is right on! If you provide the basics of light and water, everything else can be tweaked to make the situation work.

David said that we should not fear bright light, and pointed out that an ordinary screen that we all have on our windows provides twenty-five percent shade. Most of us who have greenhouses cover them with shade clothes every summer. We worry about the degree of shade and I've known growers who actually have wardrobes of shade clothes that they take on and off to adapt to growing seasons. I also know a grower whose greenhouse has three layers of shade and the interior is so dark you can't read the plant labels when you are in the greenhouse. Another grower I know set up a growing area in a spare bedroom. She closed the drapes and turned on the single one hundred watt overhead light and announced that she was "concentrating sunlight". Not surprisingly, none of these growers were particularly successful because they feared exposing their plants to bright light. This is a soapbox I get onto often, and I felt vindicated this summer when I brought my plants inside after a summer of exposure to full sun. We had cut down a tree in our back yard and it wasn't until that tree was gone that I realized how much shade it provided. The plants I moved into the greenhouse at the end of their summer outdoors were pale and sun bleached BUT they also have more developing sheaths and buds than I've ever had before.

David pointed out that the more sun plants receive, the faster they dry out. It makes perfect sense therefore to adapt your watering schedules to how quickly your plants dry out. When the weather is cool and cloudy, the plants won't dry as quickly so you can water once a week, or even less frequently. However, if your plants are exposed to full sun for five or six days with no sign of rains, obviously you need to water more often. David also pointed out that plants need sunlight for photosynthesis. Without adequate light and ability to photosynthesize, plants are weakened which makes them vulnerable to disease and insects.

Watering provides plants with nourishment. David recommends watering up into the air above plants rather than watering directly into each pot. He calls this the "waterfall effect" and David explained that this causes water to oxygenate as it falls, providing your plants with huge benefits. Of course this only works in growing areas with drainage in the floor. This obviously does not work for most home growers with carpets or hardwood floors. David said that as a very general rule, potted plants can be watered once a week, but of course that depends on other factors, such as heat and exposure to sun light. David did qualify his statement by adding that every plant is different and growers must pay attention to the plants themselves and how they are responding to whatever you are doing.

Do not allow plants to sit in water. This invites root rot and bacterial disease. David said he likes growing in clear plastic pots because you can see roots and monitor how the plant is doing. However, clear pots exposed to sunlight provide an ideal environment for algae. As the algae obscures your roots, you lose the advantage of the clear pot. David demonstrated that one way to gauge the wetness of a potted plant is to tip it backwards. If the plant is too wet you will feel the shift in weight as the water in the pot shifts to the lower level of the pot. Another watering problem is caused by care labels that tell you to put ice cubes on top of the medium. Wow! If you are a tropical plant how would you like being doused with ice?? David pointed out that using ice cubes is one way to measure how much water you put onto a plant. However, ice cubes melting into the medium does little to distribute the moisture evenly. Ice cubes do even less to nourish the plant.

David pointed out that orchids will grow in virtually any medium. He also said that growers should experiment with different mediums, always with an eye to finding something more effective. When repotting, David recommends simply shifting the plant from one container to another, with minimal disturbance to the roots. He cautioned to always use sterile equipment by flaming cutting tools with a propane torch. When repotting, always place the oldest part of the plant against the edge of the pot, leaving room for rhizomes and new growth to extend toward the front of the pot. Always place rhizomes on the surface of your medium. David said that at Waldor

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Orchids they begin the repotting process by putting large chunks of bark in the bottom of the pot, but filling in around roots and the top of the pot with smaller, finer pieces. Waldor also uses styrofoam peanuts in the bottom of pots to help with drainage. They do not fill pots to the top to minimize medium washing out during watering. David said that when they divide plants they cut plants into three to five pseudobulb. When cutting up large plants, always cut toward the older pseudobulbs, and cut right through roots to the bottom. Remove any velum that is exposed as insects often burrow into velum and hide. David said you should not be afraid to cut off long roots as they will regenerate. If your roots wind around and around the pot, they will eventually rot off anyhow, so trim to manageable lengths.

David said that Waldor uses a bark mixture for most of their plants. He cautioned that when using bark, pick out extraneous pieces of wood and other foreign objects. At Waldor, he said, they don't use rhizome clips. Rather they stake plants to keep them upright, wiring the stakes to the tallest parts of the plant. Most plants can remain in the same pots for two years before needing to be repotted. When potting up bareroot cuttings, David said to use the smallest pot possible to get roots establish and filling the pots as quickly as possible.

David noted that Waldo does grow Phals in sphagnum moss, and that repotting plants in moss can be a challenge. At Waldo they loosen the moss by soaking the pots in warm water, then removing as much as possible of the old moss. When repotting, they wrap the moss around the roots. David acknowledged that there is skill involved here. If you wrap the moss too tightly the plants can't rehydrate once they dry out. If you don't wrap the moss tightly enough, the moss stays too wet and roots rot.

David addressed the issue of insect pests. Aphids and mealy bugs and scare are common on orchids. The best prevention is vigilance – constantly check your plants for these marauders! If you find an infected plant, isolate the plant from your collection until it has been adequately treated. David recommends Bayer's Rose and Flower, applied weekly for most infestations. Because most insects are short live but reproduce quickly, repeated applications are necessary to wipe them out once they become established. David cautioned against aerosol sprays as sprays can freeze plant material. Liquid material sprayed on plants will stick better if mixed with a few drops of dishwashing soap as an emulsifier.

Foliage that turns black and soft is affected by rot. David said that one should not confuse rot with sun burn which also turns foliage black. Sunburn remains dry and does not spread. Rot, on the other hand, continues to spread and will eventually affect the entire plant. Rot can be caused by chemical burns, by moisture left on foliage when it is cold, or by excessive fertilizer which burns and destroys roots. Remove foliage or any rotten material as soon as it is spotted.

"Captain Orchid Plant" provided a lot of very practical information. He grew up in the family business and learned from the best. The information he packed into his presentation could only come from years and years of actually growing orchids and learning firsthand what actually works. Combine that with a sense of humor and it's a winning presentation!