

CHAOS

Charlottesville Orchid Society

www.cvilleorchidsociety.com

March 2013

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Photography

Stella Erickson



President's Message

Everyone I have spoken with since our February meeting appreciated the great talk we received on Phals from Paul Philhour of the Orchid Station. Thank you again Paul for those tips on how to improve our blooming of these wonderful plants. Paul and Kathy are CHAOS members and also help supply us with orchids to sell during our Spring and Fall Show & Sales. Remember that you can always check out Orchid Station plants at the Saturday Farmer's Market on Water Street during the summer. If any other CHAOS member would like to give us a talk on orchids, please feel free to contact Brenda Steigman, our program director. We know we have a lot of expertise within CHAOS so please don't be shy. Let us hear from you!

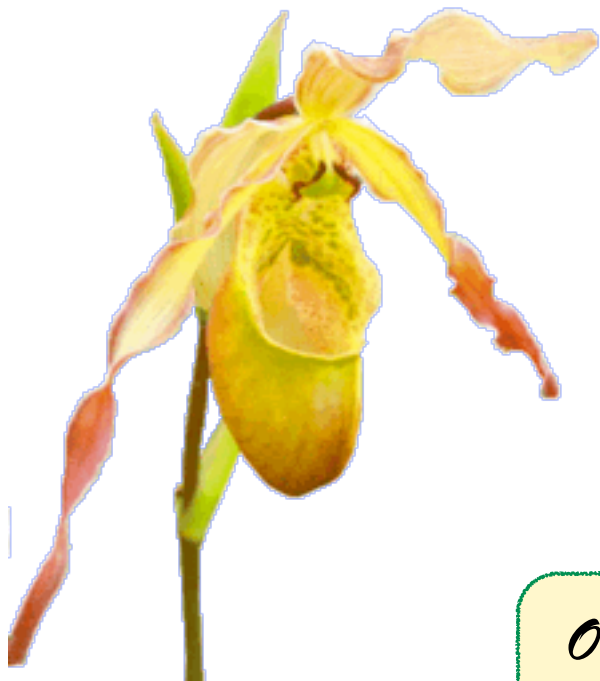
Our next speaker will be Bill Goldner on March 17 of Woodstream Orchids. His talk will be on miniature Phrags, something he specializes in. He also will be selling plants at our meeting so be prepared to bring your checkbook to the meeting. Bill's bio can be found later in the newsletter. Remember that our meeting for March will be Sunday March 17, the 3rd Sunday of the month instead of our normal schedule at the request of the Church of Our Saviour. Please note the change on your calendars and plan to attend.

I'm sure many of you have heard that CHAOS did quite well at the VOS/AOS show at Strange's Garden Center in Short Pump. Thanks to Jeff and Linda for the overall design, as well as the hard work by the many CHAOS volunteers who assisted in setting up our version of "Hawaiian Paradise". We couldn't have done as well without all your help. Thank you. Later in this newsletter is Jeff's report on the details of our great exhibit.

Finally just a moment to wish three of our valued members who currently have some health issues. Xavier Van Bastelaer, Ann Longenecker, and George Tyler are in our thoughts and we wish them speedy recoveries. We miss you and hope to see you at our meetings very soon.

See you all at our March 17 meeting at 2PM. If you can come a bit early to help set up or stay behind at the end to clean up, your help will be most appreciated.

Larry Eicher



The Charlottesville Orchid Society is pleased to present the following orchid education opportunities for its members and interested visitors at the Church of Our Saviour, 1165 E. Rio Road, Charlottesville, Virginia at 2:00PM, generally on the second Sunday of each month, unless otherwise stipulated. Everyone is welcome. All events are free. Light refreshments, orchid competition, educational information on orchids and plants for sale are features of each monthly event.

Other Important Dates

March 29-30 Annual Spring Show & Sale at Fashion Square Mall

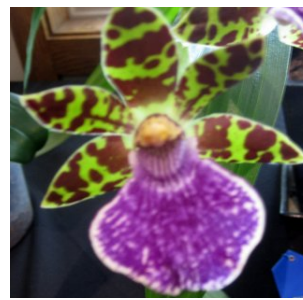
October 25-26 Annual Fall Show & Sale at Snow's Garden Center

2013

SPEAKERS

March 17, 2013	Bill Goldner, Woodstream Orchids woodstream@chesapeake.net	Miniature Phragmipediums
April 14, 2013	Linda Wilhelm, Woodland Orchids orchidfrau@bellsouth.net	Plants in Small Places or Magnificent Stanhopeas
May 5, 2013	Members Annual Get Together	Repotting/Picnic
June 9, 2013	Eric Sauer eric@cypstudios.com	Maxillarias or Review of Various Orchid Genus from South America
July/August	VACATION - No Speakers	
September 8, 2013	Thomas Voytilla, The Orchid House www.theorchidhouse.org tvoytilla@gmail.com	The Culture and Mechanics of Growing Orchids in Semi-Hydroponics
October 13, 2013	Charles Garrett grayowl@tds.net	Native Orchids of Virginia
November 10, 2013	Geraldine Powell, The Orchid Gallery geraldinepell@gmail.com	Cool Growing Orchids
December 8, 2013	CHAOS Holiday Social	

February Meeting



February's Show Table Results

Hobby 1

1st - Anne Hobson, Phal Unknown
2nd - Anne Hobson, Phal ((Winter Kaala x amabilis) x Dtps Casablanca)
3rd - Anne Hobson, Phal (Cullican x Meredith Katherine)

Hobby 2

1st - Diane Bradshaw, Zygopetalum Blue Blaze
2nd - Jim Nemer, Phal Unknown
3rd - Pam Howie, Stcrs Vanguard 'Red Stripes'

Hobby 3

1st - Larry Eicher, Lc Meadow Gold
2nd - Larry Eicher, Phrag Fritz Schomburg
3rd - Larry Eicher, Paph Luna Moth x Henryanum
HM - Larry Eicher, Lc Purple Cascade 'Fragrant Princess'

Super Hobby

1st - Lee & Neale Merriman, Den Love Memory 'Fizz'
2nd - Dudley Miller, Cym Agnes Norton
2nd - Lee & Neale Merriman, V (Fuchs Fortune x Piyarat)
3rd - Lee & Neale Merriman, Fdk After Dark 'SVO Black Pearl' FCC/AOS
HM - Lee & Neale Merriman, Lpts pohitinocci

Professional

1st - Jeff Morris, Paph Mount Toro
2nd - Jeff Morris, Paph Norito Hasegawa
3rd - Jeff Morris, Phrag Schlimil
HM - Jeff Morris, Paph Bell-Maud



2013 Points - Running Total

Hobby 1

Anne Hobson - 42 pts
Pam Howie - 8 pts

Hobby 2

Pam Howie - 15 pts
Leon Blumreich - 30 pts
Diane Bradshaw - 22 pts
Jim Nemer - 18 pts
Daryn Norton - 20 pts

Hobby 3

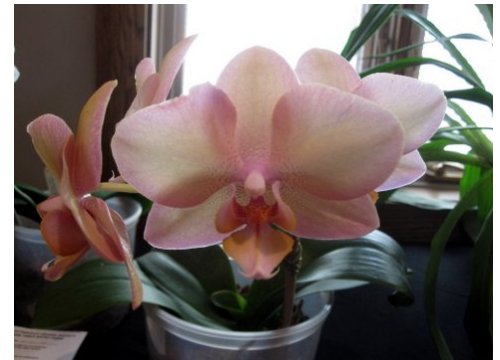
Larry Eicher - 146 pts
Alba Shank - 10 pts

Super Hobby

Lee & Neale Merrimen - 68 pts
Brenda Steigman - 33 pts
Dudly Miller - 42 pts

Professional

Jeff Morris - 348 pts



Photos courtesy of
Stella Erickson

Thank you to the following members who have volunteered to bring food for our meetings:

March

Sweets: Jeff Morris & Linda Wright
Savory: Neale & Lee Merriman
Drinks: Leon Blumreich

April

Sweets: Daria Kiselica
Savory: Pam Howie
Drinks: Anne Hobson

May

Drinks: Jim Nemer

September

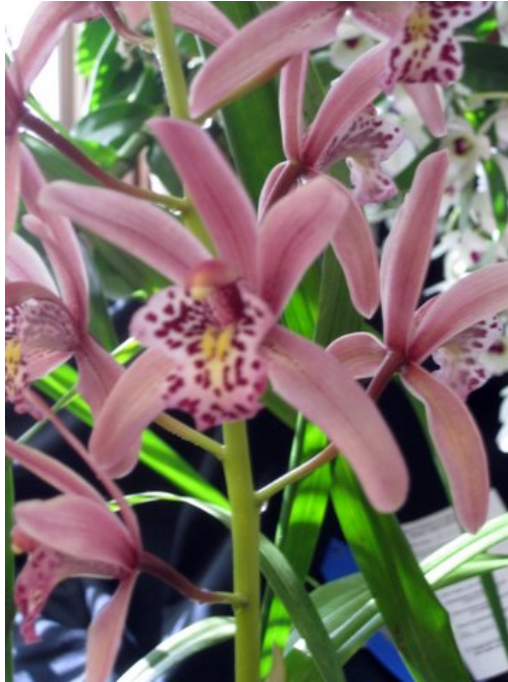
Sweets: Diane Bradshaw
Savory: CJ Besanson
Drinks: Brenda & Bill Steigman

October

Sweets: Alba Shank

November

Sweets: Elenor Matano



Photos courtesy of
Stella Erickson

March 2013 Speaker

Woodstream Orchids - Dr. William Goldner Miniature Phragmipediums

Dr. William (Bill) Goldner is best known in the orchid world as the owner of Woodstream Orchids with his wife Lynn Evans-Goldner. However, many may not realize that Bill and Lynn have careers outside of the orchid world as National Program Leaders for the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

A life-long outdoorsman, Bill's current mid-life crisis is fly fishing for trout, steelhead, and salmon, a passion he shares with wife Lynn. Many of the hybrid and cultivar names registered and used by Woodstream Orchids are names of the many places they have fished.



In September, 2009 Bill and Lynn experienced a life-changing event when Lynn gave birth to their son Zane William Goldner. Now Zane is part of the pack which includes golden retriever Spicepup.

Bill serves the orchid community as an accredited American Orchid Society Judge and a Board Member of the Orchid Digest magazine.

Woodstream Orchids (WSO) is one of five orchid nurseries in the US that focus on the breeding and production of complex Paphiopedilum hybrids from seed. WSO is also one of the leading breeders and producers of Phragmipediums. They are well known for their innovative miniature Phrag hybrids.

For directions to WSO or to place preorders for the society meeting, please visit the Woodstream web site and on-line catalog at: www.woodstreamorchids.com

VOS Orchid Show

Many thanks to all the members that were able to help out with the Virginia Orchid Society, VOS, orchid show. The VOS as usual organized and presented a wonderful Orchid Show at Strange's Nursery North of Richmond. There were 14 exhibits of outstanding quality. The Charlottesville Society was fortunate enough to receive the AOS Show trophy and Best exhibiting Society. Looking over the exhibits displayed this year we are very fortunate to be given these awards. I didn't envy any of the judges their position as I thought that there were at least 4 exhibits that just as easily could have received these awards. Other highlights of the Show this year was a new "People's Choice Award" that went to the Tidewater Orchid Society. They also received the Orchid Digest Award.

Also our very own President Larry Eicher received an AOS award. His Phrag Fritz Schomburg received an AM/AOS.

Other members that received ribbons:

Dudley Miller received 1 First place ribbon and 1 Third place ribbon for his cymbidiums

Daryn Norton received 2 Second place ribbons and a Third place ribbon

Larry Eicher received 1 First place ribbon and 1 Second place ribbon as well as the AOS award

Jeff Morris received 1 Best in Class, 10 First place ribbons, 12 Second place ribbons, and 4 Third place ribbons

Message from the VOS Show Chairman

Hello All:

I just wanted to take this opportunity, if I missed speaking to you at the show, to personally thank everyone from all our sister societies that took part in our event this year.

I cannot think of a theme that would have worked out as well, to put the right mood on things, and it was perfect to see people walking through the greenhouse with a slight "dance" to their steps as they admired all of your displays.

Our "giveaway" bags were a big hit, and helped illuminate the public on orchids with that take home perspective. The free lecture programs during the weekend have become extremely popular and help educate the general public on our passion.

I don't think we could have pulled this entire weekend off without the gracious help of our sponsor, Stranges Garden Center. Tom Rush, Sunnie Wright, and their entire team at Stranges work diligently to make our show the success it is, and I don't think we would have the show we have, without their support.

Our hospitality was headed by Sue Fulghum and I can't think of anyone that didn't have wonderful things to say of the VOS's hospitality. It is one of those little things that help make the weekend a great success.

Friday was judging day and we had three teams led by our head judge, Gordon Slaymaker. I think the most impressive part of the entire judging process was that we had a record number 20 plants pulled for aos judging, with 12 awards handed out! That's right, 12 awards, and the judging was so long, I think some of our judges decided to stay for our gala that night.

It will be tough for us to outdo ourselves for next years show, but I know we have hard workers at the Virginia Orchid Society that will be up to the task, and hope you will all consider being part of our event again in 2014.

Our vendors this year had bulging benches of plants for any kind of orchid owner, from the beginner to the connoisseur.

On behalf of my Show Co-Chair, BettyJo Fulghum, and the entire VOS membership, I want to thank you for being part in our show and hope you will consider our event again next year.

Good Growing,

Regards

David Sombach

Announcements

Reminder for the North Carolina Piedmont Orchid Society Show:

Please send the names for all the orchids you might have available to Jeff by email by **March 3rd**. His email addresses are <jeff@3welec.com> or <orchidstoo@3welec.com>. This will allow him to print up labels and register the orchids for ribbon judging. If you have available plants and cannot bring them yourself to North Carolina, drop them off at WWW Electronics, Inc. right off of Airport Road on Wednesday, Mar. 6th. Jeff and Linda will be leaving as early as possible Thursday, Mar. 7th to begin the exhibit installation. It is a 5 hour drive. The Take down of the CHAOS exhibit will be Sunday, Mar. 10th. Let's try to emulate our success at the VOS show also in North Carolina!

Speaker Needs Accommodations in April:

Brenda Steigman, our program director, is busily making arrangements for our speakers for this year and next and needs your help. Linda Wilhelm of Woodland Orchids in NC will be our speaker on Sunday, April 14. Due to the distance, we have always offered accommodations to Linda who is a delightful and knowledgeable orchid specialist. Linda needs a place to stay after our meeting just for Sunday night, April 14 before returning home the following morning. Can you assist us and help keep our speaker's budget low? Funds will be available to take the speaker out to dinner Sunday evening at CHAOS expense. If you can help, please contact Brenda at <bsteigma@aol.com>. Thank you for your assistance.

CHAOS Spring Show & Sale Event, Fashion Square Mall, Men's Belk's Court, March 29-30 - 9AM to 9PM each day.

CHAOS members have already received the Volunteer Sign Up Sheet for those who wish to assist us at our upcoming Spring Show & Sale to be held at Fashion Square Mall, Belk's Men's Court, on March 29-30, 2013 from 9AM to 9PM daily. If you haven't already notified Larry Eicher of the time when you can help us, please do so soon. You will note we have divided up the two days into hourly segments to make it a bit easier for some of our older members. Normally we have had volunteers sit for 2 hour segments but even if you can only stay for one hour, it will be a great help. We will also be providing chairs so people don't have to stand the entire time.

Please look over the list and see what time frame(s) you might be able to help CHAOS. Even if it is only to make change, and/or help pack up purchased orchids for customers, all help is greatly appreciated. Please email Larry at tuzlu@comcast.net what your time preferences are and he will compile the central list and then confirm your times. We will continue to update you as we get closer to the Show & Sale dates, and we will notify members by group email if we need to fill in any blanks spaces.

We also invite new members to join us in this event which is one of our top money making efforts of the year. You don't have to be an orchid expert to sell orchids, but we make sure to pair up new members with more experience orchid growers so one can learn a lot about orchids just by being at these shows. We prefer to have at least 3 volunteers for each hour, but two volunteers per hour really are necessary to help spread the workload around fairly.

For members who are planning to sell orchid plants at the Show & Sale, be sure all your orchid plants are clean and pest free. If the plant is not in bloom, it always helps to have a photo of the orchid in bloom to stimulate sales. Again, a portion of each sale goes to CHAOS and will be handled by our Treasurer, Dudley Miller. Put two labels into the orchid pot, one with the name of the orchid, and the other with your initials and price of the plant. Let Larry know at tuzlu@comcast.net if you plan to sell plants at this Show & Sale. Thank you.





American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

Monthly Checklist for March and April

Cattleya

Although March is, in many parts of the country, still a cold and blustery month, the lengthening days and warmer temperatures allowed by increased light are long-awaited harbingers of the coming change of season. Some of the best standard cattleyas of the year will be in bloom, or will be blooming soon. The last of the winter-flowering hybrids will join the earliest of the spring hybrids in a wonderful display.

Be on the alert for senescing sheaths that need removal. If these yellowing sheaths are not removed, the moisture they trap can lead to bud rot. Careful removal of the sheath will allow the buds to develop, although they will need additional support. Changing light conditions can also be a problem in March and April. An exceptionally bright day, especially immediately following a rain, can lead to sunburn of the foliage if shading is not attended to properly. There can still be periods of dull days where spikes can be weakened owing to the lower light. Lengthening days will mean increased metabolic rates necessitating increased water and fertilizer. The plants will indicate needs by drying more rapidly, which means more frequent watering and fertilizing.

With the passing of the season for winter bloomers, and the beginning of the season for spring bloom, it is also the time to be on the lookout for plants that will need potting after they bloom. Immediately after blooming has proven to be the best time to repot winter- and spring-flowering cattleyas. In most cases, they will be ready to grow roots, so if potted at this time, they will root right into fresh mix with little or no setback.



Cymbidium Magic Mountain
photographed at Longwood
Gardens in early April. © G. Allikas



Miltoniopsis Martin Orenstein shows off a beautiful waterfall pattern on its labellum. Photographed at Longwood Gardens in early April. © G. Allikas

Cymbidium

Plants should be putting on a spectacular show this time of year. Adjust all staking and twist-ties and be on the lookout for aphids, slugs and snails. Give adequate water because flowering strains the plants. As new growths appear later, increase the nitrogen level in the fertilizer. Should a plant look healthy but not be blooming, try increasing the light during the next growing season. The number-one reason for no flowers is lack of light.

Dendrobium (Australian)

These hard-cane dendrobiums will be at their flowering peak now. It is not unusual to see a specimen of this type in an orchid show boasting 1,000 flowers. The secret with this group -- bred primarily from *Dendrobium kingianum* and *Dendrobium speciosum* -- is to provide ample water, fertilizer and light during the growing season.

Lycaste

This genus of superb orchids will be coming to the end of its flowering season. Soon you will see the beginning of new root growth, which is an excellent time to repot into fresh media. As new growth emerges, provide ample fertilizer and water. A sign of good culture is an increase in the size of pseudobulbs with each successive year.

Miltoniopsis

This marks the beginning of the flowering season. Amazing displays of color will dazzle the grower over the next few months. Prepare your plants for optimum display by staking spikes (if needed) and cleaning off the older yellow foliage. Do not miss the wonderful fragrance as the flowers unfold.



American Orchid Society
Education, Conservation, Research

Monthly Checklist for March and April (cont.)

Paphiopedilum

March is the beginning of the season of heaviest potting for lady's-slipper orchids. However, it is a month where the volume of plants needing attention is still small. It is an excellent month to take the time to work with your paphiopedilums before the pressure of other potting prevents your doing the thorough job you should. Look at each plant: Is it clean of dead and dying foliage? Is it weed free? Does it need potting? Is it in spike? Does it have an insect problem? Cleaning and restaging your paphs is one of the most satisfying tasks of the orchid year. Cleaned and potted paphiopedilums look happy. The summer-blooming types will be showing the first of their buds in March and April. Be on the lookout for the buds, as well as any insect pests that may have found their way into the crowns of your plants. It is especially difficult to clean mealybugs, in particular, once they have become established in the plant. Better to get to them before they get a good toehold.

Increasing light levels should give emerging spikes the strength they need to grow straight and strong. Do not be too anxious to stake the spikes, because if they are staked too soon, the flowers may develop a "nodding" stance, where the dorsal will not stand upright. If the spikes seem to develop at an angle, let them, and stake after the flower has hardened for best carriage, especially on the hybrids with fairieanum background.

Phalaenopsis

In most of the country, March is the peak blooming month for phalaenopsis. Staking needs to be carefully attended to, so that the flowers will be displayed at their best for orchid shows and judging -- even those intended for your home will look best if properly staked. One of the most decorative aspects of phalaenopsis spikes is the way they gracefully arch. If not staked properly, the spike will lack this grace and will not be as pleasing. Most growers like to have the final support just below the first flower, allowing maximum support, without sacrificing the beauty of the arching spike.

Rapid-growing spikes and open flowers place extra demands on the plant. Careful monitoring of watering and feeding will give the plants the energy they require to give their best floral display. Remember, too, that the lengthening days will also increase the frequency at which plants need water.

Beware of the invasion of sucking pests that accompany the flowering season. Flowers and spikes are favorite targets of mealybugs and scales. Be on the look out for their presence, often indicated by the appearance of sooty mold resulting from the exudate of the bugs, and treat before flowers or buds are too advanced. If flowers and buds are too far along, the chemical treatment may damage or abort them.

Pleurothallids

Members in this large and increasingly popular group will be looking their best now. If plants are not in flower, the next few months provide an excellent time to divide if needed or repot into fresh mix. Taking care of these tasks now will allow enough time for your plants to become established before the hot weather arrives.



Masdevallia Highland Monarch 'Free Spirit'
AM/AOS photographed at Parkside Orchids.
Ottsville, Pennsylvania © G. Allikas

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

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