



TRIAD ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

July 2010 edition



Ascda. Cherry Pop



Lc. Canhamiana coerulea

Preview February 2010 Speaker: Robert Marsh

On Sunday July 11th, 2010 we will have a seminar on *Barkerias* by Robert Marsh.

Robert is retired from my Associate Professor position at the University of Texas at Dallas 3 years ago and he is now teaching part-time as a Senior Lecturer. He had been breeding *Barkerias* for over 20 years and several of his hybrids have been given AOS quality awards. Also he was awarded the AOS Botanical Trophy for 1985, which at the time was called the Nax Trophy. He will be talking about *Barkeria* orchids and his progress in their breeding. There are about 15 species within the *Barkeria* genus. It sounds like an interesting talk. *Barkeria* are large showy plants similar to *Cattleya* to which they are related. Robert will be bring seedling and mericlones from his *Barkeria* breeding program to sell. Hope to see everyone there!

Cheers,

Dennis

Triad Orchid Society

Meetings the Second Sunday of Every Month

Location: The Greensboro Council of Garden Clubs, Inc., 4301 Lawndale Drive, Greensboro, NC. , 27455

Setup at noon / Potluck Lunch at 1:00 pm / Meeting at 2:00pm.

New members are always welcome!

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Officers of Triad Orchid Society:

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Secretary: JJD Consortium

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Recap: June Speaker Martin Motes:

When you invite Martin and Mary Motes to speak at your orchid society meeting you get much more than a talk about orchids. You get Martin explaining the moral lesson contained in a Hindu myth, you overhear husband-wife conversations in Serbian as they negotiate how much to drop the cost of the remaining plants, and you get veiled references to cloak and dagger intrigue among the Florida orchid growers. You also get Mary explaining that it is very hard to write about sex, but that romance runs rampant throughout her latest book. I found Martin and Mary to be very amusing!

Martin explained that most Vandas used in modern hybridizing programs are referred to as “strap leaf Vandas”. The foliage of these Vandas is flat and often rather tough and fibrous. At our latitudes, strap leaf Vandas are relatively efficient gatherers of light. The position of the sun is such that light coming into our windows or greenhouses enter at an angle, higher in summer and significantly lower in winter. The light available to most Vandas is therefore highly variable, depending upon the time of year, but the flat surface of Vanda foliage provides maximum exposure to whatever light source is available. *V sanderiana* however has tough leathery foliage that forms a deep V shape. This is an adaptation to their native tropical environment where the sun is directly overhead all year. The V form of *V sanderiana* provides a self-shading mechanism, a truly remarkable adaptation. However, *V sanderiana* is very inefficient at light gathering at our latitudes. The lesson here is that if you are growing *V sanderiana*, or even one of its primary hybrids, in this area, you may need to supplement your light source to achieve maximum flowering.

One of the characteristics Martin considers when selecting hybrids for his crosses is cold tolerance. Although this may not be a consideration in Florida, this may be consideration for us in North Carolina. *V sanderiana*, for example is definitely cold sensitive. Other cold sensitive species *V dearii*, *V tricolor*, *V denisoniana* and the miniature *V cristata*. Most of these come from Himalayan areas. The more warm growing varieties include *V lamellata*, which is found from Borneo to Japan., *V luzonica* from the Mt Pinatubo area in the Philippines, and *V merrilli*, also from the Philippines. With the cost of heating greenhouses and other growing areas an increasingly salient consideration for hobby and commercial growers alike, the cold tolerant varieties are certainly worthy of consideration. Being able to reduce the temperatures in a growing area by even 5 – 10 degrees can have a significant impact on the monthly heating bill.

Vandas, says Martin, are fairly resistant to insects. Most require high light conditions and copious amounts of water daily. Martin indicated that Vandas need magnesium to bloom well. Plain old fashioned Epsom salts, he said, is a great source of magnesium and can be easily added to any watering regime. He feels that any fertilizers touted as a Bloom Boosters actually retard blooming because they contain high amount of Phosphorous, which Vandas cannot utilize. Any well balanced fertilizer with high Nitrogen seems to be more effective. According to Martin, the hobbyist should read the labels and list of active ingredients. Look for fertilizers that contain “magnesium sulfate” and “potassium nitrate”. Martin also endorsed the starting of bare root Vandas and seedling in Cypress chips. He says that the Cypress has a natural built-in antifungal property making it superior to some other mediums for initiating root development.

Clearly Martin is passionate about his Vandas. I was impressed with his closing comment when he said “Much is still to be done and much to be discovered in Vanda hybridization”. Clearly he has found his life’s work.

- Joy Lemieux

**Showtable Results
June 2010**

Cattleya Alliance Species

- 1. *Epi. mariae* Goldberg
- 2. *Barkeri lindleyana* Brogdon
- 3. *Ency. bractescens* Sharpe

**Cattleya Alliance Hybrids
Small Flowers**

- 1. *L. lucasianeii* x *C. harrisoniae* Goldberg
- 2. *Ency. cordiera* x *Enc. Nemorale* Brogdon
- 3. *Ency. cochleata* x *radiata* Richman

**Cattleya Alliance Hybrids
Large Flowers**

- 1. *Lc. Canhamiana coerulea* Richman
- 2. *L. purpurata* var. *flamea* Brogdon
- 3. *C. bicolor* Richman

Phalaenopsis

- 1. *Phal. Mikken* Goldberg
- 2. *Phal Tsay's Evergreen* Goldberg
- 3. *Phal. Mikken* Brogdon

Paphiopedilum

- 1. *Paph. Booth's St. Jewel* Kepley
- 2. *Paph. Kolosand* Kepley
- 3. *Paph. Magic Lantern* Kepley

Phragmipedium

- 1. *Phrag. Fritz Schomberg* Kepley
- 2. *Phrag. Future Impact* Dennis

Dendrobium

- 1. *Den. Touch of Gold* Brogdon

Oncidium

- 1. *Br. lanceana* v. *album* Dennis
- 2. *Sharry Baby* Kilpatrick

Vandaceous

- 1. *Astm. ampullaceum* Kepley
- 2. *Ascda. Cherry Pop* Kepley
- 3. *Dar. Fuchs Cream Puff*
x *Asctm. Miniatum* Sanders

Cymbidium

- 1. *Grammatophyllum tigrinum* Brogdon

Miscellaneous

- 1. *Neof. falcata* v. *Amani Island* Brogdon
- 2. *Bulb. sikkimensis* Brogdon
- 3. *Stellis* species Goldberg

Best Species

- L. purpurata* v. *flamea* Brogdon

Best Specimen

- Paph. Booth's St. Jewel* Kepley

Best Flower

- Lc. Canhamiana coerulea* Richman



Triad Orchid Society Meeting Schedule, 2010

Speaker	Date	Topic
Robert Marsh	July 11 th , 2010	Breeding Barkerias
TBA	August 8 th , 2010	TBA
TOS Auction	September 9 th , 2010	
Fred Clark	October 10 th , 2010	TBA
Manuel Aybar	November 7 th , 2010 (First Sunday)	Tolumnias of the Dominican Republic
TBA	December 9 th , 2010	TBA

