



TRIAD ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

September 2011 edition



Preview September 2011...Hello to all TOS members. This month we have our annual action. The action starts 1:00pm sharp this Sunday September 11th. We have some great plants from vendors and it looks to be a great time. On page three is the flyer – print it out, hand it out, post it at the super market or your favorite nursery. On page two is a great recap of last months speaker Linda Thorne. If you couldn't make it you missed a great meeting. I will be missing the auction again but I hope everyone has a great time.
Cheers,
Dennis

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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 always welcome!

Linda Thorne on Proper Techniques and Questions Answered About Mounting Orchids.

Linda began by making the point that we should not be afraid of roots. Orchids are epiphytes, and take their nourishment from the air and moisture around them. Being exposed therefore, gives them advantage. When mounted, the roots are exposed so this is as close to growing under 'natural' conditions as we can hope to replicate.

The best plants for mounting include Oncidiums (including Equitants with their fine, hair like roots), Mini Catts and Brassavola hybrids. Mini Phals love to be mounted, as do many of the Phal species, and of course Dendrobiums with their creeping growth habit. The other big category of mounted plants is the Vandas and Ascocendas. Linda says she sells more Vandas than any other group of mounted plants.

So when is the best time to put your orchids on a mount? The answer is when new roots are developing so that the plant will attach quickly to the mount. You can also mount a plant after it has finished blooming, but most notably, you can mount a plant if pot culture is failing and the plant is obviously struggling. Freeing a plant that has resisted pot culture can often lead to a very rapid flush of new growth.

When mounting your orchids, the sky's the limit when choosing the material to use. If you are using wood, select a hardwood with a textured surface that the roots can adhere to. Sassafras, hickory, honey locust or black locusts are excellent choices. Crepe myrtle, which is certainly readily available in this area, works well as it has the appropriate Ph for most plants. Fruit woods such as persimmon are generally not great as they tend to be softer and separate.

Grape vine can be successful if the bark is peeled and the smooth under layer of wood is exposed. For years growers have used cork, which is really the bark of the cork tree that is sliced off the living tree. Cork has the advantage of being very light weight and long lasting. However, it has become very expensive and harder to find.

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Show Table Awards July 2011

Cattleya Alliance Species

- | | |
|----------------------|---------|
| 1. <i>B. nodosa</i> | Richman |
| 2. <i>Epi. rosea</i> | Brogdon |
| 3. <i>B. nodosa</i> | Richman |

Cattleya Alliance Small Hybrids

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. Lc. Mishima Luster | Costello |
| 2. Lctna. Renate | Costello |
| 3. Ctp. Garnet Glory | Costello |

Cattleya Alliance Large Hybrids

- | | |
|---------------------|---------|
| 1. Blc. Allen Condo | Brogdon |
| 2. C. Summer Wind | Brogdon |

Phalaenopsis

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| 1. <i>Phal. tetrapsis</i> | Goldberg |
| 2. <i>Phal. violacea</i> | Costello |
| 3. <i>Phal. Cornu-tris</i> | Goldberg |

Paphiopedilum

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------|
| 1. <i>Paph. Chamberlainianum</i> | Richman |
|----------------------------------|---------|

Phragmipedium

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| 1. Phrag. Suzanne Decker | Richman |
|--------------------------|---------|

Dendrobium

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|
| 1. <i>Den. atrovioleaceum</i> | Brogdon |
| 2. <i>Den. Lavefolium</i> | Brogdon |
| 3. Den. Ampaiisis | |
| x Janya Orange Baby | Brogdon |

Oncidium

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1. Oncidium Popcorn | Goldberg |
| 2. Onc. Mendenhall | Richman |

Vandaceous

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------|
| 1. Ascda. Princess Mikasa | Brogdon |
| 2. Asvda. Prapin | Anglin |
| 3. Neofineta falcata | |
| x Ascda. Teeraruk | Brogdon |

Miscellaneous

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| 1. <i>Stan. hernandezii</i> | Dennis |
| 2. <i>Eurychome rothschildiana</i> | Costello |
| 3. <i>Phymatidium tillandsoides</i> | Goldberg |

<p><u>Best Species</u></p> <p><i>B. nodosa</i> Richman</p>
<p><u>Best Specimen</u></p> <p>Blc. Allen Condo Brogdon</p>
<p><u>Best Flower</u></p> <p>Phrag. Suzanne Decker</p> <p>Richman</p>

Show Table Awards

August 2011

Cattleya Alliance Species

1. Brassavola nodosa Goldberg

Small Cattleya Hybrids

1. Lc. Love Knot
x C. brabantiae Costello
2. Lc. Maui Leopard Costello
3. Lc. Mini Purple Richman

Phalaenopsis

1. Phal. Venus x celebensis Goldberg
2. Doritis pucherrima Goldberg
3. Dtps. Liu's Tripence
x Phal violaea Goldberg

Paphiopedilum

1. Paph. niveum x richardianum Kepley
2. Paph. philipinense Kepley
3. Paph. St. Swithin
x Domencia Kepley

Phragmipedium

1. Phrag. Franz Glanz Costello

Oncidium

1. Alcra. Chocolate Stars S. Davis
2. Milt. spectabilis Goldberg

Vandaceous

1. Ascda. Eileen Beauty Kepley
2. Angcm. Lemford Hastie
3. Ascda. Bartholomew Motes Kepley

Miscellaneous

1. Habanaria rοδοcheila Costello
2. Cyc. Jean E. Monnier Costello
3. Gongora aromatica Kepley

Best Species

Habanaria rοδοcheila
Costello

Best Specimen

Lc. Love Knot x *C. brabantiae*
Costello

Best Flower

Angcm. Lemford Hastie

Speaker Schedule 2011

Speaker	Date	Topic
Auction	September 11th	
Fred Clarke	October 9 th , 2011	Paphiopedilums

Woods to avoid include Oak, Black Walnut, ocean driftwood, Pine or Cedar. Oak and Black Walnut have an extremely high Ph, and roots will not attach to these woods. Ocean driftwood is saturated and salt and may be used if is soaked and soaked and soaked and the salt removed. Unfortunately there is no way of knowing when that has been achieved. Most fruit woods are softer and will decay within 2 – 3 years. The same holds true for Pine. Look for a wood that is hard enough to tolerate daily waterings for up to 10 years or more.

Securing your plant to the mount can be accomplished with just about any material. Linda obviously prefers strips of old discarded hosiery. You can also use fishing line, wire (if it is not too fine and harsh), staples or even glue. A flexible, softer material is obviously best so as not to cut into pseudobulbs or roots. Leafless orchids, such as ----
-----, are the hardest to mount and should be secured with staples. Once a plant is tied on, it takes anywhere from 3 – 6 months to become fully established. Once established however, you can remove whatever material you have used to secure it if you wish.

Linda prefers not to use a clump of sphagnum moss either under or over the roots as the moss tends to hold too much water and can rot the roots. If you tend to over-water, avoid sphagnum moss! Use moss only if your plant is from an area where it receives copious rain on a regular basis. Some Phals and Angraecoids like to be very wet, but a small wad of coconut fiber will hold them as securely as sphagnum moss.

If you don't want to mount your own, but want to try mounted plants, , purchase plants that are already established. These are available at all orchid nurseries and are often sold by vendors at society meetings. Linda has a wide selection in her nursery and it's really fun to poke through them as you can find some truly creative surprises.

If you are mounting your own plant, the orientation of the plant on the mount is critical. Place the plant on the mount to allow for growth up the mount. Even though the roots may overhang the mount, place the plant as close to the bottom as possible. Attach the plant securely – no wiggle room allowed. A plant that is not secure will not attach.

As your plant becomes established and grows, it will often grow in surprising directions, and eventually can try to grown on itself. Correct this by simply removing the new growth and starting a whole new plant!

I don't know about you, but I had a great time with Linda's presentation. And, even though I've been mounting plants for years, I certainly learned a thing or two!
--Joy Lemieux