Naples Orchid Society

NEWSLETTER

The Naples Orchid Society is a non-profit organization, devoted to the promotion of, interest in, and the appreciation of orchids and the preservation of our native orchids. It is also our aim to disseminate information pertaining to their culture and hybridization.

www.naplesorchidsociety.org

President: Richard Pippen
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Newsletter Editors: Kris Morton & Marilyn Moser
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Come to the next meeting Thursday,
August 6, 2015,
At the Moorings Presbyterian Church
****
Flower Registration 6:30 p.m.
Flower Judging 7:10 p.m.
Meeting 7:30 p.m.
Program 7:45 p.m.
Our program will have Jerry Meola, Pelican Coast Farms, Inc. Ft. Myers, FL
www.OrchidsAmore.com

"Organic hormones vs. commercial fertilizers for controlling pests and promoting growth in orchids."

The Mini Culture Class with Orchid Doctor Bill Overton will start at 6 PM. The topic will be growing Catesetums. ALL ARE WELCOME!

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

AUGUST 2015 NEWSLETTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 3, 2015
Yolando & Segundo Questa
Quest Orchids
Miami, FL
www.questorchids.net

August 15, 2015
NOS Member Ralph Brand's annual orchid sale.
See pg. 5 for more info.

AOS JUDGING

WPB Judging Center next judging date is August 22,
Flamingo Gardens
3750 S. Flamingo Rd.
Davie, FL 33330
Info: www.wpbjudging.org

NEXT NOS BOD MEETING & SHOW COMM. MTG.

September 24, 2015
Moorings Presbyterian, 6:30 pm
Classroom B upstairs
All are welcome.

Deadline for entries in the Newsletter are due the 15th of each month, 3 pm.
Kwmehm@comcast.net

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT, DICK PIPPEN, RPIPPEN@COMCAST.NET

Greetings Orchid Lovers—Ah, "air conditioned splendor again, at last!" That is what everyone was saying at the July monthly meeting. The air conditioning was finally restored in Baker Hall gym and appreciated by all! In addition to the air con, everyone enjoyed the excellent talk by Dr. Ernesto Mujica from Cuba who told us about the orchids of Cuba and his research, including the discovery of several new species. Dr. Mujica apologized for his English, but he managed to do pretty well. We provided support for Dr. Mujica to come to Florida to work with the Illinois College group last year, but alas, he did not receive his visa until just recently thus he was able to come to Florida this year. Dr. Mujica's presentation ran a little long so there was not really time for our intended featured speaker, Dan Christensen from Dan and Margie's Orchids. However Dan agreed to come back another time and "try again." We appreciated his understanding and look forward to hearing him in October.

We were also pleased to have the two interns from Illinois College, Justin Mabry and Shannon Skarha whom we are sponsoring for their summer project on the native orchids in the Panther Preserve, as well as their Professor, Dr. Larry Zettler. In addition Shan Wong, from China, a student at Florida International University to whom we have awarded a scholarship for her studies on fungal associations of several invasive orchids introduced in mulch, was present. Carolyn Booker and Sheila Demkovich graciously donated funds to support Shan's scholarship.

I want to extend our sincere congratulations to our NOS Secretary, Cynthia Carlson who got married early in the morning of July 4, on the beach!! Best wishes to her and her new husband!!!

Our August meeting, on the 6th, will feature Jerry Meola from Pelican Farms Orchids in Ft. Myers. I am sure he will be a captivating speaker and have some interesting orchids available for sale. Hope you all can make it for this meeting. Until then—Happy Orchiding—*Dick*

Photos by Dick Pippen

Scholarship recipient Shan Wong with NOS donors Sheila Demkovich & Carolyn Booker.

IL College interns Justin Mabry, Shannon Skarha, Prof. Dr. Larry Zettler & Dr. Ernesto Mujica.

JULY MONTHLY MEETING ATTENDANCE: 87 JULY RAFFLE PROCEEDS: $197

CARE AND CONDOLENCE: A CARING THOUGHTS CARD WAS SENT TO NOS MEMBER BARBARA CRIST AND HER HUSBAND KIRK.

PHOTOS FROM OUR JULY MONTHLY MEETING, CONT.

By Dick Pippen

Due to time constraints with programming at our July monthly meeting Dan & Margie Christensen (Dan & Margie's Orchids) were unable to do their presentation. Dan has graciously agreed to come back to speak at our October 2015 monthly meeting.

AOS CORNER
Marilyn Moser, AOS Rep.
mm3purple@aol.com

I encourage you, for your own benefit, to join the American Orchid Society. Your membership more than pays for itself. You get an amazing monthly magazine full of beautiful photos, advice on growing and pests…many informative articles. There is coverage of international events most of us can only dream of attending. AOS brings you a glorious world of orchids. With all the info on the website you will gain more skill and confidence in maintaining your orchid collection. And don't forget the free and discounted admission to more than 200 botanical gardens throughout North America. If you love orchids then AOS membership is for you ! Happy growing.

At our July 2 meeting we only had 23 plants brought in for judging, but all were beautiful. And I am happy to say that 42 of you participated in voting for your favorite orchid.

Minutes of the NOS Monthly Meeting
July 2, 2015
Submitted by Cynthia Carlson, Secretary

President Dick Pippen called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, reviewed the emergency exits and emergency procedures, and thanked the refreshment providers. A clipboard was passed around for those wishing to sign up for refreshments.

Dick welcomed the guests and new members and welcomed special guests, our interns from Illinois College, Justin Mabry and Shannon Skarha, and their professor, Dr. Larry Zettler. Dr. Ernesto Mujica from Cuba was also introduced and will talk about his projects in Cuba. Northwestern PhD candidate, Lanon Johnson, who is researching orchid fungi and is a former student of Prof. Zettler of Illinois College, also was introduced. Thanks to our donors, Sheila Demkovich and Carolyn Booker who are supporting additional intern, Shan Wong of Florida International University, who was also present and introduced.

Next Board and Show Committee meeting is on Sept 24th in Classroom B.

Membership Chair reported that we have 16 guests. Membership is 213.

Treasurer had no report.

Prof. Dr. Larry Zettler thanked the Naples Orchid Society for its support and introduced Dr. Mujica who (through a translator) thanked the Orchid Society for its support and spoke about his work with orchids in Cuba.

Because of the length of Dr. Mujica's talk, 1st VP David Orr indicated that our featured speaker, Dan Christensen, Dan & Margie Orchids, Ft. Lauderdale would be happy to come at a later date to talk about "Common Sense Approach to Growing Orchids." He will return in October for this presentation. He was thanked for his understanding.

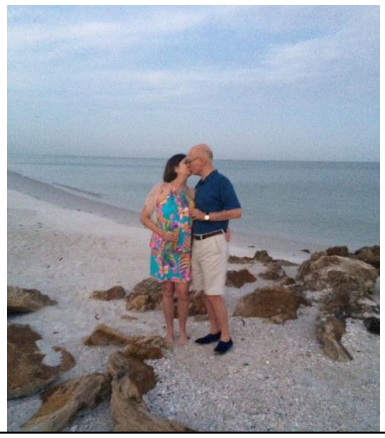
Plant Table winners were announced. Raffle winners were drawn. Meeting adjourned.

We need volunteers to assist with the green tag plant registration, vote tallying and ribbon awards, along with assisting at the raffle table each month. This is a great way to learn more about orchids and support NOS and the members. Please see Sheila at the next meeting if you would like to help out.

Thank you to: **Refreshment volunteers Connie Sims, Ralph Brand, Lois West, Eunice Walker, Gayle Dorio & Kit Kitchen-Maran. A refreshment signup list will be passed around next month for additional refreshment volunteers. Please sign up then or contact Michelle Suppes at justsaynoalways@me.com if you wish to bring refreshments for our September-November monthly meetings.**
Raffle table workers: Sue Roehl and Laura Stacell.
Plant table workers: Lanelle Bishop, Mike Brewer, Sheila Demkovich and Rose Anthony.

August 7-8: **Cattleya Symposium, Ft. Pierce, FL. Info: www.odoms.com**
August 15: **NOS member Ralph Brand will have his annual orchid sale, 9 am – 12 noon, 443 Dundee Ct., phone 239-649-1325. Cattleyas in pots or bare root at reasonable prices.**
August 21-22: **22nd Annual IPS Phalaenopsis Symposium, Maitland, FL. Info: www.phal.org**

Thank you to a few NOS members that braved the heat to divide & pot orchids donated by NOS Secretary Cynthia Carlson for our Nov. NOS Orchid Sale.
Photos by Dick Pippen.



Just married NOS Secretary Cynthia Carlson (now Bock) & her lucky groom, Garry, at dawn July 4. Congratulations & best wishes to you both!

An Orchid Vignette—The Mule-Eared Oncidiums

Can you imagine—mule-ear—such a name for an orchid!! But, appropriate when you look at the leaves which are thick, leathery, sometimes spotted, slightly V-shaped, and often standing erect, like the ears of a mule—oh yes, and often the same size!! Traditionally placed in the genus *Oncidium*, but now in the genus *Trichocentrum*, a genus actually created in 1838 to accommodate a few miniature plants mostly from South America like *Trt. tigrinum* shown here (photo 1). This piece of cork upon which the plant is mounted is about one inch thick and about four inches tall, so you can see the plant is quite small. The flowers are disproportionately large for the size of the plant, but unlike the plants discussed below, the spikes produce only one or two flowers. Recently the genus has been "expanded" to include many other "former oncidiums" that share the "mule-ear" leaf and similar flower characteristics, but are quite a bit larger plants. The genus name refers to a narrow hair-like spur at the base of the throat which is not readily obvious to the naked eye in most flowers. As the genus is currently interpreted, there are about 71 natural species that occur from Mexico and Central America, south to Peru and Bolivia. Some grow in the lowlands while others occur at higher elevations in the mountains. Some are typical of the wet forests while others grow in dry, deciduous forests and are quite drought resistant. There are at least 277 registered hybrids in *Trichocentrum*.

Three of my favorite Trichocentrums are *Trt. lanceanum*, *Trt. splendidum* and *Trt*. Ollie Palmer.

Trichocentrum lanceanum (photo 2) is a species found in mostly lowland habitats in Northern South America. The stiff, leathery leaves are heavily spotted, as are the sepals and petals. The flowers, usually appearing in the late summer, are very "perfumy" fragrant, after open a couple of days. This species has earned 60 awards, both AOS and CAOB (Brazil Orchid Society), and has been a parent in 52 registered crosses.

Trichocentrum splendidum (photo 3) is a Central American species with un-spotted leaves that may exceed a foot in length. The flowers are a combination of yellow and brown in contrast to the purplish color of *Trt. lanceanum*, and the plant flowers in early spring. This species has received 20 AOS awards and been a parent in 45 registered crosses. *Trichocentrum* Ollie Palmer (photo 4) is a cross between *Trt*. Maureen and *Trt*. *haematochilum*. It was registered by Robert Palmer of Palmer Orchids, Sarasota, Florida in 2009. The creator of the grex is unknown. The grex has received three AOS awards, but has not been used as a parent in any registered crosses. Ollie Palmer usually flowers in early winter.

Three other recent acquisitions worth mentioning are *Trt*. Kuquat, an unregistered hybrid (*Trt*. Nathakhum x *Trt*. Noel Schoenrock) and *Trt. undulatum* .

Trichocentrum. Kuquat (*Trt*. splendidum X *Trt*. Haematochilum grex) (photo 5) came from Amazonica Orchids at the Ft. Lauderdale Show in January 2014. It was in bloom at the time I purchased it; beautiful flowers on a three foot inflorescence. And I am still waiting for it to bloom for me again. It has great leaves, almost a foot long and tough as leather! The cultivar name on this one is **'**Cahiz-Yrygoyen' (the "Cahiz" being our friend Axel from Amazonica). While the latter is not a registered cultivar, this grex has earned four AOS awards and used as a parent in one cross, a back cross to its *Trt*. *splendidum* parent.

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The unregistered hybrid (*Trt*. Nathakhum x *Trt*. Noel Schoenrock) (photo 6) came from the estate sale of George Gallipeau, a former member of the Naples Orchid Society and AOS Judge, in 2013. It bloomed for me in November, 2013, but alas not again—but I am still hopeful.

Trichocentrum. undulatum (photos 7 and 8) is a real surprise!!This plant came from Hamlyn Orchids of Jamaica at the January 2014 Tamiami Orchid Festival. The plant bloomed for me for the first time in June 2015 and was I amazed! The narrow-branched flowering spike kept growing and growing until it reached over seven feet tall!! with many one inch brownish spotted flowers. This species occurs throughout the Caribbean islands, and even South America and is also a South Florida native!

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Despite the thick leathery leaves, these plants prefer more uniform moisture and don't like to dry out. I grow mine in a mixture of sphagnum, Hydroton and sponge rock.

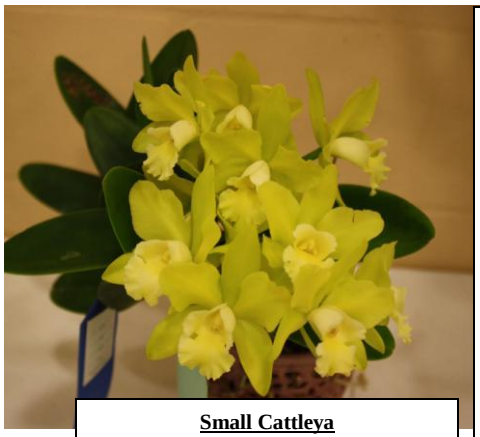
This is just a small sampling of a fairly large group of species and hybrids. They present a little more of a challenge to grow than some orchids and most require some space. However, if you have the space and patience, give some Trichocentrums a try. I think you will enjoy them.

--Contributed by Dick Pippen

JULY 2015 FIRST PLACE PLANT TABLE WINNERS

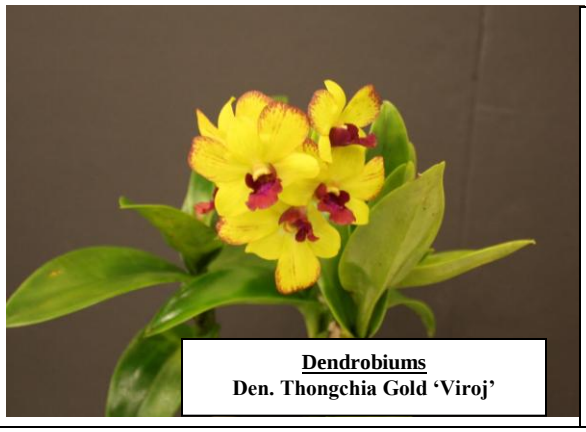
Photos by Marilyn Moser

Large Cattleya
C. Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'



Small Cattleya
Blc. Hawaiian Passion 'Carmela'

Small Vanda
Ascofinetia Twinkle



Dendrobiums
Den. Thongchia Gold 'Viroj'

Oncidium
Bllra. Big Shot 'Hilo Sparkle'

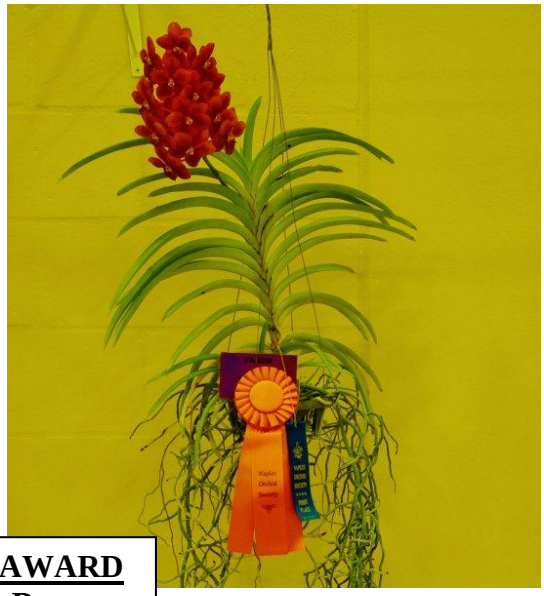
Small Species
Cirr. umbellatum

Slipper Orchids
Phrag. Eric Young 4N
x Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice 4N

Other Tribes
Cirrhopetalum pingtungensei
x Bulb. frostii

PLANT TABLE AWARDS JULY 2015

Photos by Sue Roehl



SPECIAL HYBRID AWARD
***V.* Cathy Crosby-Day**
Owner: David Genovese

SPECIAL SPECIES AWARD
Bulb. grandiflorum
Owner: Marilyn Moser

Naples Orchid Society Monthly Plant Table Results—July 2, 2015

Large Cattleyas
First Place: C Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'
Owner: Eunice Walker

Small Cattleyas
First Place: Blc. Hawaiian Passion 'Carmela'
Owner: Mike Brewer
Second Place: Yam. Queen Adelia 'Kilani'
Owner: Karen Davenport
Third Place: Lc. Phra Nakhon Khiri C. Netrasiri Beauty
Owner: Karen Davenport

Large Vandas
First Place: V. Cathy Crosby-Day
Owner: David Genovese

Small Vandas
First Place: Ascofinetia Twinkle
Owner: Sharron Abrams

Dendrobiums
First Place: Den. Thongchia Gold 'Viroj'
Owner: Mark Hudak

Large Species
First Place: Bulb. grandiflorum
Owner: Marilyn Moser

Medium Species
First Place: Gram. scriptum 'Hihamanu'
Owner: Mark Hudak

Small Species
First Place: Cirr. umbellatum
Owner: Barbara Crist

Oncidium Alliance
First Place: Bllra. Big Shot 'Hilo Sparkle'
Owner: Sheila Demkovich
Second Place: Alcra. Sunday Best 'Muffin'
Owner: Eunice Walker
Third Place: Psychopsis papilio
Owner: Jennifer Gustason

Slipper Orchids
First Place: Phrag. Eric Young 4N x Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice 4N
Owner: Barbara Crist

Other Tribes
First Place: Cirrhopetalum pingtungensei x Bulb. frostii
Owner: Joy Corritore

Special Species Award
Plant Name: Bulb. grandiflorum
Owner: Marilyn Moser

Special Hybrid Award
Plant Name: V. Cathy Crosby-Day
Owner: David Genovese

Green Tag Winner:
Plant Name: V. Dr. Anek x V. Mimi Palmer
Winner: Marilyn Moser

SPECIAL NOTE TO PEOPLE ENTERING PLANTS FOR MONTHLY COMPETITION:
Please be very careful to enter your plant in the proper category AND to complete the green entry tags as accurately as possible, especially the Number assigned to your plant. This will assist the Plant Table People to accurately assign ribbons to the correct plant. Thanks.

Jade Orchids of Collier, Inc.
285 Morgan Road
Naples, FL 34114
Tuesday to Saturday **Owners:**
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM **Dave & Judy White**

Email: JadeOrchids@embarqmail.com
Offering 10% discount on plants for NOS members.