



DEEP SOUTH ORCHID SOCIETY

Newsletter

March 2016

March Meeting

Date: Sunday The 13th

**Place: Coastal Georgia
Botanical Gardens**

Time: 2:00PM

Orchids

They lean over the path,
 Adder-mouthed,
 Swaying close to the face,
 Coming out, soft and deceptive,
 Limp and damp, delicate as a young bird's tongue;
 Their fluttery fledgling lips
 Move slowly,
 Drawing in the warm air.
 And at night,
 The faint moon falling through whitewashed glass,
 The heat going down
 So their musky smell comes even stronger,
 Drifting down from their mossy cradles:
 So many devouring infants!
 Soft luminescent fingers,
 Lips neither dead nor alive,
 Loose ghostly mouths
 Breathing.

by Theodore Roethke



The President's Column

Well, winter is almost over and even if it is not we should be thankful that we are not in N.E. Ohio where they are getting lake effect snow with temperatures of 26 degrees. I would like to say that this is my last newsletter to as President of the Deep South Orchid Society. Elections are this month and I would like to say thank you to everyone for their support. Your support made my position as President a pleasant position and an educational one. I would like to say that your support made our orchid shows, move to the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens, maintenance and expansion of the greenhouse and various other activities possible. Thank you very much. With that being said, please mark on your calendars and plan on attending our March meeting on the 13th at 2:00 and cast your ballot for the elections. Maximum participation is our goal.

Norm Shoppenhorst will be our presenter and his topic will be on viruses. Norm tests all his plants so I would consider him one of our subject matter experts. For as long as I can remember, this will be the first time we have had a presentation solely on viruses.

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On the topic of presentations, we have Jeannie presenting at our April meeting. Jeannie's topic will be preparing your orchids for our orchid show. Jeannie has an amazing amount of artistic talent and a great attention to detail. There will be a lot of good information in her presentation. As for the rest of the year we have tentatively scheduled Mark from Marble Branch Farms, Larry from Kool-Logs and Brittany Sanderson with the Coastal Carolina Orchid Society. If you like Catasetums and watch YouTube you are familiar with Brittany.

As for our activities, we are planning our annual picnic, and of course, Christmas is always just around the corner.

Finally, in closing my final Presidents Column, thank you Society members for making my tenure as your Society President a memorable one and I will continue to be active in my role as Past President and Society Member. I hope to see everyone at the March meeting at 2:00 on March 13th.

Cheryl Holesovsky

P.S Do not forget about Show and Tell. Show off your grower skill.



Website Buds and Will Soon Flower

Our new website is quickly taking shape. As indicated in the title, it is still a bud, but will be a beautiful flower in a week or so. Stan has been working late nights to get the website up for the meeting and more importantly for the Show in April. He welcomes comments and suggestions from the members, both good and bad. Check it out, I think you will be pleased.

www.DeepSouthOrchidSociety.com

March Program to Feature Viruses

This month our featured speakers are Norm and Susie Shoppenhorst. Norm is constantly testing his plants for diseases, so who better to lecture on viruses. Learn everything you need to know to protect your orchids from the plethora of vicious diseases constantly trying to attack our little babies.



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

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.



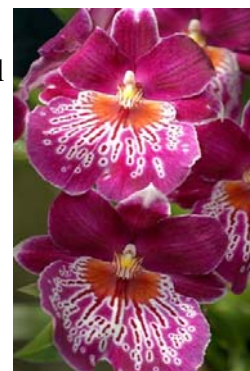
Cymbidium Magic Mountain

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.



Miltoniopsis Martin Orenstein

Monthly Checklist for March and April (Continued)

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.

This article courtesy of the AOS from Ned Nash and James Rose



Masdevallia Highland Monarch

Board of Directors Minutes February 29, 2016

The meeting was called to order at the Savannah Mall Hospitality Room at 6:35 pm. The following were in attendance:

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Cheryl Holesovsky | Christina Negrea | Pat Keplinger | David Jarrell | Jim Keplinger |
| Rosie Southard | Dave Holesovsky | Gail Mathews | Greg Mosely | Stanley Konter |

The minutes were read and approved as submitted. There was no Treasurer’s Report

New Business

Election: Cheryl and Dave and the nominating committee and completed their list of officers to run for our next election, and will be presented at our March meeting. Our Election will take place at the April meeting and at that time it will be opened to the floor for anyone else wanting to run for office.

We need to put in our budget expenses so we can do out of town shows

March 13th Meeting

Our Society members Norm and Susie, will be our guest speakers, and their topic is Viruses

We will need plants for our raffle and auction

Pat will have hospitality

Show Update

Jim has the vendors in place

The Judges are in place

The CGBG has our show on their calendar and ready for advertising

Jim would like to do a Bio on all of our vendors to be posted

Jim is working with Stanley on registration

The CGBG ha started the tresses for the cover of the back patio

The CGBG will be loaning us plants and greenery for our displays

Atlanta Show

March 11th thru March 13th

Setup is March 10th, Jim and Pat volunteered to put a table top display in their show

Dave and Cheryl will pick up the orchids on Sunday

The board agreed to pay for Jim’ gas for the trip up and back

Gail will be in charge of getting the orchids for our display

Website

Stanley has switched our hosting of our website to Go Daddy

The new website address has changed from DSO.org to DeepSouthOrchidSociety.com

The website will be available soon, stay tuned

Greenhouse Update

Water and fertilize every 7 days

We need to open the luavers

The greenhouse is looking really good, we need to feed the snail problem

The belt is broken on the cooling fan, the CGBG will be replacing it

Small plants shouldn’t be on the benches, we need to try to hang them

We had a major water leak, and the CGBG repaired all of the plumbing

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm

Next Board Meeting will be March 28th at 6:30 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Keplinger

Recording Secretary for the DSOS



Boat Orchid

THE SAVANNAH ORCHID SHOW

APRIL 29TH - MAY 1ST



Orchids Societies from Georgia and the Carolinas as well as Orchid vendors from across the South bringing to Savannah the 30th Savannah Orchid Show. There will be judging by the American Orchid Society held on the morning of the 29th and awards given.

There will be vendors with orchids and orchid related supplies to fill your every orchid need and get you that special orchid for your collection.

Support your Society....Plan to Attend, Work, and Promote!

Deep South Orchid Society Board of Directors

President : Cheryl Holesovsky

Vice Pres. : Christina Negrea

Treasurer: Bob Carson

Secretary: Pat Keplinger

Past President: Dee Van Meer

Newsletter Guy: Stanley Konter

Members at Large: Rosie Southard

Charles Breitenbach

Greenhouse: Jim Keplinger

Dave Holesovsky

Facebook: David Jarrell

Webmaster: Stanley Konter