

Founded in 1964

South Carolina Orchid Society

an American Orchid Society Affiliate

MARCH 2007

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The South Carolina Orchid Society meets at 12:30 PM on the second Sunday in odd months in room 004 on the lower level of the Coker Life Sciences Building on the campus of USC in Columbia, South Carolina.

For more information, please contact the society's secretary listed above.

AOS CAROLINAS JUDGING CENTER

CHAIR

Linda Wilhelm

1816 Hart Road

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President's Message

Thank You!

I can't say that enough and hope I've had a chance to thank each of you who worked on the spectacular 2007 Riverbanks Orchid Festival. So many of our members, the people from Ikebana International, and the Garden staff put in countless hours to build another great success. Particular thanks go to Stan Hutto who once again stepped forward to chair the event. Magnifico!

In addition to the many ribbons awarded, our own Ed & Bertha Harris received a provisional Certificate of Horticultural Merit on a *Mormodes fractiflexa* that Ed collected in Panama years back.

We also signed up several new members and pages of people interested in receiving more information about the society. Doubtless, we will have many new faces at the March meeting. Take a moment to welcome the newcomers and introduce them around.

Please remember that dues are due - \$15 individual or \$20 family. You can pay your dues to Ed at the meeting or send a check payable to SCOS to his address to the left.

Cindy Adams

Welcome New Members and Guests!

Many people signed up at the show for information about the society. We already know why - growing orchids is fun, interesting and, most of all, relaxing!

“Getting your hands into the soil” is recommended as the best therapy for modern life and costs a lot less than a weekly trip to the analyst. Since orchids had the sense to crawl out of the dirt, the best part is you don't need to get dirty hands to grow them. A single orchid bloom can fascinate for hours pondering the how and why of its primal beauty.

The March meeting will be all about basic care for your orchids. Most are no more demanding than the average houseplant, and a basic knowledge of their needs will keep them growing and blooming for years. Your humble Editor has a division of *Phragmipedium Alborpurpureum* that was 'born' in the 1880's - that's right, a houseplant over 100 years old!

David Janvrin will guide us through the basics of light, water, atmosphere and 'benign neglect' that orchids thrive on. With years of experience growing on windowsills and under lights, David will provide particular techniques and tricks to selecting and growing orchids in a home environment. And of course we will have some refreshments, time for chat about plants and our usual wonderful raffle table.

Spring Auction

In like a Lion and out like a Lamb. It won't be too long before we can de-winterize greenhouses, take some plants outside & get to dividing them. A quick look through my greenhouse this morning revealed roots popping out everywhere. Those roots know that the sun is climbing higher each day and it's time to grow, grow, grow!

And it's also nearly time for our annual spring picnic and auction. This year's event will be held Saturday, May 5th at Carolina Orchids - home of Shan & Tom Nasser in Fort Mill, SC. Preview will begin at 10AM with the picnic starting at noon.

Of course, Tom will have his greenhouses open for you to take a look at this amazing collection featuring bulbophyllums, lycastes, anguloas, and angraecoid species.

Carolina Orchids is easy to access - less than two miles from Carowinds. From the Columbia area, take I-77 toward Charlotte. Exit at Carowinds Blvd (exit 90) and proceed past the park. The second major road is Pleasant Rd - take a left and you will find 3637 less than two miles down on the right.

Phone 803-548-1682

Species Spotlight

Chysis is one of the more unusual genera of Central America & Mexico. There are five species, the most commonly encountered of which is *Chysis bractescens*.

Even as orchids go, *chysis* are pretty ungainly when not in bloom. The large pseudobulbs are normally deciduous, dropping leaves through the winter leaving a pot of big green cigars. The area favored by the species has a marked warm, wet summer and cool, dry winter. The plants simply shut down for the winter, and require minimal water and no fertilizer until after new growth begins.

As soon as those new growths emerge, the plant shoots up an inflorescence - typically larger and faster than the new growth itself. Three to six flowers are normal, with substance so heavy they appear to be carved from wax. The species *aurea* and *laevis* have bright yellow to orange flowers if you're not in the mood for white.

While they are sometimes compared to *maxillarias* or *lycaste*, these oddities are actually more closely related to the *calanthes* and *phaius* native to Africa and Asia.



American Orchid Society Awards from the 2007 Riverbanks Orchid Festival



The team of judges from the American Orchid Society identified four plants from the show for particular recognition of their form, color, floriferousness and horticultural potential. These plants join the elite list of AOS awards for 2007. Congratulations to their growers!

Clockwise from top left:

Laeliocattleya Cosmo-Cerrito 'Mendenhall' 81pt AOS Award of Merit, shown by Carter & Holmes Orchids, Newberry, SC

Lycaste (Wylde Splendor X Macama) 'Blood Fury' 82pt AOS Award of Merit, shown by Carolina Orchids, Fort Mill, SC

Mormodes fractiflexa, AOS Certificate of Horticultural Merit, shown by Ed & Bertha Harris, Columbia, SC

Paphiopedilum Pleasantry 'Magnifico' 82pt AOS Award of Merit, shown by Carolina Orchids, Fort Mill, SC



The Best of the 2007 Riverbanks Orchid Festival

Best Commercial Exhibit: The Fragrant Garden	Rainbow Orchids
Best Orchid Society Exhibit:	Triad Orchid Society
Best Allied Cattleya Species or Hybrid: Epi. Pacific Girl X Epi. Pacific Ember.....	June Wilbanks
Best Cattleya: Cattleya loddigessi;	Stowe Botanical Garden
Best Slipper Alliance: Paphiopedilum	Pleasantry Carolina Orchids
Best Vandaceous Alliance: Rhyncostylis gigantea 'Polly' AM/AOS.....	Jack & Margie Kepley
Best Phalaenopsis Alliance: Doritaenopsis Mount Lip	Seagrove Orchids
Best Oncidium Alliance: Tolumnia prionoichilum 'Seagrove Doodlebugs' CHM/AOS...	Seagrove Orchids
Best Cymbidium Alliance: Cymbidium Gareth 'Latangar'	Virginia Rappold
Best Dendrobium Alliance: Dendrobium Stardust	Tom Wise
Best of Miscellaneous Alliances: Lycaste (Wyld Splendor X Macama) 'Blood Fury'	Carolina Orchids
Best Miniature: Scaphoglottis acastei.....	Carolina Orchids
Best First Bloom Seedling: Slc. Gregory Tyrone.....	Seagrove Orchids
Best Specimen Plant: Cymbidium Gareth 'Latangar'.....	Virginia Rappold
Best Orchid Art Related: Cypripedium calceolus.....	Ron Burnside



Treasurer's Report, January 2007

ON DEPOSIT IN BANKS (BEGINNING)		\$4,943.89
Bank of America CD, 5yr, Mat. 8/5/09	\$4,030.05	
Bank of America Checking	913.84	
RECEIPTS		\$567.00
Raffle	\$72.00	
Dues	425.00	
Award Sponsorships	70.00	
EXPENDITURES		\$148.23
Postage & copies for Newsletter & Show promotion	\$57.03	
Stamps for dues notices	31.20	
Orchid Digest trophy	60.00	
ON DEPOSIT IN BANKS (ENDING):		\$5,362.66
Bank of America CD, 5yr, Mat. 8/5/09	\$4,030.05	
Bank of America Checking	1,332.61	
NET CHANGE FROM NOV 11, 2006		+ \$418.77

EDWARD E. HARRIS, TREASURER, SCOS

JANUARY 12, 2007

Ribbons Awarded to Plants from SCOS Members

First Place

Brassavola grandiflora	Ed & Bertha Harris
Dendrobium Genting Fragrance	Mark Donahue
Laelia Newberry Glow	Harry & Betty Polk
Lc. Mini Purple	Eddie Weigle
Masdevallia (descoidea X ayabana).	Mark Donahue
Mokara Yitti Yellow.	Eddie Weigle
Mormodes fractiflexa	Ed & Bertha Harris
Phalaenopsis (Orchidview Bellringer X Deventeriana).	Eddie Weigle
Phragmipedium Grande.	John & Sandy Lawrence
Rdcm Robsan's Dream	David Janvrin

Second Place

Beallara Marfitch 'Howard's Dream'	Don & Finley McLellan
Cattleya skinneri 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS	Eddie Weigle
Epidendrum Crystal Valley 'Purple Valley'	Eddie Weigle
Masdevallia (Angel Frost X Genie Dixoris)	Eddie Weigle
Oncidium ansiferum.	Ed & Bertha Harris
Paphiopedilum Julius	Ed & Bertha Harris
Paphiopedilum Mill Fair	Ed & Bertha Harris
Phalaenopsis (Goldberry X venosa)	Eddie Weigle
Phragmipedium Don Wimber 'X-Ray'	Mark Donahue
Pleurothallis anfracta	Eddie Weigle
Prosthechea sima	Ed & Bertha Harris
Rhyncostylis gigantea	Mark Donahue
Vanda Robert's Delight 'Renu Blue'	Stan Hutto

Third Place

Cymbidium Mighty Mouse 'Minnie'.	Stan Hutto
Dendrobium (Sian Koko X canaliculatum)	Harry & Betty Polk
Lc. Ann Follis X Epi. Westconner Gold	Harry & Betty Polk
Masdevallia (Melanoxantha X constricta).	Eddie Weigle
Oncidium maculatum.	Ed & Bertha Harris
Paphiopedilum Rory Jone	Stan Hutto
Phalaenopsis (Meldar Blackness X Rousserole).	Eddie Weigle
Phalaenopsis amboinensis	Lee Bredeson
Phragmipedium Bel Croute.	John & Sandy Lawrence
Phragmipedium Mem. Dick Clements.	Mark Donahue
Rhyncostylis gigantea	Mark Donahue

Notes of Note

Date Event

- Mar 11 SCOS Meeting, welcome new members & guests, David Janvrin speaking on Basic Orchid Culture.
- Mar 15-17 Carter & Holmes annual spring Open House, (803) 276-0579
- Mar 17-18 Jacksonville Orchid Society Show, Garden Club of Jacksonville, 1005 Riverside Ave., Jacksonville, FL. Contact: Harriet & Michael Wright, (904) 6967729, jaxorchids@comcast.net.
- Mar 23-25 Western North Carolina Orchid Society Show, NC Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC. Contact: Axel Graumann, (828) 3370035, axelgraumann@charter.net.
- Mar 24-25 Heart of Dixie Orchid Society Show, Ramada Inn, 8716 Madison Blvd., Madison, AL. Contact: Deborah Delmas, (256) 5343332, deb@delmasfamily.net.
- Apr 13-15 Deep South Orchid Society Show, Mall at Shelter Cove, Hilton Head Island, SC. Contact: Kinte Taylor, (912) 4410360, kinte@kintetaylor.com.
- Apr 20-22 Smokey Mountain Orchid Society Show, West Town Mall, 7600 Kingston Pike, Knoxville, TN. Contact: Janice Clarke, (865) 9826077, sec207@aol.com.
- Apr 26-28 Blue Ridge Orchid Society Show, Roanoke Council of Garden Clubs, 3640 Colonial Ave., Roanoke, VA. Contact: Louise T. Mashburn, (304) 6474532, maslou@verizon.net.

Contributions

Members are encouraged to share their orchid experiences, travels to 'orchid country' both here and abroad, growing tips, and questions & answers. Please submit any suggestions to David Janvrin, newsletter editor. We're happy to publish news of any area horticultural event.



**Not an AOS member yet?
Call 1-877-ORCHIDS**

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