

DON'T FORGET!!!
Beginner Education
Class At 1:30
Before
EVERY SUNDAY
MEETING

Special points of interest:

- Angraecums by Tom Nasser
- Spring Auction
- Latin Names
- To Trash or Not To Trash

Photo and Article Credits:

- Allen Black
- Garland Hanson
- Jerry Rogers

The VOS Board will be meeting on Tuesday, April 17th At 6pm at the North Park Library

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Tom Nasser
Carolina Orchids
April 15th Speaker
is taking
Pre-Orders!!!!

15% Discount if he receives your order by April 1st

www.carolinaorchids.com

The Orchid Keiki



Volume XXVI, Issue VIII

April 2007

"Angraecums" by Dr. Tom Nasser of Carolina Orchids April 15, 2007 at 2pm



Dr. Nasser's presentation will center on culture and description of Angraecums. He will have plants for sale at the meeting. VOS members are encouraged to visit his website

15% discount.

Dr. Tom Nasser is a Massachusetts native. He transferred to Clemson University for his Masters degree in Chemistry and has lived in South Carolina since then. He taught high school, completed his doctorate in Polymer and Textile Chemistry, and returned to high school to teach honors chemistry and physics. Having grown orchids for the last 25 years, Tom has totally devoted the last 10+ years to Carolina Orchids. Tom and his wife Shan purchased a greenhouse as their wedding present to each other before starting Clemson Orchids in 1980. After they moved to Fort Mill, SC. (just outside Charlotte, NC), the name was changed to Carolina Orchids.

www.carolinaorchids.com for a listing of plants available.

Preorders placed by phone (803-548-1682) or email (shann@comporium.net) by April 1 will receive a

Carolina Orchids specializes in selling various unusual orchid species with an emphasis on Angraecums, Bulbophyllums, Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums.

Spring Auction a SMASH HIT!!!

The Spring Growers' Auction was a big hit and a financial success! Thanks to the timing of our BIG show at Strange's Garden Center then the Strange's Bloomin' Days celebration, where MANY auction flyers we handed out, we had one of the largest auction audiences in recent memory! Approximately 75 people were in attendance while Carl Terrell auctioned off 170 orchids! Another 50 plants were made available on the popular "Buy-it-Now" table where instant orchid-gratification became a reality for LOTS of bidders!

weird including the "Lizard's Head Orchid" and many others!

Thanks to all those who helped make this auction so successful! All proceeds fund VOS speakers/ meetings, exhibits and special events.

Be sure to check out next members' auction in December where you will have the chance to bid on members' plants and divisions.



Dendrobium lichenastrum
 var. *prenticei*
 © Allen Black

**2006-2007
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**The board meets on Tuesday
after every regular Sunday VOS
meeting at the North Park
Library starting at 6pm.**

President's Message

With the beginning of April, brings the air or spring. Bulbs start breaking ground, the Bradford pears and red-buds are pushing puffy nodes, simply ready for a break in warmer temperatures so they can blast out in color. Interesting that while the gardens are just beginning to resurrect their colors, we in the orchid society are coming near a close in the season, or at least in the sense of meetings.

Even though our meetings run from September through May, there still are plenty of activities going on and events to participate in. Last year, we planned a June event, and of course there was our August picnic, which seems to be a crowd pleaser. So while the meetings may conclude for a summer retreat, please know your society is

still active on all fronts and we are continually coming up with fun new things to participate in during our "off season".

And, while the meetings may be concluding for the summer, our plants are not taking a break, and in fact, many are in a profuse growing mode. I personally feel it is frustrating having plants that traditionally flower in the summer, as there is never anyone around to share these blooms with. Maybe one way to continue our passion with our orchid friends is to have casual get-togethers, so that we can spend time with folks who share this same interest.

I would be remiss if I didn't speak about our plant auction from last month. I would personally like to thank Garland Hanson and his auction com-

mittee, Terry Farmer and Valerie Thacker for their wonderful job done on our grower's auction. Oh, and don't forget Carl Terrell, for his masterful job of auctioneering. This time around, we had some neat new species and fun plants to bid on. It was exceptionally well attended, as there were over 70 people on hand to participate. As you know our auctions are the main seed for capital to help our society function throughout the year. Without our membership being involved in bidding or bringing in friends and neighbors to take part in the auction it would not be the success it was.

Thanks to all of our members for making it such a wonderful event!

David

Latin Names—how they came to be ?

The Paphiopedilum



Paphiopedilum orchids are also known as lady slipper orchids, this common name has been handed down through the generations, but where does it come from? The Latin title is obviously derived from the Roman's own language, as they travelled and conquered many lands they were appreciative of the stories and

legends of the people they encountered, in particular the Greeks and their mythological adventures. They were especially enthralled by a Greek Goddess - Aphrodite, whose concept they "borrowed" and renaming her Venus she became a Roman Goddess also, and here is where the story begins.....
On the beautiful island of Cyprus, which lies at the Eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea there is a town which is called Paphos, it was close to here that according to Greek Mythology, the Greek God of Wine, Bacchus held his court, amongst his entourage he had many beautiful young hand-maidens, and one day a minor god who happened to be called Orchis had a little to much of his friends hospitality and was unwise enough to pay more than a passing interest in one of the young maidens present. Bacchus took exception to the young mans impertinence, and promptly had him chopped into little pieces, which were scattered far and wide, where-ever a piece

of the unfortunate Orchis landed, an orchid grew. Eventually the final portion of the poor young mans masculinity (which to this day bears the Latin medical description of orchis) was thrown into the sea, and from this union with the foaming waves Aphrodite was born, stepping out of the ocean close to the town of Paphos, which derives its own name from Paphnia, which is just another Greek name for Aphrodite. This now gives us the interesting play on words of "Paphio" for Aphrodite, or if you wish Venus, and "Pedilum" the Latin word meaning foot, which when translated would roughly mean the slipper of Venus, or Venus (lady) slipper orchid. The twist in the tale of this particular story is of course the fact that the lady in question was the daughter of the father of all Orchids, and as such the Paphiopedilum orchid is just one of the 30,000 or so various genera of orchids in the world today.



If you find yourself in Paphos take a look at the Roman ruins, in particular the "House of Dionysus" located on a small hill overlooking the town. There you will find a mosaic floor which amongst its many murals has one depicting the god of wine Bacchus, and whilst in that area, if the season happens to be spring-time, take a look around the meadows, and try to locate some of Aphrodite's sisters.

Blooming Days at Strange's



We had another successful potting session at "Blooming Days" at Strange's Greenhouse. Our booth was the busiest at Strange's this year.

We would like to thank Strange's for inviting us and we would also like to thank the following members for their participation in such a wonderful event.

Emily Deane
 Garland Hanson
 Fay and George Tyler
 Dick Burch
 Don Herrick
 Glenna & Jim Hasslacher
 Valerie Thacker
 David Sombach



Thanks again for all of your help!!!!

Terry Farmer
 Recording Secretary

Welcome — New Members!!!

Sandra Alexander
 Kyle and Ilene Holden
 Rebecca Thomas
 Larry Smith
 Judy Kellogg
 Pat Robinson
 Andrew Oxenreiter
 Shannon Waren-Reber
 Ron Cornwell
 Merle Young
 Terri Lucas
 Linda Crummette
 V. Ellett
 Becky Merritt
 Aimee Boyle
 Quita Collins
 Leing Lyle
 Sharon Myers
 Yijie Mao

Gilda Jones
 Jan and Florence Harpole
 Lind Reiss
 Bill Mason
 Courtney Newell
 Lindsay P. Richardson, III
 James Rollins
 Judith H. Wells
 Petrea Kenna
 Barbara Guvernator
 Carolyn McEwen
 Mae Pories
 Annette Stokes
 Cyndee Schmeits



Classified Ads

1/4 Page \$10.00
1/2 Page \$20.00
Full Page \$35.00

Design and content is up to the discretion of the newsletter editor.

Schedule of Events

April 6th & 7th
Charlottesville Orchid Society

Fashion Square Mall
 Rt. 29 North
 Charlottesville, Va
 Contact: Larry Eicher
 (434) 975-4231
[Email: tuzlu@att.net](mailto:tuzlu@att.net)

Sunday, April 15th
Virginia Orchid Society

Tom Nasser of
 Carolina Orchids

Lewis Ginter Botanical
 Gardens
 Contact: Garland Hanson
 (804) 379-3864
[Email: rusafe@verizon.com](mailto:rusafe@verizon.com)

April 26th—28th
Blue Ridge Orchid Society
AOS Show

3640 Colonial Avenue
 Roanoke, Va.
 Contact: Louise Mashburn
 (304)647-4532
[Email: maslou@verizon.net](mailto:maslou@verizon.net)

New!!!!

Orchid Help Line!

Terry Farmer
 Garland Hanson
 Carol Hollenbeck
 Jerry Rogers
 David Sombach
 Valerie Thacker

Tom Nasser
of
Carolina Orchids

Is our
April 15th Speaker

He is taking
Pre-Orders!!!!

15% Discount if he
receives your order
by April 1st

www.carolinaorchids.com

VOS Committee Chairs

**Affiliated
Societies/Newsletter**
Valerie Thacker

Auctions
Garland Hanson/
David Sombach

Finance & Endowment
Joe Mathias
Gene Hunt

Hospitality Committee
Patricia St. Clair
Nancy Long-Farkas

Membership Committee
Dianne Ross, Dick Burch,
Barbara Doane & Don Herrick

Librarian / Archives
Charles Gardner

Publicity
Linda Lawrence
Debbie Sauer

Show Committee
Garland Hanson
Valerie Thacker

Beginner Education
Class At 1:30
Before
Every Sunday Meeting

Visit Our Website:
www.vaorchidsociety.org

Too Trash Or Not Too Trash – That Is The Question...

Life is too short to hold-on to orchids that will not grow or bloom. Why “tie-up” your limited growing space with orchids that will not grow or bloom? At some point, most orchid addicts have to decide on what to do with these orchids. This decision point usually comes to the forefront when a grower runs-out of growing space.

I recently “threw-away” some orchids that I had for over 10 years. They had never bloomed for me and they were not vigorous growers. It was hard to throw them away, but I actually felt better once they were gone (magically, I had some open growing space to get some new orchids).

Below are some things to do and consider when making the decision “too trash or not too trash”.

If the plant is not growing or is sickly:

- Change how you grow it (i.e., change the lighting, temperatures, growing media, and/or watering). If the plant doesn't improve, TRASH IT!
- You can offer it to another orchid grower. You might find a “taker”. It should be noted that most orchid growers are not interested in taking a sick or a poor growing orchid. Many people have offered me their sick orchids...Sorry, but I don't operate an orchid hospital!!!! TRASH IT and buy something new and exciting!

If the plant is healthy & growing well, but will not bloom:

- Change how you grow it (i.e., change the lighting, temperatures, and/or watering).
- If the plant still doesn't bloom after changing its growing conditions, offer it to another grower. **As a courtesy to the other grower, you should mention that you could not bloom it.** The other grower may not want to take on the challenge of a non-bloomer.
- If you can't find another grower who wants the plant, TRASH IT and buy something new and exciting!

Allen Black



Junky Orchids...TRASH Them!