
CAPE FEAR ORCHID SOCIETY

July 2019



Next Meeting: July 12

6:00 pm Doors Open-ARBORETUM

6:30-7:00 Plant sale and show table set-up

7-7:30 Ice Cream Social and voting on Show Table

7:30-8:30 Program: "The Doctor's In" Linda Thorne from Seagrove Orchids will comment on the orchids members bring to the meeting for her diagnosis. This is an interactive meeting, and we need your plants to make it happen.

Please bring in plants you have an issue with: Bugs, diseases, or plants just not thriving. If you have the same issue with multiple plants, you do not need to bring them all in.

8:30-9:30 Show Table



Cautionary Note: Make sure that the orchids you bring in don't make contact with other orchids. We don't want to spread any little critters they might have.

Linda has received 17 Culture Awards from the American Orchid Society; she is also an AOS Judge. She will be bringing plants to sell.



Reminder

The Raffle Table is a source of income for us, so please donate an orchid or orchid related item or any plant item to raffle off.

Linda Swanson will be our new Raffle Chairperson. You can contact her about your donation.

Her e-mail is:

latswanson@atmc.net.

Meeting Notes

June 2019

President Price called the meeting to order welcoming Joseph, a visitor from the Triangle, and new member Kat McGrath.

President Price informed the membership of the passing of long time member and former President, Vice President, and Program Chair Ann Gallman. Carol Shores moved and Pam Layne seconded that a donation of \$100 be made in her name to the American Orchid Society. The motion carried.

Vice President Pam Layne asked that the membership let her know of speakers and topics that are of interest.

Treasurer Overstreet reported a closing balance of 7491.88. CFOS did not receive a grant this year from Friends of the Arboretum. Pam Layne or Laura Overstreet will be presenting our program to them on Monday in an attempt to secure a grant in 2020.

Linda Swanson, Secretary

Show Table Points

Member	Previous	June	Total
Laura Elliott	23		23
Jeff & Jennifer Gibby	10		10
Googe & Ibasco	157		157
Kathi Labash	28		28
Jim Lanier	38	20	58
Pam Layne	48	25	73
Mary MacBarb	5		5
James Maeda	44		44
Laura Overstreet	39		39
Joyce Pennock	42	20	62
Anita Potts	10		10
Andrew Price	20		20
Jane Ranney		15	15
Bill Shober	8		8
Carol Shores	21		21
Rudy Thurman	10		10

Show Table Winner -Standard Size: Jim Lanier



This month we had a historical first: The Best in Show Table Winner Standard Size – was won with a unanimous vote by the club members. The winner was Jim Lanier’s *Aerides odorata*, a charming species on a huge slab with lots of other plants. A characteristic of all *Aerides* is the short spur on the back of the lip on the flower. That gives the flower a very distinctive silhouette from the side. The flower is basically white/cream color with some flares of light lavender/pink on the tips of petals. This species is highly fragrant, often with a lemony scent in some and is widely distributed in Asia including Thailand, Borneo, Philippines and many other locations, from sea level to about 1500 feet. At least two highly collectable fragrant varieties are available for collectors. The species is either epiphytic (growing on tree branches) or lithophytic (growing on rocks). Most hobbyists grow the plants in baskets.

Our job is to analyze the winning plant which can be explained in one phrase: **“It’s all about the roots.”** Take a look at the attached photos of this plant on the slab and you will see VERRRRRRY long roots all over the place, which is a sign of a well-grown plant. Jim excels at growing on tree branches and slabs with multiple species (often ferns and bromeliads) present. With these types of plants which have open air roots, the longer the green root tips will indicate that the plant is getting lots of water. If there are no green root tips, there is a big problem because something may be eating them. *Carole Shores*

Carole's Cultural Notes: When you consider it, the un-potted open air roots will dry out in seconds after watering and the warmer the weather; the more water the plant needs if being grown outdoors in a breeze. Bob Fuchs of Homestead, Fl., waters his *Vandaceous* plants up to 3 times a day in the hot summer there. Here, they probably should be watered daily. Plants that can grow in open air baskets, include *Vandas*, *Rhynchostylis* and big *Phallies*, and many other popular genera, all of which have roots which turn green when watered. If they don't ever turn green, either the watering was insufficient or the roots are dead. Just pinch a root to observe its texture to see if it is dead or not. If it feels thick and fleshy, it is alive; if it feels hollow inside, it is most likely dead. I don't advocate cutting off good roots when repotting a plant, just to control pot size. If all the roots on a potted plant seem dead, the potting mix probably broke down beyond usefulness with end result being root loss.

The joy of growing in slat baskets is that the aeration of the mix helps mix last longer, but more water is needed. Also the mix can fall out of the slats in the bottom of the basket. The easiest way to fix this is to take the mesh holder that hold various sizes of fruit (from the grocery store) and cut to fit in the bottom of the basket and tie or glue in place. A bare root seedling can then go in a small slat basket and when it outgrows that one, just pot into a much bigger basket without disturbing roots at all, and with the next bigger basket you may just be able to skip the mix altogether. Fertilizing during the growing season is also a must. Plants in the blooming season should have lower nitrogen. Of course, many swear by Cal-Mag fertilizers which are good for *Paphs.* and other plants to give strength to the spikes. 10-30-20 is a good mix to use in the summer.

Bill Thom's Culture Notes: June 2019

- 1.Plants take in water slowly
So water from all sides-twice or more
- 2.Maintain good air flow
Day and night
- 3.Water before you fertilize
Weekly,weakly- Use 1/2 strength
- 4.Bright shade is best
Use hand to measure shade on plant
- 5.Grow in shallow, wide plastic pots or on horizontal mounts
6. Spray chemicals only when it's cool; late afternoon is best
- 7.Use Epsom Salt Monthly-1/2 tsp per gallon of water

June Show Table Winners: Minis

Carole Shores

Pamela Layne and her *Neofinetia falcata*



The Best in Show Table Winner – Miniature is a cute *Neofinetia falcata* owned by Pam Layne.

This plant has pristine white flowers on short spikes sitting directly above the growths. These *Neos.* are from Japan (old world plant) and there is a cult following of them there. Each single tiny change in an individual warrants giving it a cultivar name. The other thing about them is popularity of plants with striped leaves and even some other color (like burgundy) in the leaves; this also results in distinct cultivar names. The Japanese aficionados try to collect as many variations as possible and then display them in elaborate ceramic or porcelain containers. I think we have seen this plant of Pam's in the past. These plants seem to do well in home settings as we have had several members bringing them in lately. They do well in 3 to 4 inch pots that can sit on the windowsill. When thinking about the culture of these plants, remember they are not at all tropical; most parts of Japan can have freezing periods in the winter.

Second to Best in Show Table – Small to Miniature winner is owned by Jane Ranney. Her plant is an *Encyclia tampensis*.



The flowers on this species are cute, and the plant has pudgy bulbs that make it look attractive even when out of bloom. The flower spikes with 3 or 4 flowers per spike are fairly tall and almost need staking for proper display. The flowers are olive greenish brown with some light purple on the lip. This is a native Florida orchid which also grows in Central American and in the islands of Cuba and Bahamas and probably a couple of other islands (a new world plant).

Both this and the other mini winner are epiphytes with similar climate requirements, but the contrast in their appearance is just amazing. Both are adorable. *Carole Shores*

CFOS Show Table Winners June 12, 2019

Best in Show Table - Standard Size Plants (over 10 inches tall or wide)

Plant

Owner

Standard Size Best in Show Table -

Aerides odorata (unanimous)

Jim Lanier

Class Winners - Standard Size

Dendrobium

First	Den. Orange Delight x Orange Kiss 'Candy Cor'	Joyce Pennock
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Encyclia/Epidendrum/Maxillaria alliance

First	Max. sanguine x Max. Honateana	Joyce Pennock
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Phalaenopsis

First	Phal. Chingruey "Fancy"	Joyce Pennock
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Second

Vanda/Ascocentra/Aerides

First	Aerides odorata	Jim Lanier
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Best in Show Table - Miniature to Small Size Plants (under 10 inches wide or tall)

Plant

Owner

Miniature to Small Size Best in Show Table -

Nefinitia falcata

Pam Layne

Miniature Size Second to Best -

Encyclia tampensis

Jane Ranney

Class Winners - Miniature to Small Size

Neofinitia

First	Neofinitia falcata x self	Pam Layne
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Other Minis

First	Encyclia tampensis	Jane Ranney
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Tolumnia

First	Tolumnia N.O.I.D.	Pam Layne
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Show Table results tabulated and reported each month by Jane Ranney.

See you at the meeting!