

Cape Fear Orchid Society

NOVEMBER 2016



From Prez Ann:

At our Wednesday, November 16th monthly meeting, at the New Hanover Arboretum, 6206 Oleander Dr., Wilmington, we will have two speakers: Jim Lanier and Robin Weir.

With Thanksgiving coming soon, our speakers will highlight flower arrangements using orchids rather than sharing the usual discussion on orchid culture.

Jim Lanier, an avid member of CFOS, will show us how he creates and grows some of his winning orchids and, especially, his bromeliads.

Robin Weir, noted florist at "Wild by Nature" in Southport, will show us how she incorporates orchids into her flower arrangements. Two of her lovely arrangements will then be put on the raffle table, so be sure and get your tickets!

The doors will open at 6:30 for plant purchases, etc. Members may bring plants to sell. The meeting begins at 7 and is open to anyone for your first visit. We invite you to come and join our group!

See you then!

Ann Gallman, President

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Meeting date...

NOVEMBER 16

6:30 pm doors open

7 pm meeting

Arboretum

Speaker:

Jim Lanier

Orchids/Bromeliads

Robin Weir

Floral Expert

Members may bring plants to sell.

Annual CFOS

HOLIDAY MEETING!

Dec. 14, 6:30 PM

**Happy
Thanksgiving!**

November Speakers' Bios -

Robin Weir is the owner of "Wild by Nature" in Southport, NC. Robin moved to this area from Connecticut (CT) and started her business in a small shop on Howe Street, close to the center of town. Her charming designs displayed in her shop became very popular with everyone in the area. For the past 23 years she has been living her passion of designing floral art. Robin received her accreditation from the American Institute of Floral Designers in 2007. She won the designer of the year competition at the Northeast Floral Expo in 2005 and in 2007 and went on to represent CT in the Nationals.

Robin will show how she makes her arrangements and will put two of her creations on the raffle table. Contact for Robin is on page 8.

Jim Lanier needs no introduction. He is a long time member of CFOS and regularly brings delightful orchids to the meetings. He grows his treasures in a very large greenhouse which is more like a green spa room. Besides greenery, his plants hang all over and the room includes a water feature. Be sure to come and hear how he grows his plants and learn about bromeliads, too.

CFOS Show Table Winners October 2016

<u>Best in Show Table -</u>	<u>Standard Size Plants</u> (over 10 inches tall or wide)	
	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Owner</u>
<u>Standard Size Best -</u>	Aliceara Hilo Ablaze	Bill Schade
<u>Standard Size Second -</u>	Vanda N.O.I.D.	Ann McGee

Class Winners - Standard Size

Dendrobium		
First	Den. Pink Bonjour	Carol Shores
Second	Den. N.O.I.D.	Laura Overstreet
Oncidium		
First	Aliceara Hilo Ablaze	Bill Schade
Second	Onc. Sweet Sugar	Byron Price
Phalaenopsis		
First	Phal. N.O.I.D. purple	Pam Layne
Second	Phal. N.O.I.D. yellow w/ purple	Pam Layne
Unusual/Rare		
First	Chondranthes Andrea Niessen	Bill Schade
Vanda/Ascocendra/Aerides Alliance		
First	Vanda N.O.I.D.	Ann McGee
Second	Vanda Janice Allison	Carol Shores

Best in Show Table - Small to Miniature Size Plants (under 10 inches wide or tall)

	<u>Plant</u>	<u>Owner</u>
<u>Small/Miniature Size Best</u>		
Tie	Lockhartia oestedii	Carol Shores
Tie	Van. Baby Angel	Carol Shores

Class Winners - Small to Miniature Size

Mini Bulbophyllum		
First	Bulb. careyanum	Carol Shores
Neostylus Mini		
First	Van. Baby Angel	Carol Shores
Other Minis		
First	Onc. Twinkle	Byron Price
Second	Lockhartia oerstedii	Carol Shores

Results tabulated and reported monthly by Jane Ranney. Only categories with entries listed in results

OCTOBER'S BEST!



Best in Show Std.

***Aliceara Hilo Ablaze*
owned by
Bill Shade**



**2nd Best
in Show Std.**

***Vanda N.O.I.D*
owned by
Anne McGee**



***Aliceara Hilo Ablaze* owned by Bill Shade is the Best in Show Standard winner this month.** Bill Shade has been showing his growing skills with his *Aliceara Hilo Ablaze*, a complex hybrid of *Brassia*, *Miltonia* and *Oncidium* which can grow optimally between the temps of 50 and 80, making it an intermediate grower. It would do well outdoors but not in full sunlight. I suspect that this particular plant is an awarded clone, but that was not indicated on the entry sheet. The flowers on this cross are outstanding and anyone would be happy to own it. The color of the flowers is interesting, almost like tiger stripes with a peachy blotch in the lip. The only thing which would make the flowers better would be if the lip was flatter and didn't have a slight notch or curve in it, which seems to be a characteristic of these hybrids. Arrangement on the spike lets you see each flower. The plant as mature specimen should be covered with flowers from multiple spikes. We look forward to seeing it again.

Second to Best in Show Table Standard Size is *Vanda N.O.I.D.* (purple) owned by Ann McGee.

Her N.O.I.D. is simply the result of a label lost and I suspect that the hybrid came from either R. F. Orchids or Martin Motes Orchids, both from the Miami, Florida, area. Sometimes if you can remember when/where you bought the plant, you can recoup the original information and get the plant identified. The flower looks like it is a *Vanda coerulea* hybrid, the famous blue orchid. Ann's plant has much better flower shape than the usual *Vanda coerulea*, which has a lot of open spaces between the flower segments.

Ann McGee's outstanding *Vanda N.O.I.D.* has really nice purple flowers and is very well grown. I asked Ann the secret of her success. She stated that the plant was outdoors and she watered it every day. The *Vanda* plant has solid growth stem with not a single leaf missing or a bunch of spaces between the root stock and the stem which is a common problem on lots of *Vandas*.

[Plant Articles on pages 3 and 4 by Carol Shores.]

OCTOBER'S BEST

MINIATURES



Best in Show Mini

Lockhartia oerstedii
owned by
Carol Shores

2nd to Best in Show Mini

Van. Baby Angel
owned by
Carol Shores

Best Miniature:

This month - a tie with Carol Shores owning both of the winners. The winning tie was between *Lockhartia oerstedii*, called the Ric Rac or Braided orchid, a species from Central America, and *Van. Baby Angel*, which is a hybrid between *Neofinetia* and a small *Rhynchostylis*. The flowers on the *Lockhartia* are usually on the tips of the branches and are bright yellow with reddish brown, on a small flower reminiscent of some *Oncidiums*, to which it is related. The plant shape reminds me of a ric-rac cactus I have which has the same shape leaves but is much larger and tougher. I think that this plant qualifies as an orchid which could also be grown just for the vegetative growth because it is so unusual and it also takes up very little space and loves to grow on a slab. Several *Lockhartia* species are available and they are all similar. A close up picture of the *Lockhartia* is courtesy of Andy's Orchids as mine did not turn out well enough to publish. It has been outside all summer growing on a line under the tree next to my greenhouse. It gets lots of filtered light but no direct overhead sunlight.

Mini Size Second to Best:

The tying plant is *Van. Baby Angel*, a *Neofinetia falcata* hybrid, which is really cute. The official generic name used to be *Vandachostylis* and now, due to recent revisions of that group, is just called *Vanda*. A close up of the flower is pictured here. These are very collectable because of their petite size and variation in color. Bad news is that the *Neofinetia* parent is dominant in flower shape so there is not a lot of variation in the hybrids. They grow and display well in slat baskets and small decorative Japanese style containers. They can grow in a wide range of conditions including relatively low temperatures. The Japanese have mastered the art of growing them in mounds of sphagnum.



Getting your orchids ready for the winter by Carol Shores

Days are getting shorter, the sun is lower and not as intense and all the *Vandas* that are going to bloom this year are already in spike. These tropical plants can come into your home or greenhouse now since they will no longer benefit from being outside. My *Vandas* and *Paphs* have been in for a couple of weeks thanks to the hurricane scare.

NOW is the time to service and put the heater on in your greenhouse or sunroom. Remove and clean the shade cloth on/in your greenhouse. Inspect each plant as you bring it in, top and bottom, for bugs and debris and do last minute repotting due to decomposed mix. My drop dead date for bringing in everything is Nov. 15th. *Phalaenopsis* don't really like to be in less than 60 degrees. They do like a 15 degree difference at night to begin the process of initiating spikes. I counted about 5 new spikes so far. I never put the *Phallies* outside as they are very susceptible to crown rot and they don't seem to mind that the greenhouse gets hot in the summer. The good news is that you can still repot them this late if absolutely necessary. So far in my experiment with the new Australian pine bark, the *Phallies* seem to be doing well in it straight, but the *Vandas* don't seem to like it at all so I may end up repotting them into some kind of a mix.

Only some *Dendrobiums* are still out, specifically the ones which can take a cold treatment (*Den. nobile* or *kingianum* hybrids) or are non-tropical. The *Den. phalaenopsis* types are more tropical and do not need, nor do they want, a cold treatment to initiate flowering. Several of them were in bloom or spike so they came in before our hurricane event, along with the *Vandas*. Most of those *Den.* hybrids will bloom most any old time on each new growth and may even re-bloom on old growths. They don't need any cooling period to bloom. At this time, the only orchids which would benefit by being outside are some *Dendrobiums* and some terrestrials and standard size *Cymbidiums*.

When winterizing your plants, with the shorter and cooler days, don't be heavy with the fertilizer. They are not growing actively now and you will be wasting most of the fertilizer. Save the blossom booster fertilizer for new spring growth in Feb. or March. Also, if you are growing any deciduous orchids such as *Chysis*, *Clarkaras*, etc., watering them after the leaves drop off is the kiss of death. Put them out of the way and up high so that you are not tempted to water them. No water at all until new growth pops up and has 2" roots after about Feb. or March. Do not try to re-pot any of them now because they cannot grow any new roots on existing growths.

Please note: many *Dendrobiums* are also deciduous and the same applies. But the difference is that many of the *Dends.* will bloom after the canes drop their leaves. They are not dead so please do not throw them out!

A note about *Paphs*: after a shoot blooms, it will grow no more roots and all new root growth will be on the new shoots, so if you want to divide them, you need to make sure there is a new growth on the division for the best results. Divisions of three or more growths will do best.



SPEAKER NOTES— Art Chadwick, Jr.— “The Great Cattleya Species of the Cut Flower Era.”

Art’s chosen topic was “The Great Cattleya Species of the Cut Flower Era.” But, our culture questions were also answered.



Art has two college degrees, as noted in the October speaker’s bio. In his mid twenties, he became seriously interested in the orchid business, despite his engineering background. His two college age children have no interest at the moment in orchids, but he is still hoping they eventually will. He and his father, Art Chadwick, Sr., began their company in 1989 in Richmond, Va. They have 11 greenhouses, most housing orchids, not yet in bloom, which he “babysits” for their growers. He told us that he has been invited to speak at the World Orchid Congress in Ecuador next year.

Art’s father began in the Cattleya business when they were grown for the cut flower market. These flowers’ 3 dimensional shapes were more interesting than flowers in use for corsages, such as gardenias and camellias. They were something special and unique. No two were exactly alike. Also, they could be “kept in the refrigerator” and would last for several days. The demand spiked in 1940. Many war brides were given corsages of Cattleyas for \$20.

The plants were imported from South America wrapped in banana leaves and cost \$1.50 apiece. Countries importing them were Venezuela, Brazil, Columbia, and one species from Costa Rica. They had to be imported at that time because Cattleyas cannot be grown from seed. At one point, they imported 600 for the Philadelphia flower show. As more people got into the business, the growers got bigger. Some ran ads in the AOS magazine requesting that hobby growers sell them their plants. By the mid-40’s, aristocrats and presidents’ ladies were aware of these flowers; Queen Elizabeth II even had them in her wedding bouquet. People even knew the names of the orchids. At one time, a woman was not properly dressed without her corsage.

The Chadwick’s had the pleasure of presenting named orchids to first ladies starting in 1929.. They have presented named orchids to 6 of them. They created the orchid and named it right away. Then, if the first lady wished it, they would come and present it to her. The Cattleyas were the orchids of choice because the 8 species were available year round. Each one had its own blooming time.

C. labiate typical was found in jungles. It could be cut on a Tues., shipped on a Thurs. and would last all weekend. It can be light controlled. It has a double sheath, one inside the other, before the bloom comes. It blooms September—November. [Note: typical defined by Carol: *Typical is the “type” of a species. Botanically, it is the ordinary common example which represents 99% of particular genus and species. Anything else is actually atypical, not ordinary.*]

Speaker notes cont'd.

C. percivaliana typical has a spicy smell but has a smaller flower. It makes a beautiful pot plant and is compact. It blooms from Thanksgiving to New Years.

At New Years, **C. trianae**, a jungle plant, appears until the end of February. This delicate flower is the national flower of Columbia and can bloom for 6 weeks. The 'Victory' grouping and 'Party Time' grow in blocks. Many, many blooms together make an amazing display of orchids. Father Art bought one of these plants which then bloomed every New Year's Eve for 50 years!

In spring, **C. schroederiae** typical bloomed which has more plants on a stem but are all very similar. It had limited appeal and was in bloom only mid February to mid March.

In March, the greatest of Cattleyas, **C. mossiae** typical, bloomed. It was called the Easter orchid and also provided corsages for Mother's Day. It could have 5 flowers that were about 8 inches across! The colors were various shades of lavender. With these plants, growers started taking their best specimens and crossing them to create a new generation of orchid "children".

At Memorial Day, **C. gaskelliana** typical bloomed and was used in weddings. This lovely orchid, usually white with lavender in the lip can be successfully exhibited from all sides due to its blooming pattern. This made it a very desirable orchid.

In summer, **C. warscewiczii** imperialis came into bloom. It was so gigantic, it got a nickname depicting the size. These were tall plants with dark and light varieties. *C. warscewiczii sanderianis* is the photo that is on the cover of the Chadwicks' book entitled The Classic Cattleya.

August brings **C. dowiana** typical which lasts only about a week and has a yellow and purple flower. It was not a particularly popular species.

The Costa Rican orchid is grown similarly to a *Phalaenopsis*. It grows in the rain forest which is never under 60 degrees. So, if you are growing this orchid in too wet and too cool a climate, the roots can rot.

By 1960, modern hybrids came on the market and the species couldn't compete. So, after the blooms were cut, many growers just threw out the plants which is why the species' were eventually lost. Art wonders if they would ever return to fashion. He concluded anything was possible. At this point, import of orchids is very limited.

In Art's greenhouse, they plant in small clay pots with sphagnum moss. When repotting, they shake off pieces of sphagnum, rewrap a layer of it back around the roots, and pop the plant back in the pot. They do not completely clean all the sphagnum off the roots. The moss they use has been soaked in water for one day and is squeezed out before wrapping. Repot the plants just as new roots are coming out. He called the hybrids "idiot proof." Roots will adhere to the pot. Water the plant and it will always make new roots. You can soak the whole thing, pot and all in water, if you choose. Sphagnum exists in a number of grades. Right now, the Chadwicks are using New Zealand sphagnum. Art said it is available on the internet at OFE orchids in Miami.

[Cont'd page 8]

The color of the leaves should be medium green. If leaves are dark green, the plant will not bloom ... not enough light. Curl the roots around inside the pot. If they appear brittle, spray them with water and they will become flexible and will curl.

Old leaves will not put out new blooms. Eventually, many pseudobulbs will remain in the pot. If you choose to divide the plant, leave about 4 or 5 pseudobulbs in each. Usually, the front part of the plant will just keep on growing as if nothing happened. The back part may take 2-3 years, but it will eventually put out more bulbs and blooms.

Cattleyas can be bifoliate or unifoliate. Unifoliate have one leaf growing from the pseudobulb. Bifoliate have 2 and have smaller flower clusters.

People use all sorts of medium. The Chadwicks have never used lava rock, although it will not break down which some people prefer. Some people use wine corks, baskets, and tree bark.

Catts need filtered light all day long. If in full sun, it needs to be diffused.

"Man made" plants (hybrids), can bloom more than once. If you label them when they bloom, you will know when they will usually bloom during the year.

Temperatures should not go much below the 50's. Not as much water should be given in the winter.

Art passed out a sheet with names of the species and blooming times during the year. Copies of this sheet will come to you in a separate email.



Robin Weir
Wild By Nature
411 N. Howe St., Southport.
910-363-5032
wildbynaturellc@aol.com

Our full service florist specializes in unique and creative designs using the freshest flowers flown in from around the world.

Robin Weir AIFD owner is passionate about her flowers and the industry. Unusual gifts from around the world make a great addition to her designs. Give us a call ... you will not be disappointed.

{By the way, her website is lovely! Check it out!}

CFOS Meeting Notes: Oct. 12, 2016

* **President Ann Gallman** opened the meeting at 7:00 by reporting on upcoming orchid events.

***Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium** will be November 11 and 12 in Williamsburg Virginia. See their web site for details.

***The Triangle Orchid Society** will have its autumn Orchid Show on Nov. 18-20 at the Sarah P. Duke Gardens at Duke University. Show is free, but a parking fee is charged.

***AOS** will be have two members-only webinars. On October 27 (Cattleya Alliance in Mexico) and Nov. 16 at 8:30pm (Odontoglossums). On Nov. 8, a webinar that is titled "Greenhouse Chat" is open to the public. For more details, go to the AOS website www.aos.org.

***CFOS** will ask C&H orchids for a gift certificate which will be awarded to a lucky member at the December Holiday meeting. In exchange, C&H asks for our society's member email list. If anyone does not want his/her email sent, let Ann know by Nov. 1.

*This is the goofy month when the **meeting falls on the 3rd Wednesday of the month**. So, the meeting will be on Nov. 16. Speakers for that month will be **Jim Lanier** who will tell us how he grows on bark pieces and slabs and about his bromeliads. Also, **Robin Weir** of "Wild by Nature" in Southport will talk about using orchids in flower arrangements.

***Ann** introduced new member **Gary** and welcomed Bill Schade's guest.

***Ann** introduced the speaker, **Art Chadwick, Jr.**, who spoke on Cattleyas.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Denney for

Linda Swanson,
Secretary

NOVEMBER BRINGERS

SNACKS and DRINKS :
Phil Bloedorn

RAFFLE - Two lovely creations from speaker Robin.

December Holiday meeting.

Our meeting on Dec. 14 will be a "pot-luck" dinner with CFOS providing the meat and members bringing dishes to share. The meeting will begin at 6:30. We will have a show table, so coax your favorite plants to bloom for that night. We will have some other entertainment, too, to be announced in the December newsletter. As usual, we will elect officers for 2017. Mark your calendars!

TRIANGLE ORCHID SOCIETY AUTUMN ORCHID SHOW

'FALL FOR ORCHIDS'

November 18-20

**Sarah P. Duke Gardens
Duke University campus**

**Details on website:
triangleorchidsociety.org**

Show Table Points 2016

Members	Previous	Oct.	Total
Pat Ahern	15	0	15
Charlie Barrett	58	0	58
Jan Denney	25	0	25
Ann Gallman	25	0	25
Polly Kopka	20	0	20
Kathi LaBash	59	0	59
Jim Lanier	116	0	116
Pamela Layne	121	13	134
Sam Lipscomb	30	0	30
Merry MacBarb	13	0	13
Anne McGee	0	15	15
Laura Overstreet	10	8	18
Lynette Pearsal	5	0	5
Joyce Pennock	81	0	81
Anita Potts	26	0	26
Byron Price	64	13	77
Jane Ranney	72	0	72
Bill Schade	95	25	120
Carol Shores	164	46	210
Gail Taylor	56	0	56
Steve & Karen Tobiassen	128	0	128

Cape Fear Orchid Society Meeting

NOVEMBER 16

6:30 - doors open

7 pm - meeting

Arboretum

6206 Oleander Dr.

Wilmington

**Speakers: Robin Weir
Jim Lanier**



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Happy Thanksgiving!

Visit CFOS at: www.capefearorchid.org



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