

Cape Fear Orchid Society



www.capefearorchidsociety.org

OCTOBER 2016



The President's Message ...

Hi Everyone!

The speaker this month is Art Chadwick Jr., who with his father, is renown for growing the First Lady Cattleya series. Art will base his talk on "How to Grow Your Cattleya."

He will also talk about some of the classic Cattleyas used in the cut flower industry with their large blooms. Some of these classic plants will be available to purchase, along with his book, The Classic Cattleyas.

Art will bring some of the classic species for sale. (His dad still lends a strong hand to whatever Art does.) Cash, credit cards, and checks will be accepted as payment. He will also talk a little about how they manage new orchids from questionable sources for their greenhouses.

The meeting is on, so come out to see some lovely orchids.

Ann Gallman, President

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Meeting date...

OCTOBER 12
6:30 pm
(orchid sales)
7pm meeting
Arboretum

Speaker:
Art Chadwick, Jr.

Topic:
Cattleyas
How to grow them and
identify problems as
well as info on classic
Cattleyas.

(Selling plants and their
book, The Classic Cattleyas.)

CFOS 2016 Programs

Nov. 16 - Jim Lanier - mounting
orchids and bromeliads.
Robin Weir - creating
Floral Arrangements

Dec. 14 - Holiday Meeting

Speaker's Bio: Art Chadwick, Jr.

Art has a BS in Electrical Engineering from NC State and an MBA from James Madison University. He founded Chadwick and Son Orchids Inc. in 1989 with his father, Art Chadwick Sr., who has been growing orchids since 1943.

Art and his father co-authored The Classic Cattleyas, considered to be an excellent book on large flowered Cattleya species. Martha Stewart read the book and then had both Art and his father on her TV show.

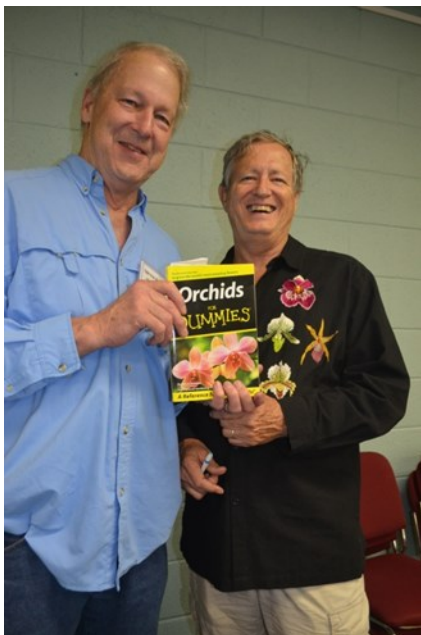
Art has the fun of naming Cattleya hybrids after the wives of the last four US Presidents, and has presented the flowers to these women himself. He speaks internationally, most recently at the Western Australian Orchid Conference and the World Orchid Conference in France. He has now been invited to speak at the Ecuador WOC next year. Each month, since 2002, the Richmond Times Dispatch has published Art's orchid advice column. The Winston-Salem Journal now also runs his column.

The Chadwick's operate eleven greenhouses in rural Powhatan County and even more where they board over 13,000 of other people's orchids. They run a retail store in Richmond. The company was recently featured in Southern Living magazine and the New York Times.

When not growing orchids, Art enjoys outdoor recreation and raising his two children.

Info from Carol Shores ...

... I did not get a good picture of Jim and his plant in September, however, I did get a good picture of him with the speaker, Steve Frowine. Jim has purchased Steve's book, "Orchids for DUMMIES" and the speaker autographed his book. Steve has written several good books and I have his book: "Fragrant Orchids." Also, I just got the CD, "Miniature Orchids", 2nd ed., which has excellent photos. Carol



SEPTEMBER'S

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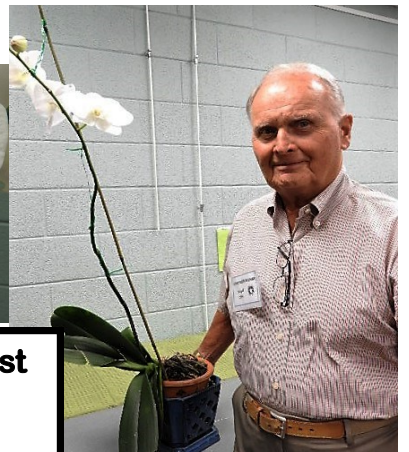
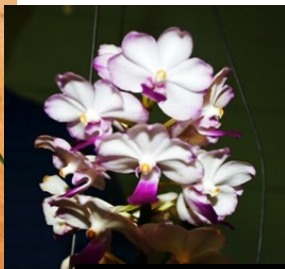
We had no small to miniature entries this month. We had a good selection of genera represented from *Ansellia* to *Vandachostylis* (get it – A to V) ! Who can ask for anything more. Carol



**Best Standard
Miltonia
Anne Warne
owned by
Jim Lanier**

Jim's winning *Miltonia* is probably the most popular *Miltonia* hybrid ever. It has several awarded clones, one which was named after Jack Webster. This type of *Miltonia* is a warm

grower which means that it probably doesn't like to be under 55 degrees at night in the fall/winter. It should do well in both an intermediate to warm greenhouse and under lights in the home. I believe that it has a similar background to the *Miltonia* that has been exhibited by Byron. This group tends to have brighter leaves than other orchids. These plants also have a tendency to get yellowish if given too much light; they like filtered light, not direct sunlight. They have relatively thin leaves and thin roots and will rot if over watered. One way to deal with that is to have a fresh well-draining mix that will not get soggy. A specimen plant can have dozens of spikes with many flowers opened at the same time.



**Tie - 2nd to Best
Standard
Vandachostylis
Janice Alison
owned by
Bill Schade**

**Tie - 2nd to Best
Standard
Phalaenopsis
N.O.I.D. white
owned by
Byron Price**

Byron's *Phal.* had very good flower shape and good size. Solid whites

Here is a lovely genus many of us may not have seen before. It is a combination of *Vanda* and *Rhynchostylis* so it can be grown just like Vandas. The species in the backgrounds are mostly tropical and need high levels of water. At R.F. Orchids in Homestead, Fl, *Vandas* are watered daily and in very hot weather, more as needed. Note the deep color in the rectangular shaped lip. This unusual lip shape is common in this genus. They cannot take low temperatures.

have always been popular, no matter what the latest fads are. Now is the time to start fertilizing your *Phal.* with blossom booster type fertilizer, especially those in bark mixes. Fertilization develops strong stems and spikes before the spikes are already developed. If they need to be repotted, now is the time, as you really don't want them going into bloom with rotten or sour mix. Do this so they can get strength and strong roots to support the plant during blooming this winter. Plan to stake the new spikes as they develop as they could get quite long on mature plants.

Speaker notes—September 2016 — Steve Frowine's subject 'Growing orchids without a greenhouse' is very relevant in the current growing environment due to a change in the marketing of orchids. Phalaenopsis orchids, the easiest to grow, are readily available in box stores and markets and have become the throw away orchid once the blooms are gone. If people choose to keep the plant and rebloom it, they don't usually have a greenhouse.

The secret to raising orchids is to find the right growing conditions. Steve emphasizes that if your orchid perishes, you didn't kill it. It died. It may have been weak to start with. And when an orchid dies, it leaves you with space to try another variety!

Steve began with generalities and proceeded to specifics. Orchids, with a few exceptions, do not grow in soil. A variety of "medium" exists for potting orchids. As you learn and experiment, use the one that works best for your plants. A lot of fertilizer exists and it becomes a mystery! With trial and error and learning, you will determine the ones that work best for you.

Orchids generally have a specific blooming time, just like flowering plants. Usually, autumn, winter, and early spring. Mass producers have learned how to make orchids bloom year round, but in our homes, rebloom will usually occur at the orchids specific bloom time during the year.

A healthy plant will be stocky—no floppy leaves. Color will be light-ish green. A red pigment under the leaves may indicate red flowers. Real dark green leaves—not enough light. The plant should bloom in its same cycle. Flower color should be normal, not pale. Leaves should be more roundish, not long and thin (unless this is normal for the plant type).

Light is the most critical element when growing inside without a greenhouse. Location of windows in a home will determine the amount of light.

East window—sun up in the AM—good light

West window—sun goes down—not so great. May be too hot!

South — sun most of the day, particularly in winter. May need to reduce light by filtering with a sheer curtain.

North — not a lot of light at all. May not be enough to inspire blooming.

Orchids have 2 cycles — a vegetative one and a flowering one.

Light adjustment - by using sheers and by changing the distance between plant and window. A bow window allows light in from multiple angles. Check greenhouse windows, too. They may be too hot or cold. Consider light angles. AM and PM light probably is good. Midday light may be too strong for some orchids

Window sill growing - the home improvement stores have acrylic shelving that can attach to windows. For wider window sills, use a plastic composite decking that can be attached to a window sill with stainless screws.

Intensity of light - Determine by the shadow it throws. A sharp, well-defined shadow indicates strong light. A shadow with fuzzy edges indicates a low light. For some plants, the shape and thickness of the leaf indicates the amount of light needed. A thick leaf can take more light. Thinner and longer leaves, less light. If the leaves are floppy, the plant may be getting insufficient light. Longer, narrower leaves mean not enough light. Yellowish leaves, too much light. Feel the leaves. They should be warm, but never hot. When the plant is showing new growth, place it in good light. In the flowering phase, it will stop growing and can be placed where it can be enjoyed.

Damaged leaves will retain their damage, but you can destroy the evidence. Cut or trim the bad parts. Damage on a leaf can be a portal for disease for the whole plant.

Creating your own greenhouse inside - cheaply! Use an office shelf, like the black or silver ones in home improvement stores or Target. Put boot trays on the shelves. Buy "egg crate" louvers from ceiling fluorescents and cut them to fit the trays. Surround the whole shelf sides with clear vinyl purchased at a fabric store. This product is thicker and easier to use than plastic. Add lights, fluorescent or blooming. Place a small fan at the bottom on the floor and let it blow air up out of the top. Voila!!!

Artificial Light Sources -

Kinds - Don't use incandescent. Fluorescents are low cost. Low to medium light requirements are good. You can find an app which gives you a light meter. This system is good for Paphs, Phals, small Catts, and any small orchid. Choices are:

T-12 - very inefficient and are being phased out. Can buzz and flicker.

T-8 - same length as T-12s. Don't work as well with the ballast. Large variety.

T-5 - gives a more efficient quality of light. Can eventually transition into LED's.

T-5HO - High Output. 5,000 Lumens; 95% Lumen maintenance; 16,000 hours

[Cont'd on pg 5]

[Cont'd. from p.4]

Electronic ballasts work better than magnetic.

Purchasing - Make comparisons. LED diodes are not the same. Compare light color and light intensity to determine the best bulb to use:

* Full spectrum of color from red (the cold end) to blue (the warm end). (YES, this is correct, according to Steve.) The blue spectrum is better. Too much red is too cold.

* 5,000—6,000 Kelvins (color temperature)

* CRI - the color rendering index. A high 80's number is best.

* Lumens - 5,000 - 6,500 is best.

Using lights - Orchids like 12 hrs of day and 12 hrs of dark best. With artificial light, this timing does not need to vary. For added growth, use 16 hours of day. If you have light of less intensity, make up the difference by increasing the length of day. With fluorescents, all light will be used. These bulbs never put out more light than the plants can use. The longer the bulb, the better because the last 6 inches on either end of a fluorescent gives off less light. The brightest light is in the center.

Gro-Lux lights have less intensity so they can stay on longer.

Bring plants to the light. Smaller plants need to be raised closer.

LED strip lights are good to use, too.

HID—Metal halide lights are high pressure sodium lights which have a yellowish, rather ugly light, not as efficient.

Lamp replacement - Not necessary every year. It becomes very expensive. Keep the bulbs clean. Use ground faults

You can grow under any lights. It just depends on how much you want to spend on electricity. You can put hi-density lights on rails and move them around as you wish. You can also use track lighting, but this is best used just to show off the orchids after your plants have started blooming.

In the end, all types of plants adapt to what light they receive. However, if your plants aren't blooming, add more light.

Humidity - Plants need 50-55% humidity in the air.

Not enough - moisture will be drawn from the leaves too fast. Roots then can not absorb moisture fast enough to replenish the loss. Also, developing buds can be desiccated.

Too much - can encourage diseases to form in the plant.

Steve does not encourage the pebble/tray system. Mold and algae can develop in the pebble tray and the pebbles need to be cleaned regularly. As stated earlier, he uses boot trays and plastic light diffusers which he finds in the home improvement stores in the ceiling light departments and he cuts them to fit the trays. Put plants closer to each other to create little mini climates for them.

Air circulation - Gentle. No hurricanes or tornadoes. Use small fans with a little bit of movement.

Heating - he uses a heating mat such as those used for growing seeds. Root temperatures are more important than temps in the upper parts of the plant. He recommends 68-70 degree temps.

Fertilization - use a low concentration every time. One week out of every 4, use only a flush of water to get rid of the accumulated salts from the fertilizer which may be toxic to the roots.

Name pronunciation - this does not come easy for novice growers. Listen to how others pronounce the names at your orchid societies and then try them yourself. Seasoned growers will correct you and soon the Latin words will roll right off your tongue. Besides that, names are currently being changed due to using genetic studies as opposed to the old methods of classification.

Orchids' growth - they have the same growth period year round. Usually, a spring growth period, then a pause, then preparation for flowering, blooming, and rest. If a plant has a dormant period, do not water it while dormant. The roots may rot. There is little difference between dormancy and death.

Some orchids may bloom more than once a year, particularly if the orchid has a mixed parentage. Don't be in a hurry to divide your plants. The bigger they are the more they will flower. They grow better and bloom more as bigger plants.

Steve has written about 5 books. His book Fragrant Orchids is out of print but a Sandhill's Orchid Society member found it on Amazon. Also, some of his books are on CD's.. Unfortunately, less people are writing orchid books due to all the info which can be found on the internet. This has also affected orchid societies. However, these groups are still very important for anyone who wants to do more than buy a plant and throw it away. There are about 30,000 species of orchids. We see one, maybe two in the shops. Learning to grow the others is a challenge worthy of anyone's interest!

Steve's final comment: "Orchid growing should release anxiety, not cause it!!!"

**CFOS Meeting Notes -
September 14, 2016**

* **President Ann Gallman** opened the meeting at 7:03 by reporting on upcoming orchid events.

*MERRITT HUNTINGTON MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM will be November 11 and 12 in Williamsburg Virginia

*AOS fall meeting will be October 19-23 in Los Angeles.

*IRONWOOD ORCHIDS will be giving 10% off on orders of \$50 or more during the month of September.

*AOS will be having a members only webinar on September 21. The topic will be phrags.

***Pat Ahern** has volunteered for the nominating committee. Ann put out a call for additional members.

*There were four guests at this meeting—**Louise and Ron Benjamin** and siblings **George and Lin Howard**.

*The October speaker will be **Art Chadwick, Jr.**

***President Gallman** then introduced the evening's speaker—**Steven Frowine**.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Swanson,
Secretary



????? WANT TO GO ??????

**11th Merritt Huntington Orchid Symposium
Nov. 11 and 12
Williamsburg, VA.**

This symposium is in honor of Merritt Huntington who was completely involved in the world of orchids. The Symposium is a lot of fun and very educational. The speakers are excellent and the vendors are some of the best.

All the information you need to learn more and to register for this event can be found at:

www.mhsymposium.org

**THE TRIANGLE ORCHID SOCIETY WILL HAVE ITS
AUTUMN ORCHID SHOW CALLED
'FALL FOR ORCHIDS'**

on

November 18-20

at

the Sarah P. Duke Gardens on the Duke University campus. For details go to the website:

www.triangleorchidsociety.org

Show Table Points for 2016

Members	Previous	Sept.	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	49	10	59
Jim Lanier	91	25	116
Pamela Layne	121	0	121
Sam Lipscomb	30	0	30
Merry MacBarb	13	0	13
Laura Overstreet	10	0	10
Lynette Pearsall	5	0	5
Joyce Pennock	70	11	81
Anita Potts	26	0	26
Byron Price	43	21	64
Jane Ranney	64	8	72
Jim Saxe	10	0	10
Bill Schade	80	15	95
Carol Shores	149	15	164
Steve & Karen Tobiassen	128	0	128

CFOS Show Table Winners - September 2016



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

Standard Size Best -

Miltonia Anne Warne

Jim Lanier

Standard Size Second - tie

Vandachostylis Janice Alison

Bill Schade

Phal. N.O.I.D. white

Byron Price

Class Winners - Standard Size

Cattleya

First Brassavola nodosa

Jim Lanier

Second Cattleya N.O.I.D. pink
w/ purple lip

Jane Ranney

Dendrobium

First Den. Snowfire x dicuphum

Carol Shores

Second Den. Hisako Haraguchi x
Kevin Tokunaga

Joyce Pennock

Odont. Alliance

First Miltonia Anne Warne

Jim Lanier

Second Miltonia Honolulu
"Warren's Best" HCC/AOS

Byron Price

Paphiopedilum/Phrags

First Paph. hybrid N.O.I.D.

Kathi Labash

Second Phragmipedium Grande

Byron Price

Phalaenopsis

First Phal. N.O.I.D. white

Byron Price

Unusual/Rare

First Ansellia africana

Carol Shores

Vanda/Ascocenda/Aerides

First Vandachostylis Janice Alison Bill Schade

No small to miniatures exhibited this month.

Show Table results tabulated and reported each month by Jane Ranney. Only categories with entries listed in results.



HAPPY HALLOWEEN



Cape Fear Orchid Society

Meeting date...
OCTOBER 12
6:30, Plant Sales
7pm—Meeting
Arboretum

Wilmington

SPEAKER: Art Chadwick, Jr.

Topic: How to Grow Your Cattleyas
(Selling plants and his book.)



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Visit CFOS at: www.capefearorchid.org



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