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January 2014
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About the January Meeting

January 13, 2013

7:00 p.m.
University of Washington
Center for Urban Horticulture
3501 NE 41st Street
Seattle, WA 98105

Live AOS Judging

This month we have an unusual program. Judges from the Northwest Judging Center will be on hand to conduct an actual judging at the meeting. This will give members a chance to see the process judges go through and hear their thoughts on the plants presented. This will be an official AOS judging and any awards won will be genuine AOS awards. So we encourage everyone to bring your well-groomed plants. Awards can be given for cultural excellence as well as for flower quality.

All plants on the Display Table will be screened by the Judges. Then some will be selected for judging. If you're not sure why a plant is or is not selected you will have the opportunity to ask the judges questions.

Members will then be able to observe the complete judging process. Mike Pearson will be there to take the official photograph of any awarded plants. And as a further incentive for everyone to participate in Monday's event, the NWOS will pay the AOS fee for any awards given.

Orchid Pot Display

Kate McMillan and Al Bryant from Spirit Line Pottery will be at the meeting on Monday. They will have a small selection of orchid pots available for the members to examine. Their earthenware pots are made using the ancient Japanese art of Raku. They are hoping for feedback from orchid growers on the pots and will be holding a drawing or raffle at the meeting for a few lucky members to win a free pot.

Display Table:

We will have our regular display table, so bring your blooming plants to share and possibly be considered for an AOS award.



Sales Table:

Members may bring up to 10 plants to sell. Include an extra tag with your name and the cost.

Raffle:

The raffle will be held as usual. Win a new orchid for your collection while supporting the Scholarship Fund.

President's Corner

Hello to everyone and welcome to the 2014 NWOS festivities.

The February Flower Show is coming right after the January meeting and it needs all of us to lend a hand. It is always fun and educational, make sure to sign up for a host or construction shift at the meeting. In exchange for working, you receive an all day pass to the Flower Show

See Ya soon,

Mike Foster, President

NW Flower & Garden Show: Volunteers and Your Orchids Are Needed

In just a few more weeks, we will be building and staffing our garden at the annual NW Flower & Garden Show! This will be the ninth year we have put in an orchid garden at the Show. "Art in Bloom" is the theme this year and our display "50 Shades of Orchids" is going to be spectacular.

Our garden will showcase a colorful bounty of blooming orchids. More specifically, YOUR ORCHIDS! That's right, we need your orchids to build our garden with. We will display any orchids you have in bloom, whether it has one flower or fifty. Even that orchid you have that smells like doggie doo, we'll take it. And that one over there that requires a magnifying glass to see, we'll take it. We want to fill our 617 square foot garden to overflowing with a riot of orchid blossoms.

In addition to your orchids, we need you and a bit of your time to volunteer. The jobs are varied and interesting from garden setup, orchid labeling, providing security, helping to answer "basic" orchid questions (or pointing to someone who can), talking about our Society, and even helping us tear down the display at Show's end. Shifts are in 3-hour and 2-hour blocks throughout the Show days, with setup days being a bit longer. Volunteering for a shift gets you into see the Flower Show for free (a \$20 ticket value). This is a great way to help the Society and experience the Show at the same time.

Sign-up sheets will be available at the January meeting. You may also send an email or call me to sign up. In addition, I will have Show wristbands and setup passes at the January meeting. If you already signed up but will not make the meeting, these items will be mailed to you.

As further incentive to volunteer, there will be several orchid vendors selling their colorful (and addictive) wares at the Show. As of this writing, SeattleOrchid.com, Emerald City Orchids, and Andy's Orchids will be enticing us with yet more plants to add to our collections.

Here are more details for each day.

Sat, February 1st – Setup: We will be building one continuous wall, in the shape of an oversized painter's palette, using stone bricks. This will then be filled with a dark sawdust-like mulch. We will be assisted this year by Horticulture students from Lake Washington Institute of Technology. Ten people have signed up to help so far. Start time is 12 PM and we should be

finished by 5 PM or maybe even 4 PM. Wear your grubby clothes, bring gloves, and expect to get dirty!

Sun, February 2nd – Setup: This is another dirty day. Foliage plants from the Woodland Park Zoo, glass artwork from Chris Peterson, Kevin Keo's banyan tree roots, and the empty picture frames will get installed today. We will start at 12 PM and should be done by 3 PM. Six people have signed up to help on this day. Wear your grubby clothes and bring gloves.

Mon, February 18th – Setup: Monday is when we label and place the orchids into the garden. Excuse me, I mean, *place YOUR orchids!* "Live" moss will be placed as well so that no pots are showing. There are two shifts from 1:00 PM to 5:00 PM and 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM (or whenever we finish). The majority of orchids usually arrive after 5:00 PM. More volunteers are needed, especially for the later shift. Lake Washington Horticultural students will be helping us this day as well.

For the following Show Days, the jobs are varied. You could be providing security for the orchids (telling people not to sit on the walls nor touch the flowers), helping to answer questions, or promoting the NWOS. It would be nice to have at least 3 people for each shift.

Wed, February 5th – Day 1 is always busy, but the crowds usually thin out around 3 PM. We need people for all shifts 9-12, 12-3, 3-6, and 6-8.

Thu, February 6th – Day 2 is much lighter in foot traffic. There will be tour buses and loads of local school children on this day. People are needed for shifts 12-3, 3-6, and 6-8.

Fri, February 7th – Day 3 is also a relatively light day. More tour buses and school children visit on this day. Volunteers are needed for shifts 9-12, 12-3, 3-6 and 6-8.

Sat, February 8th – Day 4 is the busiest of all Show days. People are needed for shifts 3-6 and 6-8 especially, and one more person for the 9-12 shifts. Did I mention there are at least 3 orchid vendors?

Sun, February 9th – Day 5 is probably the lightest of all Show days. Afternoon is busier since the bargain hunters are out and historically that is when some vendors lower their prices. We could use a few more people for the 9-12 and 3-6 shifts.

Sun, February 9th – Teardown begins promptly at 6 PM when the Show closes. Orchids are removed from the display and grouped according to their owners. The moss is removed and bagged. The bricks are cleaned and put back on their pallets. Last year, we completely dismantled our display in a record 90 minutes! But then we had at least 15 people helping. This year, so far, we have nine signed up.

Again, if you cannot make it to the January meeting, you may still sign up by sending me an email or calling on the phone. Thank you for helping the NWOS with this great Show.

Joff Morgan, <mailto:rastur@eacw.org>, 425-301-4287 cell

Report from the December Meeting

Mike Foster introduced new members and visitors.

Joff Morgan talked about the NW Flower & Garden show, announced the next show meeting, and had sign-up sheets for shifts during the show. He described our display and how it fit into this year's show theme of "Art in Bloom". We will

have a giant painter's palette and the display will be called 50 Shades of Orchids.

Ellen and Michael Covey were on hand to demonstrate their orchid perfumes. Ellen gave a lively and interesting talk about her orchid fragrances including her long-standing interest and scholarly background in scents. It was fascinating to hear of how she gets inspired to create the various perfumes and then how she formulates them using essential oils, absolutes, tinctures, and other natural materials.



A charming moment when Leanna, wearing a beret, demonstrates an artist's palette and show handouts



The Pot Luck dinner was a big success. We all enjoyed both the food and camaraderie of the large turnout of members. Throughout the evening, everyone voted for their favorite plant competing for the two trophies. Beautiful holiday decorations all over the room brought a festive mood to the evening. Another highlight of the evening came as each member selected their gift orchid plant.

Photos courtesy Diane Drisch



A large turnout, enjoying the dinner, beautiful decorations, lovely gift plants, voting for trophies and checking out the gift plants.

And now here are the contestants for the **Schoenfeld Trophy** (best blooming plant of any size as determined by each member's personal aesthetic):



Dendrobium Princess 'Asai'



Lycaste skinneri



Pleurothallis linguifera



Oncidium

and the winner is:



Rhynchostylis gigantea 'Burgundy Wine' x self



Mike Foster and Donna Pierce holding the Schoenfeld Trophy along with their beautifully grown *Rhynchostylis*

If you'd like to learn more about *Rhynchostylis*, check out the current issue of ORCHIDS, the bulletin of the AOS, January 2014. *Rhynchostylis* is the Orchid of the Month with an article by Thomas Miranda starting on page 12.

Here are the contestants for the **Rebecca T. Northen Trophy**
(best blooming plant that is 6 inches or less in height, excluding the bloom spike) :



Bulbophyllum alagense



Pleurothallis ornata



Pleurothallis rubella
(modesta)



Oberonia japonica



Diodonopsis erinacea

and the winner is:



Masdevallia asterotricha



Mike presents Andy Wright the
Rebecca T. Northen Trophy

Schedule of Upcoming Events

January 13, 2014 - Live AOS Judging: The Judges will evaluate plants in front of us at our meeting, explaining what they look for and how awards are determined.

January 16, 2014 - Show Committee Meeting - 6:30 p.m. at Chris Peterson's home. Join us to help work on the upcoming NW Flower & Garden Show. Contact Joff or Chris for directions.

February 5-9, 2014 - NW Flower & Garden Show, Washington State Convention Center, Seattle

February 10, 2014 - Abigail Chang: Recent Orchid Award Winners

March 10, 2014 - Annual Orchid Auction

March 17, 2014 - Annual Potting Clinic

April 14, 2014 - NWOS meeting

April 26, 2014 - Tentative date for NWOS Volunteer Day at the Zoo

May 12, 2014 - NWOS meeting

June 9, 2014 - NWOS meeting, Pot Luck Dinner and Gary Baker Service Award

Reminder for Officers & Board Members

The schedule of Board Meetings for the rest of this fiscal year is: 1/7/14, 3/4/14 and 5/6/14. Meet at 7 p.m. at Mike Cory's house unless notified that it's been moved elsewhere.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are no Special Announcements this month.