

Western North Carolina Orchid Society  
PO Box 874  
Asheville, NC 28802-0874

## Calendar of Events

**Jan. 15** – CAO – Ches Lyons-*Judging and Showing Orchids*

**Feb. 8-10**— **SCOS Show**– Riverbanks Zoo  
Set up Thursday Feb 7th

**Feb. 19** – CAO – Matt Richards-*Fuqua Orchid Center-Behind the scene of the Orchid Center-Atlanta.*

**Feb 27-Mar.2**—**NCPOS** Charlotte  
Merchandise Mart Setup Monday Feb 26

**Mar. 18** *Show Discussion*

**April** - *Possible field trip to Mark Reinke Greenhouse in Walhalla, SC*

# WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

*Volume 14 Issue 1*

*January 9, 2008*



**January 15, 2008**  
**CAO**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Ches Lyon**  
***“Judging and Showing Orchids”***

## Its Time to Pay Your Membership Dues

Dues are \$16 Single or Couple

### Treasurer's Report:

Checking account Balance as of 9 Jan 2008: \$8,273.76

CD: \$7,276.33

Total: \$15,550.09

## WNCOS Board Meeting Minutes

### Minutes of WNCOS Board Meeting – 18 December 2007

President Ralph Coffey called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Attending: Graham Ramsey, Bob Benites, Ginny Honea, June Wilbanks and Vickie Patrick.

A motion was made by Bob Benites to approve the minutes from the November Meeting. Graham seconded and the motion carried.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT

Checking Account Balance: \$6065.62

CD Balance: \$7,217.24

#### OLD BUSINESS

The new by-laws were approved at the Christmas Party. Bob will review the by-laws for accuracy and then have them posted on the web site.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A motion was made by Bob Benites to change the meeting time from the third Tuesday to the second Sunday of each month. Seconded by Graham Ramsey. Motion carried.

A discussion ensued regarding moving the location of meetings, from the CAO building to Asheville Eye Associates, owned by Dr. Ed Isbey and Associates. Bob is planning to visit Asheville Eye to examine the two areas in the building amenable to a group our size and report back next month.

The WNCOS meets the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:00 pm at Community Action Opportunities (see map), unless otherwise announced. The Society Board meets at 6:00 pm prior to the General Meeting. Meetings are open to all members. General meetings are open to the public.



Community Action Opportunities  
25 Gaston St. Asheville 28801  
828-.252-.2495

West of St. Joseph Hospital between McDowell St. and South French Broad Ave. The cross street is Choctaw St. From Choctaw turn onto Congress St. The first street on the right is Gaston St.

The newsletter can also be found on our website  
<http://www.WNCOS.org>

#### OFFICERS & DIRECTORS:

President- Ralph Coffey	253-2553	<a href="mailto:innkeeper@whitegate.net">innkeeper@whitegate.net</a>
Vice Pres. - Graham Ramsey	658-0112	<a href="mailto:g_ram@yahoo.com">g_ram@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary- Vicki Patrick	628-5458	<a href="mailto:vpatrik@charter.net">vpatrik@charter.net</a>
Treasurer- Bob Benites	253-3945	<a href="mailto:benites@cs.unca.edu">benites@cs.unca.edu</a>

#### BOARD MEMBERS:

Ginny Honea	628-4880	<a href="mailto:yah0447@aol.com">yah0447@aol.com</a>
June Wilbanks	658-0618	<a href="mailto:juneworchids@yahoo.com">juneworchids@yahoo.com</a>
Gerry Hils	683-9054	<a href="mailto:sherryngerry@yahoo.com">sherryngerry@yahoo.com</a>

#### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Frank Salvo	253-2553	<a href="mailto:innkeeper@whitegate.net">innkeeper@whitegate.net</a>
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## WNCOS Board Meeting Minutes Con't

Dr. Isbey would require WNCOS to purchase liability insurance. Graham has obtained a quote of approx. \$750.00 per year which would cover the Society for any function. He is planning to look into AOS to see if there is a national service available. After more research, discussion will continue at the next meeting

### UPCOMING SHOWS

SCOS – Columbia – February 8-10, 2008

NCPOS – Charlotte – February 27-March 2, 2008

Volunteers are still needed to put in the show and take out.

### HOSPITALITY

A list will be passed around in the near future for volunteers.

### 2008 Program Schedule

Jan. 15 – CAO – Ches Lyons-Judging and Showing Orchids

Feb. 19 – CAO – Matt Richards-Fuqua Orchid Center-Behind the scene of the Orchid Center-Atlanta.

Mar. 18 – CAO – Show Discussion

April - Possible field trip to Mark Reinke Greenhouse in Walhalla, SC

May – TBA

June – TBA

July – TBA

Aug. – TBA

Sept. – Annual Auction

Oct. TBA

Nov. - Annual Meeting

Dec. – Holiday Social

Graham is working to fill the vacant slots with new and different speakers.

### ANNUAL SHOW – MARCH 28, 29, 30 – ISLAND OF ORCHIDS

Ginny suggested giving Gerry an additional \$100.00 toward hospitality, and to create a new category for publicity with a \$300.00 budget. The additional \$400.00 would increase the total budget to \$4000.00.

(No motion was made or seconded concerning these two issues and needs to be done at the next meeting.)

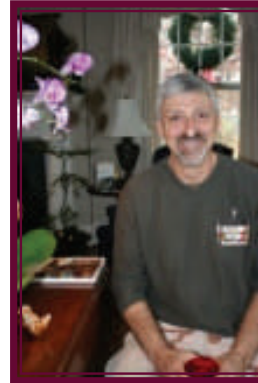
Bob Benites motioned to adjourn, seconded by Ginny. The meeting adjourned at 7:10pm.

Respectfully submitted

Vickie Patrick

## Meet Our Members By Leslie Ann Keller

### Steve Jaffe



New member Steve Jaffe is a native Long Islander with a wealth of knowledge, having received degrees in Horticulture and Entomology from Cornell University. He also pursued graduate work at Central Michigan in outdoor education.

Upon returning to New York, Steve was hired by Cornell to oversee educational services for the nursery industry of Long Island. He was one of the first entomologists to be certified in New York State for pest control. In later years he also taught greenhouse management, floral design and conservation to high school students.

Steve opened his first flower shop in Buffalo, NY, in 1978. In 1985 he exchanged the inclement weather of Buffalo (go figure?) for sunny Florida. Moving to Orlando in 1985, he subsequently owned two popular floral establishments. Chasing a lifelong dream, he sold his businesses in 2005 to move to north Florida to become a gentleman farmer. When the daily chores of feeding dairy goats and chickens became a reality, Steve hightailed to our beautiful mountains and has now returned to his first love—flowers.

He has just opened Merrimon Florist in a much needed location close to downtown and north Asheville. Steve currently grows orchids at home, on counter tops and window sills, but hopes to raise a greenhouse in the coming year. We welcome his talents in floral design and thank him in advance for his help on our upcoming show.

## Growing Tips for January

### Growing Tips for January

By

Courtney T. Hackney

EMAIL at [Hackneau@bellsouth.net](mailto:Hackneau@bellsouth.net)

Many orchid hobbyists are frustrated by orchids that send their newest roots into an adjacent pot instead of their own which contains the exact same medium. Maybe your orchids wondering roots are trying to tell you something? Generally, plants allocate energy to grow new roots only when they are not getting enough water or nutrients. The one exception to this generalization occurs in epiphytes, i.e. plants that grow attached to trees or rocks, including

epiphytic orchids. Epiphytes have one additional demand of their roots; to keep the orchid from falling from the tree or rock where it germinated.

Epiphytes need to remain attached to something solid. While aerial roots can also take up water and nutrients, their primary purpose is to keep the orchid from falling from its perch. Aerial roots are generally thinner than roots in the pot and, once attached, may become flattened to provide more attachment surface area. These roots will become soft and green when they have been continually wet for 10 minutes or so. Only in that condition will they absorb water. Orchids grown in very open media or mounted require prolonged soaking before their roots will be capable of absorbing water and nutrients. There are some orchid species that do not have leaves, but obtain their energy from chlorophyll in their roots.

One large Angraecum in my collection that was getting relatively tall for its pot was repotted last year and moved to a stepbench. Where the orchid was close to the wood backing of the bench, new roots quickly emerged from the stem and grew laterally, directly toward the back of the bench. Roots emerging on the more lighted side of the Angraecum grew directly down into the lava rock in the pot. New roots were responding to the swaying of the orchid in the pot and trying to attach to a firm surface. Roots that attached to the back of the bench flattened and remained hard, while those that penetrated into the pot became more thickened and soft below the surface.

Remember that wandering roots are the orchid's response to "insecurity" and do not require psychiatric help. This is more normal for some orchid groups than others, but is common. When this phenomenon is observed in orchids that appear secure in their pots there may be another cause, typically a sour or decomposing medium. Your orchid is looking for water and nutrients elsewhere because the medium has become too acidic and/or the orchid's roots have died. If you notice this on a plant that should have a good root system, gently lift the plant to be sure it has a good root system and check the medium in which it is potted. That should tell you if there is a problem.

Then there are species, clones, or hybrids that are more prone to this than others and will do the same thing in all media and to all growers. In phals, the tendency seems to be noteworthy in hybrids with large doses of *Doritis pulcherimma*. Note that this species will soon be listed as a member of the *Phalaenopsis* thanks to Christensen's revision of the genus. Thus, in lists of orchid hybrids there will soon be no *Doritanopsis* hybrids, only *Phalaenopsis*.

This month marks the beginning of a new chapter in my orchid growing, but one I and many of you have experienced before; moving! My orchids are tired of long winter nights and yearn for life in the tropics so we are moving there, "almost". Expect to be hearing about the joy of building permits, moving shock, learning to grow with new water, etc as I learn to grow orchids all over again.

## **IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

2008 will bring significant changes to the WNCOS. Discussions at the Annual meeting in November and a show of hands at the Christmas party in December indicated an overwhelming majority of members favored returning to a Sunday Afternoon for our meetings. The board voted unanimously at the December 18th meeting to change the meeting time to 2:30pm on the second Sunday of the month. The January and February meeting will be at CAO at the normal time.

The Board has also been looking at alternative sites for the meeting. Increased membership and interest in our speakers has created space issues at CAO.

Dr. Ed Isbey has volunteered his office and once liability issues are resolved we hope to start meeting there in March. It's a large space that will accommodate up to 100, close to I-40 just off Sweeten Creek Road, and easy to find. Look for the details in the next newsletter.

### **Christmas Party**

42 members and guests attended the WNCOS Christmas Party on December 9th at the 1889 WhiteGate Inn. Everyone enjoyed the great food and fellowship and went home with an orchid to celebrate the year

### **Upcoming Orchid Shows**

Thanks to all who have volunteered to do the Orchid shows coming up in Columbia, SC and Charlotte, NC. 2 Veterans and 7 "newbies" will be learning and having fun with these to shows.