

Richmond Orchid Alliance

We are all about Orchids!

January 2010

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Jim Creech, Layout Editor
and Photography

ROA4U@RichmondOrchidAlliance.org

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Birthdays

Van Williams	1/12
John Andrako	1/19
Michael Chambliss	1/19
Randy Schonk	1/20
Kay Rafner	1/22
John Giragosian	1/26
Susan Bryant	1/31

Happy Birthday to you!



ROA Bulletin



Art Chadwick in the greenhouse

Gorgeous Cattleyas

The program for January 17 features Art Chadwick talking on the subject of Large Flowered Cattleyas. Art's father has been a prolific author of articles on large flowered cattleya species and has written many articles on them for the AOS magazine Orchids. Art co-authored the definitive book on the subject with his father (the top expert in the field).

Art owns Chadwick Orchids in Powhatan where many of us have bought plants. He now has 10 greenhouses and a retail store at 203 N. Belmont in Richmond. Many people that cannot grow orchids in their own environment but love to have them or who do not have the time to care for them can board their plants at his greenhouses. At present he is boarding about 13,000 plants. Recently, he has been the subject of a

Q and A in Richmond Magazine while his business was featured in Southern Living Magazine

Art has spoken to ROA on several occasions and we have learned a lot about the plants and their culture. He will be bringing plants for sale so you will have the opportunity to own some of his crosses.

Art has named four of his crosses after the last four First Ladies and has pictures taken of him presenting the plant to them. He has spoken in international meetings in France and Australia.

See you January 17th at the Science Museum of Virginia.

-Wanda Andrako

**Jan. 17 at the Science Museum of VA Program starts at 2:00 PM.
To be considered for judging, plants for the Showcase
need to be on the table by 1:40**

Bring a Friend to ROA:

Start the New Year off right by bringing a friend to the January meeting! Every member that brings a friend to the January meeting will receive a special gift! Think about folks you know that are interested in learning more about orchids, and get them to come with you to the meeting. We'll see you AND your friends there!

Barbi

Upcoming Events

January 17

Gorgeous Cattleyas, A.E. Chadwick, Chadwick and Son Orchids

February 14

Joe Mathias

March 14

Focus on Show Table: Critiquing Plants

April 11

The Vanilla Orchid, Janis Ranck

May 2

Living Gems: Miniature Orchids, Linda Wilhelm, Woodland Orchids

June 13

TBA

July

No Program

August 8

Picnic, Wanda Andrako's home

September 12

Blooming Plant Auction

October 10

Semi-Hydroponics, Tom Voytilla

November 14

Social with a mini-program on record keeping of plants

ROA activities and speakers emphasize the how-to and hands-on aspects of growing orchids.

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ROA Bulletin

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President's Message

2010 – Make it a year that you resolve to learn everything about your growing conditions. Once you have mastered this (I'm still learning), your orchids will thrive. Attend all of our programs, ask the members with great plants about how they grow (I always do this), and get involved!!! You learn so much when you are involved because people share what they have tried and what has worked for them!

Happy 2010 – I'll see you on the 17th – bring a guest and your blooming orchids.

Valli Laneve

Board Retirement: Thuyen Trevino

Thuyen Trevino is a Board member that is leaving this year. As a charter member, she has been active with ROA since our beginning. Thuyen has worked the membership desk and volunteered for every activity we have done to either raise funds or raise the visibility of ROA to plant lovers.

Thuyen was on the Board and saw how many jobs I was juggling when we had fewer members able or willing to take positions. She offered to take over the programming duties and what a relief that was for me! She has always been helpful in whatever needed doing. Have you seen the plants she brings to the Show Table? She grows under lights and does a beautiful job. There is hardly a meeting that she doesn't bring goodies for the Refreshment



What a joy it is to have active, loyal members who are willing to hold office and help when ever and where ever needed. Thanks Thuyen for the great programs these last two years and for all your hard work.

- Wanda Andrako

The Atrium at the Science Museum

Our rental contract with the Science Museum of Virginia requires ROA to maintain the museum's atrium. Currently, we are limited in what can be accomplished in the atrium, but once the shark exhibit leaves on January 4th, we will need to re-establish its appearance. We need:

- a power washer that we can use 3 to 5 times in January and February
- plants (Christmas cactus, palms, ferns)
- soil (for repotting existing plants)

The museum staff has admired our work. Please call Valli (360-1625).



Bill Akin

Board of Directors

Valli Laneve
President

Judy Craggs
Treasurer

Nancy Thompson
Secretary

Wanda Andrako
Publications Director

Committee Chairmen

Michael Chambliss
Showcase Judging

Barbi Partlow
Membership

John Hutcheson
Refreshments

Buddy Harvie
Library

Betty Essex
Affiliated Societies

Ed and Nancy Bryce
Raffle

Van Williams
Programs

Roger Horman
Publicity

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Board Retirement: Bill Akin

Bill Akin, founding President of Richmond Alliance 2005-2006 has made the decision to retire from the Board. Bill was very involved in establishment of the foundation on which the Alliance operates today. As I write this I can't think of one thing that Bill has not helped to develop, design or establish with and for ROA. He led the initial Board through the many issues that arose getting the organization off the ground and functioning. Many hours were spent writing the constitution and by-laws, preparing paperwork for our 501c 3 status and the LLC, applications, recruiting materials and budgets.

Bill developed the repotting program and developed the streamlined system used for our auction. He located excellent sources of a variety of plants to be auctioned. He organized our participation at the Maymont Flower and Garden Show and our display there was outstanding. Our relationship with the Great Big Greenhouse was developed because Bill cultivated a working relationship with Margo and the staff.

We participated successfully in many State Fairs and the driving force was always Bill. When volunteers could not be found Bill on many occasions labored tirelessly. He was supportive of each Board member and always respectful. Of course, he was supported in all these activities by his wife Sue (who also was a founding member and treasurer for several years). They both put in many hours to make this organization a success. Sue left the Board two years ago. Sue was always by his side assisting in all activities of the organization. Both were tireless in their support of all our activities. Please take the time to express your gratitude to Bill and Sue for everything they have contributed to this great organization.

We thank you for everything that you accomplished!



For more information about the membership benefits of joining AOS go to www.aos.org.

A Special Thank You

A Special "Thank You" goes to Dick Seltzer for donating divisions of his Phaius tankervillae (Nun's orchid) for our new members. This plant originated from China and during the 18th century arrived in Florida. It is so named for its hooded flower. I have several unclaimed plants, from our November program. Please see Valli to claim yours if you have not while the supply lasts!

Reminder

We have a couple of weeks left to finish making our charitable donations for 2009. We do hope that you will consider a gift for ROA this year. Times are tough for most organizations with the problems in the economy and ROA is no exception. Donations are tax free. The ability to get good speakers and have excellent educational programs depends on our ability to pay for them. Thank you.

Richmond Orchid Alliance is a 501 3C organization eligible for tax free donation status. Donations help pay for the programs and other expenses for activities for the members. Your donations are very much appreciated.

Thank You

I would like to thank Ronda Tignor for all of her help at the Membership/Sign In Desk this year! Thanks, Rhonda! Also, many thanks to Janis Ranck for taking the time to send out birthday cards to members.

Without our volunteers, we couldn't get things done! If you'd like to volunteer to help with the Membership Desk, please see Barbi at the January meeting.

Thanks!!

Barbi



C loddigesii 'Harford'sFavorite'

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2010 Showcase Rules

I thought a listing of the Show table rules for 2010 would be helpful to everyone.

1. Any orchid plant can be exhibited at the show table,
2. All plants need to be pest and disease free.
3. Participants must have owned the orchid for at least 6 months.
4. Any plant to be judged has to be on the show table with forms filled out 20 minutes prior to any meeting. This gives the judges time to make appropriated assessments.
5. Any plant brought in after the 20 minute window will not be judged, but will receive 1/2 point.
6. Points are as follows:
 - a. 1/2 point for any blooming orchid even if it is not able to be judged(just purchased, or another bloom on a plant brought in last month.
 - b. Awards are given for:
 - i. 1st place = blue ribbon = 3 points
 - ii. 2nd place = red ribbon = 2 points
 - iii. 3rd place = yellow ribbon = 1 point
7. Points are tabulated monthly and yearly.
8. Yearly awards are given based on number of points accumulated in a calendar year.
9. Yearly awards are given out at the Jan. meeting.

Awarded Categories Are:

- Cattleya
- Oncidium Alliance
- Dendrobium
- Phalanopsis
- Paphiopedilum/Phragmipedium
- Vanda Alliance
- All Other Genera
- Novice/New Orchid Grower
- Presentation.

If anyone has questions concerning these rules don't hesitate to contact Mike Chambliss, Shells3331@aol.com.

Bring your blooming plants for the enjoyment of all.

Show table contest for the January meeting.

There will be a \$25.00 gift certificate from Chadwicks Orchids, for the greatest number of blooming orchids brought in for the show table.

Who will be the winner? Thanks, Mike Chambliss

Membership dues

Membership dues should be paid by the January 17 meeting for the coming year. An application has been enclosed for your use.

Refreshments

Hi from the Refreshment committee

Refreshment's are being provided in January. Everyone can take it easy and just come and enjoy the wonderful presentation.

Thanks Mike and John.

Donations

If you have a favorite book on orchids and ROA does not have copy, consider purchasing a copy for our library. Your in-kind donation is tax deductible.

About This Bulletin

The Richmond Orchid Alliance meets at the Science Museum of Virginia, 2500 W. Broad Street, Richmond, at 2:00 P.M. of the second Sunday of each month from January through November. Yearly dues are \$25.00 per individual, or \$30.00 for a joint membership. Dues should be paid to the ROA Finance Director, Judy Craggs, P.O. Box 8682, Richmond, VA 23226.

The Richmond Orchid Alliance, LLC is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization. Any donations to ROA are tax deductible. We are affiliated with Orchid Digest and a member of the American Orchid Society.

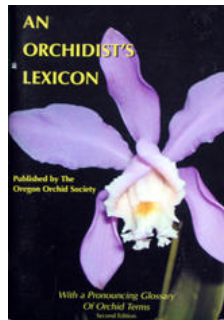
The ROA Bulletin is a publication of the Richmond Orchid Alliance and is distributed to the Society's members monthly, prior to all club meetings.

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ROA Library



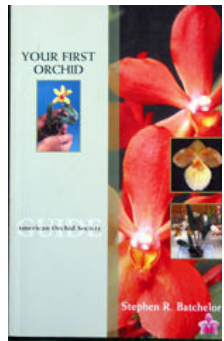
We all strive to take the best care of our orchids as we can but occasionally one shows signs of some strange malady. Is it pellagra? beri beri? rickets? We need to know what it is and what to do about it. The AOS pamphlet *Orchid Pests and Diseases* has the answer. It covers in clear terms cultural disorders, orchid pests, viruses and what to do about them. It covers the proper handling of pesticides. This pamphlet is truly the Dr. Spock of orchids.



The ROA library has a number of similarly informative pamphlets. For example:

An Orchidist's Lexicon published by the Oregon Orchid Society.

This booklet has a very good glossary with phonetic spelling and etymology. It lists multi-generic hybrids. It has lots of good information.



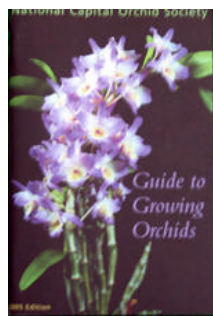
Your First Orchid published by the American Orchid Society. This is truly a pamphlet for the novice. It covers all cultural requirements for commonly grown orchids and suggests what types to grow for the conditions that the grower can provide. It covers that bane for the beginner – repotting. It also touches on pests and diseases. Every beginner should have a copy of this booklet.

Growing Orchids published by the American Orchid Society. This is the text for those who graduate from *Your First Orchid*. It covers the same material but in much greater depth. It also has a chapter on judging orchids.



Guide to Growing Orchids published by the National Capital Orchid Society. In addition to general culture this pamphlet covers growing orchids under lights. It discusses potting mixes, their advantages and their limitations. It also includes thumbnail cultural tips on a number of popular orchids.

The ROA library has a number of these pamphlets on hand for sale. Additional copies can be obtained if more are desired. Let the librarian know if you want any.



Finally, this report started with *Orchid Pests and Diseases* for a point of emphasis. Every orchid grower should have his or her own copy for immediate reference rather than waiting to check out the library copy

L.K. Harvie
Librarian



“We’re all about Orchids”
HELPING YOU TO LEARN & GROW

Membership Form

Please Print

New
 Renewal

Name		
Address		
Telephone		Yes *
Work		Yes *
Cell		Yes *
E-Mail		Yes *
Birth (M/D)		

* If you do not want certain contact information printed in our annual Membership Directory, please cross out the Yes for the appropriate information, but please provide them to us so we can reach you on ROA business.

Share with us your orchid experience

How long have you been growing orchids? 1-2 years ___ 3-10 years ___ 11+ years ___

How many plants are in your collection? 10 or less ___ 10-25 ___ 25-50 ___ over 50 ___

Mostly: cattleyas paphiopedilums phragmipediums phalaenopsis dendrobiums

cymbidiums vandas oncidiums others _____

Growing: under lights window-sill greenhouse other places _____

Volunteerism – Please call me to help

How would you like to participate? (Check all that you would like to be involved in)

Welcome Desk Education Program assistance Showcase judging Plant sales

Hospitality table Community events Orchid shows Leadership Resource cart Bulletin

Additional

How did you hear about our organization? _____

I would like programs on: orchid culture workshops breeding other _____

Do you belong to the American Orchid Society? yes Any other orchid organizations? _____

I would like to receive the newsletter by: email mail

Signed _____ Date _____

(Renewals are based on the calendar year)

Memberships are tax deductible

\$20 for individual

Send to:

P.O. Box 8682

\$25 for joint (same address)

Richmond, VA 23226

Revised 12/06

www.richmondorchidalliance.com

Growing Tips by Courtney Hackney



Board Retirement: Arline Murphy

Everyone knows Arline Murphy by now. She is the lady that has been in charge of judging and writing about the plants that were awarded. Arline is leaving the Board this year. Now she will be able to listen to the entire program. Dermot, her husband has been the photographer for the past several years. Arline and Dermot are both charter members of ROA.

Both Arline and Dermot are chemists that have a wide variety of interests. Arline is an artist; you have seen some of her work on the sign outside the door at our meetings and on the jars that were raffled at the November meeting. She is active in artist's association in town, is a master gardener that teaches classes for various groups in the area, and grows beautiful plants.

Dermot went on a trip to the Amazon last year and apparently had a great time. He is also in charge of the volunteers at the Science Museum of Virginia.

They have helped with the repotting and other activities as needed. We appreciate their work very much.

Thank you for everything!

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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 step bench. 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 *Doritis* 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,

(continued on page 8)

Address Changes

If you have moved, changed your telephone number or email address, please email Richmond Orchid Alliance with the change at ROA4U@RichmondOrchidAlliance.org or to P.O. Box 8682, Richmond, VA 23226.

We don't want your Bulletin to be delayed or not received. This is an important part of your membership.

Make Note

PLEASE note our email address is

ROA4U@RichmondOrchidAlliance.org

your records should be updated to reflect this change.

We're on the Web! Visit us at:

www.richmondorchidalliance.org

Growing Tips (continued)

“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.

Reprinted from January 2009

Interesting Website

The Orchid Board is an online forum on orchids and their culture. The address is www.Orchidboard.com. You are able to read about problems and successes others have had with various plants and their culture and also ask questions you may have. This is an interesting website.

Free Email Newsletter

Ryan Levesque has a free daily email newsletter with orchid tips and reminders. The signup can be found at www.orchidsmadeeasy.com. His explanations are clear and can be understood by anyone.



C lueddemanniana 'Arthur Chadwick' AM/AOS



Lc Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah' AM/AOS

ROA

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