



Next Meeting:  
**November, 4**  
**Karl Varian**

## WINTERIZING YOUR ORCHIDS

Most orchids grown by hobbyists are tropical in nature. That term was once thought to mean “hot and steamy” and tens of thousands of orchids imported to Europe in the 19th Century perished as a result.

Many tropical orchids prefer cool nights because they or their ancestors evolved in higher tropical elevations or were subjected to cool breezes during the day. There are some species that do come from hot and steamy places and the challenge for orchid hobbyists is to grow them all in one place, whether it is a windowsill or greenhouse.

Karl will tell us how to prepare our plants for winter. He became a Student Judge in October 2016 at the Dallas Judging Center living in Plano, Texas. He has been growing orchids since 1960 and his collection is a collage of warm and intermediate growing plants with a mild focus on Cattleya alliance, Dendrobiums, Encyclias, Phalaenopsis, Paphiopedilums, Phragmipediums, and Vandas.



## OFFICERS

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*Judy Cook*

**VICE PRESIDENT**

*Barbara McNamee*

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*Kathi McKenzie*

**TREASURER**

*Kathy Halverson*

**SWROGA DIRECTORS**

*Barbara McNamee*

*Linda Horton*

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

*David Gould*

**GNTOS WEBMASTER**

*Manuel Aybar*

**PAST PRESIDENT**

*Mike Beber*

# PLANT TABLE

*Nancy Cropp*

Oct. 7, 2018, Plant Table Judging Results

Judges: David Hines & Jim Williams

## CATTLEYA ALLIANCE (5 entries)

Blue – Bc. Angel Lace – Karl Varian

Red – C. Chocolate Drop

– Kathy Halverson

White – Slc. George Hauserman 'York'

– Gerry Darver

## DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS (6 entries)

Blue – Den. Candy Stripe – Dave Gould

Red – Coelogyne mayeriana

– George Bogard

White – Den. (unknown) – Gerry Darver

## ONCIDIUMS (4 entries)

Blue – Onc. Sharry Baby

– Kathy Halverson

Red – Brasso. Shooting Star 'Black Gold'

– Gerry Darver

White – Odcdm. Burgundian 'Too Sweet'

– Gerry Darver

## PAPHS & PHRAGS (3 entries)

Blue – Paph. Snowflake – Kathy McKenzie

Red – Paph. Song of Love – Karl Varian

White – Phrag. Inca Embers

– George Bogard

## VANDAS & PHALS (3 entries)

Blue – V. Pure's Wax – George Bogard

Red – Phal. heiroglyphica – Ashley Nguyen

White – Phal. Pylo's Slurpee – Dave Gould

## SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Hab. medusae – Karl Varian

Phal. heiroglyphica – Ashley Nguyen

## PEOPLES CHOICE

Phal. heiroglyphica – Ashley Nguyen

Not so many plants this month – only 21  
– maybe yours are in bud now and we'll  
see them in Nov.?

## GNTOS Plant Table Judging Point Standings through October

The top 10 out of 25 members who have  
exhibited plants so far this year (through  
October) - one month to go - who will the  
top 3 be after the November meeting?

- 1 - 61 points - George Bogard
- 2 - 46 points - Kathy Halverson
- 3 - 43 points - Judy Cook
- 4 - 37 points - Karl Varian
- 5 - 34 points - Kathi McKenzie
- 6 - 33 points - Linda Horton
- 7 - 32 points - David Gould
- 8 - 30 points - Gerry Darver
- 9 - 27 points - Ashley Nguyen
- 10 - 25 points - Manny Aybar

# ORCHIDS 101

*Kathi McKenzie  
& Lorna Kissling*

Orchids 101 classes are  
tailored to the begin-  
ning orchid grower.

Our topic this time:  
"Q&A"

We will meet in the  
greenhouse at 2:00  
for 30 minutes so we  
can discuss that and  
also get all questions  
answered in time for  
the meeting at 2:30.



# MINUTES

*Kathi McKenzie*

Barb called the meeting to order at 3:05.  
We had 26 in attendance, including 9  
guests.

Our program was "An Overview of SWRO-  
GA" (Southwest Regional Orchid Growers  
Association), and was presented by Charlie  
Hess. He explained SWROGAs structure  
and function.

We concluded the meeting at 4:15

# EVENTS

## UPCOMING SWROGA SHOWS

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10/26/2018 - 10/28/2018

**Pirate's Chest Of Orchids**

**Calcasieu Orchid Society Fall 2018 Show**

Good Shepherd Episcopal Church,  
Lake Charles Louisiana

11/03/2018 - 11/04/2018

**Kansas Orchid Society Fall Show**

Botanica The Wichita Gardens  
Wichita Kansas

04/20/2019 - 04/21/2019

**Tulsa Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale**

The Tulsa Garden Center, Tulsa OK

05/04/2019 - 05/05/2019

**Oklahoma Orchid Society Show and Sale**

Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Center  
Oklahoma City OK

09/13/2019 - 09/15/2019

**Galveston Bay Orchids Society SWROGA Show**

Hilton Houston NASA Clear Lake, Houston Texas

## UPCOMING AOS WEBINARS

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**Greenhouse Chat**

Ron McHatton

Open to all

Wednesday, November 7th, 2018

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EDT

Orchid Q&A

Must register for this webinar

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**Discovering the Orchids of Ecuador**

Nile Dusdieker

Thursday, November 15th, 2018

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

A look at the orchids of Ecuador in their  
native habitat

Must register for this webinar

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**Judging Vandas with Robert Fuchs**

Robert Fuchs

Wednesday, December 12th, 2018

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

What makes a great Vanda?

Must register for this webinar

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# VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE

Have you ever had a prized orchid, bloom just after the monthly meeting, or fade just beforehand? Favorite orchid won't flower for the shows or meetings? Now there is a place to show orchids that don't flower at the right time. (Also, if your plant bugs you can keep it home but still show the flowers.)

Just send your photos to: david@gouldcreative and subject "Orchid Photo". Tell us:

- Who the owner is
- What your plant is (Genus, species, variety, clonal name, synonym) if you know it
- Where you grow the plant (Greenhouse, back yard, window-sill, under lights, any combination)
- Any special notes (How you came to own plant, fragrance details, special cultural tips, history, raves, etc.)
- Who took the picture

\*Please feel free to include any information that you feel is interesting or helpful!

Submit your orchid photos to:  
david@gouldcreative  
and subject "Orchid Photo"  
for the newsletter



Madalyn Hernandez, two photos



Phrag. Acker's Ornament - Karl Varian

Encyclia cordigera var. rosea- Karl Varian



MORE  
VIRTUAL  
SHOW TABLE



*Phal bellina – Lorna Kissling*

*Phrag Lutz Rolke 'Charlotte' Lorna Kissling*



*Andean Treasure 'Paradise' - Judy Cook*

*Blc Hausermanns Holiday "Christmas" AM Judy Cook.*



# MORE VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE



Gerry Darver  
2 photos



*Catasetum Chuck Taylor* -WOW x *Ctsm. Louise Clark* -Simply Fantastic Male 2

George Bogard – 2 photos

*Ctsm. Pileatium v. Imperale Blood Red* X Susan Fucks 'Burgandy Chips' male





By Manny Aybar



Last Month I had the great honor to visit the Medellin Orchid Society Show in Medellin, Colombia. This was their 25th Anniversary show and it is currently the biggest orchid show in Latin America, drawing close to 16,000 people. Enjoy some of the plant material that I was able to judge!

If you ever have the opportunity to go, it coincides with the “Festival de las Flores” (Flower Festival), which is the biggest flower festival in Latin America as well.

Enjoy!

# DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

AOS Dallas Judging Center Sept. 8, 2018

Four plants entered for consideration, no awards given. GNTOS members are encouraged to bring their blooming orchids for judging - you might win an AOS award!

Planning is under way for the tri-center February seminar - watch for further information.

Visitors are always welcome!

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The Dallas Judging Center meets on the second Saturday of every month.

The next meeting is November, 10th at the Garland Senior Activity Center  
600 West Avenue A, Garland, TX 75040

11am. Everyone is welcome to bring plants or to just watch and learn.



*C.[Sc.]Amazing Match  
'Cutie Beauty'SBM JOGA  
presented for consideration.*



*Epc. Hanna Roberts 'Gold'  
presented for consideration.*

# LESSONS FROM THE KISATCHIE FOREST

Amid the usual flurry of activity focused around our society show seasons, it is easy to forget that the history of SWROGA is steeped in a concern for our local species of orchids. Our early conservation efforts were devoted mainly to documenting the native terrestrial orchid species



in each of our original seven state area. But the more our society members learned, the more we realized the need to support conservation at a

higher level, through sustaining and enhancing known, and mainly localized colonies of endangered species, particularly in lands already being protected.

Conservation efforts to introduce endangered species back into the wild have had mixed results, due to the special challenges involved in simply growing many of our

native terrestrial orchid species. The need for further research in this area quickly became apparent. As a result, the SWROGA Research Committee was formed in 2004 to provide funding and guidance in meeting this need. This committee, newly formed and chaired by Dr. Dick Jamison, set out to partner with existing conservation groups and literally provide the seed money for research.

The Research Committee's initial project was proposed by the Central Louisiana Orchid Society (CLOS) and was approved in 2006 at the 90th Directors meeting. The goal was to help jumpstart a project to restore the rare Kentucky Lady's Slipper Orchid (*Cypripedium kentuckiense*) to the Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) in central Louisiana. At this time these rare orchids were found in only four areas within the 600,000-acre National Forest.

In a tribute to the adage that one person can make a difference, the story of how this project got started is an amazing one. It was recounted in the introduction of

the final report issued in 2012:

*"This effort, to restore one of the most spectacular orchids native to the region, began with the initiative of a high school student. As a student and amateur botanist, Kevin Allen, located a flowering orchid on the KNF, caused it to be pollinated, and later collected a seed capsule. He sent the seed pod to Spangle Creek Labs in Bovey, MN, who are specialists in producing lady's slipper orchids. The seeds were determined to be fertile.*

*Allen approached KNF botanists with the idea of producing plants for reintroduction efforts on the KNF. Not having expertise in growing orchid seedlings to plantable size, KNF botanists approached the Forest Service Southern Research Station (SRS) and Central Louisiana Orchid Society (CLOS) for help in evaluating the potential for producing stock suitable for restoration efforts. Thus began a collaborative effort to develop protocols for producing Kentucky lady's slipper orchid seedlings with potential for reintroducing them into the KNF"*

At the 90<sup>th</sup> Directors meeting, SWROGA initially approved an

## ORCHID CONSERVATION UPDATE

by Charles and Trudy Hess

expenditure of \$1390, the amount needed to get 200 seedlings produced by Spangle Creek Labs. CLOS members used their own greenhouses to support various stages of the evaluations targeted at acclimating these seedlings to various greenhouse growing conditions. For orchid growers used to raising epiphytic seedlings in greenhouses, it was expected to be a straight-forward process. This proved not to be the case. The conditions required for the seedlings to thrive were difficult to determine. One of the first difficulties encountered was the weather. It became apparent that starting these in the month of May meant subjecting these seedlings to temperatures warmer than optimal for their survival. Experimenters found better results from a cooler environment outside in the shade during the hot summer months.

With funding from the KNF and the SRS, another 700 seedlings were ordered in 2007 to further understand the growing conditions needed. With seedling grown in cooler conditions upwards of 60% of the seedlings survived outside of their in vitro initial growth. However, questions about additional nutrients arose as continual growth was difficult to achieve.

More tests and variables were required when these seedlings were planted in the forest where conditions were known to be suitable for this species of *Cypripedium*



(presence of indicator species). Depth of planting (surface or subsurface), with or without nutritional additives (Osmocote), and dormancy period all were examined. The effects of each were reported but, still, nature throws its own variables into the mix and the drought conditions occurring during the evaluation times clouded the results.

The impact of mycorrhizal fungi on the survivability of the young plantlets was the last area to be studied. With no actual

identification of the associated fungi, the most popular approach was to add soil from the known orchid sites in a process called “fungal inoculation”. With the remaining 100 plantlets, tests were run using soil and humus from the existing sites of the *Cypripedium kentuckiense*. After 6 months in a greenhouse, the 50 inoculated planting showed a marked improvement over the 50 non-inoculated plants (52% vs. 35%).

The results of these evaluations were considered inconclusive but the direction for future work became clear to the SWROGA Research Committee. In 2010 SWROGA approved a proposal for an additional \$1,473 to provide Kevin Allen’s (by then a science teacher in Shreveport) training under the guidance of Dr. Lawrence Zettler at his unique DNA research laboratory at Illinois College. Dr. Zettler is one of the leading authorities on identification of fungal genera associated with specific orchids. This training along with grants from KNF and SRS provided the base for generating their own supply of seedlings to continue evaluations to be conducted by Allen’s honor chemistry students.

There is more than one kind of “seed” to plant and we can be proud of the efforts of SWROGA’s Research Committee to not only further the field of research but to encourage the next generation of students to focus on orchid conservation.

# ORCHID GROWING TIPS

by  
Courtney Hackney

A monthly growers  
advice column by  
Courtney Hackney.  
Hackneau@comcast.  
net

This column was written in humid coastal North Carolina and Florida, and the advice given should be adjusted to our climate.

## THE AGING ORCHIDIST



© AOS

There is a saying among orchid hobbyists that “there is no such thing as a greenhouse too large”. For those addicted to orchids this will not come as a shock. All of us constantly must limit our acquisitions or face the prospect of finding more growing space. It does not matter if one has 12 or 12 thousand orchids; there is always the need for more space.

Many of us “senior growers” like to think that we have mastered enough discipline to curate our collections so that the quality of the orchids is always improving. Favorites from long ago mingle with newly discovered special orchids so that it is difficult to find an orchid we like better. Even the super seedlings pur-

chased a few years before do not match favorites collected over the years.

There are a few such growers in every orchid club. They look over each speaker’s sales table very carefully and only rarely purchase an orchid. These few have mastered the art of orchid collecting. Each meeting they bring a few of their favorites for everyone to enjoy and take great pride in having found old or rare clones of special hybrids or species. Such a collection takes a lifetime to build.

One of the most heartbreaking tragedies I have observed over the years has come from visiting an old orchid-growing friend or an older hobbyist whose orchid

collection was well-known. In many instances, collections once carefully maintained had clearly exceeded the ability of their owner to take care of them. To see fantastic and rare orchids covered with scale or shriveled from lack of water is difficult.

Many great orchid collections were lost when their owners were rushed to a hospital or unable to spend time with their collection because of family illness. Snowstorms, power outages, and other devastating events seem to always occur during these times.

One famous South Florida orchidist, Robert Scully, Sr, turned his orchid busi-

# ORCHID GROWING TIPS

ness over to his son, Jones & Scully, Inc, and moved to Ocala, Florida. He selected only a small number of his famous clones to take with him; a number small enough to take care of in retirement. I always wondered which clones he selected given the fantastic collection from which he had to choose in his nursery.

At various times, I have tried to contemplate the dilemma of aging and reducing the size of my collection so that adequate care could be given to my favorite orchids. How does one reduce their collection from several thousand to a hundred or twenty-five. It came as some comfort to discover that Robert Scully, Sr., also could not resist adding a favorite clone or two each time he visited the family business in Miami such that his small greenhouse in Ocala was soon stuffed.

Clearly, even the strongest-willed orchid lovers among us cannot manage to slowly shrink their collection as they age. Helen Congleton, who passed away a few years ago, introduced me to a different approach. She maintained that



the orchids in her greenhouse did not really belong to her. She was just taking care of these treasures for awhile and was responsible for transferring them to others that would do the same.

Each time one of her cattleyas grew out of the pot, she would cut the lead three bulbs, pot the division and give the remaining bulbs in the old pot to an orchid growing friend that had expressed an interest in that orchid. She did the same with keikis of phals and cuttings or divisions for everything she treasured. Today, I am the guardian of a number of these plants and I try to do the same;

search for a suitable host to whom I will someday transfer the orchid.

Most of us prepare a will or let our loved ones know our wishes when we die, but often the orchids we so diligently collected and cared for are forgotten in that preparation. Recently, I made a list of my favorite orchids. Beside each plant is the name of someone I know that expressed an interest in the clone. In the case of some sudden event, my wish is that these be distributed to those named. So many great collections are lost or sold en masse as pot plants to people who do not appreciate how unique a special old clone is or the role a clone played in breeding today's magnificent hybrids.

The only way to ensure that others will be able to appreciate these special orchids in the future and add them to their collections is to share and be sure that there is someone designated to care for what was once very special to you. Today, my collection is full of orchids that came from special people I have known over the years and each time that orchid blooms I remember them. That is just a special benefit of being a host for "special orchids".

# SOCIETY HISTORY

The history of the GNTOS goes way back. In the mid-40s there were only three orchid growers in town: Eli Sanger of Sanger Brothers, which was Dallas' biggest department store at that time; Roy Munger, known for Munger Place and Munger Street, and Percy Larkin.

Margie Corn, a garden columnist, was the source of any orchid information they could find and she gave their names to a woman running Hardy's Seed Company, Mrs. Moses. They gathered at her house one day in 1946 and it was Mr. & Mrs. Polhemus, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Carter, Homer Baldwin, Percy Larkin and a young man from Waxahachie named Costalanus. They decided they would apply for AOS membership and started receiving the Bulletin and meeting monthly. More and more people started to show up and they elected Percy Larkin, Jr. their first president in 1947. This was the North Texas Orchid Society.

They held their first show in 1950 at the Marsh Kaiser Fraiser automobile agency on Ross Avenue. Jack Morris was president of the society and Homer Baldwin sent out invitations to everyone who grew orchids in Dallas. Invitations also went to the big orchid firms who would send representatives from around the country to the show. They had everyone sign a book that came to that show.

There was an incident

that year that upset several members of the North Texas Orchid Society, so several members chose to leave and form another society calling themselves the Dallas Orchid Society. Percy Larkin was one of the members who left to form the Dallas Orchid Society. This society was never sanctioned by the AOS.

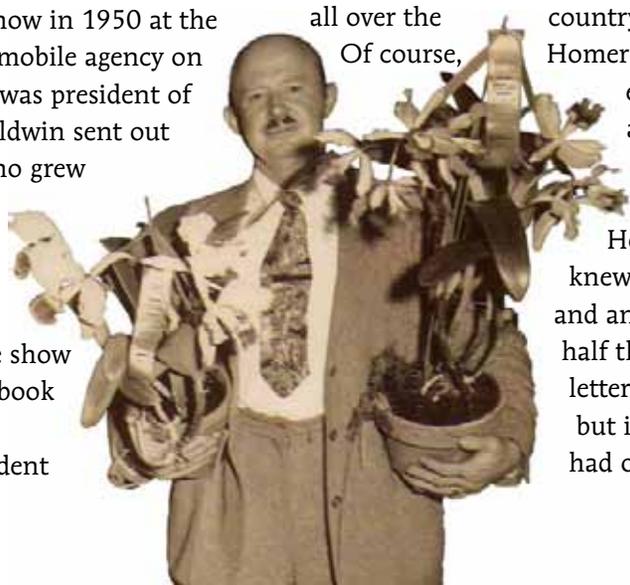
The following year with much encouragement from Homer Baldwin, most of the members from the Dallas Orchid Society came back to join the original society.

Later, they decided to become affiliated with the American Orchid Society so they wrote a Constitution and Bylaws for the society. On March 19, 1954, they were issued a charter by the AOS as the Greater North Texas Orchid Society.

They put on a show in the Dallas Garden Center but there weren't enough plants in the area so the bulk of the show was made up of boxes of blooms sent to them for free from commercial growers. They'd get five, six, or seven boxes of flowers from different growers from all over the country - even overseas.

Of course, Homer had mailed cards to everyone who had an ad in the Bulletin to achieve this.

Fortunately for Homer, Lena Baldwin knew how to type and she and another woman spent half the night writing letters on two typewriters but it worked and they had orchids for the show.



# MEMBERSHIP DUES

GNTOS membership dues are paid yearly by January 31, in order for you to be listed in the published Yearbook.

- \$30.00 - New or Renewing Member (individual)
- \$15.00 - Additional Member (each additional person in same household)

Please mail completed form with payment to:

Kathy Halverson  
1922 Baylor Drive  
Richardson, TX 75081

Make check payable to GNTOS.

New Member       Renewing Member

Name (#1): \_\_\_\_\_

Name (#2): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (#1): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail (#2): \_\_\_\_\_