



ORCHIDIST

Next Meeting:
Manuel Aybar
February, 3rd

TAIWAN PHALAENOPSIS BREEDING TRENDS

Manuel Aybar works in the Technology Industry. He is originally from the Dominican Republic (A grower's paradise, as he describes it). He has been growing orchids for approximately 26 years. The genus that got him started was Dendrobium in which he specializes (phalaenopsis-type).

Member of the American Orchid Society since 1997 and the Greater North Texas Orchid Society since 2000. Manuel is an Accredited Judge of the AOS Judging program, and serves currently as a Chair for the AOS Dallas Judging Center. His current research includes the orchids of the Dominican Republic, for which he has gone in numerous orchid collecting trips back to his home country. He has been exten-

sively involved in the judging of many shows around the US, including the Miami International Orchid Show and most of the southwest region (SWROGA) shows. He has also served as an international judge for Orchid Shows in Taiwan, Peru, Costa Rica, Colombia, as well as the World Orchid Conference in Miami, Singapore, South Africa, and Ecuador.

He is affiliated with SWROGA, and belongs to the publications committee and is Webmaster for the



site. He has given seminars and potting classes at several local, gardening stores. He offered workshops for the Range Rover, U.S. Destination Tour. He is a regular

lecturer for the local orchid societies and visiting speaker for societies around the country.

PRESIDENT*Linda Horton***VICE PRESIDENT***Tim Carr***SECRETARY***Barbara McNamee***TREASURER***Kathy Halverson***SWROGA DIRECTORS***Barbara McNamee**Linda Horton***NEWSLETTER EDITOR***David Gould***GNTOS WEBMASTER***Manuel Aybar***PAST PRESIDENT***Judy Cook*

PREZ LETTER

Linda Horton

Greetings to all. Even though we were closeup and personal at the last meeting, we had a wonderful time including our guests. Our SWROGA show is coming up and plenty of help is needed. I will be passing out the signup sheets for several timed positions which are important to the shows' success.

Please consider donating to the refreshments as we are not allowed to bring food from our own kitchens. I would also like to encourage members to purchase raffle tickets as this is one of our means to make money in support of our shows and meetings. The society must pay for out of town speakers transportation, hotel, etc. and that is expensive. In other words, it takes more than your dues to run the society. I feel strongly that this will be a growing year for GNTOS with a successful show and entertaining, informative speakers at our meetings.

Following is the itinerary for the show:

Location: *Richardson Civic Center*
411 W Arapaho Rd.
(use west entry)

Friday 3/8/2019

- Doors open for setup at 8am (parking closest to doors on west parking lot)
- Registration: plants & displays close at 12 noon
- Open to public at 12 noon – 5pm
- Judges dinner at Spring Creek BBQ at 5:30
- Ribbon judging at 7pm followed by AOS judging

Saturday 3/9/2019

- Doors open at 8am
- Open to public at 9am
- SWROGA committee meeting at 9am (room has not been designated as yet)
- SWROGA Directors meeting at 10am (everyone welcome, discover what SWROGA is all about)
- Dallas Judging Center training at 11am followed by judging @ 12:30
- Teardown 5pm

MINUTES

Barbara McNamee

New President, Linda Horton started the meeting at 2:45 by introducing herself, we had 33 attendees, several were visitors, they introduced themselves to the group. We met in a temporary space provided by Northhaven.

Member and newly elevated Associate Judge Tim Carr presented an excellent program on Laelia Anceps. Thank you Tim.

Linda called for volunteers for various GNTOS opportunities – thanks Tim and Carol:

- Orchids 101 – Tim Carr
- Hospitality – Carol Varian
- Greeter – open –

Linda then went on to discuss the upcoming show in March 8 & 9 at the Richardson Civic Center, she called for volunteers for the many jobs that will help make our show a success such as greeters incoming and exiting, helpers to carry plants/assisting the vendors, etc., clerks for ribbon judging (also may attend the judges dinner – not provided- \$10 fee).

Manny Aybar announced the upcoming Dallas Tri-Center Workshop (Dallas, Shreveport & Houston) February 9 at 8:30 am, he invited members to attend, there are 3 excellent speakers – Peter Linn from California, Fred Clarke and Roy Tokunaga, lunch is provided, registration is \$40.

David Gould asked for anyone interested in showing their greenhouse for a tour this Spring.

Nancy Cropp announced the plant table winners.

Linda/Manny conducted the plant raffle.

Linda adjourned the meeting at 4:15.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara McNamee

PLANT TABLE

Nancy Cropp

GNTOS Jan. 6, 2019
Plant Table Judging Results

Judges: Barbara McNamee & Jim Diffly

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE (17 entries)

Blue – Bc. Pastoral 'Innocence'

– Sarah Hardesty

Red – C. maxima – Charles Hess

White – C. Chocolate Drop – Karl Varian

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS (9 entries)

Blue – Phaiocalanthe – Karl Varian

Red – (Mo. Painted Desert

x Ctsm. barbatum) – Linda Horton

White – unknown Dendrobium

– Wendy Wang

ONCIDIUMS (2 entries)

Blue – Onc. Mendenhall – Charles Hess

Red – Wilsonara Firecat – Tim Carr

PAPHS & PHRAGS (9 entries)

Blue – Paph. Memnon – Judy Cook

Red – Peruflora Spirit – George Bogard

White – Paph. Leeanom – Judy Cook

VANDAS & PHALS (6 entries)

Blue – Angraecum eburneum

– Manny Aybar

Red – (V. Pon pimol x Asc. Yip Sum Wah)

– Mike Beber

White – Phal. Joy Fairy Tale

– George Bogard

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

C. maxima – Charles Hess

Medeocalcar decorata – Linda Horton

Angraecum eburneum – Manny Aybar

PEOPLES CHOICE

Angraecum eburneum – Manny Aybar

ORCHIDS 101

Tim Carr

Orchids 101 classes are tailored to the beginning orchid grower. Our topic this time:

“What Orchids Should I Grow in Dallas, Texas”

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.



GREATER NORTH TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY

Dues Due

IF YOU HAVEN'T PAID
YOUR GNTOS DUES FOR
THE NEW YEAR,
NOW IS
THE TIME.

BRING THEM TO
THE MEETING
OR MAIL THEM TO
KATHY HALVERSON
1922 BAYLOR DR.
RICHARDSON, TX
75081

GREENHOUSE TOUR?



Would you like to open your greenhouse up for all to visit and admire?

We will have a tour if we can get enough folks to show their greenhouse or growing area (not a greenhouse).

How about March 24th? The weather should be good and things will still be in bloom.

Let me know.

Dave

EVENTS

UPCOMING SWROGA SHOWS

2/09/2019 - 3/09/2019

Dallas Judging Center TriCenter Seminar 2019

Garland Senior Center, Garland, TX

3/08/2019 - 3/09/2019

**Greater North Texas Orchid Society Show
SWROGA Show**

Richardson Civic Center, Richardson, TX

03/22/2019 - 03/24/2019

Alamo Orchid Society's Show and Sale

San Antonio Garden Center, San Antonio Texas

04/06/2019 - 04/07/2019

Houston Orchid Society Show and Sale

Memorial City Mall, Houston Texas, Harris County

04/12/2019 - 04/13/2019

C.L.O.S. Spring Show

Kees Park Community Center, Pineville LA

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

UPCOMING AOS WEBINARS

Growing Cymbidiums

George Hatfield

Wednesday, February 13th, 2019

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

Learn how to grow cymbidiums

Must register for this webinar

Greenhouse Chat February 2019

Ron McHatton

Tuesday, February 26th, 2019

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

Orchid Q&A

Choosing the best plants

Lois Cinert

Tuesday, March 12th, 2019

8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST

How to pick a good orchid

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.

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.)

*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



Lc. Mary Elizabeth Bohn
'Royal Flare'
– Mike Beber



C. Chia lin 'Beauty'
- Mike Beber



Trichocentrum stramineum – Lorna Kissling



Ascoc. curvifolium – Lorna Kissling

MORE
VIRTUAL
SHOW TABLE



C. percivalia 'Summit'
– David Gould



Phrag of Maria – George Bogard

George Bogard



Lc.Lorraine Shirai 'Raye' –
David Gould



DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

Four plants entered for consideration, one award given:

Barkeria Friederike Kuehl 'With Love'

(Rebecca Marsh x Oaxacan Showers)

AM 82 points

Owner: Robert Marsh, Garland

Visitors are always welcome!

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

The next meeting is February, 9th at the Garland Senior Activity Center
600 West Avenue A, Garland, TX 75040.

This month we are hosting the Tri-Center Workshop. The topic is Dendrobiums and there will be three presentations by experts who will also bring plants for sale.

Preregistration is required and it costs \$40 to attend.



A TEXAS ORCHID GETS A BOOST FROM SOCIAL MEDIA

Yes, indeed, there really is such a thing as an orchid that is native to Texas. In fact, there are several species native to this area. One of them, the *Hexalectris warnockii*, has been well-known here in the southwest for many years. It is named after botanist Barton Warnock, whose name appears on many botanical specimen samples in the herbarium at the Fort Worth's Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT).

Pop Quiz: What is the official orchid of our Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association? I bet you got it right! The *H. warnockii* image is part of our Southwest Regional Orchid Growers' (SWROGA) official logo, but you may be excused from knowing that if you have not yet seen our logo. Its usage is as hard to find these days as the actual orchid itself.

We in the Dallas area are lucky, however, to be able view this species locally. Dr. Warnock discovered it in the Chisos mountains of the Big Bend National Park in 1937, and it was later found lo-

cally in Dallas county. It is viewed annually during the summer months during the annual survey of *Hexalectris* orchids led by the *North Texas Master Naturalists'* Stephanie Varnum.

The growing popularity and importance of this annual survey, conducted since 2006, coupled with the rarity of the *H. warnockii*, inspired Varnum along with another master naturalist, Dana Wilson, to solidify the name recognition of this local orchid with the North Texas region and all of the many orchid lovers in this area. This would be achieved by commissioning the creation of an *H. warnockii* Orchid-Gami model and having it sponsored by North Texas Orchid Lovers.

Many of us are familiar already with the Orchid-Gami model of the widely found *H. spicata* funded by SWROGA in support of the Smithsonian's North American Orchid Conservation Center. This new orchid model, however, will be supported by GoFundMe and this will be the first time crowd sourcing has been used as a source of fundraising for these

models.

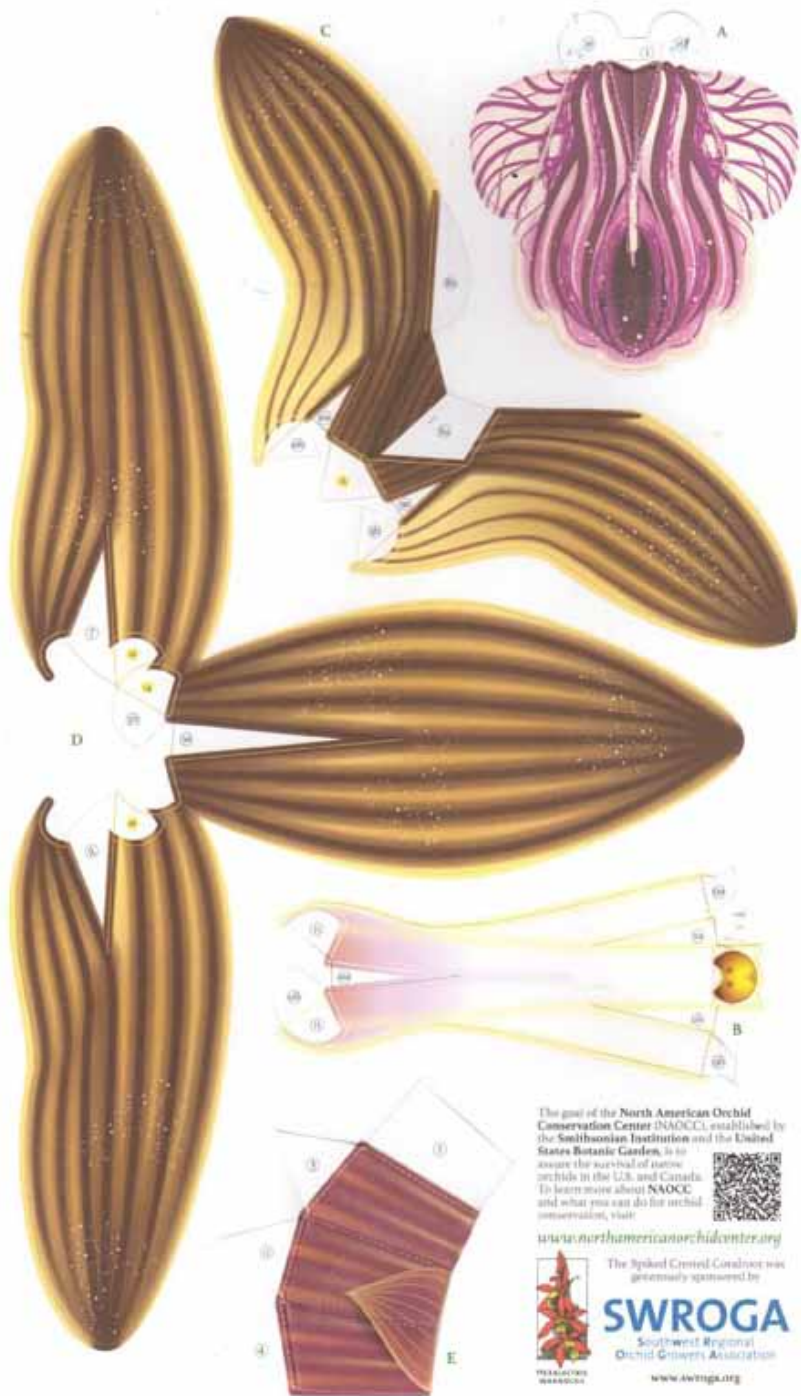
The genius of this arrangement is that we can all easily help sponsor our Texas orchid model. Orchid-Gami is a valuable educational tool for helping to raise public awareness of our native orchids. Children love working with paper and creating 3-D objects with paper, scissors and glue. Adults will also enjoy getting in on the act. Orchid-Gami sheets come with instructions, the pieces are die-cut, so they can be punched out (carefully!) and then assembled into a



realistic model of the actual plant. A contribution of any amount (even a single dollar) is easily ac-

ORCHID
CONSERVATION
UPDATE

by Charles
and Trudy Hess



complished on-line, and every dollar helps. Who knows? This may create a new trend of crowd-sourcing for Orchid-Gami models so let's all help it be successful. Simply visit: <https://www.gofundme.com/north-texas-orchid-lovers-love-h-warnockii>, and make a donation. Then be sure to spread the word by sharing with your social media friends!

The key to the success is a “knock-out” project description in GoFundMe. Varnum and Wilson have produced such an intriguing description that we are including it here: *Each summer, North Texas Orchid Lovers venture into the woods in search of the rare Hexalectris orchids, leafless orchids that depend on fungi to survive. This survey is a great hands-on experience - being nose to nose with those gorgeous flowers, including the Texas Purple Spike (Hexalectris warnockii), as you count and measure them. Another great hands-on way to learn about orchids - those native to Texas as well as across North America - is to build your very own orchid-gami, a 3D orchid model created by the North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC), based at the Smithsonian Institution's Environmental Research Center (SERC).*

What is orchid-gami? The North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC), developed orchid-gami as a fun activity to raise awareness about the conservation and ecology of our native orchids. With a variety of shapes and colors, these realistic 3D models are a unique way for naturalists of all ages to learn about our native orchids and the challenges they face.

Designed by Dutch artist Maarten Jans-

sens (www.3eyedbear.com), orchid-gami made its international debut at the Kunstsommer Arts Festival in Germany and was the featured exhibit at the Conservation through Creativity orchid show in Hawaii. Already popping up in classrooms and orchid shows across North America, we invite you to help us create a new orchid-gami - the Texas Purple Spike (Hexalectris warnockii)!

We - North Texas Orchid Lovers - have the opportunity to celebrate this orchid we've come to love first-hand. Our campaign will enable NAOCC to design and produce the Texas Purple Spike (Hexalectris warnockii) as an orchid-gami model which will be used for educational outreach on both the national level by NAOCC and in our own orchid projects here in Texas. Our success will be recognized on each of the models: “The Texas Purple Spike was generously sponsored by North Texas Orchid Lovers”.

AND IN EXCITING NEWS, an anonymous donor (and talented orchid hunter) has offered to match the first \$1,500 of donations to the campaign. Thank you, friend!

For more information about orchid-gami, click on the orchid-gami tab at the top of the NAOCC homepage, <https://northamericanorchidcenter.org>. For information about this GoFundMe initiative and the annual orchid survey in north Texas, please contact Dana Wilson (danawilson59@yahoo.com) or Stephanie Varnum (sasvarnum@gmail.com).

The goal of the North American Orchid Conservation Center (NAOCC), established by the Smithsonian Institution and the United States Botanic Garden, is to secure the survival of native orchids in the U.S. and Canada. To learn more about NAOCC and what you can do for orchid conservation, visit www.northamericanorchidcenter.org



The Spiked Crested Godwit was generously sponsored by



SWROGA
Southwest Regional
Orchid Growers Association
www.swroga.org

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.

GROWING PAPHIOPEDILUMS IN LAVA ROCK

Winter is the time when spikes from the multiflora Paphs in my collection suddenly appear. Paphs are not a group of orchids that I used to have in my collection, but gifts over the years brought the occasional Paph that would flourish for awhile and then suddenly decline because I did not repot them frequently enough. After reading an article on Paphs in their natural habitat, I realized that they typically grow in limestone outcrops so high acidity in decaying media seemed like a logical explanation for the decline in growth as the medium degraded.

A visit from Paul Phillips confirmed what I suspected; dolomite limestone aided Paph growth and was discovered long ago by English Paph growers. For many years, I added pelletized lime to my Paphs every month or so. If I forgot, I would notice a change in leaf color on a few Paphs that would prompt me to add lime. Within a week, I could see the color change in my Paph leaves reverted to its normal light green color. With this regimen, I could go a year without repotting, but still the medium degraded too quickly for my taste.

Perhaps Paph lovers enjoy repotting,

but those of us that grow cattleyas find repotting a chore; hence, my search for another medium. The use of lava rock as a medium for Paphs was almost accidental. A large plant of Paph Lady Isabel fell off the bench and a growth broke off leaving its roots behind. I threw the growth into a clear plastic pot, which immediately fell over from the weight of the plant. I was experimenting with lava rock for my cattleyas at the time, so I threw a handful of lava rock into the pot to keep it from tipping over and set it among the other Paphs with the intention of repotting as soon as I got some Paph mix. Needless to say, I forgot about the plant until I saw a large spike emerging on the Paph bench. When I lifted the plant the root system had almost filled the bottom of the pot and there were two new growths.

Rock does not seem like a medium that Paphs would like because Paphs like constant moisture in their medium. They have fine roots, which dry out quickly. How could they survive in rock? As I experimented with lava rock as a medium it became clear that lava rock had an ability to absorb a large quantity of water once it had weath-



Paph sanderiana growing in lava rock

ORCHID GROWING TIPS

ered. Initially, I used pea sized lava rock right out of the bag, but would find a layer of fine, red sand at the bottom of the pot after a few months. Paphs in this mix often had dead roots similar to situations where the medium had degraded.

After several iterations it became clear that the lava rock had to be weathered by soaking in water for a few weeks or left outside to loosen the fine grains of sand from the porous surface. This is not necessary with most rock materials. Also, it was clear that larger size lava rock was necessary to allow enough air movement around the roots. Half inch diameter worked best, although in larger pots one inch diameter or larger is placed in the bottom to increase drainage.

Dolomite lime, preferably the pelletized form, is still added to the surface because it lasts longer, but the powdered form will work just as well. When I used rainwater, which was acidic, lime was added monthly, especially in summer when orchids were watered two or three times per week. The combination of lava rock and lime led to Paph roots that would fill the plastic pot and occasionally deform it from their expansion. Often the pot would need to be cut to remove the Paph, but only after several years' growth. At last, no repotting.



Paphiopedilum Roots

The only modification in this protocol occurred after my move to Florida where I have water with more dissolved solids and a pH of 7.5. I now add lime less frequently and get the same results. I am still experimenting with even larger pieces of lava rock for larger pots, now required because the Paphs get so large. Crushed lime rock is also readily available in Florida and is now being added as a surface dressing as both an additional source of lime and because it does not absorb water providing better drainage. Stay tuned for the next chapter after these experiments are concluded.

Where do you find lava rock?

Most large garden stores carry this product in bags as mulch. It can also be obtained from landscaping businesses that supply mulch.

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.

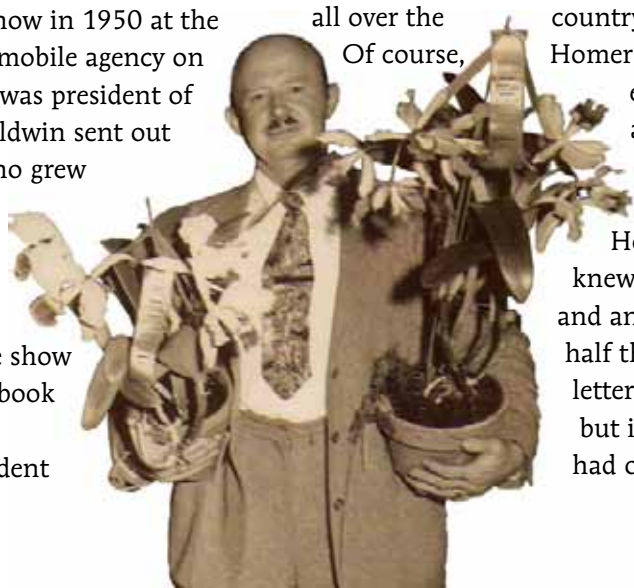
The following year with much encouragement from Homer Baldwin, most of the members from the Dallas Orchid Society came back to join the original society.

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): _____