



Volume 56

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www.gntos.org



G R E A T E R N O R T H T E X A S *Orchid Society*

MEETING AGENDA

- 2:30
Orchids 101
- 3:00
Meeting Begins
- 4:15
Break
- 4:30
Business Meeting
- 5:00
Adjourn

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A P R I L M E E T I N G

How to Judge plants for AOS awards

April's program will be held on Sunday, April 11th at North Haven Gardens – a week later than usual because our regular date is EASTER, and most of us will be occupied elsewhere. The April program will hopefully be fun and exciting. We will be having an actual AOS judging of the plants you bring for show and tell. Please encourage any of your friends from Fort Worth to also come to the meeting. It will be a chance not only to bring your plants and get them awarded, but to see and understand how the judging process occurs, and what the criteria are in judging orchids. We will have the AOS judges do the Ribbon judging – just as they would at a show – and during that process, select plants that they feel should be further looked at for possible awards.

I will try to give a degree of running commentary on the whole process, and would encourage all of you to be up close and actively observing what is going on, and we can field some questions during and afterwards. I may also bring a couple plants of mine and use them to point out some of the positive and negative qualities that impact judging for awards. We should be able to have 2 or 3 judging teams if we have a lot of plants to consider. Please do 'clean up' your plants – trim off old bloom spikes and dead leaves, make sure there aren't bugs on your plant and be sure it has a name. AOS judging cannot be done on an unidentified plant. If any of you have questions about what it takes to be an AOS judge, we can also answer those questions, and if you think you'd like to consider being a judge...Just talk to us.



Awarded in January:
Bardendrum Nanboh Pixy 'Shadow'
(**Bard. Terusan x Barkeria Scandens**)
HCC 75 points
Owner: The Brandenburgs, Dallas, TX



Awarded in February:
Dtps. KV Charmer 'Zhen Yu #51' (Phal.
Salu Peoker x Dtps. Taida Pearl)
AM 80 points. Owner: Meir Moses,
Orchid Konnection, Dallas, TX

ORCHIDS 101

GROWING
ORCHIDS
WITHOUT A
GREENHOUSE

Lorna Kissling will be sharing her experiences with growing orchids in her home in the winter and outside in the summer. Pick up some tips for adapting your home to make it more "orchid friendly".

NEWSLETTER

Members are encouraged to submit articles, information, or suggestions for publication in our newsletter. Send submissions to the editor via email at: david@gouldcreative.com



Well, it was great fun to put together the program on Ecuador and refresh all my memories of the wonderful trips I have taken there. I hope the talk that Manny gave on Peru, and the one I gave on Ecuador (and some of the other programs we have had) have both stimulated your appetite for going and seeing them in the wild yourself, and also given you a better sense of where some these wonderful plants come from and how wonderfully adaptable they are to be able to move from their various environments to our windowsills and greenhouses. It is a tribute to the adaptability of the Orchid plant family.

It is all the more wonderful to realize that they grow in every climate. Although we rarely see 'terrestrial' orchids, they exist even here in Texas. Although I haven't seen any of the native orchids here, when I was in Alabama I had access



Hexalectris spicata
Seen at the Fort Worth Nature Center in Fort Worth, Texas.

to the area where *Cypripedium acaule* grew wild and it is REALLY exciting to be able to watch them growing close to home. Some of the orchidists there actually had orchids growing in their yards!! I would certainly like to see us have some education about native orchids in the area and look into the possibility of a field trip to any viable sites where we could do that. I know at least one of you does grow terrestrials, and there may be more of you !!!!!

Jacques Costeau in his book *The Human, The Orchid and the Octopus* gave that title because he felt they represented the most advanced land animals, plants and aquatic animals, respectively. Seeing the diversity of the plant forms and the diversity of environments gives me a tremendous appreciation for the ability of this plant family to make it's way by finding a niche in the world and adapting to it. And evidence now suggests they have been doing that for much longer than we had thought – I think the last estimate I saw was over 350 million years. As a psychiatrist, I see a parallel with people – those who can adapt to change and find niches to flourish in are the ones that survive and move themselves and future generations forward. Interesting how we can learn lessons from humble creations like plants.

See you on the 11th,
JUDY



Hexalectris warnockii
(Texas Purple Spike) in bloom in the wild at the Cedar Ridge Preserve just southeast of Dallas.

OFFICERS

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR
David Gould

GNTOS WEBMASTER
Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT
Jim Williams

The **Houston Orchid Society** show is April 17-18th and judging is on the 16th. The event will be held at the Houston Museum of Natural Science Main lobby, One Hermann Circle Drive, Houston, Texas 77030. NOTE: Free admission and parking. <http://www.houstonorchidsociety.org/events/events.html>. Kevin Fox announced that the Houston show was an opportunity to put together an exhibit or small table top.

The **Oklahoma Orchid Society** (OOS) is hosting an OOS, AOS & SWROGA show April 28th-May 2nd. Judging is April 29th. Clarion Meridian Hotel and Convention Center, 737 S Meridian Ave., OKC, OK 73108. Kevin Fox will be coordinating our Society exhibit for this event. <http://2010aosshow.oosorchids.org/>

SNOOPERS CORNER

Barbara McNamee

Snoopers Corner is for items that are too large to bring to the snoopers table. Members can give-away or sell items that are orchid or greenhouse related.

You can give away an item free to a good greenhouse, but if you sell an item, GNTOS will receive the regular 10% for handling the deal, on the honor system,

same as the snoopers table.

Members who want to place an ad should contact Barbara McNamee: 972-279-9685. Submit a brief description and a small photograph if necessary. Each entry will run until it sells or for 3 months, whichever comes first.



ORCHID STAND for Sale

- Holds dozens of plants in 8 sq.ft. of floor space (2' deep, 4' wide, 7.5' tall)
- Shelves are adjustable to hold three different size plants
- Humidity trays to keep the moisture level high
- Made of aluminum tubing for strength and rust resistance

\$220 (Comes with the original lights as shown)

I also have a set of three custom light fixtures which provide three times the light as the original fixtures shown above. I paid \$500 to get the lights made but I will sell the lights and the orchid stand together for **\$600**

David Gould 972-686-4851
david@gouldcreative.com

DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

GNTOS FINANCIAL REPORT

Kathy Halverson



Dallas Judging Center
March 13, 2010

Fifteen plants entered for consideration, one award given:

A special judging will be conducted at the GNTOS meeting April 11. This is AOS sanctioned, and there will be ribbon judging followed by AOS judging.



Phal. Orchidom Wild Spots 'Suzanne' (Carmela's Wild Thing x Brother Danseuse)
CCM 86 points, owner: Bill Williamson, Plano, TX

Financial Report: February 2010

Dated: 2-1-10 thru 2-28-10

	Income	Expenses
Beginning Balance:	\$ \$8590.41	
Dues	\$ 170.00	
Hospitality	-	
Raffle	\$ 167.00	
Rent (Storage Unit)		
Snoopers	\$ 108.00	..\$ 97.20
Speakers Fee	\$ 100.00	
Speaker's Meals	-	
Miscellaneous		
GNTOS Sky		
backdrop banner\$394.00
2 yr. renewal for		
Orchid Digest:\$ 68.00	
Fall 2009 Show\$ 61.00	
Donations	-	
Special Sales	-	
SWROGA Dues	-	
Auction	-	
Plant Table	-	
GNTOS Exhibit	-	
Library	-	
Audit Check	-	
Website	-	
Subtotals:	\$ 445.00	..\$720.20
Ending Balance:	\$ 8315.21	

ORCHIDS IN THE HOME

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A Selection of Plants Suited for the Home

Angraecums Dwarf Madagascan species, fragrant at night; bright light.

Cattleya Alliance Hybrids and Species Choose miniature types less than 10 inches tall; bright light of southern exposure is best.

Dendrobiums Dwarf phalaenopsis types, or higher-altitude miniatures; bright light at south window required.

Oncidiums Many types available in flower, best if smaller growing; bright light.

Paphiopedilums Lady's-slipper orchids grow well under home conditions, giving long-lasting blooms; provide African-violet conditions.

Phalaenopsis Moth orchids are absolutely the number-one best orchid houseplant; provide Africanviolet conditions.

Anyone can grow orchids in the home without living in the tropics or having the luxury of a greenhouse. If you have ever successfully grown a houseplant, or enjoyed a flowering potted plant, you can grow orchids. The good news is there are plenty of options to give yourself a beautiful display of flowering orchids year round. Hint: Orchids grown in the home during the colder months will respond wonderfully well to being summered outdoors in a protected area. This will also extend the range of plant selections available to you. Be sure to read the AOS's companion sheet *Orchids in the Garden and on the Patio*.

LIGHT No flowering plant will do well without sufficient light. In the home, where most available light is incidental (that is, at an angle, and therefore less intense), plants will need to be fairly close to an east or west, or lightly shaded south, window. A north window will rarely provide adequate light. If light is too intense in a southern exposure, a sheer curtain could be hung to diffuse the light. Extra hours of light will not entirely compensate for poor light quality. Indeed, extending daylength artificially to more than 16 hours can be detrimental to the plants' health and often will prevent flowering.

TEMPERATURE The plants will be comfortable where you are comfortable. Typical home temperatures of 55° to 60° at night and 75° during the day are fine. Guard against excessively low or high temperatures immediately adjacent to glass windows. Some leeway for seasonal fluctuations is allowed.

HUMIDITY Rugs, drapes and some furniture act as giant wicks that absorb the home's humidity, as do heating and air-conditioning systems. Also, it is not advisable to have the home's interior be too wet to accommodate the plants. Solutions: Group plants to take advantage of their collective transpiration (exhaled moisture) or place them on gravel-filled humidity trays to raise the humidity to 50 percent.

WATERING Care must be taken to balance the rapid surface drying that can take place in the home with the plants' lower metabolic processes resulting from lower light. Each particular type of orchid will retain its basic water needs, whether for moisture or periodic dryness. The home grower also needs to give thought to the logistics of watering. You can carry plants to the sink or even outdoors (when weather allows), or water them in place and remove excessive water so the containers do not sit in water.

FERTILIZER Fertilize regularly at a low dosage of approximately one-quarter strength with a fertilizer appropriate to the potting mix in which your plants are grown. Fertilize less often during the winter.

GREATER NORTH TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY

Manuel Aybar
2330 Saharah Drive
Garland, TX

SOCIETY HISTORY

The GNTOS was formed in 1954 as a result of the joining of the Dallas Orchid Society and the North Texas Orchid Society. The new organization was formed as a nucleus for a larger an potentially greater Society with an enthusiastic membership. On March 19, 1954, we were issued a charter by the AOS as the Greater North Texas Orchid Society



- April 11** Society – “Practice Judging”
- May 2** Tom Larkin – “Designer Cattleyas”
- June 6** Tom Meranda – “Orchids Magazine”
- June 27** Picnic and Sale at Judy Cooks Greenhouse
- August 1** Grahm Wood – “Red Paphs”
- September 5** Carl Allen – “Orchids Pests and Diseases”
- October 3** Francisco Mirenda – “Vandas”
- November 7** Local Speaker
- December 5** Dinner and Sale

MEMBERSHIP DUES

2010

GNTOS Membership Dues are paid yearly by January 31, in order for your name to be listed in the published Yearbook.

- \$20.00 – New or Renewing Member (individual)
- \$10.00 – 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): _____