

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

NOVEMBER MEETING: EMILY QUINN

MEETING AGENDA

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

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New Slipper Orchids

In the last decade or so several new slipper orchids have been introduced. While some have seen little or no use in hybridization, others have made themselves felt. We will consider some of the new parents, looking at their progeny with an eye to what we should expect as knowledgeable enthusiasts. Feel free to add to your personal wish list at any time.

Emily Quinn is a long-time member of GNTOS. She has been growing orchids for decades (How many is her business). She has, recently, with her mother Linda Horton, been elevated to the lofty status of orchid judge and is very active at the local Dallas Judging Center. Her tastes in orchid genera are quite varied, omnivorous in fact.



ORCHIDS 101

PEST CONTROL
IN YOUR
ORCHIDS

This month Dianna Rose will tell us some ways to eliminate the unwanted pests that take up residence in our orchids. If you move your plants outside for the summer you will want to get rid of these unwanted hitchhikers before they come back inside.



I hope all of you enjoyed Francisco Miranda's talk – for both the informative material and the beautiful photography of plants and nature. He has several good talks, so I hope we can get him back again sometime in the future. This month we will be hearing from our own Emily Quinn, who always puts in extremely diligent effort to make her presentations really informative. For those of you who are interested in Cattleyas, Peter Linn (not our Peter, but another one from California) will be talking on the first Monday of November to the Fort Worth Orchid Society on Mini Cattleyas. Because in November our Sunday meeting is the week AFTER Fort Worth he could not include us in his itinerary, but I wanted to be sure people knew, should they wish to traverse to Fort Worth.

This month has been a busy one, with folks in Alexandria, La the weekend of our October meeting. The Fort Worth Orchid Show is this weekend (Oct 22, 23 & 24) and Linda Horton is in charge of our society display for the Fort Worth Show. She will be putting it in on Friday, so if you want plants to get to her, you don't have a lot of time to do so. Do try to get to the show even if you aren't putting plants in. (Emily will be helping set up the society display as well as Linda's collectible display, while making last minute modifications to her lecture!!!) There is a show in San Antonio the last weekend of the month – which is also the time of the Trustee's meeting in Virginia Beach – and several of us will be going to the Trustee's meeting. The San Antonio Show is where I got my first introduction to orchids – way back in about 1977, and I let those sweet little white haired ladies tell me how easy orchids were to grow and how much fun they are ... and you see the trouble I am in for listening to them!!!!!!

In addition to Emily's presentation, November will be the time for the Nominating Committee to present the slate of officers for next year, to be voted on in December. You may nominate from the floor at either of those times should you wish to have someone else in the running for a given office. November is also the time we normally get our first frosts coming – somewhere between early November and Thanksgiving – although it could come sooner – so be sure that you are watching closely if you have any plants that have been enjoying the outdoors in recent months. I am not looking forward to having to stuff my outside plants into an already crowded greenhouse myself. At least the Cymbidiums will take a light freeze and sometimes bloom all the better for that. A fellow grower in Alabama really got his blooming beautifully by going out every night

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OFFICERS

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David Gould

GNTOS WEBMASTER

Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Jim Williams

for 3 weeks in the fall and pouring icewater – complete with ice cubes – on his cymbidiums. While it clearly works for Cymbidiums that take low temperatures, beware of the orchids being sold with the ‘just add 3 ice cubes a week’ labeling. Those are mostly Phalaenopsis, and Phals DO NOT like that kind of treatment. They are warmth loving babies who would be very happy to never go below 60 or 65 degrees, and definitely don’t like ice cubes on their roots (or their anything else, for that matter).

It continues to be a delight to see all the wonderful plants people are bringing in for ‘show and tell’ – keep up the good work!!!

Remember that December is our auction month, and please get started picking out some of the things you want to bring as donations. Regards Judy

SNOOPERS CORNER

Barbara McNamee

Snoopers Corner is for items that are too large to bring to 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.

Did you get more plants and now have nowhere to go with them this winter?



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 different size plants (up to 4 shelves) Shown with 3 shelves.
- Humidity trays to keep the moisture level high
- Made of aluminum tubing for strength and rust resistance

\$200 (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 **\$500**

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

GNTOS MEETING, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2010

39 people attended the meeting. Francisco Miranda spoke on rupicolous orchids.

Announcements

The Fort Worth Orchid Society is having a show/sale on October 23-24 in the FW Botanic Gardens. President Judy Cook said that Linda Horton and Barbara McNamee would be assisting with an exhibit.

A Nominating Committee is being appointed to create a slate for 2011 officers. If you are interested in volunteering, talk to Judy Cook.

Our show is scheduled for the second weekend in April 2011. Talk to Linda or Hank Horton to help with the show.

Plant Judging Results

from Nancy Cropp. Judges: Cecelia Pinson & Jean Whiting

Cattleya Alliance

Blue – Lc. Lost Opportunities
– Amy Drumwright
Red – Blc. Golden Tang – Mike Beber
White – Blc. Navaho Warrior ‘Rojo’
– Judy Cook, MD

Dendrobiums & Others

Blue – Den. “Kroger special”
– Barbara McNamee
Red – Den. Char Jewel
– Amy Drumwright
White – Lyc. cochleata
– Judy Cook, MD

Oncidiums

Blue – Trichocentrum lanceanum
– Judy Cook, MD
Red – Pps. Kalihi (?) – Judy Cook, MD
White – Howeara Lava Burst
– Barbara McNamee

Paphs & Phrags

Blue – Paph. (moquetteanum x concolor) – Judy Cook, MD

Vandas & Phals

Blue – Phal. hieroglyphica
– Amy Drumwright
Red – Phal. fasciata – Jason Egan
White – Ascda. Bicentennial ‘Mei Ling’
AM/AOS – Judy Cook, MD

Species of the Month

Brassavola nodosa – Amy Drumwright
Psychmorchis pusilla
– Barbara McNamee
Phal. hieroglyphica – Amy Drumwright

Peoples’ Choice

Lc. Lost Opportunities
– Amy Drumwright
Psychmorchis pusilla
– Barbara McNamee
Pps. Kalihi (?) – Judy Cook, MD

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

DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

GNTOS FINANCIAL REPORT

Kathy Halverson

Dallas Judging Center
October 9, 2010

2 plants entered for consideration,
no awards given.

Financial Report: September 30, 2010

Dated: 9-1-10 thru 9-30-10

	Income	Expenses
Beginning Balance:	\$7091.36	
Dues	-	
Hospitality	-	
Raffle	\$ 71.00	
Rent	-	
Snoopers	\$ 115.00	\$ 103.50
Speakers Fee	\$ 125.00	
Speaker's Meals	-	
Speakers Air Fare	-	
Miscellaneous:		
Guest Registration		
Book		\$ 20.30
Donations	\$ 72.00	
AOS Dues	-	
Auction	-	
Plant Table	-	
GNTOS Exhibit	-	
Library	-	
Audit Check	-	
Website	-	
Spring 2011 Show		
AOS Registration		
and Show Trophy		\$ 110.00
Subtotals:	\$ 383.00	\$ 233.80
Ending Balance: . . .	\$ 7240.56	

MONTHLY CHECKLIST FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER

by Ned Nash and James Rose

CATTLEYA Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening – hardening – in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

COOL-GROWING ORCHIDS One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

CYMBIDIUM Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

ONCIDIUM CRISPUM COMPLEX This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

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PAPHIOPEDILUM The flowering season for the “toads” or “bulldog” paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath’s rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease problems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, “cleanliness is next to godliness” and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

PHALAEOPSIS Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine’s Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a “bloom booster”-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

VANDACEOUS GENERA Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

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



- December 4** Acadian Orchid Society Short Course, Lafayette, LA
- December 5** GNTOS – 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): _____