

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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NEXT MEETING IS AUGUST 5
 SPEAKER: ANDREA NIESSEN

Orchids of Columbia

Andrea Niessen was born in Cali, Colombia, received her high school degree from the Cali German School and was an exchange student in Claremont, California where she graduated again at the St. Lucy’s Priory High School. She earned a biology degree with an emphasis in Botany at the Universidad del Valle, Cali., then earned a MS. from the University of Florida in Gainesville USA. She then worked as a research associate at the International Center for Tropical Agriculture in the Pastures Entomology Department and later in the Virology Unit. She has been a dedicated hobby Orchid grower all of her life. Andrea has served as a board member and president (1992 -1997) of the local orchid Society, Asociación Vallecaucana de Orquideología and judge of the Colombian Orchid Com-



Niessen’s
Masevallia

mittee.

Andrea has lectured about Colombian Orchids in Colombia, USA, Canada, Belgium, Italy, Ireland, Spain, Austria, Switzerland, Sweden, Nederland, Singapore and Germany. With her husband Juan Carlos Uribe, she has maintained her own orchid nursery since 1989. Orquideas Del Valle LTDA., which has grown to include two retail shops, one in downtown Cali and the other in the town of Ginebra, two nurseries, one warm growing and the other for cool growing plants and laboratory facilities for seed flasking. Orquideas Del Valle

LTDA. has attended many National and International Shows and also six World Orchid Conferences and European Orchid Conferences exhibiting and selling the beautiful and diverse orchid species from Colombia.

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Thanks to those who have volunteered to speak to the ladies at the Prestonwood retirement home – Charlie Hess and Masood Raja. Prestonwood's new orchid club hopes to have us visit them and speak a few times a year.

Over the summer there is such an interesting variety of outdoor creatures. I enjoy looking around when I'm outside to see what critters are roaming my back yard. Last year and now this year, we've been visited by a group of extra large wasps that have proved to be rather gentle – at least in regards to us! They are cicada killer wasps and rather large (almost 2" long), making their nests in the ground and hunting cicadas. While I don't mind them (they are really not aggressive at all – much like bumble bees), there are a lot of insect critters I can't abide. White flies, spider mites, scale, and thrips are the insects that infest our orchid collections and can create havoc and heartbreak when they become too numerous to fight. Sometimes, during the summer months, the problem abates for those of us who put orchids outside. The outside conditions reduce or kill off the pest populations. However, in the greenhouse, they can proliferate during the warmer months. The best way to beat them is not to let them get a strong foothold. Make it a practice to check your collection every time you water, looking over your plants (especially on the underside of the leaves) for dark or white spots that disappear when you wipe them. But even the best growers can get taken by

surprise. For those times, there are a lot of insecticides and "green" recipes for getting rid of these little "buggers". When an "invasion" is uncovered inside the house, I isolate the plant and use a rubbing alcohol/distilled water mix as a spray. The alcohol is a desiccant and the insects can't become immune to it, plus it's not toxic to me! I also will treat all the plants that were next to the infected plant, even if I don't see any insects on them, but I don't necessarily isolate those plants. If an infestation is more advanced, I'll take the plant outside for treatment with a more potent insecticide. Usually, an infestation needs to be treated every 5-7 days for a few weeks to eradicate the pests. If it is very advanced, you may have to make the decision to get rid of the plant for the sake of the rest of your collection. Once it's become too severe, you may never really be able to eradicate the infestation and this may be the best choice, however difficult it might be to accept defeat. (Of course, this means that you might get a new one to replace it – not a bad thing!) In the fall, about 2 weeks before bringing your orchids back inside, you should treat all of them with a systemic to rid them of any critters picked up over the summer. You can look up all sorts of information for controlling these pests online. Start with what's available at www.aos.org. Several orchid vendors also have help pages on their websites about insect control as well as growing tips for various orchid varieties. And please remember, if you want to bring any plants to show at our meetings, check them for pests. Leave the infected plants at home – that is one thing that we'd rather not have shared with the society! Keep growing! Lorna

ORCHIDS 101

Kathy McKenzie

GENERAL Q&A

Bring all of your questions and plants for a general orchid discussion. David Gould will listen to all of your questions and then try to answer the easy ones. If you insist on getting answers to the hard questions he will make something up that sounds plausible. (Or ask one of the senior members for help)

MEETING MINUTES

David Hines

The July meeting was devoted to the semi-annual auction for raising funds for the Greater North Texas Orchid Society. There was neither Orchids 101 nor a guest speaker. At 3:00 p.m. President Lorna Kissling called the meeting to order.

The major announcement was the date and site of the fall orchid show. It will be at Northhaven Gardens on October 13 and 14. Set-up and judging will occur on October 12. The theme is "Fall for Orchids." The emphasis will be on table-top displays.

Jerry Brandenburg, auctioneer extraordinaire, was assisted by his wife, Ronnie. There was much good humor during the bidding for plants. The meeting closed at 4:15 p.m.

Plant Table Judging Results

No plants Judging due to Auction

PLANT TABLE

Nancy Cropp

DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

AOS Dallas Judging Center July 14, 2012

Eleven plants entered for consideration,
no awards given.

GNTOS FINANCIAL REPORT

Barbara McNamee

Financial Report: August 2012 Dated: 6-1-12

Beginning Balance:	\$ 5419.00	
	Income	Expenses
Dues	\$.367.00	
Hospitality	—	\$.39.00
Raffle	—	\$.182.00
Storage Unit	—	\$.150.00
Snoopers	—	
Speakers meals/hotel John	—	\$.164.00
Miscellaneous – financial software	—	
SWROGA Membership Dues	—	
Snoopers Expense	—	\$.95.00
Library	—	
Audit Check	—	
Subtotals:	\$.367.00	\$.630.00
Ending Balance:	\$ 5682.00	

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 and 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



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ORCHIDS 101

We have had a lot of folks come to Orchids 101 the last few months. It is a great way to encourage new growers and prospective members. Recently we have had a general Q&A session, as well as “Repotting”, and “Growing Orchids in the Home”. This month we will have “Moving Orchids Outdoors” as our topic. BUT we need more speakers! Please think about what you could talk about. Each Orchids 101 is from 2:30 to 3 ... a quick talk or demo, followed by answering a few questions, and you are done!

Some possible topics (or make up your own):

- Why doesn't my orchid bloom?
- Watering & fertilizing orchids
- Pests & problems
- How to photograph your orchids

Or, pick your own topic ... ??

Please reply to Kathi McKenzie at: kam6318@yahoo.com and let me know what topic you can do, and what month or months you could do it.

I'd really like to get several months planned so Nancy can put in the newspaper.

Thanks!
Kathi

MEMBERSHIP DUES

2012

GNTOS membership dues are paid yearly by January 31, in order for you 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:

Barbara McNamee
909 Sleepy Hollow Drive
Garland, TX 75043

Make check payable to GNTOS.

New Member Renewing Member

Name (#1): _____

Name (#2): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail (#1): _____

E-mail (#2): _____