

Volume 58

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December 2012

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G R E A T E R N O R T H T E X A S

Orchid Society

MEETING AGENDA

- 3:00 – Meeting Begins
- 4:15 – Break
- 4:30 – Business Meeting
- 5:00 – Adjourn

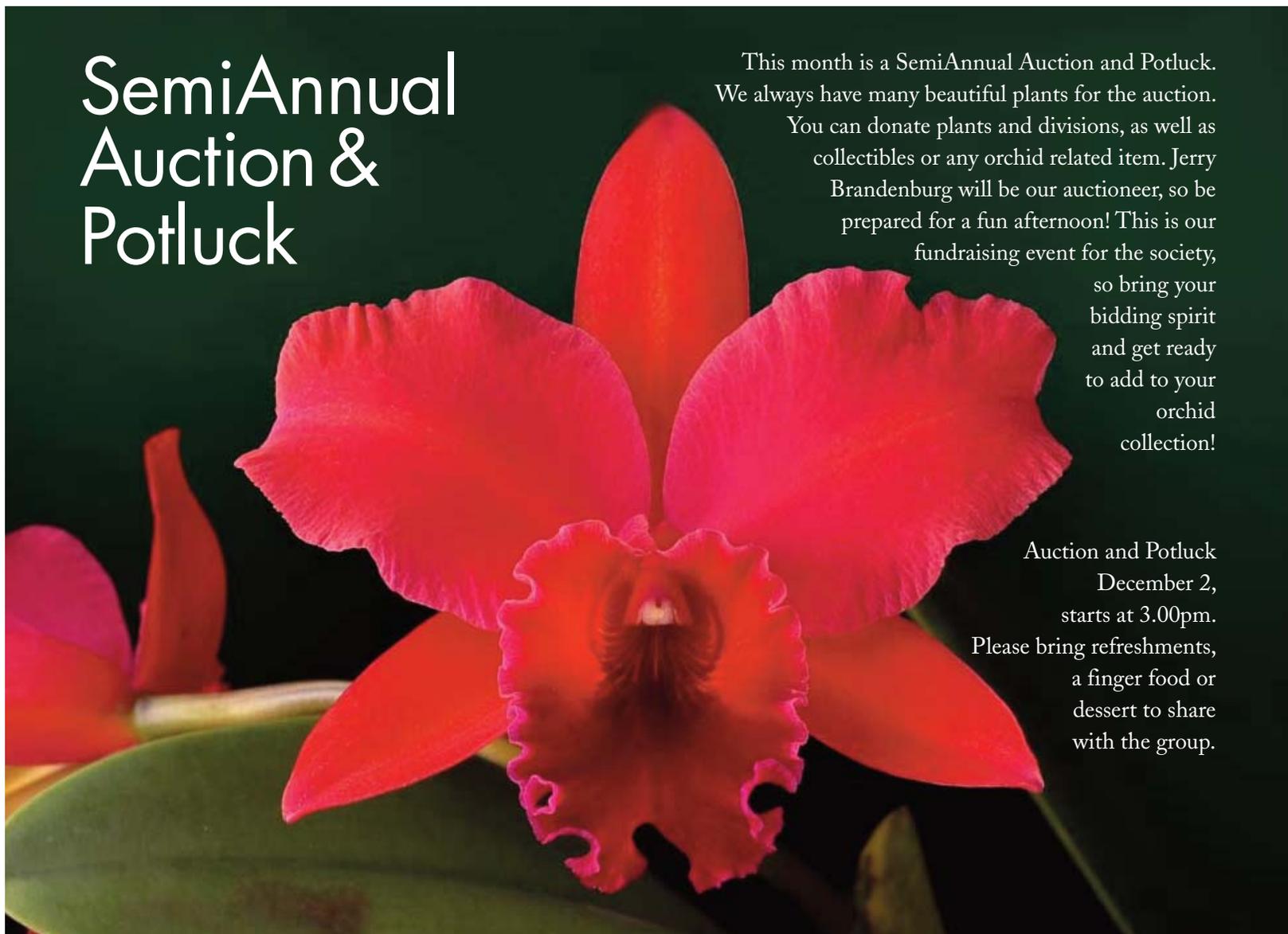
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SemiAnnual Auction & Potluck

This month is a SemiAnnual Auction and Potluck. We always have many beautiful plants for the auction. You can donate plants and divisions, as well as collectibles or any orchid related item. Jerry Brandenburg will be our auctioneer, so be prepared for a fun afternoon! This is our fundraising event for the society, so bring your bidding spirit and get ready to add to your orchid collection!

Auction and Potluck
December 2,
starts at 3.00pm.
Please bring refreshments,
a finger food or
dessert to share
with the group.



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Lorna Kissling

VICE PRESIDENT

Kevin Fox

SECRETARY

David Hines

TREASURER

Barbara McNamee

SWROGA DIRECTORS

Brandenburgs

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

David Gould

GNTOS WEBMASTER

Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Judy Cook



It happened almost exactly four years ago. We had an orchid show in Lincoln, NE and I had a beautiful Phrag. Lutz Rolke in sunrise colors. I'd bought it the previous year and it had rebloomed for me. I took it to the show and it got pulled for the AOS judging. I couldn't believe it when one of the judges looked at me and said with a

smile, "You're going to have to give us a name." He was referring to the cultivar or clonal name that the owner needs to provide when a plant is awarded. I couldn't believe that something I'd grown had actually been awarded! I'd only been growing orchids for around 4 years and I'd just never even thought anything I grew would ever excite any judges. I'm telling you all this in order to say this: don't assume that what you've got blooming isn't something the judges won't like! I've seen several times when people decided at the last moment to take an orchid to the show to include in the display, thinking it just wasn't



that great and it ended up winning the blue ribbon for it's class. Getting pulled for AOS judging is a step higher and then actually getting awarded is the best! So bring those plants to the show or, better yet, bring it to the monthly DJC judging in Garland. The teaching segment starts at 11am, then there's a meal provided. Afterwards, the group is broken up into judging teams and any plants brought in that day get evaluated. The judging is open to interested visitors and questions are definitely welcome. The Dallas Judging Center meets every second Saturday of each

month at the Garland Activity Center (600 West Avenue A, Garland, 75040). I think you'll find it to be fun and instructive!

And my winning orchid? I probably shouldn't tell you this, but it went the way of all things exactly as John Stubbings said in his talk about how to kill an orchid. It got awarded, so it died! Now I'll have to keep growing more so I can win another award some year. But I've still the got its pictures and it was beautiful!

And by the way, we'll be voting for our officers for next year, so be sure and come!

Lorna

GNTOS Meeting Minutes for November, 2012

Kathi McKenzie conducted Orchids 101 at 2:30 p.m. First she answered questions posed by the attendees – primarily repotting and fertilizing. The more formal part of the session was “Fertilizing.” Kathi prepared a one page handout and explained the Michigan State University fertilizer and some variations. The key elements include calcium, magnesium and trace elements. The handout contained detailed information.

President Lorna Kissling called the meeting to order about 3:00 p.m. The recent orchid show was considered to be a success, and Lorna thanked all the participants for their efforts.

Kathy Halverson announced the proposed slate of officers for 2013:

President – Lorna Kissling

Vice-President – Jean Whiting

Secretary – Kathi McKenzie

Treasurer – Barb McNamee.

Kathy then thanked the members of the nominating committee for their efforts: Barb McNamee, Kathi McKenzie, Jean Whiting, and Mike Beber. There were no additional nominations from the floor. The election will take place during the December meeting.

Jerry Brandenburg again will be the auctioneer extraordinaire for the December meeting – the semi-annual fundraiser for the society. There is always much good humor.

Lorna introduced the speaker, Alan Koch, owner of Gold Country Orchids.

<http://www.goldcountryorchids.com/>

Alan is a very dynamic and humorous speaker. The topic on the first panel of the PowerPoint presentation was Cattleya’s 365 – 24/7. The sub-title was How to Select Cattleyas for Year Round Flowers. The presentation was detailed showing the results of years of careful selection, hybridizing and line breeding. Many sequences of pictures showed the results of successive generations of selective breeding. Some other areas of orchid breeding were included such as Encyclias. There was one panel on fertilizers – Calcium and Iron Sulfate. These elements are required for growing and flowering orchids. This presentation was geared for the Texas environments. Alan had a variety of small plants for sale – some in sheath or in bloom.

Nancy Cropp announced the results of judging for the plant table.

Mike Beber conducted the plant raffle.

Lorna Kissling adjourned the meeting about 4:45 p.m.

NEWSLETTER

Please submit articles, information, or suggestions for publication in our newsletter. No really. I'm serious. Help me out here. I'll take photos, stories whatever. I will give \$1 to the first person who asks for it at the meeting. Send submissions to me at: david@gouldcreative.com

Plant Table Judging Results

Judges: Tham Johnson & Jim Williams

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue - Slc. Circle of Life - Gerry Darver

Red - Cattleya (unnamed) (Hawaiian Splendor x George King Serendipity - Dianna Rose

White - C. Lisa Taylor Gallis 'Nora' - Don Brigham

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue - Den. (Kinnapa x Jacquelyn Concert) - Dianna Rose

Red - Z. Advana Australia 'Huf' - Kathi McKenzie

White - Den. (no ID) 'Hailstorm Survivor'
- Cecelia Pinson

ONCIDIUMS

Blue - Burr. DeeLuce 'Everglades' - Dillard

Red - Odcdm. Wildcat 'Chadwick' - Dillard

White - Rodriguezia x venusta - Barb McNamee

PAPHS & PHRAGS

Blue - Paph (no ID) - Kathi McKenzie

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue - Phal. Leopard Prince 'Sogo Diamond'
- Don Brigham

Red - Phal. Darwinia Rainbow Stars - Sarah Hardesty

White - V. Gordon Dillon x Ascda. Yip Sum Wah
- Mike Beber

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

L. rubescense - Mike Beber

Bulbo. rothchildianum - David Hines

Acampe papillosa - Barb McNamee

PEOPLES CHOICE

Paph. (no ID) - Kathi McKenzie



AOS Dallas Judging Center Nov. 10, 2012

13 plants entered, two awards given:

Paph. Lime Twist 'Judy's Joy'

(Key Lime x philippinense alba)

AM 81 points

owner: Judy Cook, MD, Gunter



Cattleya maxima 'Hank' (species)

HCC 77 points

owner: Linda Horton, Garland



cattleya
dowiana aurea



cattleya
dowiana rosita



Cattleya Dowiana

C. dowiana was discovered by Warscewicz in Costa Rica (1850). The original collections were lost, however it was re-discovered in 1865, and plants were sent to Skinner by way of a Capt. Dow (hence, the name). The flowers are 5-7" across and 2-7 may be borne on a cluster. It is the only member of the labiata group with yellow sepals and petals. With its beautiful coloring and its striking velvety lip, *C. dowiana* has been used more than any other cattleya species in hybridizing.

Today, due scarcity in its natural habitat, *C. dowiana* is seldom grown, except for the variety *aurea*. *Cattleya aurea* (*dowiana* var. *aurea*) is from Colombia, and was discovered by Gustav Wallis in 1868. It is often considered a distinct species because of the geographical distance between the two forms. Its color is deeper yellow, its lip more irregularly veined, and it is more free-flowering.

In its native habitat, *C. dowiana* occupies tall trees, frequently growing in full sun, in high humidity and relatively mild temperatures (63-75°F). It demands that its roots dry out quickly; especially in the cooler months. Growing in a slatted basket or clay pot with a well-drained mix is recommended. If potted, it should have room for only one new growth in the pot.

C. dowiana begins growing in early spring, flowers in mid-to late summer and then goes dormant until the following spring. It requires frequent watering when actively growing, but little water after flowering until growth begins in spring. It should be fertilized lightly every 2 weeks during the active growing season, until buds appear in the sheath. After that, do not apply any fertilizer until the plant begins growing again in the spring.

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): _____