



Volume 59

Issue 3

March 2013

www.gntfos.org

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

CONTENTS

President’s Message 2

Meeting Minutes 3

Plant Table 4

Calendar 4

Judging Center 5

Orchid of the Month 6

Membership Info 7

NEXT MEETING IS MARCH 3
SPEAKER: ALEX MAXIMIANO

How and What Significance Orchids Play in Human History - Orchid Myths and Facts



“Did you know orchids have been used as food? Do you know where vanilla comes from? Come learn about our culture as it relates to orchids.”

Alex Maximiano was born and raised in Portugal and came to the US at age 17. After receiving an MBA in International

Management, he spent 20 years working in computer software, primarily marketing and selling high-end databases.

In 2002, while looking on eBay for a present for his mother-in-law, he came across an orchid flask and became fascinated with orchid breeding. Soon after, he started to design a new software to research orchids, which eventually grew into OrchidWiz Encyclopedia. The first version was released in November 2005 and became an instant success. To date, Alex has sold copies to thousands of orchid aficionados in every US state and 50 countries worldwide. Alex is an AOS-accredited orchid judge.

He and his wife Marianna have two sons, nine-year-old Nicolas and six-year-old Nathaniel. They live in Miami Shores, Florida.



OFFICERS**PRESIDENT**

Lorna Kissling

VICE PRESIDENT

Mike Beber

SECRETARY

Kathi McKenzie

TREASURER

Barbara McNamee

SWROGA DIRECTORS

Brandenburgs

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

David Gould

GNTOS WEBMASTER

Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Judy Cook



Part of the fun of growing orchids for me is when I buy a type of orchid I've not grown before. Looking up how to grow it, what to expect for flowering, and finding out how it grows in the wild – just so I can see if I can make the magic of blooming happen. When I started growing orchids, the internet was just coming into its own and didn't have the information it does now. But I wasn't trying to grow some of the genera I'm trying to grow now!

It's interesting to type a genus into my search box and see what comes up. Sometimes, online vendors have a section devoted to culture tips for certain kinds of orchids. If you visit an orchid website and are trying to learn more about culture, look around. There may be one or more culture links. You can also look at the American Orchid Society website at aos.org. There are several "pages" with culture tips specific to certain orchid groups. Learn more about what you already have, then start learning about some new kinds. There's a lot to learn.

And remember the monthly Dallas judging center – you don't have to want to be a judge to come and learn from our judges. Go to djcaos.org to find out more about the judging center and when and where they meet. They meet at 11am in Garland on the second Saturday of the month, which is usually the Saturday after our monthly meeting. Keep learning!

Lorna

We need some people to help with organizing the monthly 101 classes. Kathi McKenzie led it last year, but is now the society secretary and would like to turn it over to someone else. She has programs lined up through May, so some of the work has been done. Can you help out?

We need to be looking for someone to be the main person creating the GNTOS exhibits for our show and occasionally for other shows. If either of these are something you might be interested in or have questions about, please talk to me!

Lorna

greenhouse2mom@yahoo.com

214-484-8930

ORCHIDS 101

Kathi McKenzie

Orchids 101 is a class for those just getting starting with orchids. It is at 2:30 just before our regular monthly meeting. A new topic every month is lead by a member of the society and usually finishes with a general Q&A session.

This month is:

March

“Watering & Feeding”

Don Brigham

April

“Repotting”

Linda Horton

May

“Summering orchids outdoors”

Kathi McKenzie

February 3, 2013 Minutes

Jim Williams conducted Orchids 101 at 2:30 p.m. He spoke on viruses, including types of viruses, and how to prevent them. He also conducted a demonstration to show how a virus test is conducted. This was followed by a brief question-and-answer period.

President Lorna Kissling called the meeting to order about 3:00 p.m. Volunteers were requested to handle the raffle and to handle scheduling members to conduct Orchids 101. Kathy Halverson volunteered to handle the raffle; however, a 101 co-coordinator is still needed for the second half of the year. Announcements were made for a number of upcoming shows. We will be exhibiting at the Tyler show 3/22-24, and need plants for it (see Linda Horton, Emily Quinn, Jim Williams, or Manny Aybar).

Our speaker was Francisco Miranda, who has been growing orchids since 1979, and is a popular speaker on Brazilian orchids. He has spoken to GNTOS previously, but brought a new presentation: Brazilian Orchid habitats #3, The Coast. We learned that 90% of Brazilian orchids grow in the narrow coastal area. The 5 coastal habitats he mentioned are:

- Sand beaches
- Coastal swamp
- Coastal forest
- Coastal boulders
- Slope forest

For each, he showed images of both the habitat itself, and some of the orchids growing there.

Nancy Cropp announced the results of judging for the plant table, and 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

GNTOS Feb. 3, 2013, Plant Table Judging Results
Judges: Dawni Callahan & Glenda Dillard

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue - C. Love Castle 'Kurenai' - Kathi McKenzie
Red - Blc. Lawless Zauberfluke - Kathi McKenzie
White - Blc. Sea Urchin 'Whirlpool' - Manny Aybar

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue - Platystelle umbellata - Lorna Kissling
Red - Zygonisia Cyanosure 'Bluebirds' - Kathi McKenzie
White - Den. Banana Royal - Barb McNamee

ONCIDIUMS

Blue - Onc. no ID - Kathi McKenzie
Red - Onc. splendidum 'Prolific' - David Gould

PAPHS & PHRAGS

Blue - (Paph. fairrrianum x Magic Leopard #2)
- Mike Beber
Red - Paph. philippinense - David Gould

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue - Phal. venosa - Tim Brown
Red - Ascocentrum garayii - Tham Johnson
White - Angraecum sesquipedale - Gerry Darver

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Ludisia discolor - Charles Hess
Den. rigidum - Jim Williams
Ascocentrum garayii - Tham Johnson

PEOPLES CHOICE

Paph. philippinense - David Gould

CALENDAR

2013

April – The speaker for April will be
Todd Miller of Miller's Tropicals.



AOS Dallas Judging Center Feb. 2, 2013

Eleven plants entered for consideration, three awards given:

Top:

Paph. Mem. Nicholas Hamann 'Spirit Creek' (wardii x Jacqueline's Joy)
HCC 79 points, owner: Olie Garrison, Nacogdoches



Middle:

Paph. Hawaiian Illusion 'Jayne Garrison' (Varuna x Grand Illusion)
HCC 75 points, owner: Olie Garrison, Nacogdoches

Bottom:

Paph. (unregistered) 'St. Basil' (Hsinying Glory x charlesworthii)
HCC 75 points, owner: Ted Baenziger, Houston





The "Bucket Orchids" Coryanthes

The *Coryanthes* genus extends from Mexico south to Bolivia and Brazil. The plants live in habitats with high humidity and high temperatures, and are often encountered in forests near rivers.

In their natural habitat, *Coryanthes* species have a symbiotic relationship with ants. The plants root systems offer the ants a base for nest construction. Extrafloral nectaries attract the ants to the vulnerable new shoots, where the ants defend the plants against herbivores.

Coryanthes are pollinated exclusively by male euglossine bees. The bees are attracted by the fragrance and try to reach the fragrance source within the flower. The bees lose their foothold and fall in the liquid filled "bucket" of the flower. Since their wings are now wet, they cannot fly, and the walls of the bucket are slippery, so they can only escape by climbing up the callus. As they struggle to escape, they pass the stigma and then the pollinarium. The stigma scrapes off any pollen from a previous flower that the bee might be carrying, and then the pollinarium deposits new pollen on the bee. The bee's visit may last over half an hour.

These orchids prefer intermediate temperatures (75-85° day/64-68° night) and high humidity. Light requirements are 1800 to 2500 footcandles. In nature, they are used to heavy rainfall most of the year, and so like to stay evenly moist. During the winter, they should be kept somewhat drier but not dry out completely. They are usually



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



GREATER NORTH TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY

Manuel Aybar
2330 Saharah Drive
Garland, TX

Coryanthes. Continued from page 6

grown in baskets to accommodate the pendant spikes, which grow downward through the roots.

Society gave *C. labiata* 15 First Class Certificates and 22 Awards of Merit as variations with new colors and patterns were exhibited.

C. labiata is a very vigorous *Cattleya* species and easy to grow. Its growing season is typically February – June, and it may make a second growth that will mature in late summer. Both growths will flower at the same time, usually September through November. After flowering, it should be given water sparingly and allowed to rest.

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”. 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!

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. Thanks! Kathi

MEMBERSHIP DUES

2013

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): _____