



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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NEXT MEETING IS MAY 5
SPEAKER: TODD MILLER

General orchid culture in Texas



Todd won “Best of Show” at our fall show with this Bc. *Therssa Ricci 'Susana'* Bc. *Hippodamia x C. aclandiae*

He began growing orchids around 1990 in Dallas, Texas, when we received a vanda hybrid as a gift from Susana’s mother in Miami, Florida. We planted the vanda in potting soil and tried our best to kill it. We took it out of the pot when we thought it was dead, only to be told they needed no soil, so we revived it and that same plant today blooms non-stop. We were hooked, and we started to try growing differ-

ent orchids, most with some success. We joined the local orchid societies in Fort Worth and Dallas and we learned more and more, only to end up wanting to know more. We started buying compots, then flasks. Soon we decided we had better start a business or we would soon go broke trying to keep up with our desire to grow one of everything.

We started Tropicals of Texas in Dallas in 1993 in a small 14' x 20' glass greenhouse in our backyard. That was

soon full, so we decided to build a 20' x 30' hoop house to house the warm growing orchids and grew only Phalaenopsis in the glass house. We were doing regional AOS shows every weekend as well as working full time jobs, but the passion with orchids kept us going. Then came the offer of a lifetime and we sold everything we had in Texas and made the move to Florida.

After 8 months working with someone else in Miami, we decided to go off on our own and Miller’s Tropicals was born in November of 1998. After 10 years learning the ropes in Miami, We grew tired of the constant threat of Hurricanes. Wilma and Katrina both brought 110+mph winds and the rebuilding took its toll, so after we finished building our dream home, we decided to move back to Texas. We started Miller’s Tropical’s of Texas in 2008, combining our 2 previous names, and we are here to stay.

We live on 28 acres of the most beautiful land around, high on the hills overlooking Dripping Springs and we welcome anyone who loves plants to come and visit our nursery. Todd will bring blooming size orchids for sale, starting at \$10 and all can be grown in Texas.

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



This crazy spring weather! I hope not too many of you have had to move your orchids in and out as the temps went up and down. Usually by now, mine have been outside for 2-3 weeks, but I haven't even gotten all my houseplants out yet! That may change soon, as the temps start rising again – I really can't believe we'll be going down

into the 30's again, but who knows?

In June, we'll have a repotting demonstration for our monthly meeting. There will be three different types of orchids being repotted and a mounting demo as well. The time will be divided into 4 segments and each demo done 4 times, so you can visit all 4 stations and get some good information! The entire time will be given to the demonstrations, so there won't be any table awards. Plan on bringing your questions! I will be bringing some metal rod supports in six-foot lengths to give away to anyone who would like some. I'll have some wire cutters so you can cut them to make it easier to transport. I have a lot to give away – they are great as supports since the wire is thick enough it doesn't give much, but also flexible if you need to adjust it to the angle of your spike.

Start planning ahead for the July raffle – if you are doing some repotting and dividing, consider donating some divisions to the raffle. Or, you can choose to sell them on the Snooper's Table during other meetings. Ten percent of what you sell goes to support the society. If you have any orchid-related items you don't really need or want, you can donate those to the raffle also. And, for the July raffle, we'll all be bringing finger foods to snack on during the fun! See you soon!

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?

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:

May

"Summering orchids outdoors"

Kathi McKenzie

April 7, 2013 Minutes

Kathi McKenzie conducted a Q & A session for Orchids 101 at 2:30 p.m.

President Lorna Kissling called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. There were 32 present, including 3 visitors. She announced that the June meeting will be a repotting clinic, with 4 stations planned to show potting techniques for various orchid genera. Please let Lorna know if you can help with one of these stations. There will be no table judging in June, due to the repotting clinic, or in July, due to the auction. There also not be a Snoopers table in June or July.

David Gould is working on a greenhouse/growing area tour for the fall (tentatively to be the 3rd Saturday in September, although if we have enough volunteers, he may set up a second tour date). If you would be willing to open your greenhouse/growing space on the tour, please let David know.

Mike Beber introduced our speaker, Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids. Ron specializes in mini and compact catts, and gave a talk titled "Minicatts – Not New." He showed us many lovely cattleyas, and presented a wealthy of information.

A few tidbits:

- While definitions may vary, a catt 8" or less is generally considered a mini, while under 15" with closely spaced bulbs is considered a compact
- Minis tend to have flowers of 2-4", and compacts 4-5"
- The first hybrid orchid awarded by the RHS was a compact catt, *C. Brabantiae* (*C. aclandiae* x *C. loddigesii*)
- At the first AOS judging, a *C. walkeriana* hybrid, *C. Eugene Fitz Dixon* was awarded
- Hybridizing of smaller catts virtually stopped around 1924, and from 1932-1960, no major awards were given to minicatts, as big catts were in fashion
- However, in the past 50 years, growth in the number of smaller hybrids has been explosive, and there are many to choose from today.

Nancy Cropp announced the results of judging for the plant table, and Mike Beber conducted the plant raffle. Lorna Kissling adjourned the meeting around 4:40p.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 April 7, 2013, Plant Table Judging Results
Judges: Mary Heifner & David Gould

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue - C. Jewel Box 'Scherazade' - Gerry Darver
Red - Cattleya skinneri - Jeanne Thompson
White - C. mazima - Gerry Darver

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue - Lycaste lasioglosa - Lorna Kissling
Red - Zygo. Advance Australia - Kathi McKenzie
White - Den. Nestor Nagala - Gerry Darver

ONCIDIUMS

Blue - Onc. Nason - Kathi McKenzie

PAPHS & PHRAGS

Blue - Paph philippinense - Charles Hess
Red - Paph Freemont Peck x Hsinying Ruby Web
- Mike Beber

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue - Phal. lueddemanniana - Charles Hess
Red - Phal. Tsu Chiang Balm - Gerry Darver
White - Phal. manni - Tham Johnson

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Cattleya skinneri - Jeanne Thompson
Lycaste lasioglosa - Lorna Kissling
Phal. lueddemanniana - Charles Hess

PEOPLES CHOICE

Zygo. Advance Australia - Kathi McKenzie

ORCHID SHOW

Tyler

Central East Texas Orchid Society SWROGA Show
in Tyler, TX, March 23, 2013

GNTOS entered a table-top exhibit with orchids from five Society members, installed by three Society members (assisted by Linda Horton's sister who lives in the area). The 24 plants in the exhibit received 17 ribbons, two trophies, and the Best Society Table-top Exhibit Trophy. Eight judges from the Dallas Judging Center were present for the ribbon and AOS judging. Two of the Brandenburg's plants in the exhibit received AOS awards. The show had 26 exhibits and 10 vendors. Well done!



1.



2.



3.

AOS Dallas Judging Center April 13, 2013

Seven plants & one group of plants entered for consideration, three awards given:

1. **Phal. Pylo's Sweet Orange 'Stacey'**
(Katie Morris x Yungho Gelb Canary)
AM 81 points
owner: Brandenburgs, Dallas, TX
2. **Phal. Pylo's Sweet Orange 'Beverly'**
(Katie Morris x Yungho Gelb Canary)
HCC 76 points
owner: Brandenburgs, Dallas, TX
3. **Phal. Pylo's Sweet Orange**
(Katie Morris x Yungho Gelb Canary)
group of 14 plants awarded an AQ
owner: Brandenburgs, Dallas, TX
Hybridizer: Peter Lin, Southlake, TX



Eurychone

Eurychone (Echn) is a genus of African orchids, founded in 1918 by botanist Rudolf Schlechter. Prior to 1918, almost all monopodial African epiphytic orchids were assigned to one of three genera: Angraecum, Listrostachys, or Mystacidium. This assignment was based on only a few characteristics, and resulted in some odd groupings: plants which were obviously similar might appear in different genera, while some very different ones might be grouped together.

In 1918 Schlechter published *An Attempt at a Natural New Classification of the African Angraecoid Orchids*. In this paper he recognized 32 genera, 18 of which, including Eurychone, were new. Not all of Schlechter's genera are still recognized, but the majority of his classification scheme is still used today. The name Eurychone comes from the Greek eury (broad) and chone (funnel).

The genus consists of only two species:

- Echn. rothschildiana is found growing in the evergreen forest of Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Liberia, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Togo, Gabon, Zaire and Uganda. It resembles a Phalaenopsis (although its leaves have a wavy edge). Its cultural requirements are also similar to phals, though it is considered harder to grow and less resilient. It blooms in the fall, with flowers that have a broad curved lip that is dark green inside with white edges. The sepals and petals are white with a lighter green. The flowers are about 1.5-2" across, and are fragrant in the morning. It is generally grown in clay pots with sphagnum moss, or mounted (with daily waterings).

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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

David Gould
1412 Pecos Street
Mesquite, TX 75150

Eurychone. Continued from page 6

- *Eurychone galeandrae* is a less-common species. It originates in West and Central Africa, and has slightly larger pale orange flowers. It is also fragrant. With narrower, duller leaves, the plant looks less like a *phalaenopsis* than does *rothchildiana*, but it has the same cultural requirements. It blooms from winter to spring.

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): _____