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

Orchid Society

NEXT MEETING IS AUGUST 4

MEETING AGENDA

3:00 – Meeting Begins

4:15 – Break

4:30 – Business Meeting

5:00 – Adjourn

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Q&A

IN AUGUST WE ARE HAVING A QUESTION AND ANSWER PANEL. SO BRING QUESTIONS ON ANYTHING ABOUT GROWING ORCHIDS, INSECT PESTS, WATER, POTTING OR ANY OTHER QUESTION THAT MIGHT BE BUGGING YOU.

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David Gould

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Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Judy Cook



The rains brought some welcome relief from the heat, as well as giving us a break from watering outside! My grass is growing about 2 inches a day (at least it seems that way!).

There's a lot on the calendar in early August. The first weekend has Houston with its Summer Workshop with plant sales and AOS judging and speakers. (I have the flyer giving all the contact info and details if anyone is thinking about going.) Our meeting is the next day – make sure you come back in time for it!

Then the next weekend is the Phalaenopsis Symposium in Austin. The Dallas judges will be there for the judging, and not in Dallas as is usual for their monthly meeting. You can visit this website (<http://www.phal.org/symposium.htm>) to get information about the symposium. It is past time for mail-in registrations, but you can still go and register when you arrive (they do request that you call the registrar and

let her know you're coming). On Thursday afternoon, before the opening of the symposium, there is an Open House at Miller's Tropicals in Dripping Springs, west of Austin. Todd Miller was one of our recent speakers – you can go and see his greenhouse and his beautiful surroundings in the hills. The symposium workshops include photographing your orchids, as well as phal culture and breeding.

Remember to bring questions with you to our meeting – the people on the panel will do their best to answer them. And now, it's time for me to go fertilize some orchids...

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. 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:

**“ORCHID-SPEAK,
UNDERSTANDING
ORCHID
TERMINOLOGY”**

by Kathi McKenzie

When I first started volunteering as a member of the Gardens’ Board of Directors I was amazed by the beauty of these gorgeously landscaped grounds and the wonder of the forest preserve. Through my continued involvement here I can tell you firsthand that our work extends much further than the borders of the Gardens’ property and is changing lives and leading local causes in wildlife conservation.

Through the Gardens’ education programs, complimentary entry and botanical tours are provided to over 2,000 local schoolchildren each year. Other educational programs focus on adult audiences on topics from gardening and botany to birding.

The Garden’s many conservation initiatives are equally exciting. Our orchid laboratory and plant propagation areas are allowing us to reproduce local endangered species for reintroduction to local forests. We are currently constructing a Conservatory for the National Collection of Mexican Orchids, the first of its kind in Mexico. Our leadership in parrot conservation has resulted in the reintroduction of nest sites for Macaws who were displaced by poachers—the first known project of its kind in Mexico!



The Vallarta Botanical Gardens was just included on a list of the “Top 10 North American Gardens Worth Traveling For,” as declared by the Canadian Garden Tourism Council and was featured as such in a BBC Travel Article on this topic.

The Vallarta Botanical Gardens receives no direct government funding, but rather relies on the support of those who recognize its value and invest into its support. I hope you can join us in these important and rewarding projects! Whether through volunteer time, one of several levels of membership, the purchase of a tile or a bench, or other donations, we can create the sustainable and rich future that so many of us dream for.

Your purchase of a tile or bench, or your generous donation can be tax deductible. The Friends of Vallarta Botanical Gardens A.C. is a 501(c)3 registered corporation. Please contact me directly for more detailed information.

Sincerely,

T. J. Hartung
(tjhartung@gmail.com)
Member of the Board of Directors,
Friends of Vallarta Botanical Gardens A.C.
President, Vallarta Orchid Society



AOS Dallas Judging Center July 13, 2013

Seven plants entered for consideration, one award given:

Phal. Fintje Kunriawati

(violacea var. indigo x pulchra)

'Jayne Garrison'

HCC 75 points

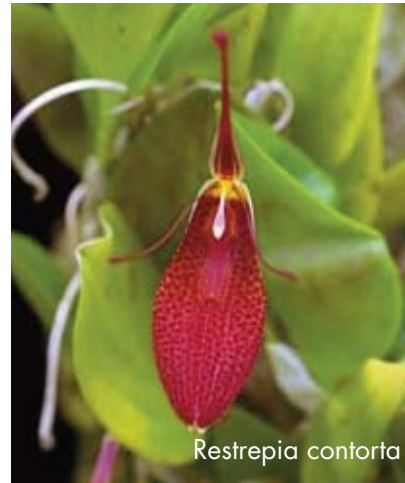
owner: Olie Garrison, Nacogdoches

The August meeting of the Dallas Judging Center will be August 10 in Austin in conjunction with the IPA Symposium.

No Judging meeting in Dallas/Garland in August only.



Pleurothallis schiedeii



Restrepia contorta



Dracula lotax



Atelis argentata



Octomeria crassifolia



Pleurothallis titan



Masdevallia Copper-Angel

The Pleurothallid Alliance

Pleurothallids are a distinct group of orchids. It is estimated that about 10% of the world's orchids are pleurothallids, making them the largest known group of orchids in the world. Some members of the pleurothallidinae are: Pleurothallis, Masdevallias, Draculas, Lepanthes, Stelis, Octomerias, and Restrepias.

While different genera within the pleurothallid alliance will differ in shape and structure, all pleuros have a thin stem rather than a pseudobulb. The stem is called a ramicaul, and it joins the rhizome and leaf. It ranges from being quite short, to several feet long, depending on the species. Pleuros are named after the thin stems "pleurothallis" means rib-like branches. The flowers often have spectacular horns and growths. Most are free-flowering, and a small plant may have many flowers.

Masdevallias and Draculas are small plants with relatively large flowers, and fused sepals with very small petals and lip – very unlike most orchids. This structure gives them a distinct triangular or tubular shape. Restrepias and many pleurothallis have fused lateral sepals. Restrepias are also small plants, with blooms that are often considered to appear insect-like, with their thin petals and a club-shaped dorsal sepal.

Pleurothallis have a wide range, from southern Florida, throughout the Caribbean and Central and South America. They are often thought of as cloud-forest orchids, but there are many exceptions. Some grow in bright light-some even on granite ledges in full sun,

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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

Pleurothallids: continued from page 5

but most do not need or want bright sun. All want high humidity, however (80-90%).

For most pleuros a wet, damp and shady environment is needed. Most, but not all, are cool-growing. Good quality, long-fibered sphagnum moss is a common potting mix, but tree fern or fine fir bark may also be used. Pleuros prefer to be fed lightly, and they need pure water and good air movement.

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): _____