

Next Meeting:
June 1
Speaker:
Arthur Chadwick

First Ladies and their Cattleyas 1929 to Present

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Art holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State and an MBA from James Madison. He founded Chadwick & Son Orchids Inc in 1989 with his father who had been growing orchids since 1943.

Chadwick's operates 11 greenhouses in Powhatan County, a retail store in Richmond, and boards over 13,000 orchids for local clients.

Art and his father have the distinction of naming Cattleya hybrids after the wives of the last four U.S. Presidents.

Art writes a monthly orchid advice column for the Richmond Times Dispatch and the Winston Salem Journal. He spoke at the Western Australian Orchid Conference and the World Orchid Conference in France.

In 2005, Art Sr and Jr appeared on the Martha Stewart TV show with their book, *The Classic Cattleyas*. The company was later featured in Southern Living Magazine and the New York Times.

When not growing orchids, Art enjoys outdoor recreation and raising two children.



Blc Laura Bush 10



Blc. Hillary Rodham Clinton

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With the arrival of June, we will finally be able to safely put all plants outside without 40 degree temps. What an up and down spring we have had. Your plants will need more water with the higher temperatures, so be watch them closely. You should also be careful of sunburn on plants that have been shaded over the winter.

Thanks to the volunteers that helped prepare the fine collection of Dr. Mary and Dr.

Presidents Message

Glen Hoffman for our sale to members held Sat 5/17. Those who attended got some real bargains on very nice mature plants, even though they do have some scale. We sold over 100 plants .

Our speaker last month, Courtney Hackney, gave us a user friendly method of removing scale. You simply spray the scale off the leaves, rhizomes, and roots with a jet stream of water from a hose end sprayer. It takes a little time and getting wet, but is far quicker than any other method and much safer. You can then watch the plants and remove any straglers with a wet cotton swab and a mix of alcohol and water.

The July meeting will bring our auction along with snacks and a bunch of fun. We will have some nice plants from you, our members, and a bunch that have been generously donated from the collection of Judy and Dr. Allan de Villeneuve.

Calendar

by Mary Heifner

June 1 Arthur Chadwick First Ladies and their Cattleyas

July 6 Semi-annual Auction

August 3 Tom Mirenda Miniature Orchids

September 7 TBD

October 5 Janet Lamborn Orchid Virus Detection & Prevention

November 2 Mark Reinke Dendrobiums

December 7 Auction & Christmas Party

Orchids 101

Kathi McKenzie
& Lorna Kissling

*This month
we will have a discussion
about Mini Orchids.*

ORCHIDS 101 classes are tailored to the beginning orchid grower. Sometimes there is a specific topic and other times it might be all Q&A.

It will be an informal discussion so come and share your tips and tricks so we may all benefit from everyone's ideas.

We meet in the greenhouse at 2:30 for 30 minutes so we can get all questions answered in time for the meeting at 3:00.

May 4, 2014 GNTOS Meeting Minutes

At 2:30 pm, Kathi McKenzie conducted a question and answer session at Orchids 101.

At 3 pm, Gerry Darver called the meeting to order and welcomed all attendees. Around 30 members were present. Denise Griggs led the introductions of 3 visitors.

Minutes

Rhonda Whitson

Gerry announced that donations of orchids and some supplies such as medium, have been made to GNTOS from an individual of a deceased family member. He asked for volunteers to gather after the meeting to discuss the work project to ready the orchids and supplies for sale to the society. Gerry asked that if anyone was interested in purchasing the greenhouse to let him know and an inquiry will be made to the family as to their interest in also selling the greenhouse. David Gould will send out messages to the volunteers regarding the work project, and also to GNTOS members about the sale. Charles Hess suggested that some of the proceeds from the sale go to orchid conservation, and Gerry agreed that was a good idea.

Gerry noted that raffle and sale plants at the last meeting and this meeting were donations from a former member, Bill Williamson. The group also congratulated Barbara McNamee on her acceptance to the judging program.

Mary Heifner introduced the speaker, Professor Courtney Hackney, who presented "Classic Cattleya Hybridizing in the U.S." Professor Hackney is the Director of Coastal Biology at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville, Florida. He has grown orchids since 1962 and enjoys orchid hybridizing. His favorite genera is the Cattleya Alliance. He wrote a column on growing tips for 20 years, and has published in Orchid Digest. He also wrote "American Cattleyas" a book based on a decade of study and interviews on the history and origins of cattleyas. The terminology for his talk included species, population, variety, and clone. He showed slides of many beautiful cattleyas of different colors with description of each. He also briefly discussed old versus new hybridizing directions.

During the refreshment break there was orchid table judging and time for shopping – snooper's table, and raffle tickets for plants.

Nancy Cropp announced the results of the orchid table judging. The plant raffle and name tag drawing was conducted. Gerry Darver adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

Plant Table

Nancy Cropp

GNTOS May 4, 2014,

Plant Table Judging Results

Judges: Barb McNamee & David Gould

Entries: 30 plants

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue - Blc. Yam Everette 'Hot Matte'

– Mike Beber

Red - Blc. Husky Boy Romeo

– Andrew Sherman

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue - Spathoglottis Gold Flip

– Daniel Callahan

Red - Angraecum didieri – Charles Hess

White - Gongora gratulabundy – Mike Beber

ONCIDIUMS

Blue - Erycina pusilla - Barb McNamee

Red - Onc. intergeneric (name unknown)

– Sarah Hardesty

PAPHS & PHRAGS

Blue - Paph. niveum – Jeanne Thompson

Red - Paph. Euphrosyne x In-Charm White

– Linda Horton

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue - Phal. lueddemaniana – Charles Hess

Red - No name Phal. – Daniel Callahan

White - Phal. cornu-cervi

– Jeanne Thompson

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Bulb. maximum – Forest Shipps

Phal. equestris 'Orange 3 Lip'

– Jeanne Thompson

PEOPLES CHOICE

Blc. Husky Boy Romeo – Andrew Sherman

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

Newsletter

Dallas Judging Center

Nancy Cropp

AOS DALLAS JUDGING CENTER MAY 10, 2014

Two plants submitted for consideration, no awards given.

Previously submitted plants for Judging:

Top: Leptotes bicolorowner: Judy Cook

Below: Phrag. Giganteum 3N owner: Judy Cook

Right: Phal. Blue Ridge Dragon-low: Mier Moses

The Dallas Judging Center meets on the second Saturday of every month.

The next meeting is June, 14 at the:
Garland Senior Activity Center
600 West Avenue A,
Garland, TX 75040

11am

Everyone is welcome.



Cattleyas Around the Year

Gene Crocker

Cattleyas remain the most beautiful of all orchids but usually flower for a short period each year. It is possible to have flowers the year around by choosing species and their hybrids that have fixed flowering periods. This series will help you build your collection to achieve that goal.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Gene Crocker retired after working for 25 years as Vice-President of Carter and Holmes Orchids in Newberry, S.C. He has carried on the breeding program started in the 1950's by Bill Carter. Many of his hybrids have been awarded by the AOS, including two that received FCC's and one AQ.

May

Cattleya warneri

JUNE

CATTLEYA PURPURATA
CATTLEYA INTERMEDIA

July

Cattleya warchewiczii
Cattleya gaskelliana



Cattleya purpurata var. alba



Cattleya intermedia var. coerulea

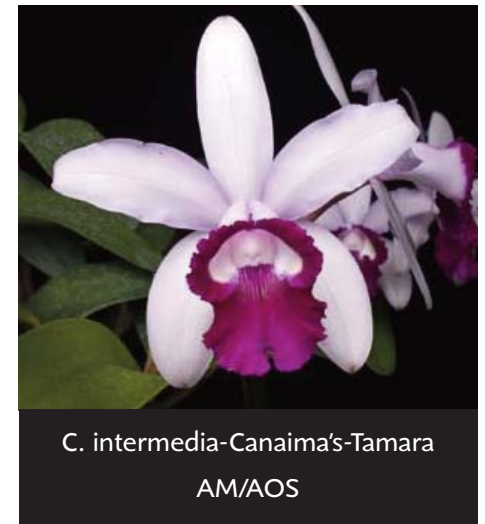
Cattleya purpurata (formerly *Laelia*) can bloom from late May through June. This unifoliate species from Brazil makes its growth in late summer and fall, so it needs to be repotted at that time rather than the late spring-early summer period for most Cattleyas. *C. purpurata* has a rather tall pseudobulb and long narrow foliage. The rhizomes are short, so the upright plant does not outgrow the pot quickly and does not need as much room on the bench. The upright stems produce three to six flowers. Colors range from lavender to white, with some of the white ones having dark re-purple lips and others having flesh pink lips (*carnea*). The *werkhauseri* and *schusteriana* forms have slate blue to purple lips.

Cattleya intermedia is another bifoliate from Brazil that blooms in June and July. The flowers are waxy and medium in size. They tend to last longer on the plant and have heavy substance. They come in various colors and have been used to make hybrids that also bloom in early to mid summer. One form, "*acquini*", is peloric, which means "regularity in anything that is normally irregular". In this form the flower is trying to make three lips, so the lip colors show on the petals. Sometimes the petals pitch forward like the lip. This color form is inherited in hybrids made with *C. intermedia acquini*.

Encylas and hybrids of encylas with cattleyas tend to bloom in June and July. These hybrids are now called *Cattcyc* and can be very colorful and desirable.



C. purpurata werkhauserii 'superba'



C. intermedia-Canaima's-Tamara
AM/AOS

Cattleya bowringiana

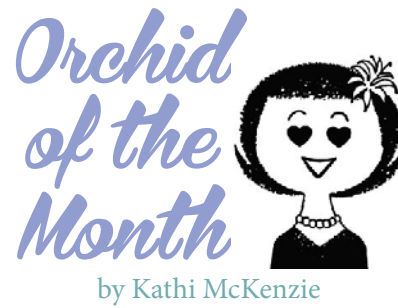
C. bowringiana is known for its bouquet of flowers, its vigor, and its ease of culture. Native to Belize and Guatemala, it (along with *C. skinneri*) is the most northern growing of the catts. *C. bowringiana* is very adaptable and can be found in nature not only growing on large tropical trees, but also growing as a lithophyte on sunny rock faces, or as a terrestrial along streams.

It was discovered by James Veitch & Sons. Veitch first exhibited it in London in 1885 as “*Cattleya autumnalis*.” It was later awarded an FCC by the Royal Horticultural Society, and at that time Veitch re-named it *C. bowringiana* to honor one of his favorite customers, John C. Bowring.

A typical plant produces 5-10 rose-lavender flowers per spike, and a well-grown plant can have a head of 15 to 25 flowers per spike. With two or three strong leads a medium-sized *bowringiana* can easily produce 50 or so blooms. Unlike many catts, it has no true alba or semi-alba form. There are, however dark purple forms, *coeruleas*, and light lavenders that approach white.

Bowringiana's contributions to hybridization include two famous orchids: *C. Portia* (a cross with *C. labiata*), and *C. Porcia* (a cross that includes *dowiana*, *warscewiczi* and *loddigesii* in its background). Both *C. Portia* and *C. Porcia* retain the vigor and habit of producing “bouquets” of blooms, and have won multiple awards.

While *C. bowringiana* is considered easy to grow, it does have its preferences. When actively growing, it requires an abundance of water. In order to meet that preference without damaging the roots, it is best to underpot it slightly, allowing room in the pot for only a single year's growth. When repotting, be sure to keep the bottom of the swollen base of the lead pseudobulb level with the surface of the medium, as the eyes are set low and if covered with medium can rot rather than produce new growth. *C. bowringiana* will send out new growths in late spring to mature by late summer for fall blooms.



bowringiana



bowringiana
coerulea

Portia Cannizaro





Focus on Photography

Written and Photographed by
M. Forest Shipps

This month I'm going to show you how to make an inexpensive light table that you can use to photograph flowers or many other

smaller objects for just a few dollars. Professional light tables can cost several hundred dollars, but with this neat trick you can get the same results without squeezing your wallet too hard.

First you will need an inexpensive folding chair. I purchased this one at Walmart for about ten dollars. Also, a sheet of white plastic 24" x 48", the type that you use in florescent lighting, about eight dollars at Home Depot. Some of them have the cracked ice look or patterns on them, so you will have to decide which you prefer. You will also need a couple of large "A" clamps, two dollars each, and one or more shop work lights, about ten dollars with bulb.



Now that you have all the materials together, let's get started. First, cut all the webbing off the chair and discard. Next, lay the plastic sheet on the arms. Place the middle of the plastic at the point where the arms and the back of the chair come together. Now place a clamp on each arm to hold the plastic in place.

Now place the work light under the chair/table and you have an instant light table!

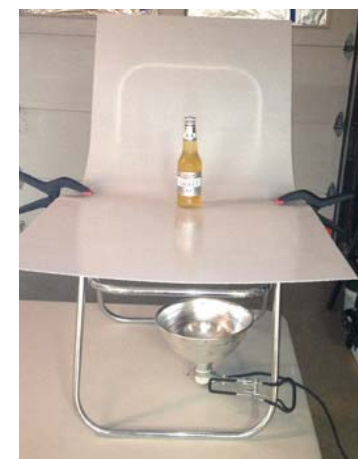
Some variations for lighting this table could be placing lights behind or in front of the table as well as on both sides. The beauty of a light table is you can light your subject from 360 degrees, top and bottom, for ultimate lighting control. One caveat is that the plastic is thin and therefore doesn't hold much weight, so it is limited to smaller objects. However,

you can stiffen the bottom of the table by placing a sheet of glass or clear plastic on the arms of the chair before placing the sheet of white plastic on the chair. Just be

careful not to put something too heavy on it causing it to break or collapse.

For my final shot, I placed a bottle of beer on the table and placed the work light under the table. I also opened the garage door in the background (a window would be just as good) for backlighting and turned on a florescent ceiling light for front light.

So for about \$30.00 or less if you have some of these materials laying around the house you can make a nice light table for creative lighting. Now go MAKE pictures, not take pictures!



Orchid Conservation Update



Charles Hess

Our campaign to support for the Serra Bonita Rainforest Reserve in Brazil will continue throughout this year. The Rainforest Trust has selected a new parcel of land (271 acres) to add to the existing 4500 plus existing acres under protection. As a special incentive, all contributions made in 2014 will be matched dollar for dollar by one of the Trust's donors. OCA is partnering with the Rainforest Trust in this effort.

On the local level, SWROGA has created the Art for Acres program. Any donation to OCA of \$200 or more will be matched as explained above, plus the donor will receive a Thank You gift of a limited edition watercolor print signed by artist Charles Hess. An Oklahoma Orchid Society member has led the way to become this year's first individual \$200 level or "Orchid Guardian" at the show in Oklahoma City on May 10-11. A total of \$275 was raised for the Serra Bonita Reserve at the show.

But an even bigger success for conservation came on the last day of the show, this time benefiting a new project of the Rainforest Trust. This particular location is in the Philippines, a place near and dear to my heart, having lived there for five years in the early eighties. It is on the island of Palawan and is called Cleopatra's Needle Forest Reserve. I have fond memories of visiting this island on Christmas break in 1983 while working in Luzon with Texas Instruments. I brought back an *amabilis grandiflora* from that visit, and I still have it today. In fact, it is one of the most prized orchids in my collection.

Cleopatra's Needle forest Reserve, an 80,000 acre

tract, will safeguard one of the oldest and most diverse rainforests in Southeast Asia. In partnership with the Centre for Sustainability, contributions to this project will protect the land and preserve the habitat from further destruction. Sadly, today only 3.2 % of the Philippine rainforests remains intact, so it is of vital importance that we help protect this area.

The orchids of Palawan have not been well researched. According to the conservation officer for the Rainforest Trust, botanists have not yet studied this mountain well, leaving many orchid species still to be discovered, as the cloud forest is still intact. I am pleased to report that the members of the Oklahoma Orchid Society dug deep at the kickoff fundraiser for this new project, and raised \$635 through a raffle ticket sale. First prize was an original watercolor painting. Karlene Sanborn from Prairie Orchids was the winner, as shown here receiving her painting. Much credit goes to Carolyn McCabe, who made a spirited last minute sweep of all the show vendors to ensure that all tickets were sold.

Kudos to all the Oklahoma Orchid Society for raising a grand total of \$910 for conservation. In addition, their Conservation Representative, Mike Friday assembled an outstanding storyboard, which not only described these two forest reserves but also provided a well-researched look at the local orchid species in and around Oklahoma.

Last month's quiz asked the question, "What percentage of the earth's total surface is covered by rainforests?" The correct answer is 2%. OOS, the winner, will receive an OCA coffee mug. The next quiz will go out to all societies as I had originally planned.

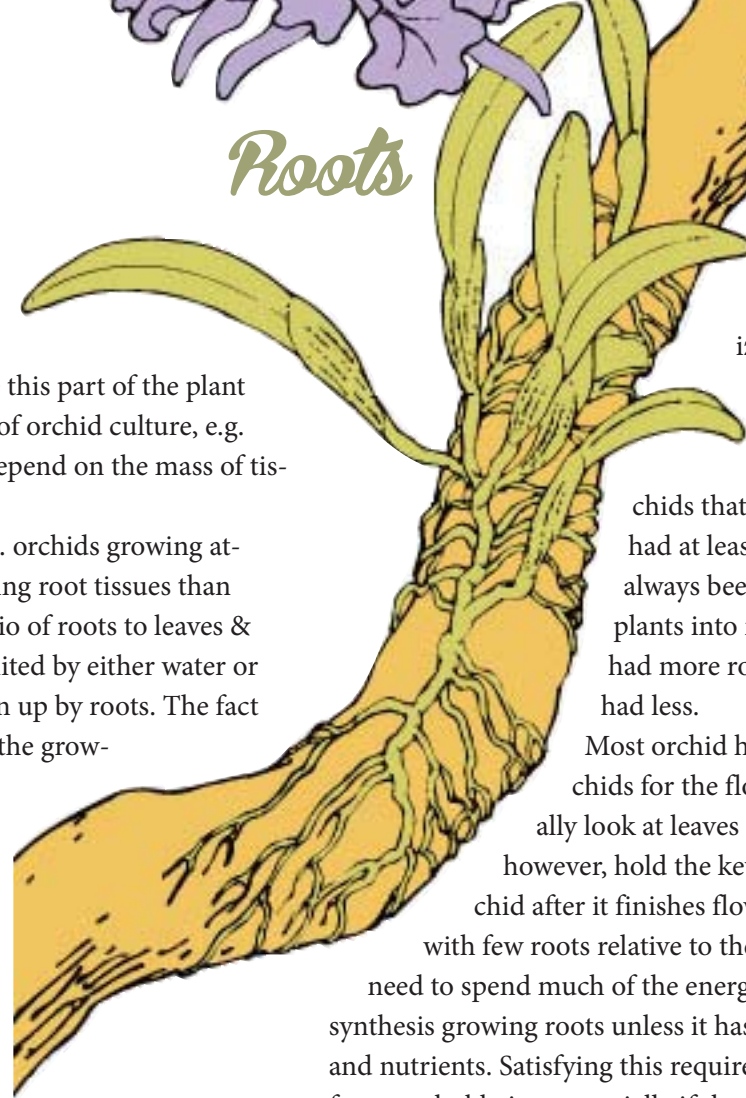


Orchid Growing Tips

by Courtney Hackney

A monthly growers advice column by Courtney Hackney. Hackneau@comcast.net

This column is written in humid coastal North Carolina and Florida, and the advice given should be adjusted to the readers climate.



Orchid plants need roots! That statement seems so obvious that many of us forget the pivotal role this part of the plant plays. Much of the other aspects of orchid culture, e.g. light intensity, fertilizer, etc, all depend on the mass of tissues we call roots.

In nature, most epiphytes, i.e. orchids growing attached to trees, have far more living root tissues than leaves, bulbs, and stems. That ratio of roots to leaves & stems tells us that the plant is limited by either water or nutrients, both of which are taken up by roots. The fact that roots quickly penetrate into the growing medium and around and on the pot of our orchids in culture tells us that they too require these water & nutrients for growth.

Over the years, I have visited many commercial and hobby orchid growers and observed all kinds of orchids being grown both poorly and well. The one great surprise is that there is no universal set of cultural techniques used by great growers. One hobbyist claimed that he never or rarely fertilized and grew in very high light. While his orchids' leaves were yellow green, they were clearly blooming and growing well. Another excellent grower fertilized every time he watered, except for flushing without fertilizer once a month. He too, had beautifully grown plants and excellent flowers. The one difference between the orchids in these two greenhouses was the quantity of roots on orchids from these two growers.

Orchids fertilized with every watering had fewer roots than my own plants, while or-

chids that were never fertilized had at least twice as many. It has always been very easy to move plants into my culture when they had more roots than when they had less.

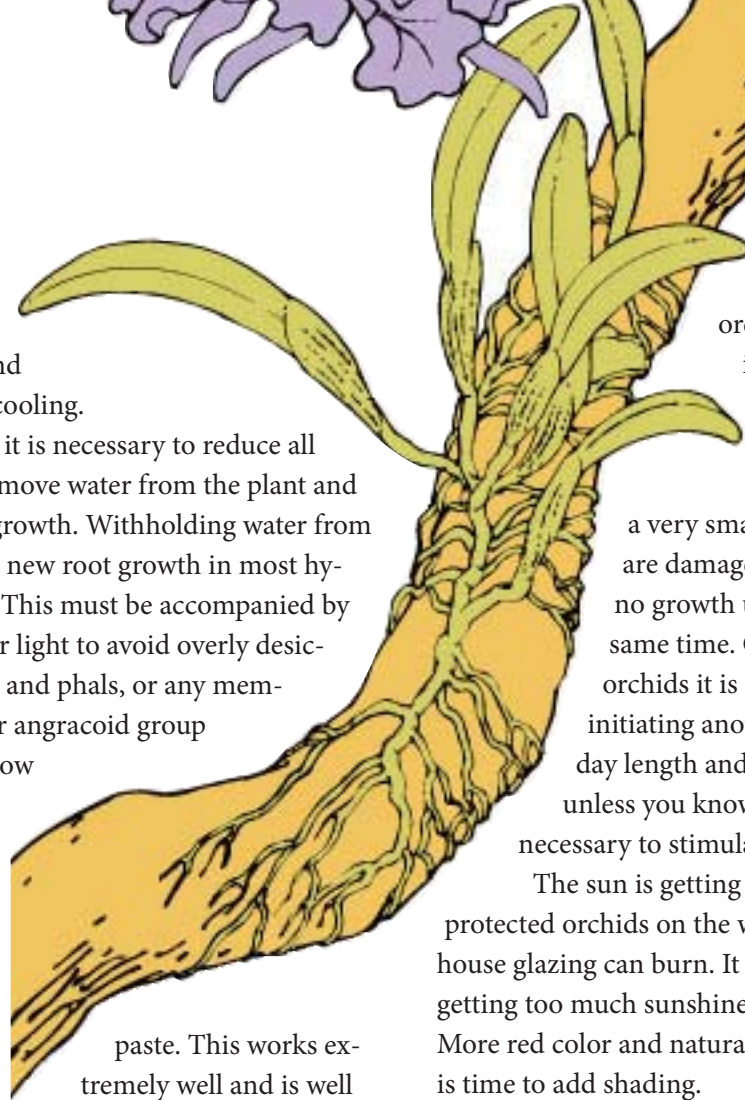
Most orchid hobbyists purchase orchids for the flowers and may casually look at leaves and bulbs. The roots, however, hold the key to growing this orchid after it finishes flowering. An orchid with few roots relative to the weight of leaves will need to spend much of the energy derived from photosynthesis growing roots unless it has constant moisture and nutrients. Satisfying this requirement can be difficult for most hobbyists, especially if the medium in which you grow is coarse, or you grow in high light or heat. It does not matter if there were never roots on the plant or that they were killed by over watering, the effect is the same and the remedy is to grow more roots.

Once roots are lost it is very difficult for the hobbyist to get adequate nutrients into the orchid plant since roots are the main route into the plant. Some growers claim great success "foliar feeding" orchids. Most scientific studies have not been able to verify nutrient uptake through this method. The waxy leaf tissues prevent water loss and consequently water gain. The only exceptions are the

Continued

stomata underneath leaves. These open to admit carbon dioxide and release water vapor for cooling.

When roots are lost it is necessary to reduce all factors which tend to remove water from the plant and to encourage new root growth. Withholding water from the plant will encourage new root growth in most hybrids and some species. This must be accompanied by high humidity and lower light to avoid overly desiccating the plant. Vandas and phals, or any member of the vandaceous or angracoid group can be encouraged to grow their few, thick roots by applying one of the commercial root-inducing hormones, usually dissolved in lanolin and sold as a



paste. This works extremely well and is well worth the cost to save a few

plants.

For orchids such as cattleyas, oncidiums, dendrobiums and even paphs, fertilizing with a fertilizer made from seaweed will often stimulate both root growth and multiple new growths. These fertilizers contain auxins, plant hormones in tiny quantities that are enough to initiate new growth. I recently added one of the powdered root-inducing hormones (RooTone) to my fertilizer water to try to stimulate new growth and was rewarded by lots

of new roots in the next few weeks.

Root growth for some orchid species, though, is almost impossible to initiate except at very specific times in the growth cycle. Some bifoliate cattleya species only put out

a very small number of roots and if these are damaged or destroyed, there will be no growth until the following year at the same time. Once roots are lost from these orchids it is necessary to fool the plant into initiating another growth cycle by altering day length and temperature. Do not try this unless you know exactly what conditions are necessary to stimulate root growth.

The sun is getting higher on the horizon and unprotected orchids on the windowsill and near the greenhouse glazing can burn. It is easy to tell if your plants are getting too much sunshine by examining leaf pigments. More red color and natural pigmentation is a sign that it is time to add shading.

The history of the GNTOS goes way back. In the mid-40s there were only three orchid growers in town: Eli Sanger of Sanger Brothers, which was Dallas' biggest department store at that time; Roy Munger, known for Munger Place and Munger Street, and Percy Larkin.

Margie Corn, a garden columnist, was the source of any orchid information they could find and she gave their names to a woman running Hardy's Seed Company, Mrs. Moses. They gathered at her house one day in 1946 and it was Mr. & Mrs. Polhemus, Mr. & Mrs. Roy Carter, Homer Baldwin, Percy Larkin and a young man from Waxahachie named Costalanus. They decided they would apply for AOS membership and started receiving the Bulletin and meeting monthly. More and more people started to show up and they elected Percy Larkin, Jr. their first president in 1947. This was the North Texas Orchid Society.

They held their first show in 1950 at the Marsh Kaiser Fraiser automobile agency on Ross Avenue. Jack Morris was president of the society and Homer Baldwin sent out invitations to everyone who grew orchids in Dallas. Invitations also went to the big orchid firms who would send representatives from around the country to the show. They had everyone sign a book that came to that show.

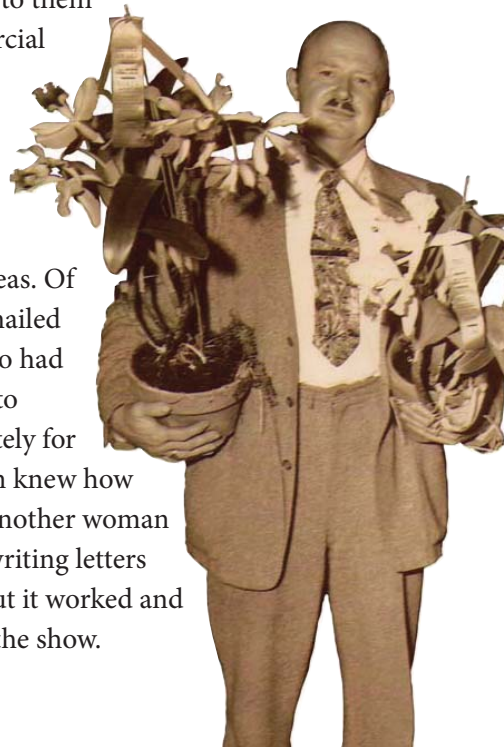
There was an incident over a plant raffle that year that upset several members of the North Texas Orchid Society, so several members chose to leave and form another society calling themselves the

Dallas Orchid Society. Percy Larkin was one of the members who left to form the Dallas Orchid Society. This society was never sanctioned by the AOS.

The following year with much encouragement from Homer Baldwin, most of the members from the Dallas Orchid Society came back to join the original society.

Later, they decided to become affiliated with the American Orchid Society so they wrote a Constitution and Bylaws for the society. On March 19, 1954, they were issued a charter by the AOS as the Greater North Texas Orchid Society.

They put on a show in the Dallas Garden Center but there weren't enough plants in the area so the bulk of the show was made up of boxes of blooms sent to them for free from commercial growers. They'd get five, six, or seven boxes of flowers from different growers from all over the country – even overseas. Of course, Homer had mailed cards to everyone who had an ad in the Bulletin to achieve this. Fortunately for Homer, Lena Baldwin knew how to type and she and another woman spent half the night writing letters on two typewriters but it worked and they had orchids for the show.



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)

Membership Dues

Please mail completed form with payment to:

Kathy Halverson
1922 Baylor Drive
Richardson, TX 75081

Make check payable to GNTOS.

New Member Renewing Member

Name (#1): _____

Name (#2): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail (#1): _____

E-mail (#2): _____