

Next Meeting:
July 6
Meeting:
Auction

- 1 Program Speaker
- 2 President's Message
- 2 Calendar
- 3 Orchids 101
- 3 Meeting Minutes
- 4 Plant Table Results
- 5 Judging Center Results
- 7 Cattleyas All Year
- 10 Orchid of the Month
- 11 Focus on Photography
- 12 Conservation
- 13 Growing Tips
- 14 Membership Info



This month we will have our Semi-annual Auction and snacks. There isn't a speaker or plant judging, just bidding on plants and eating food. Bring a refreshment, finger food or dessert of your choice to share.

We will have many beautiful plants for the auction. Please bring plants or divisions for the auction, as well as collectibles or any orchid related item. Jerry Brandenburg will be our auctioneer, so be prepared for a fun afternoon and lots of bad jokes.

This is the event that we do to raise funds for the society, so bring your bidding spirit and get ready to bid to help support the GNTOS.

Officers

PRESIDENT

Gerry Darver

VICE PRESIDENT

Mary Heifner

SECRETARY

Rhonda Whitson

TREASURER

Kathy Halverson

SWROGA

DIRECTORS

Brandenburgs

NEWSLETTER

EDITOR

David Gould

GNTOS

WEBMASTER

Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Lorna Kissling

This week is the first week of summer and the temperature certainly proves it. Be sure to water and fertilize sufficiently. Mist plants several times a day to increase humidity and to lower the temperature.

I wanted to remind everyone that GNTOS is non profit, and therefore dependent on funds raised from dues, plant raffles, plant table sales, and our two auctions each year. We all enjoy our fabulous speakers each month; however, it is costly to pay for travel, meals and lodging. I wish to encourage volunteers to contact Mary Heifner our vice president to help with transportation and free housing for our visiting speakers. I think that you would enjoy the experience and find it very educational.

I want to also encourage you all to open your pocketbooks for the meeting raffles and especially the auctions. Also please bring plants for donation to the raffles, plant tables, and particularly for the auction.

Please remember that the July meeting will be the auction, so there will be no plant table. Bring nice plant to donate, a pot luck snack, and lots of money for bidding. The Brandenburgs will once again lead the auction and provide the entertainment.

I will sadly miss the July meeting, so Mary will be in charge. Stay cool.

Gerry

President's Message

Calendar

by Mary Heifner

July 6	<i>Semiannual Auction</i>	
---------------	---------------------------	--

August 3	<i>Tom Mirenda</i>	<i>Miniature Orchids</i>
-----------------	--------------------	--------------------------

September 7	<i>Chaz Smith</i>	<i>Rupicolous Laelias</i>
--------------------	-------------------	---------------------------

October 5	<i>Janet Lambon</i>	<i>Orchid Virus Detection & Prevention</i>
------------------	---------------------	--

November 2	<i>Mark Reinke</i>	<i>Dendrobiums</i>
-------------------	--------------------	--------------------

December 7	<i>Auction & Christmas Party</i>	
-------------------	--------------------------------------	--

January 2015	<i>Dotty Woodson</i>	
---------------------	----------------------	--

March 2015	<i>Jason Fischer</i>	<i>Phrags/Paphs</i>
-------------------	----------------------	---------------------

April 2015	<i>Tom Harper</i>	<i>Specialty Phals</i>
-------------------	-------------------	------------------------

August 2015	<i>Alan Koch</i>	<i>Mini Catts</i>
--------------------	------------------	-------------------

Orchids 101

Kathi McKenzie
& Lorna Kissling

This month we will have a Q&A.

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.

June 1, 2014 GNTOS Meeting Minutes

At 2:30 pm, Lorna Kissling led a discussion about mini orchids at Orchids 101.

At approximately 3 pm, Gerry Darver called the meeting to order. Around 30 members were present. Several visitors were recognized and introduced themselves. Gerry welcomed returning members and all attendees. He

thanked Dr. and Mrs. Allan deVilleneuve for their generous donation of many orchid plants for GNTOS.

Minutes

Rhonda Whitson

Gerry thanked all of the volunteers that assisted with the greenhouse orchid sale (donated plants from the family of a deceased individual). Over 100 plants were sold and \$900 raised. There are a few more plants for sale, along with pots and wire hangers, and the greenhouse. Members were interested in having another opportunity to buy plants. Gerry will arrange for another sale next Saturday from 10 am to Noon. David will send a notice to members about the sale.

Gerry announced that the July GNTOS meeting will be an auction and encouraged everyone to come and also to bring food for the pot luck meal.

Mary Heifner introduced the speaker, Arthur Chadwick, founder of Chadwick & Son Or-

chids Inc. Art founded the company with his dad, a long-time orchid grower. Besides growing orchids, Art is a writer of a monthly orchid advice column and a book written with his dad (The Classic Cattleyas), and a speaker at orchid conferences. Art shared pictures of greenhouses that once were next to the White House, but were taken down and replaced by the West Wing. Art and his father have named Cattleya hybrids after the wives of U.S. Presidents, including the last 4 wives. The last 14 First Ladies have Cattleyas named after them, with Mrs. Hoover being the first in 1929. First Lady Laura Bush was the first to grow orchids in her home. Art shared photos of the First Ladies' Cattleyas with the lineage of each. Three of the First Ladies' Cattleyas have been awarded by AM/AOS.

Art provided a handout with monthly blooming dates for different Cattleyas. He also shared that he grows Cattleyas in sphagnum moss in clay pots as they like the moisture.

During the refreshment break there was orchid table judging, time for shopping on the sale table and for buying raffle tickets for plants.

Nancy Cropp announced the results of the orchid table judging. Gerry conducted the plant raffle and name tag drawing. Gerry adjourned the meeting at 4:25 pm.

Plant Table

Nancy Cropp

GNTOS JUNE 1, 2014

Judges: Lorna Kissling & Barb McNamee

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue – Shom. ticibinis – Mike Beber

Red – Lc. Canhamiana semi-alba

– Nancy Cropp

White – Slc. Bright Circle – Forest Shipps

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue – Den. wassellii – Mike Beber

Red – Bulb. falcatum 'Ninette Maples'

– Charles Hess

White – Cym. Dame Catherine 'Spring Day'

– Forest Shipps

ONCIDIUMS

Blue – Psychopsis Kalihi alba

– Andrew Sherman

PAPH & PHRAGS

Blue – Paph. dayanum – Jeanne Thompson

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue – Phal. parishii – Charles Hess

Red – Phal. speciosa – Charles Hess

White – Phal. I-Hsin The Big Bang

– Sarah Hardesty

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Bulb. frostii – Barb McNamee

Den. wassellii – Mike Beber

Phal. parishii – Charles Hess

PEOPLES CHOICE

Shom. ticibinis – Mike Beber

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

AOS DALLAS JUDGING CENTER
JUNE 14, 2014

Eighteen plants entered for consideration,
five awards given:

1. **Phal. gigantea 'Meir #1'**
HCC 75 points, owner: Peter Lin, Southlake
2. **Phal. Blue Ridge Dragon 'Pylo'**
HCC 77 points, owner: Peter Lin, Southlake
3. **Phal. Bernice Maskin 'tba'**
HCC 78 points, owner: Peter Lin, Southlake
4. **Phal. San Shia Appendo 'Pylo'**
HCC 78 points, owner: Peter Lin, Southlake
5. **Phal. Dragon Tree Eagle 'Dragon Tree #1'**
AM 86 points, owner: Peter Lin, Southlake

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

The next meeting is
July, 12 at the:
Garland Senior
Activity Center
600 West Avenue A,
Garland, TX 75040

11am

Everyone is welcome.



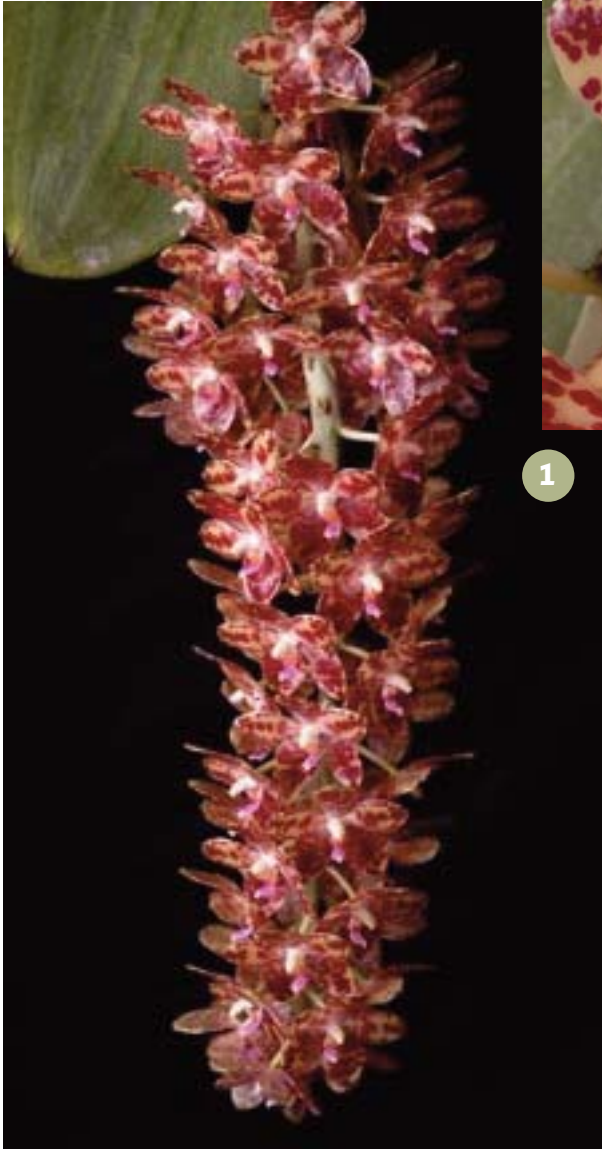
Dallas Judging Center

Nancy Cropp



Dallas Judging Center

continued



1



3



6

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.

June

Cattleya Purpurata
Cattleya intermedia

JULY

CATTLEYA WARCHEWICZII
CATTLEYA GASKELLIANA

August

Cattleya tenebrosa
Cattleya dowiana aurea



Cattleya warchewiczii

The largest flowered of all Cattleyas, *Cattleya warchewiczii*, (formerly *C. gigas*), blooms in July on growths made in the spring. Sometimes the buds come up in the sheaths while the growths are not mature. The plants are large and the flowers can be huge. Although it is not a bifoliate, I have seen 13 large flowers on one stem. Unfortunately, the flowers have poor substance and only last about a week. It has been used some in hybridizing. One inherited quality is large yellow eyes in the lip. This species, from Brazil, is not particularly easy to grow. There are a couple of famous clones, 'Frau Melanie Beyrodt' – semi alba, and 'Firmin Lambeau' – pure white. The 'Firmin Lambeau' clone was discovered in Brazil in the early 1900's by John Lager, and was sold by him for \$5000, equivalent to \$100,000 today.



C. warchewiczii 'Firmin Lambeau'

Cattleya gaskelliana, from Venezuela, flowers in July. It is fairly easy to grow and flowers on the new growths. Flowers are not particularly large, but they are usually attractive, pastel lavender to white colors. Some of the best "blue" colors are found in *C. gaskelliana* and its hybrids.

July-August: Many of the bifoliate species from Brazil flower in July and August on the new growths. Some, such as *Cattleya leopoldii* and *Cattleya guttata*, have tall pseudobulbs and make large plants with large clusters of blooms. Their hybrids have much vigor and

continued on next page



Cattleya gaskelliana 'Carlisle'



Cattleya gaskelliana caerulea 'Divina'

Cattleyas Around the Year

Gene Crocker

continued



Cattleya leopoldii



Cattleya guttata

usually also flower in mid-summer. A more dwarf form is *C. aclandiae*. The species is not easy to grow, but it has been used to make hybrids that have large, dark spotting on petals and sepals.

Cattleya granulosa has been used to make green hybrids. There are bronze forms, but the clear green ones have been used most in hybridizing. Lc. Ann Follis is one of the popular green hybrids from *C. granulosa*.

Cattleya bicolor also comes in bronze and green colorations. It has been used to give substance to yellow hybrids, and the green ones have been used to produce green hybrids such as Bc. Binosa. *C. bicolor*, like many of the bifoliate forms from Brazil, has a "spade" lip. This means the lip does not have side lobes but is flat and spade shaped. This trait carries forward - especially in some of the modern yellow hybrids. The flowers can still be quite beautiful.

Cattleya harrisoniana is similar to the January flowering *C. loddigesii*, and is often confused with that species. However, the bloom seasons are several months apart. *C. harrisoniana* has taller plants than *C. loddigesii*, but the flowers are flat and medium sized and about the same shape and colors as *C. loddigesii*. The alba form has been used to make the late summer "wedding bouquet" white hybrids.

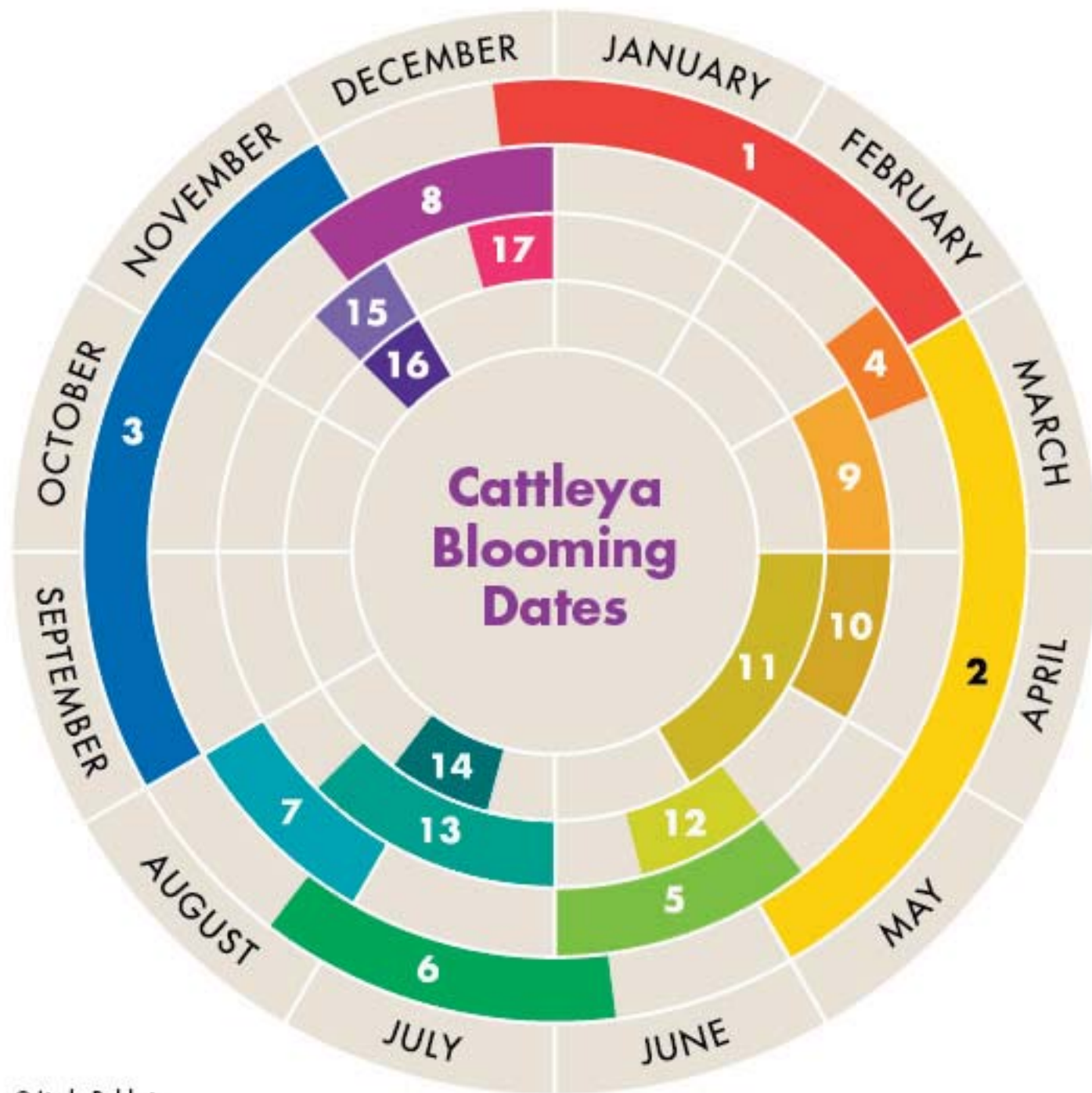
All of the Brazilian bifoliate forms need to be repotted when they are actively growing and are about ready to make their new roots. If repotted while dormant they will frequently fail to make a new growth and remain dormant for a year or more. – or just give up and die!



Cattleya bicolor



Cattleya harrisoniana



- 1-*C. trianaei*
- 2-*C. mossiae*
- 3-*C. labiata*
- 4-*C. schroederiae*
- 5-*C. gaskelliana*
- 6-*C. warscewiczii*
- 7-*C. dowiana*
- 8-*C. perciviliana*
- 9-*C. luddemanniana*
- 10-*C. lawrenceana*
- 11-*C. mendelii*
- 12-*C. warneri*
- 13-*C. eldorado*
- 14-*C. rex*
- 15-*C. maxima*
- 16-*C. jenmanii*
- 17-*C. quadricolor*

Habenaria Radiata

Habenaria radiata is sometimes called the white egret flower, due to its unusual shape. It is a terrestrial orchid that is native to Japan, Korea, and eastern China, growing in grassy wetland areas. The Japanese name for this species is sagisou, meaning “egret grass/herb”. Japan is home to many white egrets who often share the same wetlands, so it is easy to see how it got its name. It is endangered in its natural habitat due primarily to habitat destruction. Currently, it is still found in nature in upland bogs and seepage areas in the mountains, where land is considered less suited to agriculture and urbanization.

The egret flower is a small orchid, with grassy leaves that emerge from a main stem. It is a deciduous plant, with new leaves emerging in the spring from a tuber. Flowering occurs in late July/August. Each inflorescence holds 1-8 flowers, each about 1.5" wide. The petals and lip are a snowy white, with greenish sepals. The lip is dramatic, with three main lobes. Two extend laterally and are fringed, forming the wings of the “egret.” The flower also has a nectar extending downwards, to add to the feeling of flight.

Habenaria radiata is considered challenging to grow by most collectors. They are grown from small brown tubers, and are deciduous. The tubers should be planted in the early spring, pointy side up, just a half an inch deep. Keep moist, but not wet until they begin to emerge, a process that may take several weeks. You may then increase water. The mix should be acidic and water retentive, but not boggy. Once they finish flowering, continue to grow wet through the summer, but in the fall water should be gradually lessened. During their dormant period, keep cool and fairly dry. In March, lift the tubers, discarding the old bulbs and roots in favor of the newly formed tubers which will bloom in the summer.

Orchid of the Month



by Kathi McKenzie





Focus on Photography

Written and Photographed by
M. Forest Shipps

In photography there are two types of light, ambient and flash. Some people prefer to use only ambient light, which is the existing light, whether it is the light in a room in your house or the light you see outside. Ambient light includes artificial light as well, although some may say that is a third type of lighting. But, for the purposes of this column I'm including artificial light with ambient because in photography artificial light is measured like ambient light.

Flash lighting is anything controlled by the camera and synchronized with the shutter. Flash lighting is easy to use and gives the photographer much more control over the existing light, which in turn gives them more creativity. The more options you have, the better your creativity increases. Flash lighting is much brighter than artificial light, so in the darkest of conditions you can still get the shot. But, flash lighting is expensive like everything else in photography. A basic, used flash can cost \$100 and up. If you can afford it, buy it, it will be well worth the investment.

So, if you can't afford a flash unit and the existing light is not good enough what can you do to get the shot? Increase the light! And here's how to do it for only a few dollars and maybe for free if you already have the materials at your disposal.

The top picture was shot with a LED rope light by using a tripod for the camera and just holding the rope light in my hand and shooting through the improvised ring light. Now, if you don't have a tripod you could build a simple device to hold the rope light and then take the picture handheld.

The bottom picture is the final result using the LED rope light.

Please note that I took the coiled rope light out of the package and plugged it into the outlet. No other adjustments were made. Tip: you can use Christmas lights too. Take a look around your house and see what types of lights that you have lying around that you can adapt to photography. It can be that simple!



Orchid Conservation Update

Charles Hess



How to best maintain a proper environment for our orchids?

This is the question we are faced with at this time of the year, particularly if we have a greenhouse. The easy months have slipped by when things were just right – not too hot, not too cold. Now comes the hot weather, when we are reminded on a daily basis just how sensitive orchids are to their environment.

In the same way as happens in our greenhouses or windowsills, orchids in the wild face challenges, also. We care about our orchids in our collections. They add beauty and pleasure to our lives. And with proper care, and a little luck, they will be there for us to enjoy for many years.

Why, then, should we concern ourselves about orchids in the wild? After all, most of won't have the opportunity to visit the exotic places where they still exist. And any time we want to add to our collections, vendors are only too happy to oblige us with more species than we can fit in our budget!

The answer is really quite simple. This planet is all that we have. It offers all that we need for our existence, and the things of beauty are what make this existence pleasurable. We have been given this beauty in trust and we have an obligation to the future to

protect it. Much of this beauty has not been discovered, and much has already been lost.

Most of this beauty we can never bring into our greenhouses. It must be seen and preserved in its natural state. The Alliance for Zero Extinction has under its purview about 1.4% of the earth's surface that holds about 60% of the terrestrial biodiversity. That is pretty amazing, especially when we consider that we lose an area of forests equivalent to the size of Switzerland every year. With such losses, it is amazing that so much diversity is still being protected. As recently as the 1970, it was projected that by the turn of the century, all of the world's tropical forests would have been logged, and with them much of the biodiversity lost. I remember in the 1970's that rainforests were being lost at the rate of 63 acres a minute. That shocking number has stayed with me. Today that rate is up to 100 acres a minute.

Despite these depressing losses, we are actually seeing dramatic conservation efforts to preserve the remaining areas which have the greatest bio-diversity. Another cause for optimism is the coalition of interests that are coming together to focus on preserving habitats and species. It is likely that bird watchers will take part in eco tours as would an expanding number of societies with their own special interest, such as orchid clubs.

We orchid lovers are benefiting from the combined efforts brought about by the exploding growth of eco tours, as well as the World Wildlife Fund, the Nature Conservancy, and many other organizations who send information to your mailbox, and to which many of you contribute.

Much of this success has come about through partnerships with local organizations already in place yet with proven track records. The Orchid Conservation Alliance selects the most promising organizations to work in partnership with them, and to help with funding. GNTOS and other societies within SWROGA have helped OCA in their Serra Bonita preservation project in Brazil. Other orchid clubs have also become interested in this project, and have made valuable contributions. But it is not just orchid hobbyists contributing. The Rainforest Trust funded this effort as well with an appeal mostly aimed at bird and animal preservationists. And with powerful organization like the Rainforest Trust, our contributions go further with matching funds obtained through their broad reach to so many preservation groups.

I am very optimistic that our efforts to fund the OCA and the Rainforest Trust are making a difference, and that our generation is the one to fulfill our obligation to honor the trust we have with the future generations.

Quiz: What percentage of the Earth's plant and animal species live in rainforests? 10%, 25%, 50%, or 75%? Send your answers to Charles_M_Hess@ymail.com.

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.

Pesticides

There is no topic I hate to discuss more than the subject of pesticides. Unfortunately, it is one of the most requested subjects. There are many reasons for my reluctance, foremost being that these are toxic substances and there is always the possibility of a reader misunderstanding or misinterpreting some key point. There are, however, some important things everyone should know.

First, is that every orchid grower should assume that every product is toxic to people and pets, no matter what they have been told or even what is on the label. Historically, it has been the products we were not worried about that turned out to be the problems. My advice is to use protective gloves and a respirator, even if you are using some seemingly innocuous product such as insecticidal soap.



I am often asked “what are your favorite pesticides?”. My answer is none of the above, because I have no favorite. In fact, my preference would be to never use a pesticide if I could. After years of using all kinds of different products from very toxic to supposedly non-toxic, I am convinced that all of them have some potentially negative effect on orchids. Unfortunately, orchids, like most other cultured plants, have a battery of insect and other pests that can kill them if left unchecked. The most lethal are scale insects: most lethal because they can be almost unseen and literally “suck the life” out of your orchids. The good news is that there are many products that kill them. The bad news is that scales reproduce rapidly, spread quickly, and have pesticide-resistant life stages, making frequent applications a necessity. Many of the most damaging species of scale are largely resistant to common pesticides.

Scales, like many insects, are particularly vulnerable to being smothered by oil sprays or desiccated by soaps that remove their outer protective coatings allowing them to dry up. Because they must shed their outer shells to grow, they are also vulnerable to new hormonal products that target their molting cycle. The high cost and instability of some of these pesticides makes them unavailable to most orchid hobbyists.

A number of hobbyists have told me that they have had some success using insect predators. My few attempts at using natural predators were notably unsuccessful, as the predatory insects vanished soon after their release in the greenhouse. Clearly, this is not a method that would work in the home environment either.

Growers with small numbers of plants treat scale relatively easily with products available at the “local store”. The first product you will need is a magnifying glass. New growers often do not even know that they have a problem because these pests are relatively small creatures, and hide well. Often problems are not suspected until there is a massive infestation. Some patient folks use Q-tips dipped in rubbing alcohol to remove and kill scale as they are found. Others fill large buckets with insecticidal soap or light oil and dip the entire plant, pot and all, covering every surface with the oil or soap.

These are all effective methods for the small grower who really does not need to use the more toxic products. There are also times where it is easier to discard an orchid that has somehow become covered with scale before it infects others in your collection. Lastly, assume that any orchid you add to your collection has this devious little insect hiding somewhere, and treat it appropriately.

Society History

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.

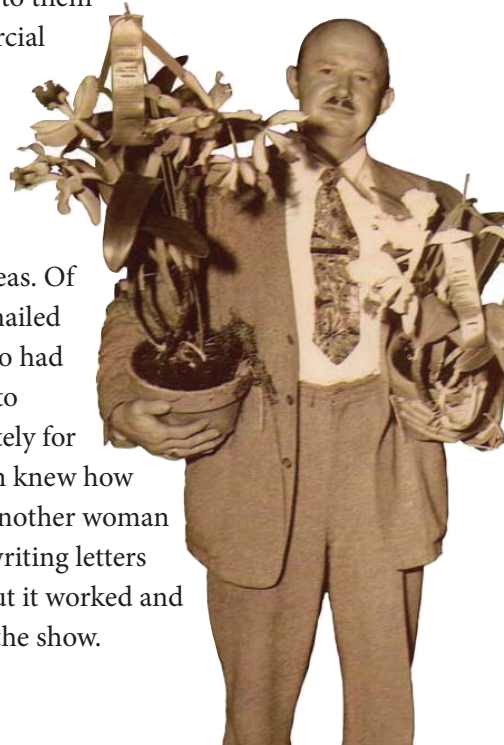
There was an incident over a plant raffle that year that upset several members of the North Texas Orchid Society, so several members chose to leave and form another society calling themselves the

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): _____