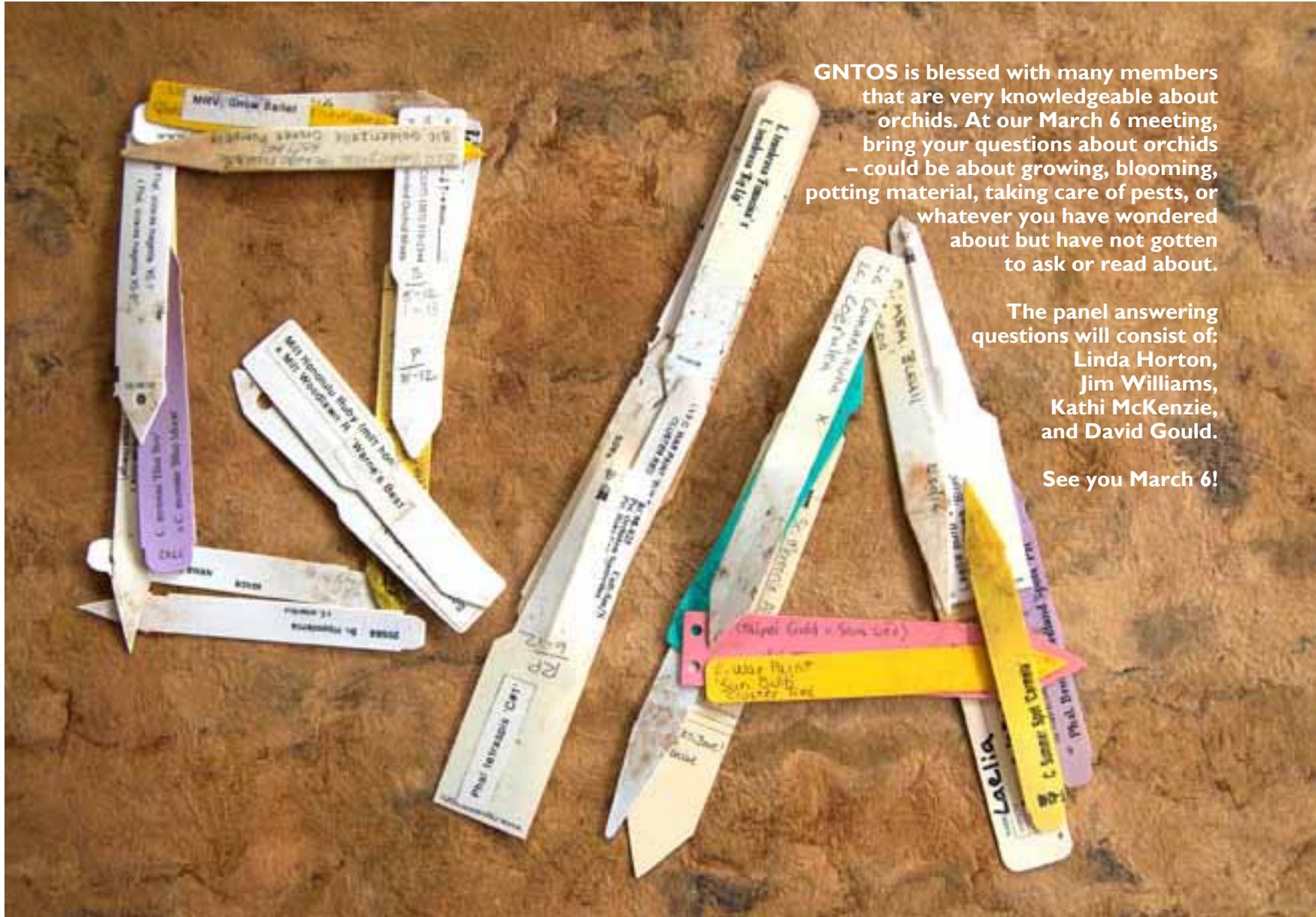


ORCHIDIST

GREATER NORTH TEXAS
ORCHID
SOCIETY

MAR

Next Meeting:
March 6



GNTOS is blessed with many members that are very knowledgeable about orchids. At our March 6 meeting, bring your questions about orchids – could be about growing, blooming, potting material, taking care of pests, or whatever you have wondered about but have not gotten to ask or read about.

The panel answering questions will consist of:
Linda Horton,
Jim Williams,
Kathi McKenzie,
and David Gould.

See you March 6!

OFFICERS

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Brandenburgs

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

David Gould

GNTOS WEBMASTER

Manuel Aybar

PAST PRESIDENT

Gerry Darver

Hi GNTOS members and friends,
Wow what a display of well bloomed plants we had at our meeting last month!

Now get ready to ask a panel of our members questions about how they grow, thanks to our VP Rhonda Whitson. Bring in your questions or a problem plant that you might need some help with.

If you bring in a plant or a leaf that may have bugs, please put it in a clear baggy so we don't have anything possibly infecting other plants brought.

Can you believe that February is gone without as much as a little snow or ice, or for that matter, too much cold weather. Don't get too comfortable yet. We still have mother nature just waiting to surprise us, and in Texas we all know the weather is always changing. The warmer weather will bring out bugs early. Keep an eye on plants that have been in close proximity to one another since they were brought inside for the winter.

On a special note, I want to thank all our members who have been participating as speakers and filling volunteer positions within the society.

Keep blooming, and I will see you all at the next meeting,
Mike

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

MINUTES

Barb McNamee

Mike started the meeting at 3:00 p.m., 31 people in attendance, 2 visitors.

Rhonda introduced the speaker, our own Dr. Judy Cook who presented a program titled "Essentials For Making Plants and People Bloom". She talked about environment, pollinators, cloud forests, water PH and insects, then went on to talk about Bulbophyllums, her ending remarks – talk to your plants. Thanks Judy for an excellent program.

Please remember to vote for your favorite plant and buy raffle tickets. Tham has some openings for refreshments, please sign up if you haven't already.

Dave Gould mentioned the Home and Garden Show next month at Market Hall and another in Fort Worth, we may be able to get a table to solicit new members, anyone interested in helping please contact Dave or Mike.

Mike conducted the plant raffle. Nancy announced the plant table winners – we had a huge number of plants this month great job and beautiful display. Also, our plant point system will be published in the newsletter.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Kathi McKenzie
& Lorna Kissling

ORCHIDS 101

Orchids 101 classes are tailored to the beginning orchid grower. It will be an informal discussion so come bring your questions.

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.



PLANT TABLE Nancy Cropp

Feb. 7, 2016, Plant Table Judging Results

Judges: Rhonda Whitson & David Hines

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue - Lc. Mari's Song - Judy Cook

Red - Rhyncholaelia digbyana
- Robert Marsh

White - Blc. Pamela Hetherington

- Mike Beber

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

Blue - Ludisia discolor - Charles Hess

Red - Den. speciosum - Kathi McKenzie

White - Chysis bractescence
- David Gould

ONCIDIUMS

Blue - Brsdm. Masai Red - Jim Williams

Red - Colm. Pussycat - Gerry Darver

White - unnamed Oncidium
- David Gould

PAPHS & PHRAGS

Blue - Paph. Mem. Nicholas Hamenn
- Judy Cook

Red - Paph. Odette's Charm - Judy Cook

White - Paph. delenati - Karl Varian

VANDAS & PHALS

Blue - Rnst. Bangkok Beauty

- Daniel Callahan

Red - Phal. unknown

- Forest Shipp

White - Dtps. Kaoda Twinkle

- Daniel Callahan

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Laelia anceps v. Workhauseri

- Judy Cook

C. aurantiaca 'Marigold'

- Daniel Callahan

Ludisia discolor - Charlie Hess

Den. speciosum - Kathi McKenzie

Paph. venostum - Judy Cook

PEOPLES CHOICE

Rnst. Bangkok Beauty - Daniel Callahan

54 plants this month!!

Wonderful!!



C. Percivaliana 'Summit' FCC/AOS



C. Mildred Rives



Chysis Bractescens



Den. Speciosum



Ludisia Discolor



Lc. Mari's Song 'CTM 217' HCC/AOS

Nancy Cropp

DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

AOS Dallas Judging Center
Feb. 13, 2016

Twenty-seven plants entered for
consideration, three awards given:

**1. Paph. rothschildianum
'Orchid Konnection Too'**
HCC 75 points
Owner: Orchid Konnection, Dallas

**2. Rlc. Remar's Elation 'Remar'
(Tiny Titan x Little Toshie)**
HCC 75 points
Owner: Marvin & Renee Gerber
Houston

**3. Lc. Blazing Sun 'NN'
(Ctt. Kauai Star Bright x
Ctt. Blazing Treat)**
HCC 78 points
Owner: Orchid Konnection, Dallas



1



2



3

PHALAENOPSIS SCHILLERIANA

P. schilleriana is a beautiful species from the Philippines and Luzon, where it grows high in the trees. It was introduced to Europeans by Consul Schiller at Hamburg Germany in 1859. In 1869, it was described by Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach, a well-known botanist, and the foremost German orchidist of the 19th century.

P. schilleriana is a beautiful orchid whether in or out of bloom, as its foliage is an attractive gray-green with barring on the leaves. In bloom, its inflorescence tends to branch, and can be heavily laden with lightly fragranced pink blooms (one gardening journal of 1892 remarks on a plant with 174 blooms).

Phal *schilleriana* is one of the easiest of phalaenopsis species to grow, and will tolerate a wide range of conditions. Like other phals, it is suitable for growing under lights and in a windowsill, and does not require a greenhouse to be happy. It is an intermediate grower, but needs cooler night temperatures (55° or so) in the fall to initiate spikes. With leaves that may grow a foot long on a mature plants, it is often grown mounted or in a basket, with the flowers spilling downwards.

As a side note, you may see Phal *schilleriana* described with the citation “Rchb.f”. This indicates that it was described by Heinrich Gustav Reichenbach (the note “Rchb.” alone indicates his father, also a famous botanist). Reichenbach was responsible for cataloging many of the thousands of orchids that were being discovered and shipped to Europe during his lifetime. After his death, Frederick Sander commissioned artist Henry George Moon to paint 192 watercolour plates of orchids with descriptions by Reichenbach. These became known as the

Reichenbachia and are considered to be one of the richest reference sources on orchids ever produced.

5



ORCHID OF THE MONTH

Kathi McKenzie





ORCHID LOVERS' SUPERMARKET GUIDE

Rainforest Trust Borneo preserve

ORCHID CONSERVATION UPDATE

by Charles
and Trudy Hess

The choices we make at the supermarket are our best voice for saving species, whether they be orchids or orangutans. As promised in an earlier article, here is some help in how to make environmentally sound selections.

Recently much has been written about the impact of palm oil production on our already vanishing forests, particularly on the rainforests around the world. We are losing forests at the rate of 60 acres an hour, due to not only palm oil demand but also a variety of other needs, such as wood pulp and lumber.

Palm oil had already been in fairly wide use before we even became aware of its impact. We first read about palm oil deforestation in a 1983 AOS Bulletin article about a conservationist rescuing orchids in Malaysia ahead of the lumber saws. This early attempt at conservation, whose main goal was to find new orchid species for hybridizing, certainly saved many orchids from being lost forever. Because time was of the essence as the lumber companies encroached deeper and deeper into the rainforest habitats,

only the most commercially important species were targeted for rescue.

Environmental conservation had not yet entered the public's consciousness, and therefore the ongoing deforestation was seen as a great business opportunity, rather than the environmental disaster it actually was. Certainly for orchid lovers, our only impact on this dreadful situation was the preferences we expressed as customers for certain orchid hybrids as they came on the market.

Fast forward 30 years, and we see how, as a result of globalization, agriculture is no longer simply providing subsistence to local peoples, but has become a player in the international commodities markets. Major agricultural giants sit at all segments of the supply chain, from those who grow the products, to those who transport and refine them, ending with the numerous companies who manufacture the thousands of packaged food varieties we buy. As a result of ever increasing world-wide demand for processed foods, a great many of which contain palm oil and

its derivatives, we see major deforestation taking place in many parts of the world.

We are fortunate that so many organizations such as the *World Wildlife Federation* are active players in maintaining public awareness, in hopes that the public will pressure corporations to reduce their impact on deforestation. How much pressure is applied to this effort depends entirely on us, and on the choices we make when we purchase food and personal care products.



This is trickier than one might think. Palm oil is an ingredient in tens of thousands of products and is listed under a variety

of names. Some products containing palm oil are easy to spot. One villain of particular note is “Nutella”, which is a hazelnut spread, clearly marked as having palm oil and sugar as major ingredients.

Palm oil lengthens food products’ shelf life and also adds texture. It has steadily increased in usage and currently replaces unhealthy trans-fats with saturated fats (also unhealthy). If the product label boasts that it “contains no trans-fats”, this is often a clue that palm oil has been used to provide the feel and texture the customer expects. Palm oil is found in low fat yogurt, low fat milk and,

to our great disappointment, our favorite brand of soy milk. The soy milk container label lists Vitamin A Palmitate, which is a palm oil product. All is not lost, however. We can still have our soy milk for our coffee and cereal. Just recently, we have discovered Westsoy Organic Soy Milk, which happily does not contain Vitamin A Palmitate.

For a more complete list of names and products, go online to:
<http://www.deforestationeducation.com/products-that-contain-palm-oil.php>

This site also lists many brand names that will help you in your shopping decisions. The small amount of extra effort required for being informed is definitely worthwhile, when we remember that with every purchasing choice we save an orchid or some other form of wildlife.

Unfortunately, manufactures have no incentive to make the job easier for us. Recently while browsing the shelves in Sprouts we came across a package of treats for children. The green leaves and adorable jungle critters on the package exterior were designed to denote an ecofriendly food, meant to attract children. However, upon checking the label we found – you guessed it – palm oil on the list of ingre-



dients. Not what we would call ecofriendly.

This little example just goes to show that we all have to remain alert, and take the time to read labels, and stay informed. Conservation is not a spectator sport. We are all in the battle together if we

want to see our orchid habitats survive for the future generation of orchid lovers.

ORCHIDS THROUGH THE YEAR 2016

by Ned Nash
and James Rose

MONTHLY CHECKLIST FOR JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

Cattleya Watering and fertilizing will be at a minimum, as will potting. Be on the lookout for senescing sheaths on your winter-into-spring bloomers. Careful removal of the dying sheaths will still allow buds to develop without the danger of condensation-induced rot. Low light will lead to weak spikes, so, and as noted above, staking is critical. If you have a chance to get out to nurseries, there may still be a chance to acquire good plants in sheath for spring bloom. Getting them now not only ensures that you'll have them, but allows them to acclimate to your conditions and bloom at their best.

Cymbidium We are well into the flowering season now. Outdoor growers should be cautious of freezing temperatures. Damage starts to occur below 30° F. Be diligent about tying the inflorescences for best arrangement of the flowers. Also watch closely for slugs and snails. If weather is quite wet, protect the plants from the rain and this will help to reduce the risk of botrytis spotting.

Lycaste The most glorious of all orchids, Lycaste, will be moving toward their flowering season. Make sure the palm-like leaves do not interfere with the emerging inflorescences. Tying them loosely together often

is helpful. Some growers cut the leaves off at the pseudobulb, but this removes part of the attractiveness of this elegant orchid. Resist picking up the plant to inspect those beautiful buds and then setting it down in all different directions as the flower buds will be forced to re-orient themselves to the light source each time and will not open as nicely as they should. Keep plants a little drier during the shorter days.

Odontoglossums Odontoglossums and their intergeneric hybrids offer a great splash of color now. Though once thought of as being difficult to grow and requiring cool temperatures due to the emphasis on odontoglossum breeding, the new intergeneric hybrids made using Oncidium and Brassia, for example, are just the opposite. These plants are quite content in more intermediate conditions. New growths generally emerge in the spring, later forming beautiful plump pseudobulbs. Look for the flower spikes to emerge from the inner sheath of the pseudobulb. If your plant's pseudobulbs are shriveled, then the plants have been kept too dry or too wet. Inspect the roots to determine which condition prevailed. If the lead pseudobulb is large, plump and green (and back bulbs are shriveled) but no flower spike is evident, the plants may have been kept too dry.



Paph. Chiu Hua Dancer 'Orchid Konnection Too'

(*gigantifolium* x *sanderianum*)

HCC 75 points

Owner: Orchid Konnection, Dallas

Paphiopedilum The standard Paphiopedilum insigne-derived hybrids, which are called “bull dogs” and “toads”, are at their peak. Unlike most other orchids, they can even be potted while in bud. There really is no wrong time to pot

THERE REALLY IS NO
WRONG TIME TO REPOT A
PAPHIOPEDILUM, AND NO
OTHER ORCHID RESPONDS
SO FAVORABLY TO FRESH
MIX AND A CLEANUP

a paphiopedilum, and no other orchid responds so favorably to fresh mix and a cleanup. Keep an eye on watering until roots begin to grow.

Phalaenopsis

Now is the peak of spike development, with the first plants in full flower. Staking and plant preparation is a must for those all-important

spring shows. Correct staking now will give a better display and also make it much easier to transport to your society meetings and shows. Care with watering

is vital to avoid mechanical damage to the flowers, as well as rot-related problems. Keep spent blooms cleaned up to avoid botrytis inoculation. Do not repot this month. Now you'll be seeing lots of phalaenopsis at orchid shows and sales.

Zygopetalum For the most part, the flowering season will have ended for this group, providing the grower a chance to do some repotting. The plants will then have a chance to become well established before the hotter months of summer arrive. Most growers use bark mixes, but some exceptional results have been seen lately using rock-wool blends. You may want to try this mix, but do not change your whole collection over to this new media until you are sure it is right for you. First, experiment with a few plants to see how they respond.

ORCHID GROWING TIPS

by
Courtney Hackney

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

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

CONTROLLING ORCHID ROTS

There is likely no more important subject to orchid growers than pest and disease control. Many new hobbyists lose orchids to both before realizing there was a problem. Typically, by March, problems in your growing area manifest themselves because orchids are crowded together in cold windows and greenhouses. This provides the ideal environment for disease and pests to spread from plant to plant.

I often get numerous inquiries asking what I use to combat pests of various kinds and disease. My reluctance to specify any given pesticide or product is not because of the fear of a lawsuit, but because there are so many variables that go into a successful control program. There are, however, some general products and approaches that have worked well for me, and are worth sharing. There are also cautions.

The first and most important rule is good sanitation, which includes adequate air movement, maintenance of appropriate temperature and humidity, and the removal of dead

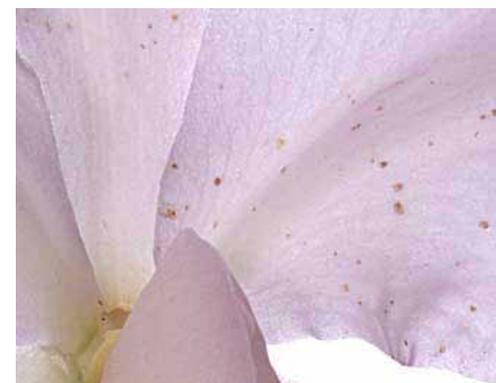
or infested plant tissues. Air needs to be exchanged with fresh outside air to lower bacterial and fungal spore levels. Indoor hobbyists may have the same problem when their growing area is semi-enclosed. These steps alone solve at least half of the potential bacteria/fungal problems.

Botrytis, black spots on flowers, is a common problem in winter or in overly humid greenhouses. This is rarely a problem when there is good air movement or when night temperatures are above 65° F. Once Botrytis appears in a greenhouse it can be difficult to eliminate. It can be done, however. First, remove all dead tissues from benches, floors, and plants. Flowers with these black spots will also need to be removed. Spray walkways, benches and other non-living surfaces with Physan or another agent that kills bacteria at the recommended dose. Note that there are usually two different Physan mixing formulas, one for orchid applications and one for sterilizing non-living surfaces. Some growers use a 10% Clorox solution to kill bacteria on non-living surfaces.



It is a shame to wait all year for flowers and then have them ruined by Botrytis.

The fungus is prevalent during cool, damp spells of winter.



If conditions are proper, Botrytis spores can quickly spread from the lesions it makes

ORCHID GROWING TIPS

The next step is to kill the spores that are hiding on plants. One of the best products is an old copper based product called Kocide. It is relatively inexpensive, but not always readily available for the hobbyist. Apply at the recommended level to all plants, but not on flowers. It will leave a blue sheen on leaves. It also has the added benefit of inhibiting slugs as copper is deadly to them and they will not cross a leaf covered with this product.

The next step is very important. Increase air movement beyond what you had before. Every flower in the greenhouse needs to move in the breeze you create. Never water if there is even the slightest chance that the day will be cloudy. Remove any water remaining on leaves before nightfall. If new spots appear, apply hydrogen peroxide. This is the same concentration used for cleaning a wound and can be purchased at any drug store. Dab the infected area with a cotton ball or remove the flower. If more spots appear, then air movement is not adequate or night temps are below 65° F.

Fungi also prefer moist conditions and respond to the same control measures. All four of these products (Clorox, Physan, Kocide, and Hydrogen Peroxide) have been around for a long time, which gives me some confidence that there are few unknown side effects. They are all dangerous poisons and I treat each as if it was the most toxic product on the planet and wear

protective gloves, respirator, and clothing. It never hurts to be over cautious. Be especially careful when preparing the Kocide solution as the fine powder can easily become airborne and inhaled.

Treatment	Details	Indoors?
Cinnamon	Use this natural treatment mostly for prevention of fungal infection (such as on a freshly cut leaf). Cinnamon has been heralded as an effective treatment for fungus in orchids.	Safe indoors and in your food.
Physan 20 or Captan	For more significant fungal infections, these sterilizing chemicals should be used when fungal problems have gotten out of hand.	Both Physan 20 and Captan come with warnings for humans and should be used with careful adherence to the products instructions. They are not terribly toxic, but use caution nonetheless.
Hydrogen Peroxide	Certain orchids don't respond well to Physan on their foliage. It has been suspected that Physan actually strips the protective coating off leaves, making them even MORE susceptible to fungal and other problems. The answer to this problem is to use Physan 20 only on the roots of the plants, either soaking, if bare-root, or in watering, and to use a solution of 30% hydrogen peroxide sprayed on the plant.	Safe indoors.
Athlete's Foot Spray	Some have had success with spraying a mist of generic athlete's foot spray above their orchids with very positive results. This works with seedlings as well as mature plants of all types.	Safe indoors.

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

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.

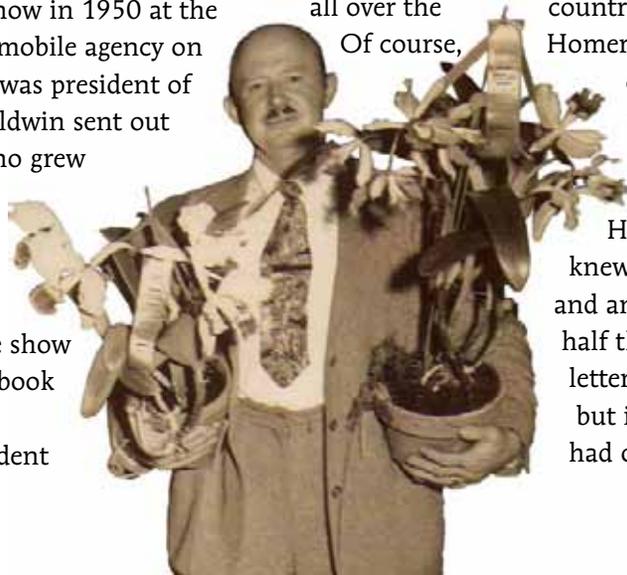
The following year with much encouragement from Homer Baldwin, most of the members from the Dallas Orchid Society came back to join the original society.

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.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

GNTOS membership dues are paid yearly by January 31, in order for you to be listed in the published Yearbook.

- \$30.00 - New or Renewing Member (individual)
- \$15.00 - Additional Member (each additional person in same household)

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): _____