

ORCHIDIST

Next Meeting:
November 5th
Judy Cook

BEAUTIES OF ECUADOR

Judy started her love of orchids when she was 37 while in San Antonio doing a psychiatry residency. She has had experience growing orchids in several states and has had multiple greenhouses, with her current greenhouse being 2,100 square feet and containing a few thousand plants.

She became an accredited judge in 2004 and became the Training Director at the Atlanta Judging Center, but then moved back to Texas to be near family. In the interval since she returned to Texas she has been Training Director and then Center Chair for the Dallas Judging Center as well as a past President of GNTOS.

Although her collection is mostly Cats, Paphs/Phrags and Bulbos, she has a wide array of many different genera, some of which she had the opportunity to collect in the wild in South America or import while judging shows out of the country.

She has retired from full-time practice and plans to spend more time relaxing with her orchids as well as speaking on issues related to both orchids and mental health and happiness, hopefully traveling the world while doing so.

Judy is going to talk about:
Beauties of Ecuador.



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Manuel Aybar

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Gerry Darver

Welcome all you Phal, Den, Catt, ... Lovers! The list of orchids is enormous, so welcome to everyone!

It's November and another year is almost over. It is time to elect officers for next year, so the Nominating Committee is putting their collective heads together to provide a slate for election in December. If you have interest in serving in one of the positions, please contact Kathy Halverson.

This month, for most of the orchids we grow in our area, it is time to reduce watering and feeding. Too much during the cool nights promotes fungus growth. A pool of water on a Phalaenopsis leaf soon becomes a soft mushy spot, leading to the loss of a leaf or even the loss of the entire plant. If this happens, cut off the leaf below the spot and use cinnamon as a natural fungicide to cover the cut.

Our speaker, Judy Cook, will share the *Beauties of Ecuador* with us!

See you at the November meeting!
Mike

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

MINUTES

Barb McNamee

President Mike Beber called the meeting to order at 3:05, we had 38 people in attendance, 5 were visitors - really good turnout!

Rhonda introduced our speaker, Peter Lin of Big Leaf Orchids who gave an excellent talk titled "*What is a Novelty Phalaenopsis*". They are considered collectibles, are fragrant and exotic. Thank you Peter for sharing your growing secrets and expertise - and your beautiful sales plants.

A nominating committee will be meeting to discuss the upcoming changes in officers to be announced at the November meeting and voted on in December.

The theme for our show will be "*Symphony of Orchids*" to be held March 10 & 11 at the Richardson Civic Center. More details to follow.

Lorna took over for Nancy and announced the plant table winners; judges were Kathy Blanton and Cheryl Parkinson - good job, assisted by Don Brigham. Many thanks.

Mike conducted the plant raffle, provided by Judy Cook and assisted by Dave Gould. Thanks all.

Thank you also for the refreshments provided by Kathi McKenzie and Kathy Mead.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30.



Alcra. Hilo Ablaze
'Hilo Gold' HCC/AOS

PLANT TABLE *Nancy Cropp*

Oct. 2, 2016

Judges: Lorna Kissling (substituting for Nancy Cropp - THANK YOU!), Kathy Blanton & Cheryl Parkinson

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE (14 entries)

Blue – Lc. Lorraine Shire Raye x (Bcth. Eden x Bc. Malworth)

– Karl Varian

Red – Bc. Lake Murray 'Mendenhall'

– Karl Varian

White – Bc. Kennis Kene – Mike Beber

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS

(12 entries)

Blue – Den. no ID – Karl Varian

Red – Den. Orchidom 'Stripes'

– David Gould

White – Den. Salaya Candy

– Barb McNamee

ONCIDIUMS (8 entries)

Blue – Alcra. Hilo Ablaze

– George Bogard

Red – Milt. Sandys Cove – Mike Beber

White – Oncda. Volcano Midnight

'Volcano Queen' – May Lorfing

PAPHS & PHRAGS – (1 entry)

Blue – Paph. Lady Light – Mike Beber

VANDAS & PHALS (2 entries)

Blue – Phal. Canyon Sun 'Fangtastic'

– Karl Varian

Red – Phal. equestris – Kathi McKenzie

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

C. bowringianna – Mike Beber

C. guttata – Gerry Darver

Catasetum integerrimum – Forest Shipp

PEOPLES CHOICE

Alcra. Hilo Ablaze – George Bogard



Den. Unknown



Den. Orichidom Stripes



Lc. Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah'

Lc. Lorraine Shirai 'Rave'
x (Bc. Beth Eden x Bc. Malworth)



Alcra. Hilo Ablaze "
'Hilo Gold' HCC/AOS

Photos by
Forest Shipp

ORCHIDS 101

*Kathi McKenzie
& Lorna Kissling*



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



ORCHID JUDGING

The world of orchid lovers has a wide spectrum of obsessions. Some people delve deeply into the botany of the plant.

Collectors or not, the natural world of the orchid, its conservation and preservation, are a driving passion for these. On the other end (perhaps) of this spectrum are those that simply marvel in the beauty of this unique flower. The aesthetics of the orchid range from graceful to menacing and, as it is with many hobbies, there's a system (several systems, actually) for cataloguing the aesthetic quality of an orchid and commending the skilled grower.

Here in the Metroplex, the traditional judging system is that of the American Orchid Society (AOS). The Dallas Judging Center allows for monthly orchid judging.

Here we'd like to give you a basic understanding of the AOS judging system.

You may have noticed some mysterious letters on your orchid's tag at the end of its name such as AM/AOS or HCC/AOS. What does this mean? The AOS has devised a very sophisticated system with which they judge the quality of an orchid flower. There are many attributes and conditions that the judges look for in an orchid flower, yet the basics are that higher quality flowers are more appreciated by the human eye due to the way they are positioned, colored, shaped and structured. This complex system is broken down into a point-based system from 1 to 100 in which points are accumulated based on the plant's attributes. Individual judges rate the flower after which the judging group's numbers are averaged to give a final rating for the flower. Based on this average rating, the flower is placed into one of several award classes. On the next page is a chart to show the "quality awards" (compared to the cultural awards explained later) that orchids can receive.



AOS Judging Facts:

First AOS Award: Bc. Springtide 'Stonehurst', 1932

Highest Awarded Orchid: Vanda sanderiana 'Kiliwehi' 98 points, 1952

The suffix of "AOS" may not be the only thing you see on an orchid tag as there are other orchid judging institutions around the world. These differ from the AOS in their judging criteria and the awards that they give. Here's a list of some judging organizations and their abbreviations:

- Taiwan Orchid Growers Association (TOGA)
- Australian Orchid Council (AOC)
- Cymbidium Society of America (CSA)
- Royal Horticultural Society (RHS)
- South African Orchid Council (SAOC)
- World Orchid Conference (WOC)

Thanks to: Oregon Orchid Society

QUALITY AWARDS (attributed to the orchid cultivar, the plant itself):

Awarded Points	Award Class	Tag Abbreviation
90-100	First Class Certificate	FCC/AOS
80-89	Award of Merit	AM/AOS
75-79	Highly Commended Certificate	HCC/AOS
0-74	No Award Given	—

Quality awards aren't the only awards that an orchid can receive. There are also cultural awards. Cultural awards differ from quality awards in that the entire plant is taken into account and based on how it's grown, how healthy it is and how attractive it is the Grower is awarded for growing a specimen plant. It is important to note that a cultural award regards the grower and stays with that specific plant, whereas a quality award is given to the orchid itself (which then becomes a recognized

cultivar) and gets attributed to all divisions, mericlones and offspring of the awarded plant.

CULTURAL AWARDS (attributed to the grower):

Awarded Points	Award Class	Tag Abbreviation*
90-100	Certificate of Cultural Excellence	CCE/AOS
80-89	Certificate of Cultural Merit	CCM/AOS
0-79	No Award Given	—

* Since this award is given to a single plant, such a tag abbreviation would rarely, if ever, be seen for sale.

Numerous other special AOS awards can be given in particular judging situations but the above are the most commonly seen. You can read of other awards on the AOS website.

DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Oct. 8, 2016

Three plants entered for consideration,
two awards given:

Cattlianthe Final Blue 'Royal Purple'

(Ctt. Blue Dynasty x *C. walkeriana*)

HCC 78 points

Owner: Sam Wylie, Arlington

Phal. Hans Christiansen 'Pylo'

(*gigantea* x *lindenii*)

HCC 78 points

Owner: Big Leaf Orchids

Peter Lin, Southlake

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

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

11am. Everyone is welcome to bring plants
or to just watch and learn.



BULBOPHYLLUM NOCTURNUM

Bulbophyllum nocturnum was discovered fairly recently, and is the world's first completely nocturnal orchid, with flowers that open at night and close during the day. It was discovered in 2008 in the rainforests on the island of New Britain, Papua New Guinea by Dutch orchidist Ed de Vogel.



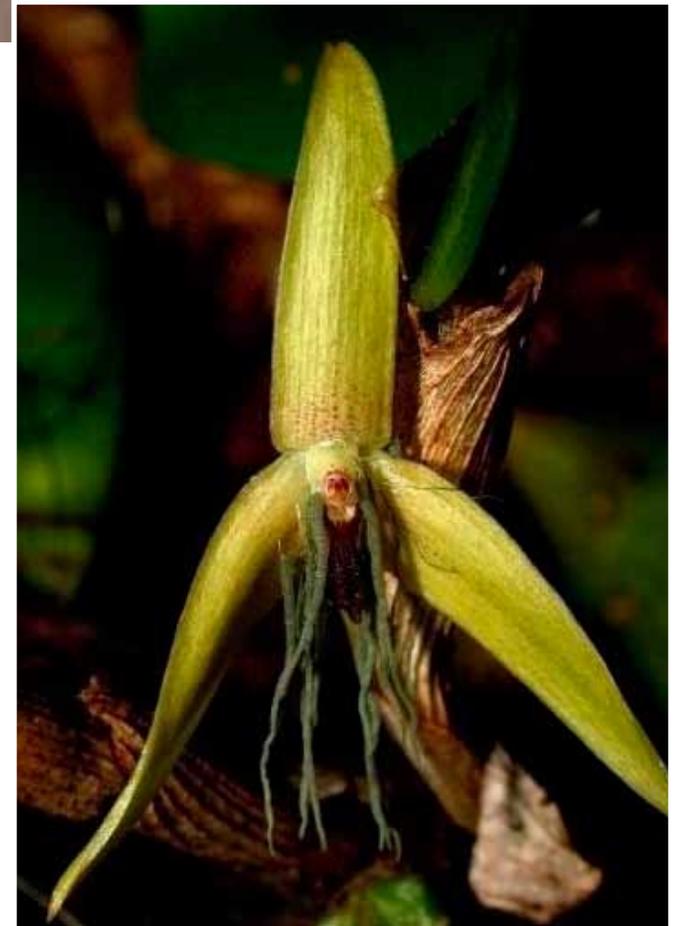
De Vogel brought the orchid back to the Netherlands, where it was cultivated in the botanic garden in Leiden. It thrived in the warm greenhouse there, and easily put on buds. However, over and over the buds withered right before opening. De Vogel was frustrated by this, and took the orchid home with him one night, to try and study the buds and learn what was causing the blast. However, a bud began opening around 10 that night, and closed again before daybreak. Study of subsequent buds showed the same pattern.

In 2011, the species was formally described and named *Bulbophyllum nocturnum*. *B. nocturnum* is a small plant, with leaves up to 2.5 inches, and short inflorescences bearing a single flower of about 0.8 inches. The flowers have greenish-yellow sepals, with a red tint at the base and a dark red lip. It is believed to be threatened in its native environment by lowland logging, which is of particular concern as it is not currently cultivated outside of the Botanic garden at Leiden.



ORCHID OF THE MONTH

Kathi McKenzie



HAPPINESS IS CONSERVING ORCHIDS?

ORCHID CONSERVATION UPDATE

by Charles
and Trudy Hess

We all experience happiness when we see new flower spikes on our favorite orchid plant, or even just seeing it still alive after a brutal Texas summer, as in my case so often! People have many paths toward achieving happiness in this world. Could conserving orchids in the wild be one of them?

It just might be. Consider this amazing story:

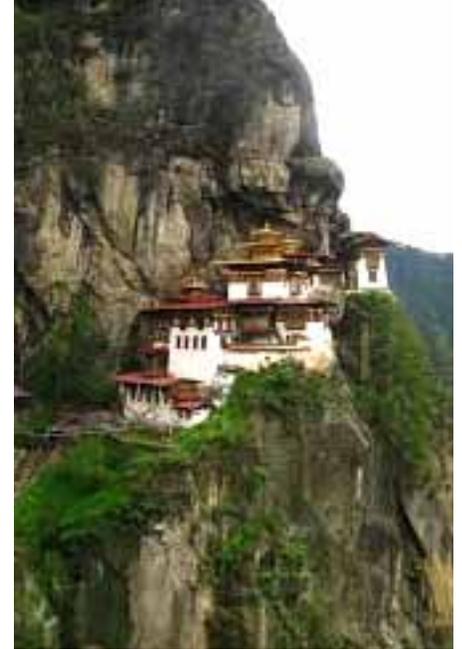
Between China and India sits a small country by the name of Bhutan, known mainly for its Buddhist monks and high Himalayan mountains. At one point in its history its name translated to “Land of the Thunder Dragon”, a reference to the dominant Buddhist sect. But this country, which many of us probably know little about, is not all mountains and monasteries.

Of late Bhutan became known for its unique “Gross National Happiness” index, established by its government, and intended to nurture a flourishing culture in which prosperity and well-being

are tangible, sustainable, and accessible to all. What’s not to like with that? But wait, it gets even better.

Bhutan has received international acclaim for its commitment to biodiversity. This little country has set for itself the ambitious goal of maintaining at least 60% of its land under forest cover, with 40% retained as national parks, preserves, and protected areas. The government actively promotes conservation as part of its plan to target Gross National Happiness. They take this commitment so seriously that even their constitution mentions environmental standards in multiple places. Many positive benefits have ensued, notably that Bhutan’s immense 72% forest coverage is able to absorb 4 million tons of carbon dioxide a year, more than the country’s 2.2 million ton of greenhouse gas emissions, resulting in a net zero greenhouse gas emission rating.

So it is no coincidence, and



certainly no surprise, that they have also put in place *The Thunder Dragon Orchid Conservation Project*, administered by the National Biodiversity Centre (NBC) in Serbithang, a non-departmental organization under the Ministry of Agriculture and Forests. The NBC works in partnership with *The Sarasota Orchid Society*. Stig Dalström and Ngawang Gyeltshen write about the project in detail in the society’s website (look under the site’s “projects” tab, and click on “conservation”):

“The aim [of the Thunder Dragon Orchid Conservation Project] is to survey both remote and previously unexplored areas in the country, as well as more easily accessible habitats in order to build a scientific basis for meaningful programs of



Coelogyne nitida



Rhynchosstylis retusa

orchid conservation, cultivation, education, propagation and research. Great efforts are made by the staff at the NBC in collaboration with staff from other governmental departments and international partners, such

as the Sarasota Orchid Society, to find ways to utilize orchids as a sustainable economic resource for not only Bhutan, but to serve as a model for other countries as well.”

The project extends the documentation work of Pearce and Cribb (*Orchids of Bhutan*, 2002) as well as that of the late Sithar Dorji (*The Field Guide to the Orchids of Bhutan*, 2008). The Himalayan region is rich in orchid species with 579 species listed. To date 369 of these are recorded from Bhutan, fourteen of them classified as endemic. Continued research and documentation in this rugged area of the world will likely reveal that most of the 579 species actually exist in this remarkable little country.

The Eastern Himalayas have been identified as a global biodiversity hotspot, and counted among the 234 globally outstanding ecoregions of the world in a comprehensive analysis of global biodiversity undertaken by the *World Wildlife Fund* (WWF) between 1995 and 1997. More than 5,400 species of plants are found in Bhutan alone.

To see more photos, as well as to learn about remarkable perspectives on the value of conservation, we highly recommend a visit to <http://sarasotaorchidsociety.org/orchid-conservation/>. After reading further in www.Bhutanfound.org it is easy to understand why there exists a fulfilling connection between the concepts of Gross National Happiness and preserving our environment. Indeed, happiness and quality of life go hand in hand with survival itself. The challenge we face is most elegantly and forcefully defined in Stig Dalström’s Ngawang Gyltshen’s concluding four paragraphs:

“The authors of this paper [Dalström and Gyltshen] would also like to add some observations and facts that often are overlooked in the orchid conservation discussion. It is generally accepted that the orchid family is the larg-

est, most widespread, and most variable plant group in terms of habitat adaptations, pollination syndromes and general morphology. It is not so well documented, however, that the orchid family quite possibly is the oldest flowering plant group on the planet as well. A private amber collector in the Dominican Republic discovered in 2000 an amber specimen that contained a nowadays extinct bee, *Problebeia dominicana*, carrying pollinia on its abdomen of a likewise extinct orchid, *Meliorchis caribea*. The insect was estimated to be approximately 20 million years old. Through elaborate “time clock” computer models, worked out by some scientists, it has since been concluded that the orchid family probably is ca. 100-120 million years old. This came as a total surprise to others who previously had assumed that the orchid family was a rather young and recently developed phenomenon.”

“In any case, through the multitude of living examples, it is clear that the orchid family represents a very successful complex of organisms with very efficient survival strategies, and we humans can learn a lot from this. Principles, such as living in sustainable populations, utilizing other organisms without destroying and



Bulbophyllum odoratissimum

extirpating them, adapting to the environment rather than changing it to suit short term gains, represent sound survival conditions for any living being. Unfortunately, these simple truths seem to be very difficult for us to acknowledge and accept. Denial is a very powerful human flaw and an excellent way to avoid solving problems. Only by opening our minds and eyes to face reality can we hope to improve the rather dismal environmental condition of our planet. In addition, a much broader understanding of the importance and value of a rich biodiversity, increased respect and empathy for other fellow life forms, and a more level headed approach to how we view our “rights” to limited natural riches, need to be developed in order for the human species, as well as our beloved orchids, to survive on a long term perspective.”

“As a consequence of the here mentioned (and many other) survival skills, orchids also serve as “canaries in the mine”. When one of the most successful “higher” organisms on the planet no longer can survive, something really bad is happening to the environment. A sad example is the many previously forested areas that have become virtual deserts due to extensive logging and burning

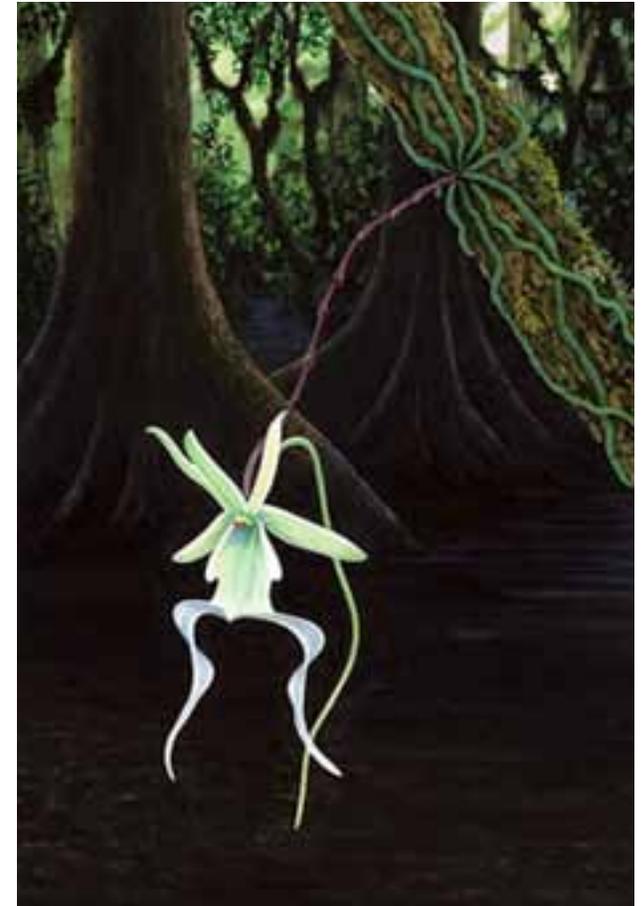
practices, usually for short term financial (sometimes survival) gains. The argument that “people have to eat” rings hollow when the long term effects are taken into consideration, and where habitat destruction leads to extermination of living flora and fauna, as well as desertification of former rich and productive habitats.”

“Basically, and bluntly speaking, almost all (and not limited to) environmental problems in the world today can be summarized by a couple of factors; human greed and over-population!”

We all need to be thankful to the country of Bhutan for setting an example for the rest of the world, to the leadership of the Sarasota Orchid society, and to Stig Dalström for his research and art.

Footnote: Stig Dalström is a noted watercolor artist, Curator at the Selby Gardens, and appears in a number of BBC type nature shows. He has his own video

series called “Wild Orchid Man”. Trailers of these orchid exploration videos can be found under the “projects” tab in the Sarasota Orchid Society website. As an example of Mr. Dalström’s talent we include here a watercolor depicting the Ghost Orchid from the Florida Everglades. Photos are from the Sarasota Orchid Society website.



ORCHIDS THROUGH THE YEAR 2016

by Ned Nash
and James Rose

MONTHLY CHECKLIST FOR NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Cattleya Growers of just about every level of expertise will have begun to notice autumn conditions by now. Days are becoming shorter, hence cooler; the sunlight has less intensity as a result of the sun's lowering angle, nights are longer and generally cooler. Plants are responding by slowing and ripening their growth in preparation for winter.

The first cultural change noticed should be a reduced frequency of watering, as the plants dry out more slowly. This is a function of both the reduced day length and lower temperatures, as well as the plants' slowing growth rate. Reduced water needs signal a reduced need for fertilization. Note that the key word is reduced, not eliminated. Feed less frequently and at lower dosage, but feed. Growths, made during summer's heat, and relatively soft and green, will be ripening – hardening – in preparation for a brief period of rest (in many cases).

Many of these ripening growths will have a sheath, presaging the coming winter or spring flowering season. In some cases, these sheaths will have been evident since as early as July. (Early sheath development does not mean early flowering on plants with winter-spring seasons.) You may notice that some of these sheaths are showing signs of yellowing. This is not abnormal. Autumn's more pronounced temperature fluctuation can lead to water condensation inside the sheath, hastening the normal process of senescence, so yellowing sheaths can be left on the plant only so long before they must be carefully removed to preserve the bud primordia within. Water condensation left unchecked can rot the bud primordia. The

sheaths can be safely removed by slitting open and peeling down toward the pseudobulb.

Cool-Growing Orchids One can almost hear a sigh of relief from all of the cool-growers, from masdevallias to odontoglossums. As day temperatures decline, one can see a noticeable improvement in these plants. Shorter days and lower light levels do not seem to bother them. Repot before winter arrives.

Cymbidium Finally we begin in earnest the main cymbidium season. *Cymbidium ensifolium* can give some early and fragrant hybrids, but it is now that the bulk of the crop will be flowering. The season lasts for about seven months, adding color to any collection. Miniature varieties will peak for the next three to four months. There are three important things to do: stake inflorescences ramrod straight for best presentation, watch for slugs and snails (especially just after a rain), and fertilize with a mild balanced formula regularly.

Oncidium crispum Complex This is the season for plants in *Oncidium* section *crispum* from Brazil to shine. Extremely vigorous hybrids come in wide varieties of markings dominated with chestnut and brown and butter yellow. Give plants high light to produce strong upright inflorescences. The pseudobulbs should be plump, so do not let the plants dry out while they are in bloom. Later, plants will enter a dormant period.

NOW IS THE TIME TO PRACTICE GOOD
SANITARY PRACTICES IN YOUR GREENHOUSE
OR GROWING AREAS, AS PEST AND DISEASE
PROBLEMS HAVE A WAY OF MULTIPLYING
RAPIDLY IN THE DARKER AND MORE
CROWDED CONDITIONS THAT GENERALLY
MARK THE WINTER GROWING AREA.

Paphiopedilum The flowering season for the “toads” or “bulldog” paphs is just getting underway. These cannot be grown everywhere, but where cooler summer nights allow their growth, there is no longer-lasting or more exotic display than these. Paphiopedilums are, in general, not heavy feeders, and it is especially important with this type to reduce nitrogen levels now for best flowering and spike length. Be watchful for water accumulating in the growth around the sheath, or for the late-season warm spell, either of which can lead to the sheath’s rotting. As the spikes emerge, do not change the orientation of the plant toward the light, as this can lead to a crooked or twisted spike.

While paphiopedilums rarely like to dry out entirely, water needs are significantly reduced beginning now. Overwatering at this time of year can quickly lead to root rot or erwinia problems. Now is the time to practice good sanitary practices in your greenhouse or growing areas, as pest and disease prob-

lems have a way of multiplying rapidly in the darker and more crowded conditions that generally mark the winter growing area. With paphiopedilums, especially, “cleanliness is next to godliness” and if the growing area is littered with old foliage, weeds and dying flowers, keeping the plants alive and flowering will be next to impossible.

Phalaenopsis Shortening days and cooler nights are the signals for inflorescence initiation in phalaenopsis. In more northern climates, or on the west coast, growers have already begun to see the early

inflorescences that may be ready for Christmas. In the eastern areas, nights in the greenhouse will now be in the low to mid 60s, depending on the thermostat setting, so the first of our phalaenopsis will not begin to bloom until Valentine’s Day at the earliest.

A reduction in nitrogen levels will go a long way to giving the best possible spiking, as will a boost in potassium and phosphorus. In other words, a “bloom booster”-type fertilizer is definitely indicated in the next few months. Disease and pest problems are best dealt with now, especially as mealybugs hide in the bracts and flower buds. Once they have established themselves, they are difficult to eradicate, and flower damage or crippling results. Potential disease problems can be dealt with by the application of a copper-based compound to control/alleviate rot problems before they start. There is nothing more frustrating than to have shepherded your plants through a growing season, only to have them decline before your eyes.

Vandaceous Genera Whereas the general decline in temperatures is beneficial to cool-growing orchids, it is not for vandaceous plants. The only cold-hardy member is *Neofinetia falcata*. Orient your plants in such a way as to take advantage of as much light as possible. This can be a problem in northern latitudes. Reduce watering and feeding schedules.

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.

HOW COLD IS TOO COLD?



Most orchids grown by hobbyists are tropical in nature. That term was once thought to mean “hot and steamy” and tens of thousands of orchids imported to Europe in the 19th Century perished as a result. Many tropical orchids prefer cool nights because they or their ancestors evolved in higher tropical elevations or were subjected to cool breezes during the day. There are some species that do come from hot and steamy places and the challenge for orchid hobbyists is to grow them all in one place, whether it is a windowsill or greenhouse.

Commercial orchid nurseries and large private collections often have individual growing areas devoted to orchids that derive from different tropical habitats.

Cymbidiums prefer and even require cool temperatures to flower well. Many claim that they flower best when nighttime temperatures reach near freezing. *Laelia anceps* also prefers these cool night temperatures and it is common to find them with Cymbidiums in California. While *L. anceps* and members of the Cymbidium genus are not related, they come from similar habitats and so require similar growing conditions.

At the other end of the spectrum are species that come from tropical lowlands. Many *Phalaenopsis* species come from parts of the world where temperatures are always warm to hot and these species not only tolerate, but grow best when both day and night temperatures are warm. There

ORCHID GROWING TIPS



Necrotic spots on leaves and dry, brown pseudobulbs are symptoms of cold damage.

© AOS

are, however, other members of the Phalaenopsis genus that come from the foothills of the Himalayas and do not tolerate hot steamy conditions. Some would grow best with cymbidiums in a cool house. Thus, simply knowing the name of a group of orchids does not always inform one of the best temperature in which to grow an individual orchid.

This time of year most hobbyists are temperature conscious, especially those who grow outdoors for part of the year.

How much cold will my orchids tolerate is a common question?

Of course, there is no simple answer to that question given the previous discussion. No tropical orchid though should be allowed to freeze or be exposed to freezing conditions. Even those few species that come from climates where freezes are common suffer. In Nature, these species often have protected tubers or bulbs under the soil or dead leaves. A hobbyist in North Carolina once reported finding an equitant oncidium flowering in spring among leaves where it had fallen the previous summer during a hurricane; surviving a winter with temperatures below 20° F protected by dead leaves that had accumulated.

Cymbidiums are often seen with frost on their leaves, but frost can occur at temperatures much warmer than the freezing point. When the temperature within an orchid leaf goes below the freezing point, water in leaves forms crystals that tear plant cells, killing them. The next day when the temperature warms, leaves turn to mush as bacteria and fungi invade the broken cells. Obviously, other types of plants can survive freezing temperatures and do so by adding substances to their cells that either prevent crystal formation or lower the freezing temperature.

The only exception to orchids dying when frozen seems to arise when orchids are dehydrated. Under these conditions sugars and other dissolved materials within the cells are concentrated and prevent crystals from forming. There are numerous accounts of hobbyists returning home, after a sudden emergency to find their orchids still alive, despite no heat in sub-freezing conditions. A number of Chinese wholesale nurseries even intentionally dehydrate blooming sized phalaenopsis to the point where they can be rolled up and placed in small tubes for shipping to Europe and the U.S. This not only greatly reduces shipping costs, but almost eliminates the danger of freezing in the unheated cargo areas of jets. Once they arrive, they are potted in sphagnum and re-hydrated without damage to tissues.

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.

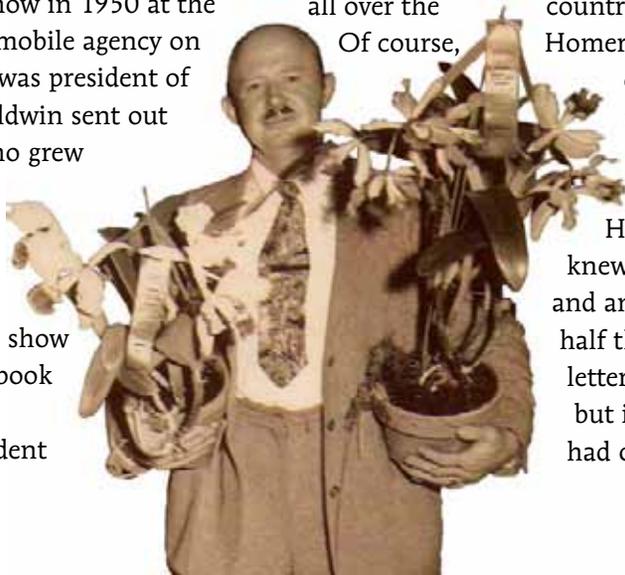
The following year with much encouragement from Homer Baldwin, most of the members from the Dallas Orchid Society came back to join the original society.

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): _____