

Oct Orchidist



A NEWSLETTER OF
THE GREATER NORTH
TEXAS ORCHID SOCIETY

MEETING AT
NORTH HAVEN GARDENS
7700 NORTHAVEN RD.,
DALLAS, TX 75230.
OCTOBER 2ND, 2:30

Modern Coerulea Phalaenopsis

SAPPHIRE
DRAGON ORCHIDS

Presentation by **Rob Shepherd**
October 2022

Do you ever wonder why everyone keeps calling violet colored orchids blue? Rob will present a modern perspective on the coerulea color form in Phalaenopsis based off two decades of learnings from hybridizing coerulea Phalaenopsis. He will cover advancements in coerulea Phalaenopsis species, some important modern hybrids and the progress he is making towards creating a natural large flowered coerulea Phalaenopsis.



Rob Shepherd is the owner and hybridizer of Sapphire Dragon Orchids in Canyon Country, California with his husband Michael James. Rob has spent 25 years as a video game producer and is an Executive Producer at Xbox Game Studios/Microsoft.

He started growing orchids in 1984 when he was 11 in Tyler, TX and was an active member in the Central East Texas Orchid society. For years he had a large mixed genera orchid collection and over time became more focused on Phalaenopsis.

By 2001, he started spending

more time hybridizing and developed a passion for the coerulea color form. In 2004 he founded Sapphire Dragon Orchids with a mission of further developing the coerulea Phalaenopsis. He has made over 300 hybrids and has been working on approaches to move past the challenges inherent with breeding the coerulea form. His current breeding program is focused on increasing the flower size, flower count, and form of Phalaenopsis. Overall, he is working to make coerulea hybridizing more predictable, successful and to push the boundary of quality coerulea hybrids.



PRESIDENTS LETTER

Karl Varian

I would like to thank the membership for their contributions this past several months and especially this last month. First, we have reached the Meir Moses Orchid Estate goal of raising sufficient funds (through contributions and sale of his plants) towards a SWROGA endowment trophy in Meir Moses' name. We still have additional steps to take, but we have met the financial target. I will keep you up to date in future progress.

The other item is the GNTOS visibility at the Dallas Home and Garden Club. After a slow start on Friday, Saturday and Sunday we had lots of interest in GNTOS, that is both the plants that were being offered for sale and our society. We were financially positive for the plant sale but will have to wait for the final results from the GNTOS Treasurer. Plants not sold at the show will be available at our October meeting.

Thank you to all for your support for it 'takes a village to grow a Society'.
Karl

Minutes September 4, 2022

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Carol Varian

Karl Varian made a request for volunteers to sign up for the Dallas Home and Garden Show September 9-11 at Dallas Market Hall.

Three visitors were recognized and thanks were given to Linda Horton for being the new member liaison. Dispositioning of Meir Moses orchid estate was discussed. Our society will be selling plants at the Fort Worth Orchid Society Show and Sale Nov. 11th and 12th which will be held with SWROGA's fall meeting.

Orchids have been ordered for sale at the Dallas Home and Garden Show. Thanks to those who offered floor coverings, tables, and tablecloths for the show.

Our next show dates have been set at the same venue as last year – Texas A & M facility in Richardson. We are still working on getting it advertised with SWROGA and AOS. The show committee has been set tentatively but if anyone wishes to volunteer to help with the show, please do so.

The Speaker was Cecily Maciejewski, of Cedarwood Orchids and Ornamentals presenting a talk about judging and awards offered by the A.O.S. It was a most interest talk despite the intervening rain and hail storm.

The next meeting will be October 2nd.

FORT WORTH ORCHID SHOW

Don't forget that next month, Friday, November 11th and Saturday, November 12th, the Fort Worth Orchid Society is having their Fall Show.

We would like for our society to put in a display so we will need plants and volunteers.

Be thinking and grooming your plants and get ready to help out.

Plant Table Judging Sept. 4, 2022

Judges: David Gould & Barbara McNamee

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE (4 entries)

Blue – C. Sandra Spots – Jim Williams

Red – Bro. sanguinea alba – Cecily Maciejewski

White – Ctna. Mem. Henry Gobling – Linda Horton

DENDROBIUMS & OTHERS (7 entries)

Blue – Den. Enobi Purple 'Splash' – Linda Horton

Red – Cym. finleysonianum – Jim Williams

White – Dendrochilum magnum – Karl Varian

ONCIDIUMS (1 entry)

Blue – Miltoniopsis Honolulu – Karl Varian

PAPHS & PHRAGS (no entries)

VANDAS & PHALS (4 entries)

Blue – Rhy. coelestes – Sarah Hardesty

Red – Phal. Yaphon Black Rose – Linda Horton

White – V. Tangerine – Mike Beber

SPECIES OF THE MONTH

Bro. sanguinea alba – Cecily Maciejewski

Den. bigibbum var. compacta – Charles Hess

PEOPLES CHOICE

Rhy. coelestes – Sarah Hardesty

Nancy Cropp

PLANT TABLE JUDGING RESULTS

AOS DALLAS JUDGING CENTER

Nancy Cropp

AOS Dallas Judging Center Sept. 10, 2022

Four plants were entered for consideration, no awards were given.

Elevation to Accredited Judge for Karl Varian will be recommended to AOS for approval at their Fall Meeting.

Acceptance as Student Judge for Tim Brown will be recommended to AOS for approval at their Fall Meeting.

Student Judge Vee Du has been accepted back from a leave of absence.

JOIN US

Bring your plants for judging, come for the training session at 11 am, judging at 1 pm. Learn about being in the AOS judging program. The Dallas Judging Center meets on the second Saturday of every month.

The next meeting is on Oct., 8th at the Carver Center located at 222 Carver St., Garland, TX 75040.

Visitors are always welcome.