



Houston Happenings

The Houston Orchid Society's Monthly Newsletter

MARCH 4, 2004 MEETING

Meeting Time: 7:30 P.M.
Plant Table: Setup 7:00 P.M.
Place: Hermann Garden Center

Speaker: Renee Gerber, Julius Klehm et al.
Program: 2004 Spring Show

Our two speakers this month are our own Renee Gerber and Julius Klehm, two long standing members who fall in the "Who's Who" of HOS and at the national level as well.

Renee Gerber, a long time member and past president of HOS, and former First Lady of the American Orchid Society continues to make herself and her orchid talents available for one and all. She is a certified AOS judge and, along with husband Marvin, owns Remarkable Orchids in south Houston. Her years of involvement teaching others and giving of her time for orchid growers is well known and certainly appreciated. The large number of awards she and Marvin have won

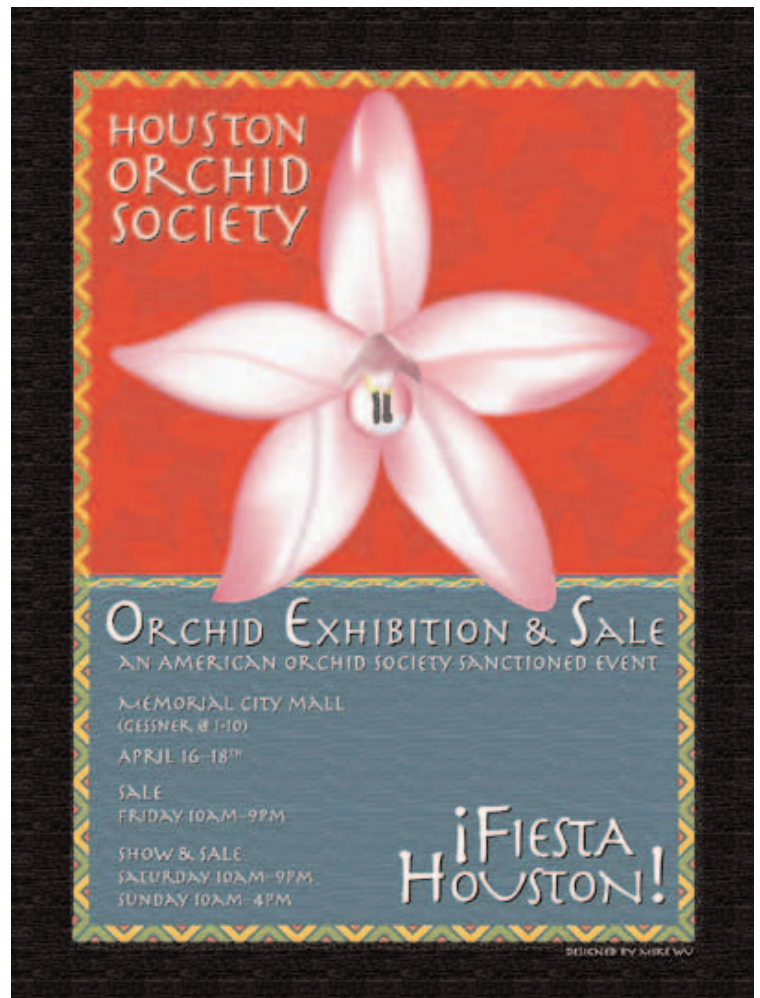


Above: Renee Gerber in the greenhouse.

attest to their growing skills as well as their trained eyes and judging talents. Renee will be showing us the grooming tips she uses to enhance the presentation of her plants for exhibition.

Julius Klehm, a Tulsa transplant, is the chairman of the Houston Judging Center. Julius, a certified orchid judge and board member of the American Orchid Society, has traveled widely during his judging career. Much of his talent for organization and judging served him well during his tenure as a recent past president of the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association. Julius and his lovely wife, Mavis, lend many hours each month to the cause of orchid growing and knowledge enhancement. He will be speaking to us on the duties of judging clerks for the AOS ribbon judging the evening of April 16th. Regrettably, a picture of Julius was not available for this printing.

Pam Vinson



Above: Poster for the Spring Show, designed by Mike Wu, a talented young student of the Art Institute of Houston. The Institute graciously offered to make a class project of the design. Another class designed stationary, logo, and business cards for HOS. Our thanks to the Art Institute and it's many talented students.

Show Volunteers Needed

We need your help during the Spring Show for assignments like security, staging/setup, and clerking. Sign up sheets will be circulated during the next two meetings. These items require a very small amount of time so please be sure to get involved!

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Time and the tide didn't wait for me these past few months. Winter is, or was, just a note on my calendar this year—at least as of this writing. The few wintry blasts from old man frost occurred just down the street, but failed to hit our house and have left me with impatiens still standing as the crocus and daffodils begin their nods. For whatever reason I can only begin to postulate, I fell short of completing my annual winter tasks of cleaning, repotting and dividing.

I can well remember thinking it was a good idea to get off my duff and make some headway with the tremendous tasks and the many hundreds of plants I needed to address but my good buddy—procrastination—came for a long visit. I do think he has found a permanent home at my greenhouse. He surely keeps the guests at bay since I do not like company unless all is spic-n-span.

Now on to the real issues at hand—our upcoming show in April. Of course, you will continue to be overwhelmed by the amount of attention that this subject receives, but once you newcomers see just what all is involved, you will finally understand the hype. Once you participate, you will be bitten by the orchid addict bug, for which only a few really determined souls escape. I am into my 40th year of this chronic addiction. I do feel certain that if my spouse had really had any known what was ahead of her, she might have made quite different plans for her future. I have already warned my two new grandsons that "orchid" is the first word they should learn, and "water the plants" needs to be a skill along side football and baseball.

I mentioned to John Van Domelen, the Newcomers Chairman, in open court at the last meeting that I would like to see the newcomers have their own exhibit. We have such a large group of talented people, and such diverse growing experience and interests, that it would be a waste to do differently. In addition, a simple 1-5 plant exhibit can be done by any one of us to further expand the potential for awards and the challenge the pent-up artistic talents that even the most modest of us possess. Renee Gerber will talk some about how to do this at the meeting.

I am really looking forward to a wonderful spring and spring show. Please take the time to acquaint yourself with all the new and wonderfully different members around you. Who knows, when you least expect it, a lifelong friendship may be the result!

Greg Scott

FEBRUARY PLANT TABLE

Fr. Ted reckons we had 58 plants in flower on our show table, with the winner for species being Phal. aphrodite, by Renee and Dennie Haase, while the hybrid winner was Lc. Goldigger 'Orchidglade' by the same growers. Many thanks to Dennie and to Melba Butler, who commented on the flowers. We need yours as well! In March we ought to have a lot more than 8 species in bloom. Also, please remember to vote for your favorite in both categories, to show appreciation for all us hard-working and dedicated growers. P.S., I would like to take 3 or 10 plants to Austin for the "Heart O' Texas" show, March 12-14. Anybody want to help?

Fr. Ted Baenziger

MARCH NEWCOMERS MEETING

The March newcomers will meet Sunday the 14th this month at 2 pm, this is the second Sunday. David Hunt, a highly awarded local grower specializing in species will host. His address is 322 Gershwin, Houston, TX 77079. I will have maps at the monthly meeting.

Newcomers wishes to thank Bill Tippit of Olympia Orchids for a great February meeting.

John Van Domelen

HOUSTON JUDGING CENTER

Web site: <http://hjc.houstonorchidsociety.org>

February 21, 2004

There were 28 plants entered for judging with 3 awards.

1. Paph. ___(sukhakulii x Laser) 'Oasis Brandon' provisional AM 80, owned by Melba & Jim Butler, Katy, TX
2. Gomesa paranaensis 'Vera Cruz' (species) provisional CHM 85, owned by David Hunt, Houston, TX
3. Dtps. Mem. John Craig 'Olympia' (Dtps. Minho Princess x Phal. Equestris) HCC 77, owned by Bill Tippit, Friendswood, TX

There were 11 Accredited Judges, 3 Probationary Judges 2 Student Judges and 1 Clerk present with a total of 27 in attendance.

The next regular judging will be held March 20, 2004 at the B. J. & Margaret Bradshaw Wellness Center, 7731 Southwest Freeway (Highway 59 South). It is requested that all plants be entered before 11:30 A. M. so that they may be properly researched prior to judging.

Marg Putman

PLANT RAFFLE TICKETS FOR BOXTOPS WWW.boxtopsforeducation.com



Plant table winners. See article in column to left. Species top.

AOS CORNER**Free Orchid Plant**

Want to take home a free orchid plant from the March 4 Houston Orchid Society meeting? Well, when you get to the March HOS meeting, just step right up to the American Orchid Society membership booth and sign up for a one- or two-year membership. It's so simple. (1) Step up to the booth, (2) Find out the benefits of AOS membership, (3) complete the membership application, (4) issue a check, use your credit card, or pay cash. That's it! (5) You will take away a free orchid plant plus a copy of Orchids magazine, the monthly publication distributed to AOS members. (The only way you can get Orchid's magazine each month is through AOS membership because it is not found on news stands.)

Also, if you are one of the following new AOS members who joined either at the January or February HOS meeting, stop by and pick up your free orchid plant at the March 4 meeting!

January's New AOS Members

Earl J. Ledet (first HOS member to join at the new booth!)
Phillip Drilling
Dianne Reiff
Edward Dinklage

February's New AOS Members

Robert Duncan
Gary & Deborah Beck
David House

March's New AOS Members

We hope to see your name here!

Melba and Jim Butler

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 12-14, 2004 Heart o' Texas OS Show. Zilker Gardens, Austin, TX. Contact: Dave Levine (512) 502-1145 or dlevine1@earthlink.net

March 19-21, 2004 Arkansas OS Show, North Little Rock Community Center, 2700 Willow Street, North Little Rock, AR. Contact: Jerry Brown (501) 753-7407 or jerryralice@aristotle.net

March 20-28, 2004 OS of Jefferson Show. Contact: .Marian Prigmore (504) 482-4748

March 27, 2004 IPA Regional Mtg, Olympia Orchids, Friendswood, TX. Contact: Bill Tippit www.olympiaorchids.com

April 2-4, 2004 Tulsa OS Show, Tulsa Garden Center. Contact: Joyce Powell cjp6@mindspring.com

April 2-4, 2004. Northeast Louisiana OS Show, Pecanland Mall, 4700 Millhaven Road, Monroe, LA. Contact: Karen Armstrong (318) 251-0765 or antkaren@bayou.com

April 16-18, 2004. Houston OS Show, Memorial City Mall, Gessner @ I-10 Houston, TX. Contact: Don Ghiz (713) 661-1885, DoninHoustonTX@aol.com or Jay Balchan (713) 656-3825, jay.w.balchan@exxonmobil.com

April 21-25, 2004, Kansas OS Show. Hosting SWROGA and the AOS. Hyatt Regency Hotel and Convention Complex, 400 W. Watermanm Wichita, Kansas. Contact: Max C. Thompson (620) 221-1856 or maxt@sckans.edu

Melba Butler

Reminder: Thank the Following for the January Refreshments Table

Coordinator: Sarah Bentley and Linda Livesay
Punch/Drinks: Nanette and Doug George
Sheet Cake: Nanette and Doug George
Cookies: Nanette and Doug George
Snacks: Nanette and Doug George
Snacks: Nanette and Doug George

Please sign up and volunteer for coming months.

Houston Orchid Society**2004 Officers and Committee Chairs****Officers**

President	Greg Scott
1st Vice President	Pam Vinson
2nd Vice President	Ted Baenziger
Recording Sec.	Sandra Higham
Treasurer	Bill Bartlett
Membership	Mavis Klehm

Chairs

Guest Hospitality	Theresa Riggs
Happenings Editor	Claudia Hanson
Newcomers Group	Don Ghiz
Librarian	John Van Domelen
Petals and Wings	Deana Roberts
Plant Raffle	Sheila Skov
Spring Show Co-Chairs	Laurie Skov
Refreshments Co-Chairs	Dennis Tomjack
Silent Auction	Jay Balchan
2004 Workshop Chair	Don Ghiz
Webmistress	Sarah Bentley
Parliamentarian	Linda Livesay
	Emily Lam-Jones
	Kelly Moseley
	Nina Rach
	Linda Brandenberger

Directors

Jim Butler	Julius Klehm
Melba Butler	Emily Lam Jones
Dolores Fields	Karin Luhnau
Joe Fields	Nina Rach
Marvin Gerber	Theresa Riggs
Don Ghiz	Sheila Skov
Denny Haase	Jerry Stephens
Renee Haase	Clark Whiteside

Representation

AOS Representative	Melba Butler
IPA Representative	Clark Whiteside
SWROGA Director	Mavis Klehm
SWROGA Director	Terry Palmer
Pluerothallid Alliance	C J Maciejewski
Encyclia Enthusiasts	Alice Barrios
ODC Representative	Nina Rach

Web-site: www.houstonorchidsociety.org

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HOUSTON HAPPENINGS
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

MARCH 2004 ISSUE



Left: New logo of the Houston Orchid Society, designed by student Luis Rodriguez of the Art Institute of Houston. Our thanks to Luis and the Art Institute for their contribution.



Above: new members line up at the February meeting. From left to right, MacArthur Elayda, Maureen Kraker, Arthur Alvarez, Carolynne White, W. Arthur Allee.



Left and below left: Houston Judging Center's February awards. Details in article on page 2.

