

THE HOUSTON HAPPENINGS

The Monthly Newsletter of the Houston Orchid Society, Houston, Texas

Speaker Spotlight

By Don Ghiz, First Vice-President



Our November speaker will be James Rose of Cal-Orchid, located in Santa Barbara, California. James will be speaking to us on the subject of, "Modern Epidendrum Breeding."

Biography

James attended the University of California at Santa Barbara as an anthropology major. In 1971, he began working at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate. After 16 years, there, and becoming manager, he left to establish his own nursery with his wife, Lauris. In 1987, they purchased *Orchids By Rowe*, a two-acre Cymbidium nursery located two blocks from the Pacific Ocean (and right across the street from the Orchid Estate). Together, they totally redesigned the former Cymbidium cut flower range to what is now a world-renowned orchid nursery, providing one of the largest varieties of orchid species and hybrids in the U.S.

The nursery maintains an active breeding program and stud collection built upon years of traveling the globe. James is very well known for having a distinctively selective eye for the new and unusual plant -- Cal-Orchid's new and loyal customers reap the benefits. The nursery's inventory features the Cattleya, Cymbidium, Odontoglossum, Masdevallia, Calanthe, Lycaste, Paphiopedilum alliances as well as a good assortment of African species. Most recently, the nursery has become recognized for their superior 'Pacific' line of reedstem Epidendrums.

James has published in the AOS, *Orchid Digest*, and CSA magazines, and is well-respected for his vast knowledge and his distinctive sense of humor. He lectures all over the world, from Japan to South Africa to Europe, at orchid shows and World Orchid Conferences.

James is also a Cymbidium Society of America judge, former member of the AOS Conservation Committee, and active member of the Japan Grand Prix Organizing Committee where he judges every year at the Tokyo Dome.

To learn more about Cal-Orchid and their offerings, visit their website at www.calorchid.com.

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The Houston Orchid Society was established in 1945 and is a recipient of the AOS Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service Award.



Shake, Rattle, and Roll at Trinidad's "Golden Celebration"

By Nina M. Rach



The Trinidad and Tobago Orchid Society (TTOS) hosted its 50th anniversary show, "A Golden Celebration," Sept. 29-Oct. 1. at the Ambassador Hotel in Port of Spain.

The society was founded in 1956 and its symbol is *Psychopsis papilio* (known until recently as *Oncidium papilio*), one of seven species of *Oncidium* found in Trinidad and Tobago.

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary, the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corp. issued new orchid postage, including a miniature (souvenir) sheet with a single \$15.00 stamp (about \$2 US), featuring four species native

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President's Post

By Laurie C. Skov, President

"Transition" -- this is the time of year when we begin to tuck in our plants. We've learned from the past that Houston's fall can be fickle, sometimes seeming more like summer than fall, sometimes with even a hint of winter, then returning to summer. We need to pay close attention to the changes and make adjustments accordingly, remembering that our plants cannot do it for themselves. Anticipate and make adjustments for the changes in temperature, humidity, and daylight.

As I write this, after three straight days of rain, I can feel fungi growing. Not a bad time to spray. I also like to do a preventative insect spray as I close up for the winter.

We are transitioning leadership positions in the Society. I have been reminded several times this year that many had to "reinvent the wheel" or "learn by osmosis" as they tried to fulfill their responsibilities. To improve transitions, I ask each officer and chairperson to spend a few minutes documenting the key learning you have had this past year and to pass this along to your successor. The Society will flourish as a result.

Fall Orchid Tips & More

On page 5 of this month's *Happenings*, we include an article by Susan Taylor on "Fall Orchid Tips." You might note that Susan has posted links to a number of additional orchid tips on her site at: <http://www.bellaonline.com/subjects/3042.asp>.

Recap: October 2006

Speaker: Dr. William Mathis, Wild Orchid Company
Topic: Hardy Terrestrial Orchids: The Best Kept Secret in the Gardening World

For our October meeting, Dr. Mathis, of the Wild Orchid Company, provided a talk and slideshow on hardy terrestrial orchids. For more information about his offerings, visit his website at www.wildorchidcompany.com.

Plant Table Winners:

Hybrid: Blc Don Pepe 'Ethan' HCC/AOS, Owner/Grower: Joe Fields

Species: Angraecum didieri, Owner/Grower: Holly Miller

Joe Fields and Holly Miller are the Plant Table winners for October 2006. Thanks to Joe and Holly and to all who contributed to the October Plant Table for our enjoyment!

Winners' Tips

from October 2006 HOS Plant Table Winners, Joe Fields and Holly Miller



Hybrid Winner: Blc Don Pepe 'Ethan' HCC/AOS by Joe Fields (photo by John Van Domelen)



Blc Don Pepe 'Ethan' HCC/AOS is a cross of *Brassavola nodosa* and *Blc Erin Kobayashi*. I have grown this plant for about five years, and it has flowered for the last three years. It and two other siblings were purchased from Tropical Orchid Farm in

Hawaii. The other two have typical *nodosa*-sized flowers -- nice, but typical. This plant has wider than normal sepals, petals, and lip.

The plant was awarded about two years ago by the Houston Judging Center. It grows in a greenhouse with Cattleya light, meaning about 50% sunlight. I water with balanced fertilizer twice, once with bloom fertilizer, and flush with plain water once. The pot is a shallow 10-inch bulb pan with charcoal, sponge-rock medium above packing peanuts. Being a *nodosa* hybrid, it is moderately disease resistant and easy to grow here on the Gulf Coast.

Species Winner: Angraecum didieri by Holly Miller (photo by Holly Miller)



I fell in love with *Angraecums* at my first Newcomers' meeting at Renee and Marvin Gerber's home three years ago. They had a large, beautiful *Angraecum sesquipedale* in the middle of their living room, and my thought was, "Will I ever be

able to grow something like this?!" I now have a small and growing collection of *Angraecums*, which are easy to grow and very rewarding as most of them bloom more than once a year.

Angraecum didieri is a miniature plant, and the blooms are exceptionally large in relation to the plant size. This one is mounted, and I grow it outside in my Vanda area, which is under a large oak tree and is rigged with a simple watering system on a timer. There is good airflow from the constant breeze out of the southeast. The plant is in one of the shadier spots, but the light is bright. It gets watered once a day and fertilized once a week with DynaGrow. I've never had a problem with pests on any of the plants in this area, so it has been pest-free.

In the past, I've moved these outside plants in and out of the greenhouse during the winter depending on the temperature. This year I'm going to cover with clear plastic and use a small heater. I can raise the sides for a breeze on warmer days. We'll see how it goes.

Shake, Rattle and Roll

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to the islands: *Dimerandra stenopetala*, *Otostylis brachystalix*, *Paphinia cristata*, and *Caularthron bicornutum*. The government also issued a new orchid aerogramme, which sold out quickly at the show.

Local student judge and society member Philip MacIntyre produced a lovely watercolor of *Cymbidium Golden Elf* for the society's posters and commemorative booklet. Philip has painted more than 300 orchids over the past 8 years.

Orchidists from Venezuela and Guyana on the nearby South American mainland came to exhibit and sell, along with society members from Barbados, Jamaica, and other Caribbean islands. Exhibits were showcased indoors in two halls, a hallway (cut-flower arrangements) and the hotels entranceway. Sales tents were arranged on a hotel veranda and drive.

In addition to many lovely orchids grown and exhibited by local members and visitors, there were exhibits by the Garden Club of Trinidad, the Horticultural Society of Trinidad & Tobago, the Trinidad and Tobago Bonsai Society, and the Trinidad and Tobago Field Naturalists Club. There was also an outstanding and elegant floor exhibit of local tropicals - bamboo, anthuriums, and gingers, arranged by a "Trini" who has regularly exhibited at the distinguished Chelsea Flower Show in England, winning a variety of gold and silver medals.

Other highlights included the vandaceous cut-flower exhibit designed and constructed by six members of the Barbados Orchid Society, resulting in a riot of bright colors. Cut inflorescences were arranged on a matrix of freshly cut green bamboo and several received American Orchid Society flower quality awards. The exhibit also won the AOS show trophy.

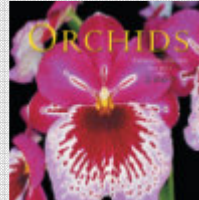
Long-time Trinidad resident Sharon Laurent not only organized the AOS judging team, but also assembled a majestic, towering, tabletop exhibit on behalf of Hamlyn Orchids, featuring hundreds of lavender, pink, and white *Dendrobium* stems grown in Jamaica. It formed a lovely, sparkling tiered fountain of blooms, framed in an arched doorway. Sharon's husband, His Honor Dr. Eugene Laurent, is a medical doctor trained in Canada, a Commissioner with the Environmental Commission of Trinidad and Tobago, a member of the TTOS Local Award Judging Committee, and long-time supporter of the society.

AOS judges came from Jamaica, Florida, North Carolina, Michigan, and Texas. About 20 minutes before judging was set to begin on Friday morning, Trinidad was hit by an earthquake, which we later learned measured 6.0-6.1 on the Richter scale. There was a low rumbling, followed by violent horizontal shaking, sending glasses flying off tables and setting chandeliers swaying. We fled the hotel, and noticed large cracks on the outside walls. Understandably, judging was somewhat delayed. This was my second trip to Trinidad, and although we always expect each show to be somewhat different, I had not anticipated the earthquake experience.

Electricity was not available from the main grid for several hours. The airport was shut down, and the cell towers

AOS Corner

By Melba and Jim Butler



Orchid Calendars 2007 -- The AOS 2007 Orchid Calendar will be available for \$10 at the next HOS meeting. Buy your calendar at the November meeting and save yourself several dollars. Of course, the same calendars are available on the AOS website at \$11.95 plus tax and shipping. Each year, a small supply is made available for the convenience of HOS members. Last year they were all sold before the end of December.

The AOS calendar is a tradition. Each year, 12 photos are selected from the more than 2,000 annual AOS awards presented to talented orchid growers. The prestigious plants and flowers for the 2007 calendar are accompanied by descriptions and discussions by Downs Matthews and Tom Ethridge.

Brighten a door, a wall, or some area of your kitchen or bedroom with beautiful orchid photos! The calendars make great Christmas gifts, too.

overloaded. Although the hotel's generators eventually returned lighting to the exhibit halls, the A/C was off for several hours, so we judged with open windows. AOS judging took place outside, under tents. The first aftershock occurred in mid-afternoon, causing us to abandon the tents for a while and move further from the building.

Despite all, TTOS members retained admirable, cheerful good humor throughout the day, and the show opened Friday evening with a gala reception, during which many of the perpetual silver trophies were announced and presented. Winner's names are engraved on individual plaques, which they receive later in the fall and may keep.

Carlyle McMillan exhibited plants from nearby Guyana, including the elusive *Catasetum longifolium*, which grows only high on the trunks and under the fronds of Moriche palms. Carlyle is one of the resident experts on orchid species of the islands and nearby mainland.

Among the more active local growers are the Laurent's, Sandy (Alexander) Gibson, and Curtis Lutchman, whose plants have regularly received AOS awards. One of Sandy's large hybrid *Cattleyas* won best flower in show.

On Saturday, AOS judges and a few Caribbean visitors were treated to a trip into the lovely northern range of mountains. We drove through both dry forest and steep rainforest, on narrow roads past many waterfalls, and saw many tropical hardwoods, lianas, native shrubs, plants, vines, as well as dozens of different orchids and beautiful birds. Saturday

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Culture Q&A

HOS Culture Q&A Panel: Ted Baenziger, Jay Balchan, Dolores Fields, Joe Fields, Marvin Gerber, Renee Gerber, Doug Harris, Rick Hepler, Julius Klehm, Nina Rach, and Greg Scott.

Q: I have noticed that the new growths on my Blc are not standing up, but are kind of soft. All these plants get some direct sun for one hour a day or so. They are exposed to 4500 to 5000 foot candles for over eight hours a day. Could it be overfeeding, or high nitrogen food? All my other orchids are very happy.

A: Normally I would have said light, but with that much light, there is no way they are not getting enough. I would look at the color of the foliage to see if it is lush green or a paler green. I would also suspect nitrogen in this situation. Without seeing the plant or knowing more details, it would be hard to comment further about the fertilizer levels. --Julius Klehm

A: High nitrogen and sometimes none at, all as well as improper lighting, can cause this condition. Check for root growth for adequate uptake of nutrients. --Greg Scott

A: Sounds like plenty of light, but too much nitrogen. --Marvin Gerber

A: Just use some light-gauge wire and prop up the new growths. After a few weeks, the growths will stand up straight. If you don't, then the new growths will go in all different directions! --Jay Balchan

Q: I have an inexpensive watering system in my small greenhouse. It is hooked up to my outdoor spigot. The problem I have is that that the brass misters clog very easily. They have white mineral deposits on them. Any suggestions on how to prevent this?

A: It is impossible to keep it from happening with the water systems that we have in the Houston area unless you have a water treatment system ahead of the nozzle. The buildup is minerals that are dissolved or suspended in the water. Some of the filters, like those you would use on the kitchen sink faucet, may work to remove some of the minerals. Reverse osmosis systems take out these minerals, but the collection container is not under pressure to deliver it through a hose, so you would need a water delivery system. Some of the other systems put more salt into the water as part of the process of removing the minerals and that is detrimental to the orchids and/or other plants. It is best to put up with the deposits (mostly calcium). However, the nozzles can be cleaned with possibly a wire brush or by soaking them in a weak solution of acid and then rinsing them good before use. --Julius Klehm

A: Your watering system is clogging up because your water has a high mineral content. If you want to continue using the watering system, you will need a second set of watering nozzles. Then you can soak one set of nozzles in a vinegar solution to help dissolve the mineral buildup while you use the second set for your watering. A fine piece of wire and an

old toothbrush are good tools to clean the clogged nozzles. --Marvin Gerber

A: A long soak in vinegar will clean away the deposits. You may need to use a tiny sharp probe or needle to open the tiny jet. Also, the smaller the opening, the quicker to clog. Try a larger mister opening. --Joe Fields

A: The use of RO water, distilled water, or rainwater is about the only method I know of preventing such buildup of mineral salts. --Greg Scott

A: This is a question that causes some pain. The correct answer is to change the water supply because the mineral load is too great for the misters. The other answer is to soak the parts in vinegar to get rid of the deposits every week or so. Not really a solution, I'm afraid, but in Houston, going south to Galveston, the water only gets harder and more loaded with mineral content -- mostly calcium carbonate (another word for limestone).

One solution which will kill your orchids is to soften the water with salts. Death to anything green. Bad news.

One last solution is to go with RO (Reverse Osmosis) water, but that is even more expense... and then you have to add minerals (Yes, add them!). --Ted Baenziger

A: The mineral deposits are from the water itself (calcium deposits). Without changing the water system or putting in a water softener, there is no way to prevent this. The only suggestion I would have is to change the misters out (if you can) to a larger volume mister. The larger volume misters have larger holes and they would take longer to clog. --Jay Balchan

Q: I know you should water less in the winter or cooler weather. Do you also fertilize less? I know some orchids have unique requirements for winter dormancy such as some Dendrobiums, Catasetinae, etc. But generally, say for Cattleyas, do you still fertilize through the winter?

A: Bob Gordon (primarily a phal grower, but I think this applies to all orchids) talked about the "ying and yang" of growing orchids. What was he saying? It is very simple -- for every action, there is a reaction. So, less light, less fertilizer, less water. More light, more fertilizer, more water. Your watering should be based on the same premise, summer or winter. Plants should be almost dry (paphs and phals) to dry (cattleyas, dendrobs) before they are watered. If this takes longer in winter because it is cooler, wetter, and there is less light, then water less. In our Houston winters, there is often a huge difference from one week to the next in all major components of growing -- light, temperature, and humidity. Therefore, you must adjust your feeding and

Fall Orchid Growing Tips

By Susan Taylor, Orchids Editor, *BellaOnline*

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Phalaenopsis or Moth Orchids

As nights start to cool off it's time to put your Phals outside or in a cool place in order to initiate flowering. The temperature needed to induce flowering is around 60 degrees F, or 15 degrees C, at night. After about three weeks in these cooler night temperatures you should start to see the inflorescences developing at the bottom of the plant near the medium. Applications of bloom boosting fertilizer will also encourage blooming. As it reaches about six inches or 15 centimeters start staking the inflorescence to produce the best display of flowers.

Paphiopedilum or Slipper Orchids

Standard Paphs will be starting to show inflorescences now. Be sure to watch for hot days since bud blast can result. They need cool temperatures to bloom successfully. Fertilize with low nitrogen, high phosphorous and potassium will encourage blooming.

Cattleyas

Winter and spring blooming Cattleyas will be putting out sheaths and inflorescences at this time. Be sure to fertilize with bloom booster instead of high nitrogen to encourage them. Stake up the inflorescences for best presentation. Start reducing the watering and fertilizing for spring and summer bloomers to allow for their fall resting period. Any seriously overgrown plants can be repotted, but it is better to wait for spring if possible.

Watch your watering schedule

The advent of cooler weather will cause your plants to start growing more slowly thus needing less water. Be sure that you check your plants carefully to make sure that your watering schedule from the summer months is not giving them too much moisture now. The tried and true method of picking up the pots to see if they're light works well. If they don't seem dry, don't water. Wait a day or two.

Get plants ready for moving inside

If you are luck enough to be able to move your plants outside for the summer, it's time to start getting ready to bring them in when the weather cools off. Do this a few plants at a time while enjoying the cooler outside temperatures. Clean them up, remove old sheaths, treat for insects so that you will be all ready when the first cold front arrives.

Fungus, Insects and Air Circulation

The beginning of cooler weather will bring on fungal and insect infections. Check your plants each week and make sure that you have maintained adequate air circulation and humidity for your plants. Spider mites particularly are a problem in the early fall months as the temperatures fall -- check for tiny reddish insects and webbing on the back of leaves.

Be careful of water temperature

When the weather gets cooler the temperature of your water will also get cooler. Remember that your plants appreciate

water around the same temperature as the air when watered. You can use a thermometer or your hand to determine whether it is right or not. Keeping a container with water near your plants will ensure that it will not damage leaves. Cold water will make spots on your leaves that will never go away.

Source: <http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art46354.asp>.

Culture Q&A Cont'd.

watering to reflect the conditions of the moment. --Marvin Gerber

A: Lower temperatures and less light mean less growth. The plant will take up less water and fertilizer. There is a danger of root rot in some plants. Extra fertilizer just runs through.

Our winter months are a real problem because we get so much less light. Our plants are growing great from March through September, then October arrives. On a scale of 1 to 5, our amount of light is a five (too much), then we drop to a 2 for the winter months (not enough). Hawaii, the Philippines, and Thailand have a 4 almost year round -- they do not have our winter slow down. This is the only reason that they out grow us. An ideal solution would be for us to supplement light in our greenhouses during the winter. The equipment would need careful control and regulation because after a norther blows through leaving a blue bird sky, the sun is more direct and bright. This is the time of the year that Vandas will burn in the bright part of a greenhouse. --Joe Fields

A: The only time orchid plants require fertilizer is during active root growth, whichever season that happens to be where they are housed. While osmocote is used by many commercial growers and does provide year-round fertilization, it is generally thought best to severely lower both watering and fertilizing when active root and leaf growth has stopped. --Greg Scott

A: Short answer -- no, don't fertilize. Longer and better answer -- only fertilize plants that are in active growth. If it sprouts and also needs water (some plants still want to be kept very dry when first sprouting and these must not be fertilized), it can take some nutrients - a very little. That Catt that grows like crazy in the hot part of your sunny spot can take nutrients a little more...

By the way, overwatering kills plants. Overfertilizing takes longer but burns the roots to nothing (stubs, not pretty to see), before killing them. Better to do too little of both. If you must fertilize, make it a very weak solution. --Ted Baenziger

A: I generally don't fertilize at all for the 2-3 months of our Houston winter. The plants are not growing, so they don't need a lot of fertilizer. I don't think the fertilizer hurts, but the plants really aren't using it unless they are growing. --Jay Balchan

A: I still fertilize but weakly on about every second or third watering in cool weather. --Julius Klehm

World Land Trust

By Susan Taylor, Orchids Editor, *BellaOnline*

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As a part of the National Giving Week in the UK I received a communication from the **World Land Trust** (<http://www.worldlandtrust.org/>) that I wanted to pass on to you. The World Land Trust is one of the foremost conservation charities in the world. It works to "preserve the world's most biologically important and threatened lands" through the purchase of these lands in conjunction with local conservation organizations. Several of their projects are in Ecuador, Belize, Brazil and Costa Rica in areas rich in native orchids.

It is becoming more and more apparent to conservationists that preserving existing habitat from destruction is the most important way to keep biodiversity. Once a virgin rainforest has been cut down, burned and planted for a couple of seasons the time it takes to renew the environment is counted in centuries. In the meantime, both the vegetation and its attendant animal life are disbursed or eliminated entirely. It is almost impossible to bring it back to the original state. Preserving the rainforests is one of the most important of the World Land Trust's projects. Another is the reforestation of already cleared areas by replanting funded by their Carbon Balancing efforts -- offset your use of energy by providing monies to reforest.

The World Land Trust has some innovative ways to raise money and I'd like all of you to think about donating. A £25 or approximately \$50 donation will purchase a hectare or about 2.5 acres, of rainforest. In addition to straight donations via the web, starting October 16 through October 22, there is an **eBay auction for charity** of wonderful artwork by a number of well known artists who have donated items. If you enjoy lovely nature art, you will certainly want to look at these items.

There are several other ways to get involved in the organization also. They have partnered with eBay and MissionFish to allow sellers to donate the proceeds from sales to the World Land Trust. All items designated to go to the charity are so designated on eBay so that those who are looking to help others will specifically see your items marked.

There is a nice series of Christmas cards with stunning wildlife artwork by Bruce Pearson and Bob Linney.

Green Ink is a World Land Trust project that I'm particularly interested in because it involves authors, illustrators and editors. Although limited to those living in the EU, it provides to the WLT the proceeds of Public Lending Rights for books checked out from public libraries in the UK. Most authors do not even bother to get the proceeds since it is approximately £10 to £25 per year per title, but this provides a great source of income for the trust. They will do all the paperwork for you. Further information is available at GreenInk.

Source:

<http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art46796.asp/zzz>.

Growing Orchids Naturally

Submitted by Nina Rach

I received this letter (below) through my Stanhopea website. There are several images of Chicasquil (*Cnidoscopus aconitifolius* (P. Mill.) I.M. Johnston) available through Google Images. Apparently it's in the Euphorbia family and has been introduced to the US. --Nina

Hello,

I have been growing orchids in Costa Rica for 5 years now. I have tried many forms of growing my plants: Trees, pots, etc. and have found what I think is the best and only way to cultivate orchids naturally: the Chicasquil (*Cnidoscopus Aconitifolius*) tree. It grows extremely quick, it has no parasites, it provides just the right amount of light, and the orchids stick to it like glue. Want healthy looking orchids on a natural looking setup? This tree is the answer to all your orchid needs! Also, you can eat the Chicasquil leaves. They taste great with eggs.

I hope my orchid experience helps make your orchid experience a little better.

Best regards,
Juan Rafael, Costa Rica

Shake, Rattle, and Roll

Continued from Page 3

evening, the society held its traditional outdoor feast and party, complete with a variety of food and drink, raffle prizes, and a steel drum band.

The TTOS has begun discussing plans for a Trinidad exhibit at the World Orchid Conference in Miami in 2008. Perhaps the Houston Orchid Society can consider attending or even exhibiting at the next Trinidad show. There are direct flights to Port of Spain from Houston on Continental Airlines, and many other options with stopovers in Miami or various cities in Central America. It would be a good trial run for us to try an out-of-town cut-flower exhibit and perhaps practice before the WOC.

Holiday Gift Ideas

It seems impossible that December is right around the corner. If you are looking for holiday gift ideas for your favorite orchid lover, check out Susan Taylor's article at <http://www.bellaonline.com/articles/art46210.asp>. Susan discusses a number of unique orchid items including embroidered work; products with orchid photographs, like mouse pads, coasters, etc.; clay items, candles and soaps made from orchids; tee shirts, tote bags; paper products; clothing; high-end handbags; and, of course, magazines and books through the AOS website. Have fun shopping!



Committee Bulletins

Intermediate Group

Chair: Gary Beck (713-729-9307)

Just a reminder that the October meeting will be held at the Houston Judging Center on Saturday, October 28th, at 10:00 a.m., in Room 202, Jerabeck Athletic Center, University of St. Thomas, 4000 Mt. Vernon St., Houston TX. 70006. Please bring a sack lunch for this event. I will bring ice and sodas as usual. Please call me with any questions at 713-914-4325 (7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.).

The Intermediate Group's November meeting will be at Lee Rowell's, 3420 W. Dallas, Houston, 77019, at 2:00 p.m., on Sunday November 12th. It will be Hawaiian Shirt Day, so wear your Hawaiian shirt.

Newcomers Group

Chair: Holly Huston (hollyhuston@wt.net; 281-265-6787)

The November Newcomers will meet Sunday, November 19th, between 2-4pm at Teas Nursery inside the two-story brown building called the "Landscape Building." The address is 4400 Bellaire Blvd, Bellaire TX., 77402-1603, ph# 713-664-4400. Teas Nursery is located at the northeast corner of Bellaire Blvd. and Newcastle just a couple of blocks inside Loop 610. Several Newcomer "Power-Growers" will be presenting on how they are successful at growing different orchids, their lessons learned, and their favorite flowers. Since this is our last meeting for the year, we will also be having a party with lots of plants being given away, and not just orchids! Please come to this meeting and participate by bringing one of your favorite dishes! R.S.V.P. to Holly Huston (cell: 281-221-2876).

The Newcomers went to Denny Haase's "Spring Orchids" where Denny showed us how he divides large overgrown Cattleyas. Thanks Denny and Renee! We had a big group despite all the rain!

Raffle Table

Chair: Holly Miller (hollymil@earthlink.net)

We will have a nice variety of Paphiopedilums and a few warm-tolerant Masdevallias for Houstonians to try from Lehua Orchids. If you are growing outside or in a greenhouse, give them good airflow and extra water when the temperatures get really high. Lehua Orchids, in Hawaii, has been in business for 17 years as a wholesale grower of Paphiopedilums, Masdevallias (including the temperature tolerant hybrids), Nobile Dendrobiums, Miltoniopsis, and Miltonia. Most of their plants are seed crosses. They do most of their own hybridizing so many of their paphs are unique. Lehua Orchids is named after the lehua flower of the ohia tree, the first tree to grow on lava after an eruption. **Don't forget your boxtops for "Boxtops for Education!"**

Happenings Deadline for December 2006 Issue: November 13, 2006

Please email your articles to hos.happenings@sbcglobal.net. The *Happenings* may be viewed in color online at the HOS website: www.houstonorchidsociety.org. Special thanks to Susan Taylor for serving as proofreader for the *Happenings*!

Houston Orchid Society 2006 Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

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| <i>President</i> | Laurie C. Skov |
| <i>1st Vice President</i> | Don Ghiz |
| <i>2nd Vice President</i> | John Van Domelen |
| <i>Recording Sec.</i> | Nora Richardson |
| <i>Treasurer</i> | Jay Balchan |
| <i>Membership</i> | Deana Roberts |

Chairs

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Guest Hospitality</i> | Susan Taylor |
| <i>Happenings Editor</i> | Nanette George |
| <i>Intermediate Group</i> | Garett Beck |
| <i>Librarian</i> | Sarah Bentley |
| <i>Newcomers Group</i> | Holly Huston |
| <i>Parliamentarian</i> | Richard Champagne |
| <i>Plant Raffle</i> | Holly Miller |
| <i>Refreshments</i> | Sheila Skov |
| <i>Silent Auction</i> | Claudia Hanson and Theresa Riggs |
| <i>2006 Spring Show</i> | Don Ghiz |
| <i>Webmistress</i> | Nina Rach |
| <i>2006 Workshop Chair</i> | Ted Baenziger and John Stubbings |

Directors

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| <i>Two-Year Term</i> | <i>One-Year Term</i> |
| Jim Butler | Sid Bosen |
| Dolores Fields | Melba Butler |
| Doug George | Richard Champagne |
| Marvin Gerber | Joe Fields |
| Julius Klehm | Richard Lund |
| Greg Scott | Marg Putman |
| Jerry Stephens | Theresa Riggs |
| | Pam Vinson |

Representatives

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| AOS Representative | Melba and Jim Butler |
| IPA Representative | Clark Whiteside |
| ODC Representative | Nina Rach |
| SWROGA Representative | Mavis Klehm and Terry Palmer |

Houston Orchid Society *November 2006 Meeting*

Speaker: James Rose, Cal-Orchids

Program: Modern Epidendrum Breeding

Date: Thursday, November 2, 2006

Time: 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Place: Houston Garden Center

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.houstonorchidsociety.org



Calendar of Events 2006

(Updated October 23, 2006)

| Date | Event |
|----------|--|
| 10/28/06 | Judging - Houston Judging Center - **note: the HJC meets late this month; therefore, there is no HJC awards report for the October newsletter. |
| 11/2/06 | HOS Monthly Meeting: James Rose, Cal-Orchids, "Modern Epidendrum Breeding." |
| 12/7/06 | Annual Holiday Party and HJC Auction |

For additional information on upcoming orchid shows in our region, visit www.swroga.org, and click on "Shows" to see the SWROGA calendar.

Houston Orchid Society
The Houston Happenings
12710 Eagle Ledge Lane
Tomball, TX 77377

