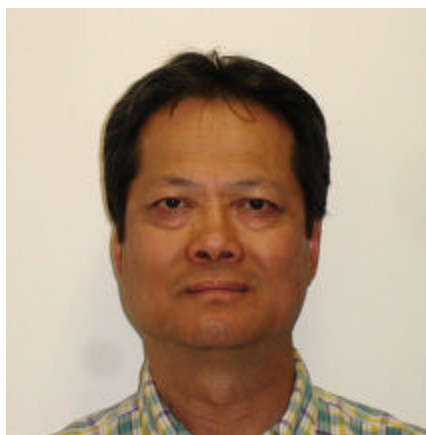


THE HOUSTON HAPPENINGS

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

Speaker: Sam Tsui of OrchidInn Ltd. – What's new in multifloral Paphiopedilums and Paphio- pedilum culture

By John Stubbings, First Vice-President



Orchid Inn, Ltd is owned and operated by Sam Tsui and his wife Jeanie. They started growing orchids in the early 1980's and it is always been their passion! Sam started breeding/hybridizing in the early 1990's and eventually started a home-commercial business "Orchid Inn" in his basement and greenhouses attached to his house. As the business grew, he purchased a six acre property and built his first commercial 6,000 square greenhouse in 2004.

In the past 10 years, Sam has been very active in the orchid world, traveling for shows, sales, and lecturing. At Orchid Inn, Ltd, he continues to specialize in Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. He particularly emphasizes species, Brachypetalum, Parvisepalum and Multifloral hybrids. He only selects the best, most vigorous parent plants in the collection for breeding/hybridizing. Occasionally, he selects the best plants or flasks which are outstanding examples of their type from friends around the world to improve the Orchid Inn breeding stock.

Continued

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



Continued

Sam's goal is to offer you quality plants at a reasonable price. He also offers a good quality and large quantity of Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums species and hybrids in flask. Orchid Inn currently produces 4,000 to 5,000 flasks or approximately 100,000 seedlings annually. Orchid Inn has many AOS awards for flower quality and cultural perfection. He will be bringing plants for sale during our meeting.

Sam will be taking preorders and giving a 10% off discount for such orders. He must receive the pre-orders by May 30 in order to qualify for this discount.

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Sandi Jones Tom Wells

www.browardorchidsupply.com

President's Post

By Holly Miller, President

The past few weeks we've been getting a taste of our hot Houston summers and it sure did come on quickly! Now is the time to make sure your growing areas have adequate shade and air flow to help with the heat. Check your fans and ventilation systems. Even if you grow on a covered patio, a fan can make a big difference in keeping your orchids from getting stressed by the heat.

It is also time to watch out for the bugs which will be appearing now that the warm weather has arrived. It takes very little time for an infestation to occur, so keep an eye out and treat as soon as you see evidence of harmful insects.

Our next event is the HOS Summer Workshop on August 7th and 8th, so mark your calendars now. The registration form is on the website and we will also have them at the meeting. For only \$45 you can attend the Preview Reception on Friday night and all of the lectures on Saturday. A very nice lunch buffet is included. Check out the Schedule of Events with the registration form - there are too many lectures for me to list here and we have some great speakers lined up. This is a great opportunity to learn a lot, have fun and acquire new orchids!

Houston Judging Center

By Margaret Putman

HJC Results - May 16, 2009 -

There were 16 plants entered with no awards. There were 11 Accredited Judges, two Probationary Judges, and one Student Judge present, with a total of 21 persons attending.

The next regular judging will be held June 20, 2009, at the Jerebeck Center, University of St. Thomas, Room 202, 2000 Mt. Vernon St., Houston, TX. Lunch is your own responsibility. It is requested that all plants be entered before to 11:30 A. M. so that they may be properly researched prior to judging.

Bromeliad Society/Houston Inc.

Regular meeting third Tuesday of month at

7:30 PM

Houston Garden Center
www.bromeliadsocietyhouston.org

Winners' Tips

Hybrid Winner: Den Gattton Sunray owned by Lily Chang



Photograph courtesy of Malcolm McCorquodale

The Den. Gattton Sunray FCC/RHS was given to me a few years ago when I visited Marvin and Rene Gerber's greenhouse when I was a Newcomer. It blooms every year about this time. This plant needs bright light and usually gets watered once a week and occasionally gets lightly fertilized. It is potted in a two and half inch clay pot and wedged with pieces of rock in a five inches pot so it can stand upright.

Species Winner: Vanda tricolor owned by John Jamerlan



Photograph courtesy of Malcolm McCorquodale

This is its first bloom and we used this plant as part of the HOS display in the last show! When I bought this plant 8 years ago, it was a 4 inch unmounted plant from one of the HOS speakers. I placed it in a slat basket without any medium and I have always kept it in the same spot in my shade house where it gets very bright filtered light (60% shade cloth, under no tree cover) all year. Watering schedule is daily during the withering hot months, 3 times a week during spring and early winter and once a week during the cool months. I feed it every other watering usually with 30-30-30, cal-mag or whatever water-soluble plant food I have available at a rate of ¼ to ½ teaspoon per gallon. The only precautions I take is ensuring good air circulation and preventing the temperature of the shade house from rising above 100 deg. for an extended period (a real danger during the cold months when the shade house is wrapped under 0.6 mil plastic sheets). Vandas are easy because you really can't overwater them, and they seem to be more resistant to pests and rots than Cattleyas, Oncidiums and even Paphs.

Request from AOS Publications Committee

By: Jeanne Buchanan, Student Judge

I am contacting you at the suggestion of Carol Holdren. I serve on the AOS Publications Committee. My most recent assignment is to survey a broad range of orchidists and ask them two questions:

1. What one orchid do you think belongs in every collection?
2. Why?

Please send your answers to this question via email to Jeanne Buchanan at jeanne@folioco.com.

I expect experts will recommend orchids for different reasons. Some may suggest a particular orchid because it is easy to succeed with, others because of its showiness or color, and still others because of its botanical curiosity. I'm hopeful that the diversity of these reasons makes the survey valuable and the basis of a great article for Orchids magazine.

I am emailing the above two questions to folks and will post them on orchid forums. The more international the response, the better. Likewise, the broader range of climates/growing conditions that are represented, the better. A diversified list of orchids means there will be something for everyone.

Cymbidium Site

By Yvonne Anscombe

Greetings - My name is Yvonne Anscombe. I was a commercial grower of cymbidium orchids for the international cut flower market for 24 years and I have recently written an e-book titled "Cymbidium Care Made Easy". I believe this publication may be of interest to the newer members of your society who have a particular interest in growing cymbidiums. The e-book contains all the growing programmes we used to produce an abundance of flowers each year and advise on how to adapt this information to your individual environment.

I would appreciate it if you could advise your members of my website address by either discussion at your next meeting or by mention in your next newsletter.

Website Name: Growing Cymbidium Orchids

Website Address:

<http://www.cymbidiumsbyvon.com>

AOS Corner

By Carol Holdren

The AOS web site, www.aos.org, has its own, recently appointed Website committee, with Sandy Svoboda as chair. This committee is working to:

"...implement the mission of the AOS by offering educational opportunities, building community through the interactive website and webinars, and offering other committees the opportunity to bring their message to the membership and public. The over-riding goal of the American Orchid Society's Website Committee is to increase member benefits and help in marketing the AOS to new members."

The committee was appointed in January 2008. I encourage you to go to the AOS web site and check it out. When you are there be sure to look at the Affiliated Societies Page where we have a FAQ, a list of benefits and our own blog. This is another way the orchid community can get together.

The forum is open to everyone, not just AOS members, and please note that you have a separate sign up and password for it. The forum is not in the AOS "Members Only", which has its own password and sign in. The new forum works well and has a special section for Affiliated Societies where you can post your orchid society newsletter and look at other society newsletters.

So check it out and let me know what you think about the Affiliated Society section.

Texas Gulf Coast Fern Society

Meets the Third Sunday of each month at the Houston Garden Center at 2:00 PM. Come join us and learn more about growing ferns in the Houston environment. Visit the website at <http://www.tgcfernsoc.org/> for more information.



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: Question: What are judges looking for in an exhibit?

A: Here are a few and I'm sure that they will be overwhelming but the greatest thing that one can use is their common sense. When finished, does the exhibit look right? If not, change things around. Julius Klehm

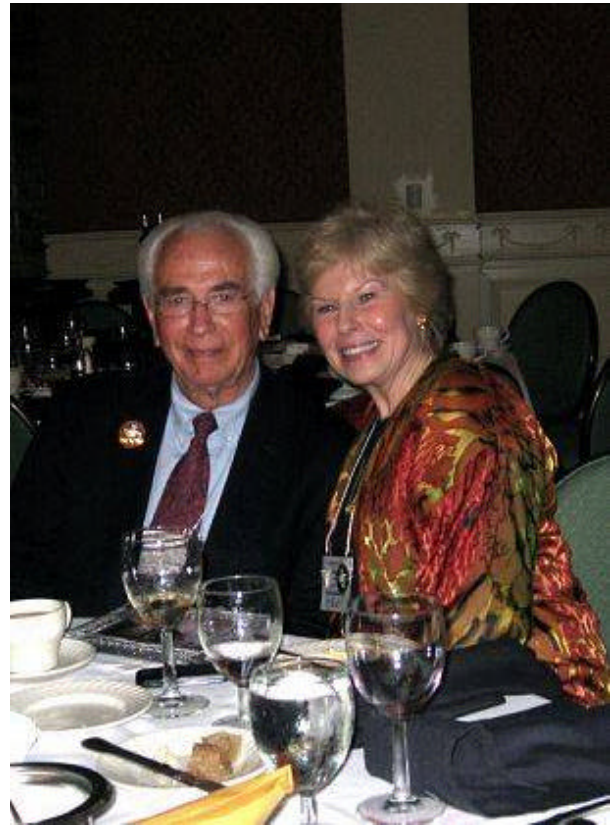
- 1) Does the exhibit follow the show theme.
- 2) Is there quality in the exhibit.
- 3) Are there any things that detract from the exhibit or draw your eyes from the orchids.
- 4) Are the other colors (other than orchids) muted shades and blend with the exhibit.
- 5) Is there a flow to the color theme in the exhibit? Do colors mainly follow the rainbow in sequence?
- 6) Are there high points and low points in the exhibit and do plants/flowers match these points as to their growing habits?
- 7) Remember depth, balance and rhythm.
- 8) Are pots covered?
- 9) Make sure that arrangement is just not straight lines.
- 10) Does the exhibit have a backdrop and, if so, does it show off the orchids rather than draw the eye to it?
- 11) Make sure there are no other flowering plants in the display. Many times some ferns and other plants have tiny flowers on them.
- 12) Use green plants to fill gaps where necessary. Other props should blend in and high light the orchids.
- 13) Clean your plants.
- 14) It is better to have a few good plants than to load an exhibit with inferior plants. Are the plants in good shape?
- 15) Labels should be clear but not overpowering.
- 16) Do you have light and, if so, do they show off your plants? Are they too close to have some burned leaves that will be detractive?
- 17) Lastly, read the schedule so that you are entering everything correctly.

A: When judges look at an exhibit, there are several things they are looking for.

- 18) 1. Arrangement of the flowers, by color family, harmony, aesthetic appeal or beauty.
- 19) 2. Flower quality; what is the average, or overall flower quality.
- 20) 3. Props; are they appropriate, do they dominate the exhibit.
- 21) 4. Overall effect of flowers, props, foliage plants, backdrop, lighting and plant labeling.

Marvin

Melba and Jim Butler Elected HOS Life Members



Photograph courtesy of Judity Neufeld

Jim and Melba were elected as life members of the Houston Orchid Society at the May meeting.

They asked me to post the following thank you in the newsletter:

“Dear HOS:

We are very humbled by the honor of Life Membership in the Houston Orchid Society. We are grateful to be associated with such fine people in a great organization. Thank you so much for this great honor.

Melba and Jim Butler”

Winner of Ticket Sales Contest Announced

Don Ghiz announced that the winners of the ticket sales contest were Jeff Bradley, first; Fr. Ted Baenziger, second; and Julius Klehm, third. They were rewarded with free plants which were available for pickup at the meeting.

Thanks from the Butlers

“Dear HOS,

We appreciate the beautiful Waterford frame and photo that you presented to us at the Banquet. We will treasure it always. Thank you so much for being so thoughtful.

Jim and Melba Butler”

Our Cyp Has Come In!

By Doug Harris, HOS Cyp Restoration chairman

Your Cyripedium Restoration committee members will be growing the small seedlings over the summer into fall. I picked them up at the greenhouses up at Stephen F Austin (SFA) and distributed them at the May meeting. Each volunteer received 10 potted seedlings.

As the seedlings grow, records from our folks along with possibly pictures will be sent for the newsletter and to a monthly report for our contact Tom Philipps at the Lufkin Forestry Service office. Hopefully I can bring a flowering Cyp to our next meeting. Depending on how successful our efforts are this year, a continuation of the project in 2010 and 2011 may occur. While the successful germination and development into seedlings yielded fewer seedlings than we hoped for, we and the Biology Department professors and students at SFA are growing seedlings into larger plants that will be planted in our Texas National Forests to restore populations and reintroduction into suitable habitats which have trees again where previous clear cutting caused losses of natural cyripedium species.

Hand pollination on several flowering plants east of Lufkin was accomplished in April, and the number of flowering plants increased over last year, so more seed should be available this fall.

Raffle Table Specials

By: Mary Gunn, Raffle Table Chairperson

We want to thank the following vendors who made ‘special deals’ available to us at the Spring Show, and their plants will be included in our Raffle Table selections over the next couple of months:

Andy’s Orchids: www.andysorchids.com
Andy or Harry can be reached at (888) 514-2639, and they are very helpful and glad to answer questions and talk to

you about orchids. It is a family-owned nursery specializing in species orchids. They are known for their mounted orchids which they call “orchids on a stick”. They cultivate over 3,000 different species, and have an inventory of over 180,000 plants, growing everything from traditional favorites to the rarest exotics. Andy has been growing orchids since the age of seven, and opened the nursery in 1990. His goal is “to offer exceptionally well-grown, established plants and to provide my customers with instructions for growing them successfully so they will thrive in your care.” They have an exceptional website with pictures of almost every plant they have listed. The site also has a very cool ‘power search’ feature to help you find exactly what you want.

Ecuagenera Orchids: www.ecuagenera.com
Specializes in the cultivation, reproduction and sale of native Ecuadorian orchid species. They are the largest such company in Ecuador, and they send native orchid species to clients around the world. They also give lectures about native Ecuadorian orchid species and their greenhouse techniques for successful growing of their orchid species. They have been involved in the preservation of native Ecuadorian orchids, the first to get permission to export orchids from their country, and they are currently the largest orchid exporter in Ecuador and one of the largest in all the Americas. They have interesting varieties, and a number of miniature plants.

H&R Nurseries: www.hrnurseries.com
Specializes in new & innovative orchid hybrids and rare & unusual species. Roy Tokunaga has 27 years of experience in hybridization with several thousand hybrids delivered. Most of his work has been in the Dendrobium and Cattleya alliances. They take great pride in growing and selling strong, vigorous, healthy & generously sized orchid plants that are tested and virus free. The “Roy Tokunaga” Dendrobium is well known to avid orchid growers and is a lovely example of his hybridizing. Large selection with excellent prices on great plants.

Oak Hill Gardens: Dundee, Illinois. www.oakhillgardens.com
Oak Hill Gardens was founded in 1973 by Herman Pigors. They grow and sell a wide variety of orchids. Species orchids are an especially strong feature of the firm as well as hybrids of the unusual type for the hobby grower. They have seen an upswing in the popularity of growing species, miniatures, and mounted plants and have responded with a large selection of these. They are glad to be of help with any special requests, growing help and horticultural answers not found elsewhere. You can reach them at (847) 428-8500.

ORCHIDbabies, LLC: www.orchidbabies.com
Earl and Phyllis Bailey founded ORCHIDbabies, LLC in 2002. Their emphasis is on Phrag and Paph hybridizing, and they have an excellent selection of new hybrids of both Paphs and Phrags, along with a good selection of other genera. They were delighted to win the award for “Best Flower in Show” at our HOS Spring Show for their Unnamed Hybrid - Michael Koopowitz x winged Flight, which was also awarded the Slipper Orchid Alliance Trophy for Best Slipper in the Show. Congratulations!

Yih-Cheng Orchids: www.yihcheng.com
Specializes in Cattleyas and Phalaenopsis, and along with an associated grower, they also wholesale and export dendrobium, catasetum and momodes, oncidium, and other orchid alliances.

Raffle for White Orchid Silver



The Arkansas Orchid Society is concerned about meeting expenses for the SWROGA show they are hosting in October. They have asked if SWROGA might be able to conduct another raffle for a set of White Orchid silver plate. Therefore the following set is being offered for raffle on October 3, 2009, in Little Rock, AR, at the SWROGA Semi-Annual Show and Sale. The tickets are \$5.00 each or \$25.00 for six and can be purchased from Mavis.

The set includes 73 polished, ready to use, pieces in an anti-tarnish box:

- 8 knives
- 8 dinner forks
- 8 salad forks
- 8 dessert forks
- 8 soup spoons
- 24 teaspoons
- 1 large pierced serving spoon
- 1 small pierced serving spoon
- 2 large serving spoons
- 1 cold meat fork
- 1 gravy ladle
- 2 butter knives
- 1 sugar shell

Get your newsletter notification by email

Get your newsletter by email and save the society printing and mailing costs. Instead of a paper copy, you will be notified via email when the newsletter is posted at the society website.. Best of all, you will see all the pictures in full color -- and you know that orchid are *much* prettier in color!

Just let me know at sataylor@eastex.net and I'll add you to the list.

Welcome New Members

Paula Abraham
 Cleide Aitken
 Patricia Davari
 Brian Doffing
 Theresa Dolney
 Kevin Foster
 Chris Gann
 Albert Howell
 Elayne Kovounis
 Earl Ledet
 Peggy Lynn
 Manel Perera
 Sy Reekerr
 Steve & Karen West

Welcome Guests

Brian & Chau Chan
 Rebecque Dermerle
 Jose DelToro
 Ronald Gillory
 Nancy Hixon
 Beverly Robinson

Thanks for Refreshments

Richard Bauman
 Allan & Bente Davies
 Melissa Fisher
 Ken Gardner
 Midge Gorman
 Ruth Munson
 Debbie Peterson
 Sandy Stubbings



Committee Bulletins

Newcomers Group

Chair: Jean Schwenke, schwenke@atlascsusa.com
832-746-1003

It was a beautiful, balmy day for our May Newcomers' meeting at the Butler's home. Our gracious hosts shared with us much of their fountain of knowledge, including the intricacies of AOS judging and the fascinating realm of pollination. Thanks to the generous donations of orchids from the Butlers, Karin Luhnau, and Mark Tieman, everyone left with armloads of new plants to nurture.

Our next meeting will be June 21st at 2:00 PM at the home of our HOS president, Holly Miller. Holly has an eclectic collection, and we will probably spend most of this meeting asking, "What in the world is this one called?" I've given her the challenge of recommending some unusual orchids that even we Newcomers can grow successfully. And if you like phals, you don't want to miss out on this next batch of Karin's donations.

Intermediate Group

Chair: Debbie Peterson, dpeterson@avalonadvisors.com 281-890-0811
Co-chair: Calvin Starr, calvin@kr5e.com 281-482-5589

The HOS Intermediate Group will be meeting on the 4th Sunday of each month at 2PM. The meeting in June will be on the 28th and held at Teas Nursery. Our group is now studying various orchid growing issues.

Congratulations to Calvin and his group for putting together a fabulous educational display on orchid media that won them a trophy at the AOS show. Both of the educational displays our group put together were donated to the HOS Newcomer's group.

If you'd like to join our group you must have been a member of HOS for more than 2 years. Contact Debbie or Calvin to sign up and get on the email list. If anyone would like us to have our meetings at your greenhouse, please let us know.

Raffle Table

Chair: Mary Gunn, Sylvia Dekmezian, Amy Colville

Raffle table plants for our June meeting will be from multiple vendors and will include a variety of genera and species. Please see the special article on the raffle table on Page 5 for the vendors who made special deals available to us at the Spring Show. Their plants will be featured for the next several months.

Be sure to stop by to look, purchase some raffle tickets, and get your free door prize ticket (2 free tickets if you are wearing your name tag). Tickets are priced at 5 for \$1.00 or 30 tickets for \$5.00. As always, we will have a special drawing for Boxtops for Education.

Houston Orchid Society 2009 Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

<i>President</i>	Holly Miller
<i>1st Vice President</i>	John Stubbings
<i>2nd Vice President</i>	John Jamerlan
<i>Membership</i>	Katherine Brown
<i>Recording Sec.</i>	Claudia Hanson
<i>Treasurer</i>	Jill Smith

Chairs

<i>Guest Hospitality</i>	Allan Davies
<i>Happenings Editor</i>	Susan Taylor
<i>Librarian</i>	Sarah Bentley
<i>Newcomers Group</i>	Jean Schwenke, Judith & Loren Neufeld
<i>Intermediate Group</i>	Debbie Peterson, Calvin Starr
<i>Parliamentarian</i>	Marvin Gerber
<i>Photography</i>	Malcolm McCorquodale III
<i>Plant Raffle</i>	Mary Gunn, Sylvia Dekmezian, Amy Colville
<i>Refreshments</i>	Noreen Tolman, Ken Gardner, Eddie Mitchell, Will Litchfield
<i>Silent Auction</i>	Lee and Gordon Rowell
<i>2009 Spring Show</i>	Melba and Jim Butler
<i>HOS Web</i>	Calvin Starr
<i>2009 Workshop Chair</i>	Ted Baenziger and John Stubbings

Directors

<i>Two-Year Term</i>	<i>One-Year Term</i>
Donna Williams	Jeff Bradley
Joe Fields	Greg Scott
Ted Baenziger	Dave Hunt
Don Ghiz	Johnny Williams
Calvin Starr	Sandra Higham
Doug Harris	Dolores Fields
Loren Neufeld	Marvin Gerber

Representatives

AOS Representative	Jim Butler
IPA Representative	John Stubbings
ODC Representative	Joe Fields
SWROGA Representative	Julius Klehm and Marilyn Holloway

Houston Orchid Society June 2009 Meeting

Program: Sam Tsui
What's New in Multifloral
Paphiopedilums?

Date: June 4, 2009
Time: 7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Place: Houston Garden Center

2009 Speakers

June - Sam Tsui, What's new in multifloral
Paphiopedilums

July - TBA

August - Peter Tobias, Orchid Conservation

September - Bob Fuchs, Vandas

October - Julius Klehm, Live AOS Judging

November - Fred Clarke ,Mini and Midi Cattleyas

December - Christmas Party and HJC Auction

HOS Website

www.houstonorchidsociety.org

Houston Orchid Society
The Houston Happenings
P. O. Box 648
Ace, TX 77326

