



Come and Grow With Us

January Speaker

For our January meeting, Bruce Bradham will be speaking about building, maintaining, insulation and humidity control of greenhouses. Bruce has been in the construction business for twenty five years. He has built numerous greenhouses, five for himself, several showcase greenhouses and most recently, a custom 'dugout' greenhouse that is set into a hillside. He is a 4th year probationary AOS Judge and has been growing orchids for 15 years.

Fort Worth Botanic Garden Orchid Collection Volunteers

The team of 5 volunteers who have cared for the Orchid Collection since 1998 are branching out and new volunteers are needed. The experience is so enjoyable and so rewarding that 3 of the team members will continue to participate as their time permits. However, additional committed volunteers are needed at once.

The responsibilities include: weekly watering, plant grooming and repotting. The time commitment can be as minimal as one person once a week for 1 hour to water, or can be expanded to several people for a couple of hours when repotting is scheduled.

As volunteers, we work among ourselves to determine the schedule which best suits our availability and the needs of the collection. The supplies and planting materials are provided by the Botanic Gardens. We communicate our needs to the working Greenhouse Manager. The manager is knowledgeable, helpful and approachable.

This is a great way to get to know other FWOS members and gain experience working with a variety of orchid species. It can also provide the opportunity to share your expertise with others.

Please don't miss out on the opportunity to volunteer now! Call Diane Miller at 817-735-1279 or Mary Butler at 817-341-1760 if you are interested or for more information.

Christmas Party

What a great time we had at the Christmas Party this year! A good number of our members came, the food and drink was very good, and the gifts were delightful. The orchid plants were varied and beautiful. The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was amazing. Keith von Kohn has missed his calling. He may think he is an engineer but deep in his heart, I am sure he would have been a great auctioneer. He kept the evening moving in a fun and light hearted way. Keith, you may have found a permanent job for the party each year. Thank you for doing such a great job.

2008 Schedule

meetings at 7:00 p.m.

January 7th

Bruce Bradham
Greenhouse management

February 4th

Patsy Borsema
Green Cattleyas

March 3rd

TBA

**March
29th & 30th**

Plant Sale

April 7th

TBA



The President's Message

Our greenhouse is tucked in tight for the winter and the orchids seem to be napping, waiting for the big show in the Spring. The Fort Worth Orchid Society had a busy year in 2007 with the AOS Meeting and Show, our Greenhouse tour, our Plant Sales, the meetings and the speakers each month and of course, the Christmas party. However, with the coming of 2008 upon us, we need to look ahead to plan our activities to help our society grow and bloom. We don't have the luxury of a long winter's nap! As many of you already are aware, our treasury is quite low after the AOS Meeting and Show in May. We did receive a small amount of money back, but it was not enough to put us in the comfortable position financially that we have had in the past. To be able to afford to have the best possible speakers for our meetings, this year will have to be a year of hard work to make our sales as successful as possible. If we all could start a few cuttings or be able to donate at least one plant for each of the plant sales in 2008, it would be a big help. If we all pull together during this year, we can have a good financial base for the future. Our society is as strong as what each of us contributes. We have a great Board for this year but we cannot do all that needs to be done without the support of our Members. We need all of us to work together throughout the year. If you have not paid your dues for the coming year, please do that as soon as possible. We want to get the directory/yearbook out as quickly as possible and we want you in it. Let's join hands and make this a great year for FWOS. I look forward to working with each of you to make that possible.

Member News

IT'S A JUNGLE is having a Sale!

Januray 4th through the 6th (9-5 all three days) Open House

20% off everything that is not on special except Roses (10% off) Lots of out of bloom specials. We will also have classes on Friday and Saturday, subject to weather.

11:00 a.m.- How to repot and grow orchids. Bring one 6" or smaller plant to be repotted. 1:00 p.m.- How to grow Roses and take cuttings on Modern and Antique Roses. If you have shears, bring them.

Up Dates

Al Kohlmann has gotten very good news in time for the Holidays. He's finished treatment for cancer and has gotten a clean bill of health.

Charlotte Berger took a tumble just before the Christmas Party. She had a shinner but was fine.

Officers and Board Members

President
Mary Butler

**Vice President/
Program Chair**
Leonard Ingalls

**Recording
Secretary**
Merriann Lanford

**Membership
Chairperson**
Donna Katkic

Treasurer
Janet von Kohn

Directors
Bob Jones
Pat Hall
Joanne McClendon

SWROGA Rep
Kathy Baxley

AOS Rep
Ronnie and Jerry
Brandenburg

Show and Tell Table November 2007

Hybrid Table

1st Place

Glen & Lila Glass
Merriann Lanford

2nd Place

Glen & Lila Glass
Chris von Kohn

3rd Place

Paul Hawkins

Species Table

1st Place

Leonard Ingalls
Chris von Kohn

2nd Place

Bob Jones

3rd Place

Glen & Lila Glass
Bob Jones

Affiliations

American Orchid Society

Orchid Digest Corporation

*Southwest Regional Orchid
Growers Association*

*Fort Worth Garden
Club Council*

Texas Garden Clubs, Inc.

*For information about the
FWOS Library contact:
Mickey Hooper
817-236-9888*

2008 REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Make checks payable to: FWOS

Mail checks & registration to:

Janet Von Kohn
3903 Parker Oaks Court
Arlington, TX 76016

*Membership Dues
as of January 1, 2008:*

*Single membership
is \$18.00*

*Family membership
is \$27.00*

SINGLE (\$18.00) _____ JOINT (\$27.00) _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____

WORK PHONE _____

CELL _____

EMAIL _____

SALE TAG # _____

Fort Worth Orchid Society Greenhouse Tour

A huge "Thank You" goes to Leonard Ingalls for organizing the greenhouse tour for our society held on November 18, 2007. Thanks to Diana Miller and Jacque Loeb and to Jody Mastin for so graciously welcoming us into your gardens and greenhouses. Unfortunately not many were able to attend but I recommend planning for the Spring Greenhouse tour in 2008. Besides learning from what others have found to work in growing their orchids, it was fun to get to know a little bit more about each other from our visit. What follows is a copy of comments left for us to read at Diana Miller's Greenhouse since she was unable to be there on that day. Those of us who went on the tour enjoyed reading this and I wanted to share them with the larger membership. Read on...

"Unfortunately, my greenhouse is at rest during this time of year. In mid spring everything comes to life."

"I'm gone every weekend and work weekdays. As a result, my plants have to deal with my schedule which is usually watering them early in the morning even though the water can be very cold."

"I water my vandas and oncidiums daily. The other orchids range between every 3-4 days and once a week."

"Several years ago, I developed a highly reproductive form of scale. I attempted to eradicate it using "Bugs for Hire" specifically the purchase of lace wings, praying mantis and lady bugs. Those "good" bugs usually disappeared the same day they hatched or the same day I released them."

"In an effort to control the scale I tried a number of different products; rubbing alcohol, 409 mixed with Dawn dish soap and water, as well as various pesticides including neem oil. Presently I am alternating between a Bayer product and the Green Light formula which seems to be working well."

"If I would have had a choice, I would have chosen metal not wood for the plant benches. I find the wood harbors all kinds of pests."

"I rotate my fertilizer usually using the Dyna-Gro or the Grow More orchid food. I generally use the formula for the growing season from summer through December, and the formula for blooming the rest of the year. I also apply Super Thrive during the process. I used to fertilize weekly, but I find that lately it has become only every 3 weeks or so."

"I like Physan 20, and usually use it about 3-4 times a year. I would apply it more often, but it doesn't fit my schedule."

"I'm guessing this green house is over 30 years old. It is well made and although old, the automatic damper, misting system, lights and heater have worked well."

"The evaporative coolers however, are another story. For years, we replaced them every other year because the internal parts rust out. Then my husband discovered grease!!! Surprisingly, the coolers have doubled their life expectancy, although we'll be purchasing new ones next spring."

Thank you for coming on the tour. Diana Miller