

Dear Members,

This month's Newsletter is going to be quick and dirty- Because of all the time and energy spent for and at the Spring Sale, we've let time get away from us. So, that being said, read on...

April's Speaker: Rebecca Repasky

She has a B.S., Biology, Texas Christian University, December, 2004 and a M.S., Biology, Texas Christian University, May, 2008. Rebecca is a graduate student who is affiliated with TCU and Botanical Research Institute of Texas. She has been working closely with John Janovec of BRIT and Eric Christenson on her graduate research. She is studying the diversity and phenology of orchids in the cloud forests of the Peruvian Andes. She was based in the field at Wayqichas Biological Research Station, Peru, for one year.

She is currently working on a series of orchid review articles in collaboration with Eric Christenson, John Janovec and others.

Her lecture will cover her research in Peru and will show the potential implications of her research for conservation. Many of you will remember Rebecca and her program from November 2006, when she spoke to us on this important subject.

We will have Eric Christenson speak to us in May.

Spring Sale:

We had a WONDERFUL sale this year!! It may well be the best Spring Sale we've ever had. The Gardens were full of visitors for the Butterfly Exhibit last weekend and while they were waiting to get into the Exhibit, they stopped, looked in the windows and boy, did they buy orchids!!! Janet said that when the last tag and dollar was counted, we had sold \$24,700 worth of plants and related supplies... All thanks to the ever popular Butterflies and the hard work of:

The Welcoming and Raffle Table Chair-Donna Katkic, who thought up the Raffle Basket idea and pulled it all together. Great job, Donna!

Her volunteers were: Cindy Shears, Charlotte Berger, Dave Norman, Joe Northern, Margi Stauver, John Butler, Mary Butler, LaVada Harlow, Sylvia Hernandez and Keith von Kohn for closing up on Saturday. Thanks to all of them. They did a great job!

The winners of the Raffle Baskets were:

Big basket: Cindy Crook

Small basket: Maureen Wehmore

Donna would like to Thank everyone who contributed to the baskets especially the Gardening Warehouse Direct, Pat Hall, Cindy Shears, Bob Jones, Donna Katkic, Charlotte Berger, Merriann Lanford, for donated items. Thanks also

to Mary and John Butler, Leonard Ingalls, Donna Katkic, Jackie Loeb, and the few who gave monetary donations. Thanks for your support.

I would also like to add my Thanks to the everyone who worked at the Check Out tables. You all worked so hard to keep ahead of the crowds, took the time to answer questions, put in a plug for the Society and still had a smile for everyone who passed thru.

They were: David Norman, Mitzi Sprague, Donna Williams, Mary Butler, John Butler (Mr. Fill-in), Janet & Keith von Kohn, Glen & Lila Glass, Tom Phillips (for a double shift ), LaVada Harlow, Tom Carey, Robert Wilson, Leonard Ingalls, Jody Mastin (Sat AND Sun), Hugh Garland, and Bob Jones. We even had Juanice Davis pull a 45 min. shift Sun. AM because of the door "rattling"!!!!

We need to Thank the folks who brought great plants and supplies to sell and for giving us that WOW factor:

Juanice Davis, Clarence Hamilton, Bob Jones, Dianna Rose, Gardening Warehouse Direct (Linda Williamson, who worked her buns off and David Franco), Dotty & Berry Woodson, Meir Moses, Bobbye French, Hank Horton, Ron Horton, LaVada Harlow, Eric Matkso, Janet & Keith von Kohn, Mary & John Butler, Jeff Novacinski, Martof Williams, Jody Mastin and Robert Wilson.

An EXTRA SPECIAL 'Thank You' to Steve Eagle, who brought in plants and donated his sale proceeds to the Fort Worth Orchid Society. His generosity is so above and beyond wonderful that words fail to express our gratitude.

And let's not forget that the masses must be kept fed! Many Thanks to Melissa Garrett, as always, for doing just that. And to all the people who brought food, we couldn't have kept going without you-

Thanks to Dotty Woodson and Mary Butler for great potting demos on Sat. & Sun. And to Pat Hall, for her advice and coming to help sell.

A Special Thank You to Janet von Kohn for the headaches of counting tags and money (many of us know that feeling!). And to Keith von Kohn for his help with EVERYTHING.

Last, but not least, Mary Butler who had a plan to rebuild the Society and is making it happen.