



August 09

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PAOSNews
YOUR FREE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Members & Friends

The Board is thankful to two gentlemen who really made a difference in last month's meeting.

One of them is Jorge Rodriguez who took it upon himself to coordinate the Refreshments Team first round of activities. Jorge manned the kitchen like a pro! He had some valuable help, but he was the conductor, letting people know how, when and what to do. He was one of the last to leave the kitchen: first we had to clean up.

Carlos Segrera is the other gentleman we are thankful to. And it is not because of his presentation, but because of his generosity. Carlos did not charge a fee.

So, we take this time to say "Thank you, Jorge and Carlos for enriching our experience at PAOS."

On another note, the Dendrobium Challenge is still on and your experiments are due next November. So make sure you protect them from the excess rain we are experiencing.

The Board. 

Refreshments for August

The variety and quality of food in our last meeting was the result of Jorge's coordination, as mentioned above. He called all volunteers to make sure there was a variety in their contributions, and that the dishes would complement each other.

Jorge was right and the Board has adopted that procedure. Our Refreshments Team Coordinator, Georgia Ruiz will be calling all RT volunteers to ensure a good and varied selection of dishes in our meetings.

Our Refreshments Team for August is: Cecelia de Castro, Jean Tress, Haydee Navas, Brenda Martinez, Doris Maguire and Magda Rosales.

Last month's **RT** Raffle winner was Sharon Pross who won a blush-colored phalaenopsis in full bloom! 

July Ribbon Winners

We are very proud of our Ribbon Winners and their names are listed, together with that of their plants, on page four. Take a moment to check who you have to be thankful for the beauties in our last meeting.

Jean Wilson will be back this month, rested and ready to click away at our next meeting. 



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Carmen Segrera
Vice President

August at PAOS

Next Meeting

When: Tuesday, August 18 day, 2009, 7:30 PM

Where: Christ The King Lutheran Church
11295 SW 57th Avenue (Red Road)

Mirta's class Orchids 101 starts at 7 PM

August's Speaker

The Orchids from Brazil's Mata Atlantica Forests brought to you by Nina Rach

The Atlantic forest along the southern coast of Brazil is home to a tremendous variety of epiphytic and terrestrial orchid species, many of which are endemic (found nowhere else). This swath of forest is a biodiversity hotspot, distributed over 23 degrees of latitude and isolated from other major South American forests by the savannas of the Brazilian central plateau. It has many stunningly attractive areas and is among the most endangered ecosystems in the world-93% of this forest has disappeared, most of it in the last 100 years. But many orchids remain, complimented by hundreds of fascinating birds. The Brazilian orchid community is very active, well informed, and quite proud of the country's heritage.



Sobralia sessilis by Dale Borders

Nina Rach is an AOS Accredited Judge affiliated with the Houston Judging Center. She's been a member of the Houston Orchid Society for more than 20 years and is a past-president. Nina first joined the North Jersey Orchid Society in the early 1970s, followed by the Triangle OS and New Orleans OS. She maintains websites on Stanhopeas (stanhopea.autrevie.com) and Sobralias (sobralia.autrevie.com).

Nina earned degrees from Cornell University's College of Engineering, The Graduate School at Duke University, and the University of Houston Law Center. She first began working in the oil and gas industry in 1982, which has led her to live in Dallas, Bakersfield, New Orleans, and Houston. She lived in East Africa in 1985-86, and wrote her graduate thesis on Lake Victoria. In 1990, she took her first trip to Brazil to work on a project for the national oil company, Petrobras, tantalizingly close to the Mata Atlantica forests. She's made subsequent trips to visit growers, judge shows, lecture, and hike in the forests. 

July Ribbon Award Winners

<i>First Place</i>	<i>Member Name</i>	<i>First Place</i>	<i>Member Name</i>
Brassavola nodosa	Mirta Heineman	Grammatophilum scriptum	Joanne Brown
Grammatophilum scriptum var citrinum	Brenda Martinez	Grammatophilum scriptum var citrinum	Pompilio Meneses
Grammatophilum scriptum var citrinum	Mirta Heineman	Eria acervata	J. Morejon
Brassolaeliocattleya hawaiiian passion "Carmela"	Ivis and Jorge Rodriguez	Otaara [Otaara Hideen Gold (Bl. Richard Muller x Ctna Why not)]	Ivis and Jorge Rodriguez
Boughtonia sanguinea aurea	Mirta Heineman	Brassavola nodosa white	The DeCastros
Brassavola cordata	Mirta Heineman		
<i>Second Place</i>	<i>Member Name</i>	<i>Second Place</i>	<i>Member Name</i>
Paphilopedium lynleigh koopowitz	Ivis and Jorge Rodriguez	Angraecum longiscott	The DeCastros

Last Month's Presentation

We did our best to take down the essence of Carlos presentation on repotting last month. Here is the result of that attempt, and we hope that this will serve to whet your appetite and make sure you come next time. Enjoy.

- **Repotting essentials:**

1. Music to work by;
2. Gloves
3. Add fungicide to the water you will rest your orchids in while they wait their turn;
4. Make paste with fungicide to apply to cut rhizomes; you can also use cinnamon;
5. Blow torch to sterilize your tools between uses.

- **An easy way to sterilize your clay pots:**

1. 20 gallon garbage can, 1 gallon of Clorox;
2. remove dirt from pots;
3. rinse and dip for 24 hours.

Carlos's own potting mix: 3/8 lava rock, 3/8 Aliflor, 1/8 charcoal and 1/8 coconut husk chips. He says that coconut husk decomposes quickly, so it should be used sparingly and never exclusively.



How stuff works.com

- Placement in pots:

Bottom layer: Styrofoam peanuts to prevent the roots from touching the pot;

Next layer: potting mix – enough to top of roots is flush with the rim;

Next: place plant in pot and secure with clip;

Last layer: finish with potting media

Last thing: label your plant – name, date of repotting



PAOS

PAOS News

The monthly newsletter of the **PanAmerican Orchid Society**, affiliated with the American Orchid Society

On the cover: White sobralia by Nina Rach

Editor: **Gio Lester**

President: **Sue Samuels**

1st Vice president: **Carmen Segrera**

2nd Vice President : **Shirley Berckmans**

URL: www.angelfire.com/super2/panamorchid

Blog: <http://paos09.wordpress.com/>

PAOS Members Page

Featured Member

What was your first "Orchid Moment"? When did you realize you had fallen in love? We would like to share those experiences with our other members. And it can be a beautiful picture with its story, an original piece of literature or a personal anecdote. Let us know by writing to Gio at giolester@gmail.com.



I do not know its name, but I believe it is an Oncidium. Its beauty and unusual coloration struck me in the middle of the forest in Costa Rica two years ago. It was a rainy day and finding that beautiful, small orchid raising its head from the forest floor, reaching for the sunlight was such an unexpected sight I had to take that picture.

Gio Lester.
Costa Rica, 2007


Advertise in your newsletter

Our newsletter is growing and expanding its audience. If you have a plant to sell, a service to offer whether orchid related or not, why not advertise here?

Your ad can be business card size, ¼ page, ½ page or full page. Here are the prices:

Business card size: \$15

¼ page: \$20

½ page: \$25

Full page: \$30

Your services or goods will be published in the electronic version of the newsletter and distributed electronically to our membership, our sponsors and related businesses.

The newsletter is a benefit provided to you by the Pan American Orchid Society and is included in your membership dues. 

From the Board

July Meeting Minutes

Board of directors meeting, July 29, 2009

In attendance:

Sue Samuels	Carmen Segrera	Joanne Brown	Ghislaine Green
Giovanna Lester	Shirley Berckmans (host)	Georgia Ruiz	Carlos Segrera

Absent: Gail Weber, Erna Maxwell

The meeting was convened at 8:00.

Giovanna presented a set of procedures for handling the Refreshments Team which were amended, approved and shall be implemented. Georgia and Carmen raised the subject of the missing ribbons at the last meeting and it was agreed that new procedures have to be established to handle Michelle's absence. Georgia was thanked for her initiative towards the silent auction.

The Treasurer's Report presented by Joanne Brown was approved. It was noted that no fee was charged or paid for the July speaker. We thanked Carlos Segrera for his generosity and the quality of his presentation.

Starting balance:	3,602.98
Income:	222.00
Expenses:	1,046.75*
Balance:	2,778.23 – checking account
Other income:	7,809.10 – money market and CD
Balance forward:	10,587.33

- An extra item this month was the seminar attended by Mirta and Sue for which \$200 was reimbursed to cover expenses.

Sue Samuels raised the subject of possible fundraisers and identification of areas where the output of efforts is not matched by the results.

- International Orchid Festival – reduction in show area, increase in fees and display requirements resulted in a decrease of donations to clubs by local growers;
- Redlands Show – too much work for little income; no accountability for free-bees given by those working in the trailer; Carlos is still checking on reimbursement from Coke re last year; Carlos will check with Pepsi about using their products instead. Some of the issues were location of trailer, product selection;
- Raffle of flower arrangements at department stores during special holidays: Mother's Day, Thanksgiving, Valentine's, Christmas;
- Newsletter advertisement; accept also payment in-kind instead of cash (flower donation, discounts for products/services, etc.); increase newsletter circulation in order to create interest for advertisers; request contributions from members for newsletter;
- Free lectures and raffle of flower arrangements at HomeDepot; fee should be paid to arrangement maker, balance is PAOS gain;
- Trip to Cuba through Key West Botanical Gardens connection; they have CITIS and can bring plants into the US; we will bring the subject up in the next meeting to gauge members' interest, and bring speaker if idea is well received.

CS Orchids is placing an ad with us in the next newsletter (August).

From the Board

July Meeting - cont'd

Joanne suggested that we resume interviewing a member for the newsletter as a means of creating more interest among PAOS members. And Carmen suggested that she bring back the photo albums which used to be displayed at the entrance table during our meetings.

Sue reminded us that Margaret Jones needs a ride to come to the meetings. Joanne is looking for a possible driver among members who live near Ms. Jones.

The Seedlings Project initiated in the beginning of the year will culminate with members bringing their dendrobiums to the November meeting. We need to remind them in the newsletter and in the meeting about that. Members should label their plants with the owner's names.

Carmen suggested offering t-shirts to the members as a means of creating a feeling of belonging, increase revenue, identification during events, etc. Different t-shirt and embroidery providers will be contacted to obtain prices, check on product quality. The colors suggested for the t-shirts were dark blue and white.

We were contacted by a group from the Florida west coast interested in sharing speakers. Carlos and Sue pointed out that it is already a practice among the local orchid organizations to do so. However, we it may be more efficient if we create a schedule of presenters for the year and add it to the newsletter. Joanne volunteered to contact Ms. Mullen in the Herald to announce our meetings in the community calendar, and knowing the speaker ahead of time can increase attendance.

Mr. George Car wrote to Carmen suggesting that presenters be recorded and the final product could then be sold to members. Carlos pointed out possible ensuing copyright issues, lack of properly trained technicians or proper equipment. The majority decided that we should still check within the membership if anyone can do it.

Georgia questioned the need for monthly board meetings and suggested that we skip meetings in months that are not close to important events. In those months the Board could work via e-mail or phone when necessary. The suggestion was approved and it was decided that there will be no board meetings in June or August.

It was suggested and approved by all that we mention Jorge Rodriguez for his dedication during the meeting, mention Sharin Pross, winner of the RT Plant.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM. Our next Board meeting will be on 9/2 at Carmen's.

Submitted for approval by Giovanna Lester, PAOS Secretary

August 1, 2009 . 