



# Dear Members and Friends

December ended on a warm note created by our end of the year party. Our thanks to all who came and made our celebration a success.

This being our first issue of the new year, we decided to change the format of our newsletter. We are using MS-Publisher which comes in most PCs. Your comments, as usual, are welcome.



We are also studying a way to post the newsletter onto our website in order to preserve the material and history already contained therein.

Please enjoy!

## This Month at PAOS

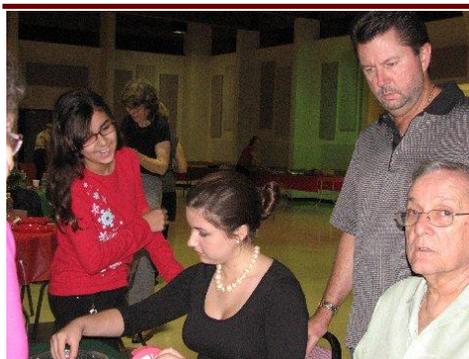
Next Meeting:

**WHEN:** Jan. 19, 2010, 7:30 PM

**WHERE:** Christ The King Lutheran Church,  
11295 SW 57th Avenue  
(Red Road)

### January's Speaker

This month a very dear member of PAOS will be our featured speaker. She will introduce us to the Wonderful World of Encyclias as seen through her



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## This Month at PAOS—continued

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eyes.

Mirta Heineman was born in Cuba and came with her family to the States in 1961. She did not speak English when she came, thus she could not go back to college until she had tackled that rich and tricky language. After her children had finished high school Mirta went back, graduated, and became a teacher.

Mirta bought her first orchid from the tailgate of a truck that was selling tempting specimens after one of the Miami Shows closed. This was some 20 years ago. Since then she has bought many orchids – but with very little luck in keeping them healthy until she started taking classes to learn how to take care of the little darlings.

*She bought her first orchid  
from the tailgate of a  
truck ...*

After retiring, she devoted more time to her new challenge and joined six different orchid societies. Mirta set out to learn and attended just about every class that she heard about. She has traveled many times to innumerable cities and countries to attend shows, conferences and classes – and to rescue orchids.

She has been a president, a vice-president and has occupied almost every board position in many orchid societies where she is a member. This enthusiasm for orchids has taken Mirta to many of our local societies to make presentations and orchid shows. She has also taught at AOS.

Mirta's presentation will dwell on her favorite genus – the Encyclias. Bring your pads, pens, questions and be ready to learn and be entertained.

## AOS Corner

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### Innovation in Orchid Societies

Are you [in] an “*Innovative Society*”? If you have some new methods or ideas which are helping to make your orchid society successful, *please share them with us*. The American Orchid Society Affiliated Society Committee is gathering these ideas to be distributed at the *Affiliated Society Committee* Breakfast on April 30 ---during the Oklahoma Orchid Society Spring AOS Members Meeting. This Members Meeting is a wonderful 3-day orchid show which is open to everyone. You are all invited to attend and hear about these innovative societies or you can receive the information from our ASC blog, Face-



book page--- or by email or telephone.

Orchid societies are facing a multitude of challenges including the economy, changing demographics and changing communication methods. Our greatest asset is our volunteers who have come up with solutions to these and other challenges and are willing to share their ideas. *So send us your best ideas* and come to the breakfast.

Examples of what we have in the works are:

- Manny Aybar from Dallas is reworking the Deep Cut Orchid Society from New Jersey “Orchid Show in a Box” program which DCOS has so generously shared for years.

This program has all of the forms that are help-

## AOS Corner—continued

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ful when planning and hosting an orchid show.

- Richard Brandon from Florida has put “Phalaenopsis Basics” in digital form so any society can use it. This is a great and easy to use educational program. Both of these will be available after the meeting.



Share your successes with other orchid societies!

Come to the breakfast in OKC or we'll send you the information afterward. For details on the meeting go to [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org) and look under “Events” and then “Members Meetings” or contact me, Carol Holdren, at [affiliated\\_societies@aos.org](mailto:affiliated_societies@aos.org) or 561-212-4876.

## South Florida Orchid Calendar

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### 2010 Tamiami International Orchid Festival

South Florida launches its Orchid Calendar with the Tamiami International Orchid Festival in late January.

Every year it is a fascinating and competitive show due to the quality of its vendors, and the amazing displays by South Florida Orchid Societies competing for First Place.

Since PAOS joined the display competition we have won Second Place twice, and this year we are shooting for First Place. Michelle and Carmen—our Display Design and Execution Team—are confident that we have a good chance this year, and even the cold weather have not dampened their spirits.

“We came very close to first place last year, and now we know what we need to work on,” stated Michelle during the Board meeting held on January 6 at our president’s house.

Healthy blooming plants and volunteers are needed. The plants can be delivered at Carmen’s and Carlos’ on Wednesday and Thursday (Jan 28-29), properly cleaned and tagged with the plant’s and owner’s names. Volunteers can help Thursday afternoon at the Segreras’, Friday with set up, and manning the PAOS table during the show, Saturday and Sunday. Take down is Sunday after 6PM, and owners should pick up their plants then.

If you are available, please contact Carlos and Carmen by email at [csegrera@bellsouth.net](mailto:csegrera@bellsouth.net) or by phone at 305-282-5588. To learn more about the event, visit:

<http://www.miamiorchidfestival.com/>



## December Ribbon Winners

Well, they were not really December Ribbon Winners, rather Year Round Ribbon Winners.

Name	#
Mirta Heinneman	33
Isis & Jorge Rodriguez	22
Jean Wilson	19
Javier Morejon, Carmen Segrera, Gail Weber	7

They all received cash prizes in recognition of their winnings throughout 2009.

We look forward to a new year of Ribbon Awards.

## Refreshments Team

Our next meeting will be held on January 19, and our Refreshment Team volunteers are: Audrey and Bob Hartwell, Mirta R. Heineman, John Johnston, Erna Maxwell, Eulália Meneses and Pat Chen Yin.

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

*President: Sue Samuels*

*1st Vice president:: Carmen Segrera*

*2nd Vice President: Shirley Berckmans*

*Editor: Gio Lester*

*Pictures: Carmen Segrera & Jean Wilson*

**URL:** [www.angelfire.com/super2/panamorhid](http://www.angelfire.com/super2/panamorhid)

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

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