

# SWROGA News

A Publication of the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association [www.SWROGA.org](http://www.SWROGA.org)

30 Affiliated Societies

Summer 2006

Volume 38, Issue 2

## **To All Members:**

Thanks to Red River Orchid Society for a fine show in Wichita Falls. They demonstrated what a fine job a small society can do sponsoring a SWROGA show. I hope other small societies will consider doing the same. It's an honor to assume the office of President of our fine organization.

Only days after the show, we were saddened by the death of Mickey Parker, former SWROGA President, Chair of the Shreveport judging center, and a friend. Please see the eulogy on page 6.

For those (most of you) who don't know me, I live in Little Rock, Arkansas, where I am an Architect and a member of the Arkansas Orchid Society. I purchased my first orchid plant in 1970, and I am a Student Judge at the Shreveport Judging Center. My continuing interest over the years has been species (although I have more Cattleya hybrids than I have ever been willing to admit).

I look forward to serving you for the next two years.

Mike Saar, President

## **From the Editor**

Due to circumstances beyond my control, this issue is not only late, but does **not** have the minutes from the Red River SWROGA Director's meeting included. The minutes will be in the next issue. The deadline for that issue is July 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006. With my apologies,

Amanda Saar. Editor

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“We print all the news that fits”

## Treasurer's Corner

Many thanks go to the societies that have sent in their dues and lists for this year. There is still one society that hasn't submitted dues this year plus two societies that are no longer affiliated with SWROGA.

All of the society Presidents and Treasurers should have received their *2006 SWROGA Directory* by now. Please let me know if you didn't receive yours (orchids@mbo.net).

Thanks, again, to all of the newsletter editors that are sending me your newsletters. I do read the newsletters I receive from you and enjoy them very much. Be sure you include in your newsletters the address, e-mail and phone information for any new members.

Here are the activities since the last report:

### General Fund:

1. Dues received: \$268.00
2. Newsletter Advertising receipts: \$90.00
3. Directory Sales receipts: \$72.00
4. Interest earned: \$56.63
5. Show registrations: \$85.00
6. Show tag receipts: \$70.00
7. Directory mailing expense: \$21.81
8. Show tag mailing expense: \$7.45

### Research Fund:

1. Interest earned: \$56.63
2. Research donation expense for the Propagation & Restoration of the Rare Lady Slipper : \$1,390.00

### Trophy Fund:

1. Auction and raffle: \$2,169.00
2. Interest earned: \$389.09
3. Bank fee: \$0.80

## SWROGA Funds on hand as of May 15, 2006

<b>General</b>	<b>\$ 16,917.72</b>
<b>Research</b>	<b>\$ 6,640.73</b>
<b>Trophy</b>	<b><u>\$ 62,989.03</u></b>

**Total      \$ 86,547.48**

**Your SWROGA treasurer,  
Carolyn McCabe**

**SWROGA News Deadlines**

**SWROGA News Ad Rates**

Vol./Issue	Date	Deadline			1 Quarter	2 Quarters	3 Quarters	4 Quarters
38, #3	Fall 2006 (before Fall SWROGA show)	July 25, 2006		Full Page * (9-1/2"x7-1/4")	\$140	\$170	\$200	\$230
38, #4	Winter 2006 (after Fall SWROGA show)	November 17, 2006		Half Page (9-1/2"x3-1/2") (6-3/4"x4-3/4")	\$80	\$100	\$120	\$140
39, #1	Spring 2007 (before Spring SWROGA show)	February 1, 2007		Quarter Page 4-1/2"x4"	\$45	\$65	\$85	\$105
39, #2	Summer 2007 (after Spring SWROGA Show)	June 7, 2007		Eighth Page 3-1/2"x2-1/2"	\$25	\$45	\$65	\$85

## ***Continuing List of Orchid Shows Within SWROGA***

For more recent information check the SWROGA website at [www.swroga.org](http://www.swroga.org).

<b>2006</b>	<b>Host(s)</b>	<b>Event Location</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>
August 4-5	Houston Orchid Society Summer Workshop	University of St. Thomas Jerabeck Center, Room 202 Houston, TX	John Stubbings, <a href="mailto:istubbings@houston.rr.com">istubbings@houston.rr.com</a> 3701 Coral Reef Dr Seabrook, TX 77086 281-326-1314
September 15-17  Judging Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> @ 7pm	Galveston Orchid Society Show "Orchid Fantasy"	Nessler Center 2010 5 <sup>th</sup> Av. North Texas City, TX	Sheila Skov <a href="mailto:orchidsandtropicals@msn.com">orchidsandtropicals@msn.com</a> 15727 Brook Forest Dr. Houston, TX 77059 281-286-1471
Sept. 29- Oct. 1  Judging Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm	Fort Worth Orchid Society Show	Fort Worth Botanical Gardens	Merriann Lanford 3809 Carman Dr. Fort Worth, TX 76116 817-560-7859
Sept. 29 – Oct. 1  Judging Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm	South Texas Orchid Society Show	The Omni Marina Hotel 707 N. Shoreline Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78401	Donna Myers <a href="mailto:djmye@worldnet.att.net">djmye@worldnet.att.net</a> 4033 Kingston Dr. Corpus Christi, TX 361-814-8666
Oct. 6 – 8	Central Louisiana Orchid Society Show	Best Western of Alexandria 2720 N. MacArthur Dr. Alexandria, LA	Doris McGraw <a href="mailto:omie3122@aol.com">omie3122@aol.com</a> 3820 Lafayette Dr. Pineville, LA 71360 318-640-4732
October 20- 22	Heart O'Texas Orchid Society Show, hosting SWROGA	Austin's Texas Star Meeting & Events Ctr. 11810 Manchaca Austin, TX 78748	Geoffrey L. Frost <a href="mailto:geoffreyfrost@yahoo.com">geoffreyfrost@yahoo.com</a> 1011 Strickland Dr. Austin, TX 78748-4878 512-280-2271
Nov. 4-5	Kansas Orchid Society Show	Botanica The Wichita Gardens 701 N. Amidon Wichita, Kansas	Max Thompson 1729 E. 11 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Winfield, KS 67156-4007
Nov. 17-19  Judging Sat. 18 <sup>th</sup> @ 8:30 am	Oklahoma Orchid Society Show	Will Rodgers Garden Center 3400 NW 36 <sup>th</sup> St. Oklahoma City, OK	Courtney Wilson, Show Chair <a href="mailto:cwilson193@cox.net">cwilson193@cox.net</a> 2620 NW 110 <sup>th</sup> Street Oklahoma City, OK 73120 405-755-4616
<b>2007</b>	<b>Host(s)</b>	<b>Event Location</b>	<b>Contact(s)</b>
March 30- April 1	Northeast Louisiana Orchid Society Show	TBD	Sharon Duncan 309 Oaklawn Dr Monroe, LA 70203-4163
May 2-6	Fort Worth and Greater North Texas Orchid Societies Show and AOS Members Meeting, also Spring SWROGA meeting.	Arlington Convention Center 1200 Ballpark Way Arlington, TX	Ronnie & Jerry Brandenburg <a href="mailto:roneidab@aol.com">roneidab@aol.com</a> 11045 Swaffar Dr. Dallas TX 75228 972-279-4075

## WRIGHT THINKING

By Ed Wright

Greenhouse people are funny: they'll spend a ton of money, time and effort on many things but they steadfastly refuse to acknowledge the basic rule of greenhouse design:

**HEAT RISES!**

Heat rises in the winter and we position fans and equipment to circulate it back down to warm benches, plants and us.

Heat rises in the summer, so we put exhaust fans at plant level and throw away the only good air in the greenhouse. This saves a lot of heat up next to the ridge so that we can use it again next winter. Trouble is, when air stratifies in the upper greenhouse reaches, it stores heat until the differential to the temperature in the rest of the greenhouse is great, then it radiates heat back down to warm benches, plants and us. Along the way, it causes early wilt in those beautiful species blooms of summer.

Winter heat can be re-circulated in a variety of ways, most of which are both efficient and economical. Our greatest concern with winter heat is its tendency to dry the air. Most of this moisture loss is condensation on the inside surface of the greenhouse glazing. There are two basic treatments:

First, replace the water. During winter, place open containers of water around the greenhouse. A plastic dishpan provides both good capacity and good exposure for this. A drop or two of dishwashing soap in each filling will drown insects attracted by the water. Should algae appear, a few drops of Clorox will control that.

Second, discourage moisture drip that can encourage the growth of pathogens on your plants. This is not a major job. It simply requires that we spray the inside surface of the greenhouse glazing with soapy water. About once a month with water containing a half teaspoon per gallon of dishwashing soap should do the trick. The soap will cause condensation to spread out or 'sheet' and run to the lower edges rather than drip.

Summer heat requires the application of common sense. If the heat is already up there, at the ridge, why not just let it out there? Well, why not? Makes sense to me. The Currier and Ives principle. the little slatted box atop each covered bridge appears at the base of each church; it is even there on many barns, not to mention public buildings and railroad stations. The slats are there to let the heat out. Chimney, slatted dovecote, whirligig roof vent – they're all top-center on the roof to let the heat out.

Why, then, do we insist that hot air exit every greenhouse through the middle of the sidewall?

The question is not rhetorical: I'd like some answers. Just remember:

**You're talking to Mr. Hot Air!**

## Mickey Parker

Mickey Parker, member of the Shreveport Orchid Society, and Chair of the Shreveport Supplemental Judging Center, died Wednesday, April 5, 2006. He is survived by his wife Lena of Shreveport; son, David of Visalia, California; daughter, Sheila of Dallas, Texas; as well as grandchildren, and many friends and fellow orchid growers. Memorials may be made to the Broadmoor Assembly of God Mission House, 8925 Youree Drive, Shreveport LA 71115 or the American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, FL 33446.

Below is the eulogy given by Patsy Boersma at his funeral Saturday, April 8, 2006 at Broadmoor Assembly of God, Shreveport:

I met Mickey when I became a member of the Shreveport Orchid Society. Over the years he was first an acquaintance, then a teacher, a mentor and then a good friend.

I came to know him as a knowledgeable judge of orchids with the wonderful ability to pass this knowledge on to others and the patience to persist as a teacher when the pupil was exasperatingly slow.

I also knew him as a quiet, unpretentious, even tempered man that was content to support others but keep himself in the background. Most people did not know he was talented in so many other areas. He was an accomplished piano and trumpet player, a gifted artist and a skilled photographer, but I knew him as a premier orchid judge.

The orchid community has been very blessed to have Mickey as a part of it for so many years – 30 plus. He has been extremely motivated to do his best in not only growing his own orchids but in spreading the word about orchids and their culture to others. He has taken his responsibility as an American Orchid Society Judge to heart – remaining very active every year by going to many shows and related activities. He and Lena have traveled to many foreign countries to see orchids growing in the wild, to speak to groups about orchids and to judge their shows. His presence and knowledge will truly be missed.

Mickey's sojourn into the world of orchids began with a few plants that he and Lena grew on the windowsill, as many of us did. He really got serious about it when he entered the judging program at the Alamo Judging Center, which was called the Southwest Region Judging Center at that time – it was the only one in this area then (if you can call San Antonio THIS area). He, along with Lena, made that trek every month for at least 6 years. Later they were joined by some others that joined the judging program. I have been told that the long drive to San Antonio and back every month was spent studying and discussing orchids.

When the Dallas Judging Center opened, Mickey, along with the others that had been traveling to San Antonio from Northwest Louisiana, joined the Dallas Center. He remained very active there until November of 2002, when the Supplemental Judging Center opened in Shreveport. Mickey has served as Chair of the Supplemental Center since its inception and has also served as photographer.

Mickey has been very active in the American Orchid Society. He has served as a trustee, member of the judging committee and a member of the conservation committee, just to name a few. His comments and opinions were sought out on many occasions. He chaired the committee that revised the latest edition of the *Judging Handbook*. He was active, as well, in the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association serving as president from 1982 – 1983 and this past year serving on the show committee. His home society in Shreveport was an important part of his life, as well. He held almost all of the offices through the years and was currently the treasurer. A very important contribution that he made to the Shreveport Society was serving as Judging Chair. He arranged for the monthly society judgments and kept up with the results from each meeting so that recognitions and awards could be made at the annual banquet.

Mickey was truly an excellent orchid judge. His knowledge of orchids was vast, and he had a very discerning eye. He and Lena were the main reason that I joined the judging program because I wanted to be able to gain just some of that same ability. I know personally that Mickey was responsible for other judges joining the program. He was an inspiration to anyone that worked with him. Also, he wanted to share what he knew and help student judges in any way that he could, and he was always available to lend a helping hand. However, Mickey took judging very seriously and felt that students should do the same. When he was the advisor for trainees, he really held them accountable.

I have found out through the years of friendship and numerous road trips to various orchid activities that Mickey not only knew a LOT about orchids, but he was very knowledgeable about plants in general. He leaves a big hole in the orchid community. He will be sincerely missed both as an orchid judge and expert and especially as a friend.



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