

SWROGA News

A Publication of the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association www.SWROGA.org

28 **Affiliated** Societies

Summer 2009

Volume 41, Issue 2

MESSAGE FROM MAVIS

Don't know about all of you, but it has really been HOT in Houston! No rain here in June and only short scattered areas so far in July. Plants are really suffering. So many young trees that have been planted along I-10 have died from lack of water. I wish that a sprinkling system had been installed at the same time. Seems like such a waste of cost and hard work to loose all these trees.

I'm looking forward to going to Little Rock soon for our next SWROGA Meeting and Show. Are you making plans? It's October 2-4, 2009 – Wyndham Riverfront in North Little Rock. Contact Mike Saar msaar824@comcast.net for more information.

Your President,
Mavis Klehm

SUPPORTING SWROGA'S FUND RAISERS

The SWROGA Affiliated Societies Committee would like to remind all SWROGA societies and members that our Affiliated Societies Breakfast Raffle and our Saturday Night Auction are fund raisers that benefit SWROGA and the hosting society. These events are always a lot of fun so please try to attend.

However, they are not successful as a fund-raiser without contributions.

Please contact Doris McGraw, a member of the SWROGA Affiliated Societies Committee and chief-coordinator of the raffle and auction, at Omie3122@aol.com for information about getting your generous gifts to her as soon as possible, or at least let her know what they are.

SWROGA's success as an organization is directly connected to our willingness to volunteer, contribute and participate.

Since 1959

**SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ORCHID GROWERS
ASSOCIATION, INC. www.SWROGA.org**

OFFICERS

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manuel.aybar@verizon.net;))

COMMITTEES

AFFILIATED SOCIETIES –Chair: Karen Armstrong (318-251-0765, antkaren@hughes.net). Members: Sharon Duncan, Maureen Ferrara, Gail Freeman, Barbara Larkin, Doris McGraw, Linda Roberts.

BYLAWS & JUDICIARY - Byron McGraw, Chair (318-640-4732; Bydor@aol.com), Lois Dauelsberg, Julius Klehm.

CONSERVATION – Jim Williams, Chair (903-893-8618; cymfan@aol.com), Linda Horton, Geoffrey Melton, Billie Kramer, Ron Haselhuhn.

PROGRAMS AND EDUCATION Patsy Boersma (903-938-9519; pboersma@hughes.net), Betty Kurka, Ollie Garrison.

PUBLICATIONS – Amanda Saar, Chair (501-868-6666; amanda.saar@gmail.com), Jim Butler, Dana Spayde, Manuel Aybar, Ted Baenziger.

RESEARCH – Richard Jamison, Chair (318-861-9095, Rjamison10@aol.com), Lena Parker, Tom Larkin.

SHOW – Karlene Sanborn, Chair (316-321-0822; ksanborn@prairieorchids.com) Alice Barrios, Eddie Barrios, Pauline Bauer, Don Maples, Mike Saar, Brian White, Lowell McCabe.

FINANCE – Carolyn McCabe, Chair (405-899-4228; orchids@mbo.net) Mike Saar.

CONTINUING OPERATING – Mavis Klehm, Chair (281-398-3012; mklehm@swbell.net); Ronnie Brandenburg; Carolyn McCabe; Don Maples (member at large)

AOS REPRESENTATIVE - Billie Beck Kramer (918-749-7686; jckramer@pol.net)

HISTORIAN – Sheila Skov (281-286-1471; orchids.tropicals@sbcglobal.net)

LIBRARIAN – Betty Kurka (210-930-2269; ckurka@satx.rr.com)

SHOW TAGS – Lowell McCabe, 16351 Banner Road, Lexington, OK 73051 (405-899-4228; orchids@mbo.net)

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CONTINUING LIST OF ORCHID SHOWS – Manuel Aybar (Manny) (972-414-3752; manuel.aybar@verizon.net;))

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Treasurer's Corner

June 1, 2009

All Dues for 2008 are in. Thank you.

Following are the financial activities since the Semi-Annual Treasurer's report dated March 31, 2009:

Operating Fund Receipts:

1. Interest earned	\$ 71.40
2. Show Tag Sales	\$ 160.00
3. Raffle at Houston Show	\$ 280.00
4. Arkansas raffle ticket presales for silver set	<u>\$ 190.00</u>

Total Operating Fund Receipts \$ 701.40

Operating Fund Expenses:

1. Postage for show tags	\$ 13.90
2. Newsletter Postage and Printing	\$ 766.13
3. Assistance to Houston for show (1/2 raffle sales)	\$ 140.00
4. Copies for meeting	\$ 30.00
5. Postage Stamps	\$ 39.15

Total Operating Fund Expenses \$ 989.18

Research Fund:

1. Interest earned:	<u>\$ 66.51</u>
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No Research Fund expenses were incurred.

Trophy Fund Receipts:

1. Interest earned:	<u>\$ 421.92</u>
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Trophy Fund Expenses

No Trophy Fund expenses were incurred.

SWROGA Funds on hand as of close of business June 1, 2009:

General	\$ 22,889.66
Research	\$ 9,729.77
Trophy	<u>\$ 77,130.18</u>
Total	\$ 109,749.61

**Your SWROGA treasurer,
Carolyn McCabe**

Minutes of SWROGA Director's meeting on April 25, 2009

Hosted by Houston Orchid Society – Houston TX

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 am by President Mavis Klehm. It was moved and approved that the minutes of last meeting be filed as recorded.

REGISTRAR'S REPORT: Carolyn McCabe

Carolyn reported a quorum with fifteen (15) Societies represented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ad hoc Trophy Committee: Maureen Ferrara and Emily Quinn

Emily Quinn reported on the SWROGA Trophy. Problems with the design of the logo seems to cause concern. Maureen Ferrara advised of the cost of engraving of logo and lettering. She showed different trophy designs that will be voted on. Byron McGraw moved that Little Rock purchase the SWROGA special trophy for \$75.00. Motion carried.

Continuing Operations Committee:

Linda Horton will replace Manuel Aybar on this committee. A trophy named for M.C. Porter and Catherine Porter was voted on and approved.

AOS: Billie Beck. No report.

Affiliated Societies: Karen Armstrong, Chair.

Karen reported that four of eight members attended. The minutes were accepted as printed.

Karen announced that the class 936 table top trophy is now funded by the Red River Orchid Society and honors M. C. & Catherine Porter.

The Baton Rouge Orchid Society submitted a letter of request to host the SWROGA Show in Spring 2011. Their letter meets all of the requirements asked by SWROGA for approval. The committee would like to see this request approved.

The upcoming SWROGA schedule was reviewed:

- Fall 2009 – Arkansas Orchid Society – North Little Rock, October 2-4
- Spring 2010 – Oklahoma Orchid Society – Oklahoma City
- Fall 2010 – Available
- Spring 2011 – Baton Rouge Orchid Society – If approved
- Fall 2011 - Available

By-laws and Judiciary: Byron McGraw, Chair. Byron reported all members of committee were present.

Procedures have been developed for the SWROGA trophy in accordance with the outline approved by the Directors at the 2008 Fall meeting.

Procedures for the administration of the SWROGA loan to assist Affiliated Societies in sponsoring a SWROGA show were developed. A request to accept was motioned and seconded. Motion carried.

Byron noted that actions approved by the Directors should be developed by the responsible committee. The By-Laws and Judiciary Committees will review the procedures for compliance with the By-Laws and recommend any correction or changes. The Committee will then publish the procedures in the procedures manual.

Conservation: Jim Williams, Chair. Jim reported seven members present and one absent.

Arkansas?

- 1) Oklahoma: Marcie Rabinowitz is working on wild plants of Oklahoma. Billie will check to see if Larry McGrath's native orchid info was archived.
- 2) Louisiana: A report is due on Louisiana on the out-planting success of C. Kentuckiense project. A Louisiana representative is needed on the committee.
- 3) Texas: Jim will check with Big Bend Native Plants and other native plants societies' offices to see what they may be doing.
- 4) Colorado: Dick submitted a report on Colorado orchids, report attached. He has connections to obtain and develop similar info for Wyoming and Utah, and with SWROGA approval to list on SWROGA website. A motion to include Utah on SWROGA website was approved.
- 5) New Mexico: No representative for this area.
- 6) Kansas: Not represented.

- 7) Steve reported on an exciting highway project where the top foot of soil was peeled and planted to adjacent prairie to preserve native plants, orchids included.

Motion made and approved to be filed as read.

Historian: Shelia Skov. Not present, but Mavis reported, and requested that for anything that needed to be placed in the SWROGA archives, please contact Shelia.

Program and Education: Patsy Boersma, Chair, was not present.

Mavis reported: Members were advised to contact Patsy if you need to: 1) add your name or delete from speakers list programs, 2) update your old topics & information programs, or 3) add your name as a member for committee.

Research: Dick Jamison, Chair.

Mavis reported that the Committee did not meet, since it had no business to transact. Dick Jamison reminded all present that the committee needs to be revitalized with new members.

Publications: Amanda Saar, Chair. Webmaster, Manny Aybar.

The committee met with three members and one visitor. Amanda stated that the printer became part of another printer but she is still working with some of the same printers. The number of mailing labels for those members wanting a printed copy of the newsletter decreased to 340 labels. Mailing print costs were \$774.11 for the Winter 2008 issue. Manny Aybar reported the website is undergoing a major renovation which is all working well. He will launch the new website in the next year. Should you have any questions for the newsletter, send to Amanda. Thanks to Oak Hill Gardens and Clown Alley Orchids for ads.

Show Committee: Karlene Sanborn, Chair.

The committee met with all members present. Discussion of four issues were reported on:

1. Revision of Alpha listing of Species and Intergeneric Hybrids is approximately two-thirds complete.
2. Discussed concerns voiced by judges regarding entry of plants of unknown parentage for ribbon judging. Show Rule 3 states that everything has to be filled out for ribbon judging.
3. Discussed a concern that Phragmipedium classifications needed to be expanded. It was decided that there was ample flexibility for individual societies to customize by adding sub classes as needed.
4. Discussed, and decided to add information for classification to show schedule: Cypripedium Alliance, Class 204. Paphiopedilum multifloral (excluding sequential blooming plants) hybrid (3 or more flowers per inflorescence) other than above.

Show Tags: Lowell McCabe

Lowell reported that tags are still the same price. Fifty-five hundred tags were sold @ \$440.00.

Treasurer's Report: Carolyn McCabe

Carolyn reported that funding for the SWROGA trophy in the future will come from the funding committee.

The directory of members and officers with other official SWROGA documents is online and you can print what you want. It will be updated every April.

She noted that 18 trophies are endowed at \$2,500.00 and 18 still endowing.

Motion to file report as presented was approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Deceased Members: None read.

Jim Barnett, one of our members, retired.

Nominating Committee appointed: Amanda Saar, Jim Williams and Don Maples.

Lowell McCabe motioned that anything presented to spend more than \$1,000.00, to not be voted on until the next meeting. Burrell Gamble seconded. Motion approved. A motion to place this in the Procedures and by-Laws Procedures Manual was made by Burrell and carried.

Byron McGraw reported on the \$2,000.00 SWROGA grant to Central Louisiana Orchid Society for appropriated seed pod project. Those seeds produced and were planted in the National Park Service. Alexandria gave an additional grant this year. Jim Barnett gives talks to various conservation groups and uses the Cypripedium program in his talks.

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m. Submitted by: Gail E. Freeman, Secretar

Continuing List of Orchid Shows Within SWROGA

For more recent information, check the SWROGA website at <http://www.swroga.org> or
the American Orchid Society Show Calendar at www.aos.org

2009 Dates	Host(s)	Event Location	Contact(s)
August 7 & 8	Houston Orchid Society Workshop	The Crooker Center 3900 Graustark University of St. Thomas Houston, TX 77008	Fr. Ted Baenziger, Co- Chair 713-525-3148 ejb@stthom.edu John Stubbings Co-Chair 832-693-8140 JDStubbings@comcast.net
Oct. 2-4	Arkansas Orchid Society Show hosting SWROGA (Celebrating SWROGA's 50 th Anniversary!)	Wyndham Riverfront, North Little Rock, AR	Eddie Ison, Show Chair reison@sbcglobal.net
October 9- 11	Greater North Texas Orchid Society	North Haven Gardens Dallas, Texas	Manuel Aybar 972-414-3725 manuel.aybar@verizon.net
October 30-Nov. 1	Orchid Society of Jefferson Orchid Show and Sale	Clearview Mall Metairie, Louisiana	Marian Prigmore 504-568-0281 504-834-4300 woodenbox@bellsouth.net
November 6-8	Galveston Orchid Society Show	Nessler Community Center 2012 5 th Ave. N. Texas City, TX	Harriet Davis 5500 FM 2004#10 Hitchcock, TX 77563 409-986-9419 harri@wt.net
2010 Dates	Host(s)	Event Location	Contact(s)
April 15-18	Houston Orchid Society Show	Houston Museum of Natural Science	Holly Miller 1811 Bradmore Dr. Houston, TX 77077 381-597-8792 hollymil@earthlink.net
April 30- May 2	Terrebonne Orchid Society Show	Southland Mall Houma, LA	Sandy Trahan 208 Rhonda St. Chauvin, LA 70344 985-637-4479 sbtpepe@yahoo.com
June 4-6	New Orleans Orchid Society Show	Lakeside Mall Metairie, LA	Molly Prokop 504-738-5835 mhprokop@cox.net

SWROGA at Fifty

Amanda Saar

History bores many people. However, if you are interested in orchids and a member of SWROGA, knowing how it got to this point might be interesting.

Point to remember: other orchid growers may or may not have a SWROGA. The present American Orchid Society interest in a regional group in Florida caused a member of SWROGA to mutter something like "What is the big deal?" to me at the Houston meeting. I said: "They don't have a SWROGA." She looked thoughtful.

For some people, SWROGA may only be a source of funding for a regional show, or a newsletter that shows up four times a year, or a website that lists shows in the area. For others, it is a group of like minded orchid people (or not like minded, but still orchid, people) that gets together for the more or less common good of orchids and orchid people in the states that it covers.

How did SWROGA get to be fifty? Some people might remark "In spite of itself!" while others could more legitimately point out that it serves some very real needs: funding in various ways for regional orchid shows, and for research, printing and selling of show tags, standardization with continuous input from members of a show schedule, and appropriate use of technology to keep members in touch with each other and with the organization's activities. It has also been blessed with members who were willing to serve as officers and committee chairs and members, and use their talents to keep SWROGA going.

Thanks to the articles written by Ed and Kathy Wright, information on the following important dates and people have been preserved in the issues of the *SWROGA News*. This article could not have been written without that input. [A list of sources can be provided upon request]

November 7, 1959: Joe Meador, an International Harvester dealer from Whitewright, Texas; Leo Riley, a drilling mud salesman from Corpus Christi, and L. H. "Mr. Willie" Williamson, a retired gentleman from San Antonio all personally appeared in an office in the Tower Life Building in San Antonio, Texas, and signed the articles of incorporation of the Southwest Regional Orchid Association, Inc., now known as the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association or SWROGA. These articles were drawn up by Tom King, then president of the Alamo Orchid Society.

October 29 and 30, 1960: The very first SWROGA Orchid Show and Meeting, hosted by the South Texas Orchid Society (STOS), Corpus Christi, Texas. It was held at the Central Power and Light Building, 129 N. Chaparral, Corpus Christi. . Show registration was \$5.00, and the banquet fee was \$3.00.

The host hotel was the Driscoll Hotel, with other accommodations available at the Tally-Ho Motor Hotel, Sea Gulf Motel, and Sandy Shores Motor Hotel. All four offered reduced rates to attendees: rooms ranged between \$6.00 for a single up to \$16.00 for a double room.

There were about 75 registrants, 25 exhibits, and 18 judges, with 20 trophies awarded. A bronze trophy from AOS and an ODC trophy were also awarded.

July 24, 1961: SWROGA affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the first affiliated association. At that time, SWROGA consisted of the following affiliated societies: Alamo, Beaumont, Baton Rouge, Central East Texas, Dallas, Greater North Texas, Houston, New Orleans, Northeastern Oklahoma (now Tulsa), Oklahoma, Paso del Norte, Shreveport, Southwest Louisiana, and Tip of Texas.

SWROGA now has over 20 affiliated societies, a newsletter available in print and in electronic format, a webpage, officers, committee chairs, committee members, and a great many interested orchid growers as members. Over its fifty years, many of its members became active in the American Orchid Society, and participated in its judging program.

The Arkansas Orchid Society is planning to honor the history of SWROGA, and prepare for its future, with a very good regional orchid show in North Little Rock Arkansas on October 2-4, 2009. Please join them, and continue the SWROGA history of orchid people getting together to display orchids, judge orchids, learn about orchids, buy orchids (and other things), talk about orchids, and have a good time doing it.

WRIGHT THINKING
Ed Wright

A READER ASKS - -

Thanks for your question. That extra growth "at the foot of the urn" on *Cattleya* pseudobulbs is perplexing. It seems to be caused when changeable weather of early spring starts and stops the transition of new growth from sheath-like, rather iris-looking tissue to start the swollen bulb that develops and persists.

Some years ago at a nursery in northern California, we faced an extensive problem with this. We found that we could cause the condition in many *Cattleya* alliance plants, but could not reverse it once it had set in. Apparently (and I don't have sufficient data to state this as a hard fact) new or juvenile growth is initiated in its season and then halted or drastically slowed - usually by inclement weather. Whether cloudy, unseasonably cool or all of the above, the conversion from juvenile growth to mature is impeded and the plant starts over when conditions improve. This causes a 'stem' at the base of the pseudobulb and often causes a knee-looking change of direction in the developing mature growth. As noted, I do not know how to cure this, but there are some things that seem capable of moderating the effect:

- In a spring that seems unusually fickle, cut Nitrogen fertilization in half or even down to a third. Nitrogen-impelled growth can be soft and rangy in the best of conditions, and a few cloudy or cool days will cause some plants to hold unused Nitrogen in new growth. We might like the growth spurt, but that Nitrogen is going to burn new tissue when the weather becomes fair again. Unless growth is very rapid, excess Nitrogen will inhibit blooming, so you're not going to lose any flowers by introducing plants to Slim Fast.
- Keep the plants just a tad on the dry side. Hard to do in the spring season, but it will slow them down and concentrate growth. This will produce a more compact plant.
- Position your plants so new growth points North. This will cause new growth to self-train into an upright position and will also slow down development of the newest plant tissue. Once set with the proper compass heading, leave the plants undisturbed. Moving them will disorient new growth quickly. Plant cells elongate on the shaded side, for the most part, so use that trait to shape your nicest plants. Admittedly, there is a peculiarity in some Vandaceous species that causes the bright side cells to elongate, but I do not think you will have a problem with that. The trait bears the terrible name of skototropism, just in case you are playing orchid trivia.

Hope some of this helps, though time will no doubt cure a lot more orchids than I ever will. ed

The deadline for the next issue of the *SWROGA News* will be
August 15th, 2009.

This fall issue is the one that comes out before the fall *SWROGA*
Show, so plan your input according.

Seven AOS awards were given at the 1st SWROGA Show in 1959

- Cattleya Bow Bells 'Lois' AM (81 points);
- Cattleya Mem. Paul T. Yamada 'Corpus Christi' AM (81 points);
- Cypripedium (Paphiopedium) Ukiah 'Southwest' AM (80 points);
- Lc Elizabeth Off 'Sparkling Burgundy' AM (85 points);
- Phalaenopsis Doris "Celesti" AM (80 points);
- Dendrobium phalaenopsis 'White Foam Strain' "Barfield" HCC (76 points); and
- Lc. De Loris Ziegfield 'Ruth' HCC (77 points).

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The SWROGA Affiliated Societies Committee

sends a special 'thanks' to the Houston Orchid Society for hosting the Spring 2009 AOS and SWROGA Show and Meetings, 'Orchids, Texas Style'.

It was a spectacular event and enjoyed by all who were able to attend.

THANKS!

WHAT'S IN A NAME? By Glenda McIntosh

Tribe: Cymbidieae

Subtribe: Oncidiinae

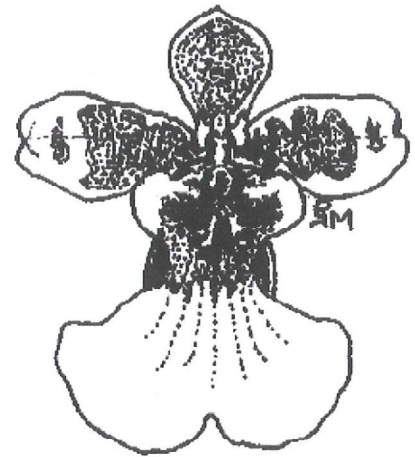
Genus: *Oncidium*

Oncidium excavatum Lindl.

Pronunciation: on-SID-ee-um ex-ka-VAT-um.

Meaning of name: The genus name is taken from the Greek *onkos* meaning swelling or tumor and is in reference to the warty callus on the lip. The species name is from the Latin *excavatus* and refers to the concavity on the back of the lip.

Synonyms: *Oncidium aurosum* Rchb.f., *Onc. excavatum* var. *Dawsonii* Williams.



Oncidium excavatum

Habitat: Terrestrial on rocky, grass, and brush covered, lateritic, red clay soils on steep slopes.

Distribution: Peru, Bolivia, and Ecuador. This is a common species of Peru where it forms large colonies on grassy hillsides at 2400-3100 m.

Flowering season: June to September, with the peak season being June and July.

Description: (Taken from *Icones Plantarum Tropicarum*, Series II – Orchids of Peru). Terrestrial. **Rhizome** short. **Pseudobulbs** caespitose, compressed, unifoliate, base clothed with 2-4 spreading, sheathing leaves. **Leaves** stiff, light yellowish green, narrowly lanceolate, acuminate. **Inflorescence** basal, erect, paniculate, pyramidal. **Flowers** bright yellow, heavily marked with reddish brown, the column wings spotted reddish brown. **Dorsal sepal** oblanceolate, apiculate, the **laterals** obliquely oblong-oblanceolate, narrower, apiculate; **petals** lightly oblique, vary from oblong to broadly oblanceolate, apex obtuse to rounded, [entire to retuse] (should read notched, this is an identification point!); **lip** 4-lobed, midlobe deeply retuse, the lateral protuberances more or less in 3-5 ranks near the base and 2 ranks on broad claw.

Identification points: Erect, pyramidal-paniculate inflorescence, the free sepals and petals, with petals notched at apex, the lip concave on backside.

AOS Awards: 'Sacramento' CBM 80 points, 8/59 RA 2/358 "One much branched spray 3' high, of yellow flowers barred with red. Natural size 1 5/8". 'Universidad de Cuenca' AM 82 points 9/14/95 27/140P "163 flowers, 87 buds, beautifully presented on 10 inflorescences, some branched, tallest 80 cm; flowers bright yellow with chestnut bars radiating half way out on the sepals, and one-fourth the way out on the petals and lip; column yellow; substance good; texture glistening. Nat. spr. 4.1 cm H, 3.8 cm V; ds 1.4 cm w, 1.6 cm l; pet 2.2 cm w, 2.0 cm l; ls 1.3 cm w, 1.5 cm l; lip 2.1 cm w, 1.7 cm l."

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