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Orchid Society of  
Greater Kansas City

# OSGKC News

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

www.osgkc.org

October 2008

## October 19<sup>th</sup> Program: Orchids of Ecuador: Nina Rach

The following is from  
[www.geocities.com/~marylois/bio.html](http://www.geocities.com/~marylois/bio.html)

**N**ina Rach is an AOS Accredited Judge. She is currently president of the Houston Orchid Society (HOS) and Webmaster for both the HOS and the Houston Judging Region. Nina started growing orchids on library windowsills when she was ten or eleven. Encyclia cochleata was one of her first plants.

She now grows a variety of species and hybrids outdoors, in a greenhouse, and also under lights. She is particularly fond of Eulophia,



Photograph from Orchid Hunting in Ecuador  
[www.orchidphotos.org/images/Ecuador/In\\_situ/index.htm](http://www.orchidphotos.org/images/Ecuador/In_situ/index.htm)

Stanhopea, and Angraecoid orchids and also has good success with Dendrobium and Cattleya. She has an AOS award to her credit: Phal. amabilis 'Mem. David Rach', AM/AOS, and enjoys judging other people's plants. Nina has had many wonderful opportunities to travel and photograph orchids in the wild. She lived in Africa in 1985-86, and worked as a darkroom photographer while finishing her graduate thesis on Lake Victoria. She attended two World Orchid Conferences - New Zealand (1990) and Scotland (1993), each as part

## Orchid Trivia

Provided by Susan Taylor, AOS

**O**rchids occupy almost every conceivable habitat type except the oceans, from tropical cloud forests to seashore scrub, from tundra to semi-deserts.

You can find them in the Andes and Himalayas, the Everglades, ancient Roman and Mayan ruins, even your own back yard."

From one of the most popular general information references for orchids: *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Orchids*, Alec Pridgeon, Lansdowne Publishing Pty Ltd, Sydney, Australia, 1992, Reprinted 1994; p. 7.

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of around the world trips. Nina has attended Cornell University (B.S.), Duke University (M.S.), and the University of Houston Law Center (J.D.) (1998).

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 has a 17-month-old daughter named Caroline, who has already been seen at a number of orchid events around the Region. (Baton Rouge OS Newsletter, Oct 98)



Map data ©2008 Europa Technologies, MapLink/Tele Atlas

## Life Style of a Winner: Plant of the Month, September 2008

Culture Tips by Frank Serra

**O**rchid's Full Name: *Miltonia Spectabilis* V. *Moreliana* Royalty (4N) AM/AOS X Seminole Blood Everglades Chief.

**Watering:** The plant is watered every two to three days.



**Temperature** (include info on differential temp needs), **Light** and **Fertilizing:** Temperature, light and fertilizing are similar to *Cattleya*. The plant spends its summer hanging in a tree and exposed to the elements.

**Atmosphere** (i.e., breezy or not, etc.): Grows well in warm greenhouse with good air movement.

**Other helpful and/or interesting information about this orchid:** This plant is mounted on a block of oasis which is covered with sphagnum moss.

**Where can this orchid be purchased?** I purchased this plant from Everglades Orchids as a seedling in

1997.

## Minutes of September 14th OSGKC Meeting

by Holly Hall

**A**nnouncements: In early July there was an obit in the KC Star for J. David Miller who was a past president of the society.

David Bird's house was destroyed in a fire the end of July. Support his business as much as possible. It is open Tuesday into the evening.

Nomination Committee is headed by Paul Kretzer with Maryann Stevenson, Rick Day and Frank Serra.

October's meeting will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday October 19<sup>th</sup>. November's program will be Earl Bailey on Paphs or Phrags. December's holiday banquet will be held at the Bristol in Town Center

We have been invited to participate in two shows:  
The Wichita show Oct 31 – Nov 1.

The Lincoln NE Show is the following weekend.

Discussion on the show location options.

New members: Lindsey Melling and Cindy Lance

Mid America Orchid Congress meeting was September 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>

International Phalenopsis Alliance, The Oncidium Alliance and Slipper Alliance all had meetings also.

Fred Clark, Dr. Henry Oakley and Ron McCatten were the speakers.

Hoosier Orchid is closing but Eric Michael is buying a lot of the plants and flasks.

Michael Orchid Nursery will be the new name.

## Beginners' Group

**T**he October Beginners' meeting will cover *Cattleyas*. Learn what a healthy root system looks like, when to repot, the preferred potting system, feeding and why your plants don't bloom. Other questions will be welcome.

Fred Bergman

## OSGKC Website

by Tony King

**T**he Society's website still needs new, nice pics of blooming plants with the names. We also want to include former plant-of-the-month pics. We will be developing a new section for plant-of-the-month and maybe have an article with it. ([www.osgkc.org](http://www.osgkc.org))

## Support OSGKC Sponsors:

Bergman Orchid Farm  
Bird's Botanicals  
Oak Hill Gardens  
r.f. Orchids  
Windy Hill Gardens  
Whippoorwill Orchids

The auction went well. We netted about \$800.

Tom Nasser of Carolina Orchids gave a presentation on *Bulbophylums*.



Messages from Doug Martin...

**Program Report**  
**October 19th**

***The Orchids of Ecuador***  
by Nina Rach

Ecuador is a small, magnificent country with incredible biodiversity. Habitats range from dry scrub forest to lush Andean cloud forest, to deep jungle. The country's 14 national parks and reserves cover 12% of the national territory

This talk will showcase orchids from two distinct areas: (1) the highlands north of Quito and (2) the species-rich southern Ecuador cloud forest, in and around Podocarpus National Park and lower valleys around Vilcabamba. You'll also see a bit of the Latin American Orchid Congress held in Quito.

Nina is well known in the orchid world as the editor of "The Stanhopea Pages" website. She is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and has grown orchids for 35 years, half of that time in Houston. Nina began as a member of the North Jersey Orchid Society, later joined the Triangle OS in NC, then the New Orleans OS, and the Houston OS, where she is a past-president. She grows a mixed collection in a twin-wall polycarbonate and steel greenhouse, a shadehouse, and outdoors.

Among the Ecuadoran orchids in her collection are *Cattleyas (iricolor, maxima)*; *Elleanthus*; *Epidendrums (vespa)*; *Maxillarias*; *Pleurothallids*; *Sobralias (fimbriata, melanothrix, virginalis)*; and *Stanhopeas (anfracta, embreei, florida, grandiflora, impressa, jenischiana, tricornis, wardii)*.

Nina will be bringing plants for sale.

We'll be taking her to dinner at Saturday, Oct 18 at 7:00 at Jack Stack in the Freight House, 101 W 22<sup>nd</sup> St. Contact Doug if you'd like to join us.

**Mark Your Calendars!**

Our Annual Awards Banquet will be December 14<sup>th</sup> at Bristol Seafood Grill in Leawood.

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**A Reminder**

As a courtesy to our speakers, OSGKC members are asked not to bring orchids to sell at meetings when we have a speaker who is selling plants. Orchid sales provide compensation to the speaker for his or her time and effort involved in coming to speak to us. Some speakers consider orchid sales by society members (and even "free plant" offers) as competition that decreases their sales. Please save your sale or give-away plants for meetings where we don't have a speaker selling orchids.