

Minutes of the NOS Monthly Meeting September 1, 2016 Submitted by Veronica Catrombon, substituting for Cynthia Bock, Secretary Attendance: 56

President Dick Pippen called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and reviewed the emergency exits and emergency procedures. He thanked the refreshment organizer, Mary Jo Shively, and all those who contributed to the table this month. Our member David Genovese is having a private orchid sale at his home on Saturday, 17 September, 9:30 to 2:00 and Sunday, 18 September, 10:30 to 2:00. Flyers were located at the Welcome Table, and will be posted on NOS Facebook page. Dr. Motes' book about growing orchids in Florida was available for \$15.00. October's program will feature Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nurseries, coordinated with other local Orchid Societies. He will have plants for sale with him, however, we are fourth in line for his presentation. It was highly recommended that an arrangement be made for pre-ordering plants, for pick up at our meeting.

Veronica Catrombon, Membership Chair, announced that we now have 214 members, including two new members, Robert Brownlee and Cheryl Daniel. There were 6 guests at the meeting. Our Facebook page has 121 likes. Veronica mentioned that all NOS events and meetings are posted on Facebook (Naples Orchid Society), as well as on our website, www.NaplesOrchidSociety.org. The latest updates to the Membership Directory are available at the Welcome Table.

Nanett Boerner, Treasurer, reported that all bills have been paid and that our finances are healthy.

Kit Kitchen-Maran, Past President and Scholarship Chair, reminded us that the Orchidgami order sheets were available at the Welcome Table. Kit hopes to have these fun and educational project sheets about our native orchids available by pooling the orders. Also, NOS member supported intern Shan Wong has graduated, and has achieved a full scholarship to University of Oxford in pursuing a Doctorate. Sheila Demkovich, Director-Two Year, announced the Fall Orchid Sale will be on Saturday, 12 November, from 12:00 until 3:00. A sign-up sheet was passed around for members to volunteer for jobs such as plant grooming, sale set up, and sale day tasks. Also, this year's sale will feature an outside vendor, Joanna Shaw, of Joanna's Orchid Pots and Clay Baskets. We will have a volunteer potting station—buy a plant, buy a pot, get a potting lesson and your plant potted up for a small fee.

Norm Dolder expressed the importance of fertilizing during these rainy days. He then introduced our Speaker for the evening's program, Dennis Giardina, Everglades Region Biologist, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, Division of Habitat & Species Conservation. Dennis' presentation focused on the Restoration of Rare and Extirpated Orchids in the Everglades and the Big Cypress Basin. He shared that he keeps his orchid collection in the wild, where he visits them often, regardless of altitude. Mike Owen, the Great Documenter, and recent NOS speaker, has accompanied him during those visits. The 1200 cigar orchids that were restored have recently begun to flower. Four lost Florida native orchids were located in Cuba during his recent journeys there.

Plant Table winners were announced and awarded. Raffle tickets were drawn.