

ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 51  Number 4  April 2003

In This Issue!

Hazardous Waste Disposal	2
Member Receives AOS Award	2
Volunteers Needed at Spring Show	3
Many New Members	4
IOS Display At Spring Show	5
Flower Identification	6
Plant Judging Rules	7

President's Message

By Joe Dixler

It's Showtime!

Our Oakton Orchid Odyssey is almost here! April 4 from noon to 10:00 p.m. is the set up time for exhibitors, and the show is April 5 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and April 6 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This is both exciting and intimidating. Will we have enough interested people to find us in Des Plaines? Have we anticipated all the new problems we will encounter in this new location? Will we sell enough \$5 tickets, raffles and cut flowers to cover the rental fee of the TenHoeve Center? Will there be a sufficient number of displays to fill these large rooms?

It's up to you to make it happen. Many of you stay on the sidelines and just come to enjoy the displays and purchase plants. This time we need all of you to be part of the show. Have you put up the signs you received at the March meeting? There is still time. Did you give your bookmarks out to everyone you think is interested in coming? Have you volunteered to help at the show? This show's success will depend on your assistance. We need every one of you to be there and support it. Our shows bring the membership together in work, friendship, and accomplishment. Many of you have already volunteered with our show chairman, Anne

Name That Flower – See page 6 for details.



Kotowski. Please call her to see what jobs are still available or other ways you can help.

Putting an exhibit together—conceiving an idea, getting props to make it happen, putting it together and seeing the results is very exciting. Getting ribbons are an extra bonus, and receiving an award for the exhibit itself is even better. You can have this experience by organizing your own exhibit or adding your plants to the IOS display. As few as six plants fill a half table and if you get together with a few others you can make one full table. Drop off your blooming plants Friday April 4th in the afternoon or early evening; then stay to help Martin Taylor and Lois Cinert and learn how it's done. This could lead to a whole new interest in the world of orchids. Setting up an exhibit is fun and artistically rewarding. There may still be time to tell Anne you would like to create a display.

We want to show Oakton that their support of our society was justified. They went out of their way to open the facilities to us on Sundays and to be cooperative in every way possible. I believe they were motivated to host our show for the community's enjoyment and to bring in new people to see their beautiful campus. We hope to live up to these high expectations and maintain this good working relationship.

So please help in whatever way you can. We want the momentum of our move to OCC to continue. Be our good-will ambassadors and tell everyone about the show. Please do all you can to support it - come, bring your friends, relatives, neighbors, and other orchid enthusiasts. I hope to see each one of you there, wearing smiles from our success.

Member Receives AOS Award

"Adventures of an Orchid Exhibitor" by our very own Rosalie Dixler was awarded the AOS' 2002 Dillon/Peterson Essay Contest Prize. The judges described the piece as an interesting concept and presentation of an innovative idea. Rosalie will receive a certificate and a check for her effort and the article will be published in the May 2003 *Orchids* Magazine. Be sure to read the article and to congratulate Rosalie on her accomplishment.

**DEADLINE FOR MAY NEWSLETTER
ARTICLES IS APRIL 17**

2002-2003 IOS Officers -- Terms of office are from July 1 until June 30

President	Joe Dixler	847-432-7708	(jmd@dixler.com)
1st Vice President (Meetings/speakers)	Wendy Holtzman	773-395-1771	(wendyholtzman@netzero.net)
2nd Vice (Home show chair)	Anne Kotowski	630-833-8042	(phrag207@aol.com)
3rd Vice President (Away show chair)	Martin Taylor	630-682-0464	(dmtatenco@aol.com)
Secretary (Recorder)	Linda Schubert	847-835-0799	(lshoobert@juno.com)
Asst. Sec'y (Newsletter editor)	Jerry Garner	847-864-8417	(garnerjl@attbi.com)
Treasurer (Collects/disburses monies)	Diana Nielsen	630-894-9486	(dnielsen3@msn.com)
Asst. Treas (Membership/ Dues)	Allen Morr	847-501-2532-	(ozone03@ameritech.net)
Immediate Past President	John Stubbings	847-480-1532	(jstubbings@peoplepc.com)

Board Members -- Terms of office expire June 30 of the year shown.

Steve Lipson	2003	847-328-1837	(stevenlipson@attbi.com)
Nancy Jean Schoo	2003	630-837-3153	(nancyjean@earthlink.net)
Joel Edwards	2004	847-564-9537	
Allison Tribble	2004	773-728-4874	(allisont@rcn.com)
Ed Gamson	2005	847-432-7825	(epgamson@welshkatz.com)
Barry Lubin	2005	847-432-5698	(BRLNo1@aol.com)
Jim Spatzek	2006	847-498-4638	(jamcam@avenew.com)
Rich Unger	2006	773-685-2677	(aroma-imp@hotmail.com)

EPA Collections of Hazardous Waste

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency will sponsor a series of free household hazardous waste collection events from 8 am to 3 pm Saturdays this spring.

Collections in the area will be held on April 26 at Niles North High School, 9800 N. Lawler Ave., Skokie. On May 10 at Alexian Field, 1999 S. Springinsguth Road, Schaumburg, and on June 7 at the Village of Franklin Park parking lot, 9500 W. Belmont.

Now is the time to take in many of the items used in orchid growing such as pesticides and fluorescent and high-intensity lamps that should not be disposed of in your normal garbage pick-up). For more information call 217-785-8604 or check this web site www.epa.state.il.us.

Cathy Bloome

AOS Changes Judging Site for April

AOS judging in April will take place at 7:00 a.m. on April 5th at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines in conjunction with the IOS Spring Show and Sale. In May the AOS returns to the Chicago Botanic Garden. In May, the AOS will resume judging at the Chicago Botanic Garden the second Saturday of the month at 1:00 p.m. If you think your plants are AOS quality you can enter them for judging at no charge. You may capture a ribbon, and even if you don't, the experience is invaluable.

IOS Judging Results

IOS judging results are reported in the odd month editions of the Newsletter, showing two months winners and points. Be sure to check the May Newsletter for results from March and April.

Can you identify this flower?



Show to Include Raffle and Door Prizes

A popular feature of past shows has been the plant raffle - and this year we have two kinds. First, each hour on the hour throughout the show Saturday and Sunday, we will have a raffle for an outstanding plant. These plants will be selected from among the best brought to the show for sale by our vendors. Tickets for the hourly raffles are \$1 each, or 6 for \$5. Raffle plants will be on display at the raffle table near the IOS plant sales during the Show.

Second, a drawing will be held for a door prize on both Saturday and Sunday for a truly magnificent plant and best of all, you don't need to purchase a ticket to be eligible to win. Upon entering the show, just complete a simple, 2-line form with your name and e-mail address, and that becomes your ticket to win. Each visitor to the show will be encouraged to complete the form and become eligible for the door prizes. The benefit to IOS will be a huge list of e-mail addresses of people interested in orchids and potential new society members.

Barry Lubin, Raffle Chairman

HAUSERMANN OPEN HOUSE A BIG SUCCESS FOR IOS MEMBERSHIP

What an amazing success we experienced at Hausermann's Open House February 20th-23rd. From Thursday through Sunday, we handed out thousands of bookmarks to the enthusiastic people who arrived there in droves. And Hausermann's was extremely cooperative in allowing us to post our Show signs all over the nursery, giving us a table for membership, and putting our bookmarks into the boxes of people's purchases. With the combined efforts of Evelyn Wiley, new member Chris Campbell, Anne Kotowski, Steve Lipson, Rich Unger, Diana Nielsen, Sherry Maloney, Jim and Gerry Bestman, and the Dixler's manning the IOS table, and a few more members who contributed to the effort by distributing bookmarks to Hausermann shoppers, we signed up 26 new members during these four busy days. Please look at the accompanying article for a list of these new members, and others who joined IOS this month. Make a special effort to welcome them at our May meeting.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please extend a warm welcome to the following 29 members who have recently joined the IOS. This is an all-time record for membership applications during a single month!

Roger Hendrick - Western Springs
Kurt Ejercito - Chicago
Robert Sinkovitz - Chicago
Linda Russell - Northfield
Mike & Becky Wolfe - Gary, IN
Norman Gugliotta - Chicago
Lauri Roston - Evanston
Kathleen Garness - Forest Park
Michelle Neville - Naperville
Julianna & Ronald Gallo - Naperville
Mary Popp - Downers Grove
Donna Jenovai - Schaumburg
James Grant - Morton Grove
Lee Oberlander - Northbrook
Linda Gottlieb - McHenry
Nancy Gruber - Vernon Hills
Viima Makra - Westmont
Evelyn Wiley - Wheaton
Dennis Staron - Northlake
Brian Albertson - Oak Park
Kathy Burton - Kenosha, WI
Dorothy Ervin - Addison
Fu Mei Huang - Riverwoods
Barbara Mecca - Hoffman Estates
Egie Mills-Fletcher - Chicago
Linh Nguyen - Wheaton
Louise Sherman - Western Springs
Valerie Staley - Burr Ridge
Julie Sun - Lake Forest

Allen Morr, Membership

TRASH IT OR RESCUE IT?

All of us have been faced with the decision to trash an orchid we have nearly killed. If it is a favorite, and you have some patience, oftentimes it can be rescued.

If it has not failed due to disease or an onslaught of bugs, remove the orchid from its pot. You will probably discover the roots are rotted or almost non-existent. Wash off all the potting mix and with sterile scissors or a razor blade, trim away the "mushy" roots. Treat the cuts with a fungicide such as Physan 20, or dust with cinnamon ~ a natural fungicide!

Next, wrap a small ball of dampened sphagnum

moss
(preferably New Zealand sphagnum) around the roots and tuck into the corner of a suitably sized Ziploc bag. Seal the bag and pin a corner to the wall of your greenhouse or growing area where there is plenty of light.



Leave the bag tightly closed (watering not necessary) and after 4-6 months you should be rewarded with new roots. The worst that can happen? You finally killed off your nearly dead plant!

Submitted by Allen Morr

APRIL/MAY MEETING NOTES

Our meeting and program for April is the Spring Show and Sale, Oakton Orchid Odyssey, April 5th and 6th at Oakton Community College in Des Plaines. Volunteer! Bring your friends! Tell everyone you see!

We will return to regular meeting format May 18th and I'm excited to say that our speaker will be Hadley Cash of Marriott Orchids. Put that on your calendars but the big news now is the Show and Sale. I'll have details of Hadley's talk and the May meeting in the May Newsletter. See you at Oakton and the Show!

Wendy Holtzman, Programs



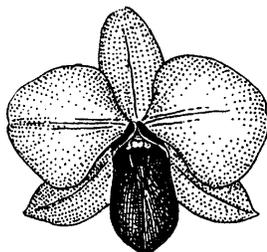
Can you identify this orchid?

MEMBERS' PLANT SALE AT SPRING SHOW

Members are encouraged to bring plants to the Spring Show from their personal collections that they would like to sell. A members' sale table will be set up both days of the show. A small portion of the sale price goes to the Society and it's a great way to make room for new plants you'll purchase at the Show. Drop off plants with Wally Zelinski between 2:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Friday at Oakton. Contact Wally ahead of time to find out how to prepare your plants for sale (847-587-5534 or wallyzzz@earthlink.net).

IOS DISPLAYS AT SPRING SHOW

Don't have enough plants to fill a display alone. Add your plants in with the IOS display. Even a single orchid could add to the Society's display. Bring plants to the IOS display early Friday, April 4th, for tagging and organizing the display. Drop off time is 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. Late arriving plants require a lot of work and reorganization, so please cooperate and bring your plants early. If you can't get to Oakton within this time frame, additional drop off sites include the homes of Martin Taylor, Lois Cinert, Diana Nielsen, Allen Morr, or Sherry Maloney. Their phone numbers and e-mail addresses are in this newsletter on page 2 and in the Membership Directory. Plants can be dropped off with them Thursday evening. Volunteers to help arrange the display are always appreciated and this is a great opportunity to learn how to set up a display in the future. If you have questions, contact Martin or Lois.



SPRING SHOW AND SALE NUTS AND BOLTS



- ✓ Volunteers – be there early and if you aren't busy, check to see where help is needed.
- ✓ Use ramp at building exit 39 near Parking Lot C for entry to the Show.
- ✓ The Show is in the Ten Hoeve Center, rooms 1604, 1608, 1610, 1612. Additional rooms are reserved for hospitality, judging, and videos.
- ✓ Remember that you will need to provide your own backdrop if you are a vendor or are displaying plants.
- ✓ Skirts are provided for the tables and Martin Taylor is providing the plastic to cover the rug in the display areas.. Thanks for your generosity, Martin.
- ✓ Remember to put plastic under your exhibit, especially if you have a water feature.
- ✓ Ladders are **NOT** provided by the College or the IOS.
- ✓ Anyone unloading nursery trucks should use the loading ramp across from Lot C.
- ✓ Bring plastic bags for those purchasing plants at the Show. It's a great way to recycle!

NOTES TO MEMBERS

- Be sure to wear your member badge to all IOS meetings. We have a lot of new members, and the badges help people feel more at ease and welcome. Most definitely wear your badge during the Spring Show and Sale!
- We continue to have problems with members' address, phone, and e-mail information. Take a second **NOW** to make sure all of your vital information is correct and up-to-date.
- Why not try an electronic Newsletter? You get the wonderful color enhancements and photos, you get your Newsletter early, you save the IOS some printing and postage costs, and you probably save a tree or two over a year's time. Contact the Newsletter a garnerjl@attbi.com to switch to e-News or just to give it a try for one month. You may really enjoy it.
- Periodically check out the IOS website at www.iosoc.com for news, old newsletters, and great photos!
- If you haven't paid your 2003 dues, you are being purged from the mailing list! Don't let this happen. Contact Allen Morr if you are unsure about your membership status. We had close to 100 unpaid members the beginning of March.

Even if you aren't signed up to cleanup after the Show, try to stay and help. For some reason no one remembers that this is a very important part of putting on a Show and it's a great way to meet people and have a little fun.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Once again I am asking the membership to submit news and articles to me for publication in the Newsletter, and I won't stop asking until I get some response. In this issue we had two members submit articles, both of them short, informative, and great information to share with other members. I've said it before – this is your newsletter. You already have a lot of knowledge about orchids! Share that knowledge with others who have the same sickness you have – a passion for orchids.

I'm sure you are just as excited about the Spring Show and Sale as I am. This is my first chance to actually work on a show and I am amazed at how dedicated your Board and other members are to a successful, high quality show. We should be proud of the IOS and its desire to share the love of orchids with others. Volunteer, be there, purchase a few raffle tickets, and enjoy the Show.

I recently had the chance to visit the Huntington Gardens in California where I picked up a wonderful little orchid book, appropriately titled *The Little Book of Orchids* by Carbone, Delange, Gachet, and Lemercier. Originally published in French by Flammarion, the book is a concise, well-written, affordable guide to the history, lore and culture of numerous orchid species. Beautiful photographs and illustrations enhance the easily read text. This book is a great gift for the novice and expert orchid grower alike. You can probably find a copy on the web or at the Huntington Garden website. Just make sure you buy the English version!

You may be wondering about the unidentified photos in this newsletter. This is a challenge to our expert members to test their ability to identify plants from pictures. This is a lot harder than it may seem. Unfortunately only those members receiving the electronic version of the Newsletter can see the color of the flowers. Anyone who has answers can e-mail me. The reward – a copy of *Orchid Fever* for the winner to keep or share with a friend.

ORCHID SITTER NEEDED

I am looking for someone to periodically orchid sit a small (approximately 30 plants) windowsill collection in Southeast Evanston. Watering and other minimal care required and none of my plants are really exotic, temperamental, or rare. Willing to pay, barter, or reciprocate. Average time away is 6-10 days, once per month. Call Jerry at 847-864-8417 or e-mail garnerjl@attbi.com.



NAME THAT ORCHID!

ORCHID SMELLS?

DON'T FORGET TO ATTEND RICK UNGER'S TALK ON ORCHID FRAGRANCES DURING THE SHOW. THIS IS A FASCINATING AREA AND RICK REALLY KNOWS HIS SUBJECT.

**2003 IOS Meetings
Oakton Community College**

April 5-6, 2003 – Spring Show and Sale

May 18, 2003 – OCC

June 8, 2003 – TBA (not at OCC)

July 13, 2003 – TBA (not at OCC)

August 10, 2003 – Oak Hill Gardens

September 14, 2003 – OCC

October 11-12, 2003 – Fall Mini-Show

November 9, 2003 – OCC

December 14, 2003 – Hausermann's Annual Holiday Party

MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

Submit all news items and articles for the May Newsletter no later than April 17th to Jerry Garner, garnerjl@attbi.com. I will be out of town with no computer access April 10th –16th and again May 1st-10th, so adhering to this deadline is essential. Thanks to everyone for cooperating.

IOS BOARD MEETINGS

The next IOS Board meeting will be held May 6, 2003 at 7:30 p.m., place TBA. Contact Joe Dixler for details. All members are welcome to attend but notify Joe in advance if you plan to attend.

IOS and AOS Plant Judgings

This information is included here for your use at the Spring Show. It was adapted from the 2002-2003 Membership Directory. Please retain for future reference.

IOS MONTHLY JUDGING

IOS members are strongly encouraged to bring their blooming orchid plants to monthly meetings for judging. Any plant submitted for monthly judging (or AOS judging) must have been grown by the exhibitor for at least a six-month period prior to the judging date. Plants are grouped into three categories for judging: 1) Grown by members under lights/on windowsills; 2) Grown by non-commercial members in a greenhouse; 3) Grown and exhibited by commercial members (those selling more than 200 plants per year). Judges look at the general condition of the plant, but mainly judge according to the attributes of the flowers: size, shape (roundness and balance), number (the more the better), and color (is it clear, deep, unusual?). Color breaks are a negative attribute. Other negative flower qualities are dry, old-looking blooms and brown/black spots. Based on these features, compared to other plants of the same species or hybrids seen in the past by the judging team, plants may or may not be awarded a first or second place, or a Special award. Monthly IOS ribbons carry the following point values accumulated toward annual awards in June: 1st place = 10 pts.; 2nd place = 5 pts.; no award = 1 point; Special award (plant-of-the-month) = 20 points. All point scores are doubled for plants awarded at shows, our own or those of sister societies. Be certain to participate in this Society activity, even if you only have one plant in bloom. Remember, the important thing is we were all beginners once, so don't be shy about submitting plants for judging. Blooming orchids are beautiful and deserve to be shown off at every opportunity.

Plant Preparation

- 1) Do not exhibit plants infested with insects or showing any signs of fungal, bacterial, or viral infection. Such plants will be segregated by the judges and are not eligible for IOS awards.
- 2) Remove dead leaves and wipe the live leaves with a damp cloth to remove dust and water spots. A dilute solution of water and lemon juice or milk may be used but do not spray leaf-shine oils on orchid leaves.
- 3) Stake the inflorescence, if necessary, to show the flowers at their best advantage.
- 4) Fill out a plant registration tag for each plant you submit for judging.

AOS Judging and Away Shows

Again, don't be shy about participating in away shows. You can learn volumes by sending your plants to shows and, if possible, attending those shows to see how your plants compare to others in the same categories. Drop-off times at members' homes who take the plants to away shows are announced in the Newsletter and at meetings prior to each show.

Label Correctly

Prepare plants for judging by cleaning them and staking them as needed. Be certain there is a plant label in the pot or attached securely to the mount or pot. The identifying plant label should indicate the genus (e.g. Paphiopedilum, Phalaenopsis, Cattleya) and the species or hybrid. Print (do **not** use cursive) and use appropriate upper and lower case lettering. Do not label plants in upper case letters only. Species are written in all lower case (e.g. Paph. niveum). Hybrids are written with the name of the hybrid in initial caps (e.g. Phrag. Hanne Popow). Correct labeling avoids confusion over classification during judging.

Classify Plants

Obtain a copy of the Mid-America Orchid Classification from the IOS web page or ask help from a more experienced member. It takes some trial and error to learn to do this correctly, but it increases your understanding of orchid classification.

Plant List

On a piece of paper, write your name and the date (or the Show name) and list each plant you are entering into the Show. Type or print clearly the name of the plant using appropriate upper and lower case letters.



2004 SHOW DATES

That's right, 2004! Put these dates on your calendar now. You don't want to miss the best show around.
Spring Show – April 2nd, 3rd, and 4th at OCC.
Fall Mini-Show – October 1st, 2nd, and 3rd at OCC.

IOS ELECTIONS

A Nominating Committee is currently preparing a slate of candidates to fill upcoming Board vacancies and Officers of the Society. The slate will be announced in the May Newsletter and voting will take place at the June 8th meeting. Because the meeting place will NOT be at Oakton Community College that month, be certain to check your newsletter or with a current Board member for details about the election.

If you are interested in serving on the Board, contact Joe Dixler and he can direct you to a member of the Nominating Committee.

SEE YOU AT THE SPRING SHOW AND SALE

OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

The Ten Hoeve Center

1600 Golf Road

Des Plaines, Illinois

April 5th 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

April 6th 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.



CUT ORCHID FLOWERS WILL BE ON SALE AGAIN THIS YEAR AT THE SHOW. REMEMBER WHAT LONG LASTING BLOOMS THESE CAN PROVIDE FOR YOUR HOME OR AS A GIFT FOR FRIENDS. PICK UP A FEW CUT STEMS FOR SOMEONE SPECIAL.

REMEMBER THE TIME CHANGE TO DAYLIGHT SAVING AT 2:00 a.m. SUNDAY APRIL 6. SPRING FORWARD!

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Illinois Orchid Society
Jerry Garner, Editor
623 Sheridan Road #1
Evanston, IL 60202

**SPRING SHOW APRIL 5th and 6th
OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
BE THERE!**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING
MAY 18 @ OAKTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE