

ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER



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President's Message

By Joe Dixler

Our Fall Expo, "Autumn Odyssey," will be a very exciting show. As usual, we will have orchid displays, sale plants, cut flowers, and books for sale, as well as orchid raffles and door prizes. Also we are adding many new features that will be very different from any show we have done previously. We need your help to spread the word of the location at OCC, so we can attract a larger audience. Be sure to distribute your bookmarks and put up posters in prominent

As you know, Barry Lubin has been gathering rare species for our Plant Auction on Saturday, October 11, at 1:00 p.m.. A Silent Auction of collectible orchid objects will be held throughout the weekend. There is still time to contribute an orchid related item and receive a tax deduction letter.

Sue Golan has made arrangements for the Ikenobo Chapter of the Ikebana School directed by their sensei (teacher) Ikka Nakashima to demonstrate floral arranging on Sunday at 2:00 and 3:00 p.m. Their members will also bring arrangements to the show. Award winning students from Susan Bal's (member of the American Institute of Floral Designers) floral arranging class at Triton College will display orchid arrangements as well.

Barry Lubin, Loren Pollock, and I have prepared a special formula IOS potting mix using sterilized bark and other high quality ingredients that are longer lasting and which should add vigor to your plants. This medium will be used by our members to repot anyone's orchids for a \$5.00 fee. Larger pots will be available at a reasonable price if needed. The mix will also be on sale for \$5.00 for those of

you who do your own repotting. This new service will not only make money for the IOS, but should give you even better plants flowers. We have also received the famous Michigan State Fertilizer that we are repackaging for sale in smaller quantities. A Question and Answer Table will be staffed by experienced members to evaluate your plants and answer questions. So bring your problem plants in a plastic bag.

As you know, our Fall Expo will include only tabletop orchid exhibits--there is no IOS society display. Most members do their first exhibit at a fall show—a half table is easier to do alone or you can get together with a few friends to do a larger one. The Dillon/Peterson article that Rosalie wrote for the May AOS Orchids Magazine included tips for arranging a display—new exhibitors as well as old should find ideas there. You may also display orchid collectibles, like stamps, photographs, jewelry and pins, hand-made crafts, and other items, if you make a reservation with Lois.

As an added attraction, Nielsen-Massey, whose factories are in Waukegan and Amsterdam, will be giving out free vanilla samples at our Expo, while the supply lasts! Nielsen-Massey is the producer of the finest pure vanilla in the world. Matthew Nielsen and his mother, company CEO and an orchid lover, have agreed to come and explain how they extract this unique flavoring from the seeds of the vanilla bean capsule.

Lois Cinert is working very hard to get all these details and arrangements organized. She needs everyone's help. Be sure to volunteer for a job on the sign up sheet or contact Lois directly. As a member, you may attend without paying the \$5 entry fee that visitors will be charged. Our paying customers will receive a \$2 coupon towards the purchase of an orchid plant. Children under 14 accompanied by an adult are free. The hours are 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday at the TenHoeve Center near the entrance across from parking lot C, where we have free parking. You can park next to exit 38 or 39 near the Center and bring your exhibits in that door, or you can pull into the adjacent receiving dock and unload there.

Remember to get your posters and bookmarks distributed in your neighborhood, volunteer to help at the show, add an exhibit of your plants or collectibles, bring all of your friends to see it, and participate in the fun! I hope to see you all there.

2002 2004 IOC Officers Terms of offi	aa aya fuaya July 4 .us	Atil June 20		
2003-2004 IOS Officers – Terms of offi President	Joe Dixler	847-432-7708	(jmd@dixler.com)	
1 st Vice President (Meetings/speakers)	Wendy Holtzman	773-395-1771	(wendyholtzman@netzero.net)	
2 nd Vice (Home show chair)	Lois Cinert	630-739-1068	(geolocin@earthlink.net)	
3 rd Vice President (Away show chair)	Diana Nielsen	630-894-9486	(dnielsen3@msn.com)	
Secretary (Recorder)	Jim Spatzak	847-498-4638	(jamcam@avenew.com)	
Asst. Sec'y (Newsletter editor)	Jerry Garner	847-864-8417	(garnerjl@comcast.net)	
Treasurer (Collects/disburses monies)	Steve Lipson	847-328-1837	(steve@wifunds.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.				
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)	
Rich Unger	2006	773-685-2677	(aroma_imp@hotmail.com)	
Anne Kotowski	2006	630-833-8042	(phrag207@aol.com)	
Sandy Fuller	2007	847-234-6311	(sjfuller62@comcast.net)	
Sue Golan	2007	847-234-6311	(<u>sgolan@aol.com</u>)	

October/November Meeting News By Wendy Wesley

As everyone knows, the October meeting will be the Fall Show at Oakton Community College October 11th and 12th.

At our next regular membership meeting November 9th, the workshop will be on orchid fertilizer. Jan Szyren will be there from Michigan State University talking about the development of the Michigan State orchid fertilizer. Dick Wells owner of Hilltop Orchids will be our guest speaker. His topic will be on growing *Phalanopsis sp.* If you have never heard Dick Wells speak, this is a meeting that you will not want to miss. But more to come on the November meeting in the next newsletter.

See you at the show!



Phalaenopsis sp.

In addition, jot down the dates and speakers listed below that are confirmed so far for the 2004 meeting schedule:

January 11th - Sam Tsui from Orchid Inn September 12th - Glen Decker from Piping Rock Orchids November 17th - William Goldner from Woodstream Orchids

May 16th - Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids

Rare Plant Auction and Raffle At Fall Expo By Barry Lubin

A sample of items for the rare plant auction at the Fall Expoinclude:

- Bulbophyllum cryptophoranthus an awarded division of an extremely rare plant
- Paph. rothschildianum a select example of this stunning species
- Dracula vampira an awarded clone
- Coelogyne pandurata the "Black Orchid"
- Paph. Hellas "Westonbirt" a classic with many growths.
- Phal. Golden Blush 'Whippoorwill', HCC/AOS stem prop of a highly prized hybrid

Many other plants from a wide variety of genera will also be included in the auction. The rare plant auction starts at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, October 11th.

We will also be conducting a silent auction on both Saturday and Sunday. In a silent auction, you write your bid for an item on a sheet of paper. You can see all the bids that preceded yours. The highest bidder at the end of the auction gets the item. We have an interesting variety of items for the silent auction, all orchid-related, including:

- Hand-painted pins
- Pewter cup
- Silk scarves
- Silver jewelry
- Stamps from many countries around the world
- Books, including an out-of -print and hard to find edition of Hawkes Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids
- A variety of unusual orchid plants

Be sure to get your bid in for your favorite items, and check back often - you don't want to get out-bid.



Vanilla imperialis

Don't forget to check out the Nielsen-Massey vanilla display at the Fall Expo.

E-Mail Delivery Update

Things are getting better slowly but surely with the new policy of using e-mail as our primary delivery method for the IOS newsletter. There have been some challenges, for sure, but most of these have been addressed and with very few complaints from members. In September only 13 e-newsletters were not delivered. The reasons were varied, but the easiest to correct involved mailboxes too full or mail quota exceeded. Some of you are just like me and don't check your mailboxes every day. The members whose e-mail was returned last month are listed below. Make sure you aren't on this list, but if you are please contact me by e-mail or phone or catch me at the Fall Expo. We don't want anyone to miss the newsletter – it is our main method of communicating, sharing, and staying up to date.

E-Mail Delivery Problems _ Mike Blanford, Candi Boutwell, Brian Costello, Rebecca Dandeker, James Fiala, Jim & Suzanne Gage, Mary Greenwald, Bill & Mary Halloway, Tom & George Heller, Julie & Brad Hiebert, James McMillan, Robert Shepard, and Catherine Zwergel.

Two Orchid Essay Contests in 2003/2004 By Rosalie Dixler

2003 Dillon/Peterson Essay Competition from the American Orchid Society

The theme for the 2003 Gordon W. Dillon/Richard C. Peterson Memorial Essay Competition is "Family and Friends with Orchids." Authors are encouraged to write about how their families and/or friends are involved

with their orchid hobby, whether it's the role a spouse or children play in the hobby, coaxing relatives to care for orchids while you are on vacation, introducing an unsuspecting friend to your orchid addition or other scenarios. The winning entry (if any) will be published in the May 2004 issue of "Orchids." Color slides or black-and-white prints as well as line drawings or tables that enhance the essay are not necessary for prize consideration.

The winner of the essay will receive a cash award equaling the annual interest on an endowment established by the Northeast Judging Center and a certificate of recognition suitable for framing. Deadline for receipt of all entries at AOS headquarters in Delray Beach, Florida, is Friday, November 28, 2003. Submit all entries to: Dillon/Peterson Memorial Essay Contest, American Orchid Society, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, FL 33446-4351 or electronically to jmengel@aos.org (documents must be saved in Windows 95 or sent as an .rtf file). Images must be sent as 35mm slides or color or black-and-white prints, not electronically. Please include mailing and e-mail addresses, and a telephone number.

The contest rules are as follows:

- 1. The essay must be an original, unpublished article.
- 2. The contest is open to all persons except employees of the American Orchid Society and their immediate families.
- 3. Submissions must be no more than 5,000 words in length.
- 4. Manuscripts must be submitted in English, typewritten and double-spaced.
- 5. Submissions will be judged without knowledge of the identity of the
- author. The decision of the judges is final. If no entries meet expected criteria of excellence, the award may be withheld.
- 6. Non-winning entries will be returned to the contestant if requested. Such entries are eligible for resubmission in subsequent contests. These non-winning entries also will be considered for publication by the editor of "Orchids" and may be used in "Orchids" or other AOS publications with the written permission of the author. Published entries will not be eligible for consideration in subsequent contests. Direct any questions concerning this competition to: Jane Mengel (address above; telephone 561-404-2043; fax 561-404-2045; e-mail jmengel@aos.org

2003 Mary Dundon Essay Competition from the Mid-America Congress

The Mid-American Orchid Congress, of which the IOS is a member, also sponsors an essay contest. The topic for the Mary Dundon 2003 competition is "Friends or Places That I Have Visited Because of Orchids." Enter this essay contest by writing an essay of 750 words or less on this subject. The **contest closes February 1, 2004**, and the winners will be announced at the Mid-America Orchid Congress

meeting in Nashville, TN in fall 2004 at the Sunday morning business meeting. The winners will receive \$100 for first prize, \$50 for second prize and \$25 for third prize. Mail unpublished submissions to: Carolyn Butcher, 2822 Dorchester, Birmingham, MI 48009 or email to cjbutcher1@aol.com Manuscripts should be typewritten and double spaced. Entering the contest constitutes permission to publish each submission in the Mid-American at the discretion of the editors. Only manuscripts accompanied by a SASE will be returned.

NEWCOMER'S MEETING A HUGE SUCCESS By Allen Morr

Expecting maybe a handful of people because this was our first newcomer's meeting, a turnout of 15 people, including some "old timers", spelled a huge success for this venue. Due to the favorable response, this newcomer's program will become a feature of all future regular meetings held at Oakton Community College.

Conducted by one of our mentors, Lois Cinert, and assisted by Allen Morr, the one-on-one discussions delved into potting mixes, repotting, growing under lights, fertilizers, watering and water quality, transplanting from flasks, mounting techniques, and analysis of plants brought in for inspection.

The next newcomer's meeting will be held November 14 at 11:30, right before the regular membership meeting. Anyone who attended our September meeting should feel free to attend again.

My personal thanks to all who made this first meeting such a success.

2003 / 2004 Meeting Schedule

November 9 (OCC)
December 14 -Annual Holiday Party (Hausermann's)

2004

January 11 (OCC) February 8 (OCC) March 14 (OCC)

April 3,4 - Spring Show (OCC)

May 16 (OCC)

June 13 – Bus excursion to Orchids by the Ackers and the orchid collection at the Olbrich Botanic Gardens

July 11 – Triton Community College

August 14 - Annual Picnic

September 12 (OCC)

October 2-3 - Fall Show (OCC)

November 13 (OCC)

December 12 - Annual Holiday Party (Hausermann's)

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE - OCTOBER 16



Photo courtesy of Aloha Orchids

President Appoints New Committee Chairmen

At the September Board meeting, Joe Dixler announced the following new committee chairmen:

Website Overseer - Lois Cinert and Dave Tribble
Ways and Means - Allison Tribble
Publicity - Susan Crawford
Awards Chairman - Sandy Fuller
Historian - Norine Ortega
Hospitality Chairman - Peggy Parrish
Plant Movers Chairman - Jim and Gerry Bestman
Plant and Supplies Sales - Barry Lubin
Communications Coordinator - Rosalie Dixler
Welcome Wagon - Barbara Schmitz
Out Reach Chairman - Claire Papiewski

Helpful Hint for Watering Mounted Orchids

Mounted orchids often require more frequent watering than potted orchids, and as a general rule should never be allowed to dry out completely. In the February 1992 issue of "Orchids," this tip was given to make sure your mounted treasures are never thirsty.

First find a sturdy container that will hold water, such a plastic milk container. Suspend this "reservoir" over the plant making sure you mount it securely. Next, take a length of 1/8th inch flexible aquarium tubing and use it as a siphon from the reservoir to the orchid. Use an adjustable tubing clamp on the siphon to regulate the number of drips delivered to the plant – many tubing clamps have a threaded thumb wheel mechanism that will allow precise control of the flow rate. Position the "delivery" end of the tubing securely above the orchid's roots. Remember, you don't need to get the entire plant wet, just the mount and the roots. With a little adjusting, you should be able to get the drip rate such that the plant's roots never dry out, but

you don't end up with a puddle of water on the floor. The flow rate may need readjusting as environmental conditions change, increasing or decreasing water evaporation and usage.

<u>Autumn Odyssey- An Orchid Expo Is Here!</u> By Lois Cinert

Now is the time to take full advantage of your Illinois Orchid Society membership by attending our fall show, *Autumn Odyssey, an Orchid Expo,* October 11th and 12th, at Oakton Community College. This is our October meeting, and we would be thrilled to see every member (and more) come to the show. We have lots of exciting new things for you this fall. And the best part - admission is free to IOS members!

You can see the many displays of orchid plants in bloom, artistic arrangements of cut flowers, photographs, stamps, and collectables. We will also have a **silent auction** of orchid-related books, ceramics, and who knows what else! It's a chance to pick up a bargain.

Our **rare plant auction** on Saturday will give you an opportunity to find something here that is not easily available anywhere else. Come early for a good seat! This is our member's show, so come to see what we can do!



Epidendrum ilense @ Kew Gardens

IOS Board Meetings

The IOS Board meets at 7:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of odd months of the year at the home of a board member or officer. The November meeting will be held at the home of Diana Nielsen, 57 Salt Creek Road, Roselle, IL. Any IOS member may attend the board meetings. Please notify the host or Joe Dixler ahead of time out of courtesy to the host.

The Best Orchid Site On the Web – www.iosoc.com
Check It Out!

Orchid Expo Details

<u>Display Setup</u> - Friday, October 10, 2:00-10:00 p.m. Plant registration closes at 8:00 p.m.

<u>Judging</u> - Saturday, October 11, 7:00-10:00 a.m. AOS judging will follow.

Open to the Public - October 11, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. October 12, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Teardown - October 12, 5:00 p.m. - ????

Rare Plant Auction - Saturday, October 11, 1:00 p.m.

<u>Silent Auction</u> – Bidding during the show; winners announced Sunday, 4:00 p.m.

There will also be a plant raffle and cut *Dendrobiums* for sale.

Admission for non-IOS members is \$5.00 with a \$2.00 coupon applied to a plant purchase at the members' sale table.

Not To Late To Attend AOS Fall Members Meeting In Sacramento

The AOS Fall Members Meeting will be held October 22 – 26, 2003. Hosted by the Sacramento Orchid Society, this not-to-be-missed event will feature a terrific orchid show, many notable speakers, a special appearance by *Orchid Fever* author Eric Hanson, and a diverse group of guest vendors. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to tour San Francisco, Napa and Sonoma wine country, and the historical gold town, Nevada City.

The meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel (Hilton), 2001 Point West Way, Sacramento, CA (916-929-8855). For additional information, please contact Ida Carter, 7604 Darla Way, Sacramento, California 95828 (tel 916-689-1927), or visit the Sacramento Orchid Society's Web site at www.sacramentoorchids.org.

Carpooling?

Need a ride to the meetings? Send me your name, location, and contact information and I'll put your request in the next newsletter. (garnerjl@comcast.net) Sorry, but this isn't an emergency service – I can't find you a ride right before a meeting or show. This service is for members who know at least a month ahead what their carpool needs are.

Volunteers Still Needed For Fall Show By Lois Cinert

We still need your help for the fall show. This is the best way to get to know more about the many different kinds of orchids you can grow in your home or greenhouse! You get to meet knowledgeable people, and see many different and unusual orchids in bloom.

This is also time to have fun with your fellow society members in a relaxed atmosphere. You can share your knowledge and enthusiasm for our growing hobby with the guests visiting our show. Help with the repotting or just talk to people interested in orchids. The volunteer sheets are in the September newsletter. But now, **call or e-mail me for information about what you can do to help.**

We want to show off all the flowers we can grow in our own homes and greenhouses. Bring your flowering plants on Friday, October 10th, between 2:00 and 8:00 p.m. If you don't want to have your own display, bring your plants anyway. We will find a place for them, so you can show them off. Displays for this show are easy – full table or half table. Four or five plants, a fern or green plant, and some black cloth are all you need – we will even have some black cloth to borrow, and lots of help if you are setting up your first display. We want everyone to participate. **Call or write NOW!** I'm waiting for your calls. This is OUR show. Do your part and make it a great success!



Photo courtesy of Aloha Orchids

Mentor Program

A reminder – if you are new to orchid growing, trying out some new genera or growing method, or just want to learn a little more about the plants you have – the IOS has a mentor program available to all members. Mentors names, contact information, and specialties were published in the September newsletter. So, if you're looking for a mentor or if you want to volunteer to be a mentor, contact Allen Morr.



Brassia maculata (Rick's Tropicals)

Monthly Judging Results -September By Sandy Fuller

The results listed here are the points accumulated through the September meeting and including points from AOS judging that have been reported to me. If anyone has been awarded additional points for away shows or AOS judging, please remember to call me (847-991-5434) or send me an e-mail at sifuller62@comcast.net with the points awarded and the event they were awarded. Also, if you think the points shown are not correct, let me know.

Lights / Windows	Points
Bestman, Jim and Gerry	5
Cinert, Lois	57
Davis, Joan	10
Fuller, Sandy	55
Golan, Sue	40
Kotowski, Anne	10
Malone, Sherry	287
Nielsen, Diana	5
Papiewski, Claire	32
Sahagian, Laima *	10
Schmitz, Barbara	95
Schordje, Leo	30
Tribble, Allison *	65
Vrabel, Ken	58
Greenhouse	
Dixler, Joe and Rosalie	388
Gamson, Ed	15
Lipson, Steve and Judy	40
Passine, Paul	25
* New members	

New IOS Logo Shirts Go On Sale

By Allison Tribble

During the Fall Expo, October 11th and 12th, the first-ever official Illinois Orchid Society shirts will go on sale to members. Short sleeved polo shirts and long sleeved crew neck sweatshirts in a regal purple, thick cotton/poly blend will be available. These shirts are guaranteed colorfast and no-shrink. The left side of the chest is embroidered with a purple and white IOS orchid logo, the same logo that appears on all Society stationary and official documents. The logo really stands out against the deep purple (or is that orchid?) background.

The short-sleeved polo shirt is \$20.00 and the long-sleeved crew sweatshirt is \$22.00 and shirts have been ordered in the usual variety of sizes (XXL is priced slightly higher than the others). Sorry, but no special orders and sales are cash only for this initial special offering. Many of these shirts have been reserved already, but extras were ordered anticipating their fast sale and popularity. More orders can be placed later, but every member needs at least one now!

Remember to get your shirt at the Fall Show or contact Allison Tribble at allisont@rcn.com or 773-728-4874 to reserve a shirt or two or to place your order for the future. These are high quality reasonably priced shirts. Be among the first to show your support for and pride in the IOS. Buy and wear your new shirt at the Fall Expo!

<u>It's Show Time! Preparing Orchids For Away</u> Shows

By Diana Nielsen

Please review the following tips for preparing plants for away shows. As always, come give us a hand, meet other orchid growers, and have some fun! If you have any questions, please give me a call. Hold on to these guidelines for future reference.

- <u>Clean</u> off any water spots on the leaves, <u>remove</u> dead leaves, old spikes, past–prime flowers, and <u>wipe off the pot</u>.
- Water and check for <u>pests</u>. Any plant with hitchhikers will be banned from the exhibit.
- <u>Stake</u> the inflorescences to better show off your hard earned flowers. If in doubt, stake it! We may need to stake on site when setting up the exhibit.
- Make sure the plant is stable in the pot. If it is unstable or top heavy, double pot it to ensure it doesn't fall and get damaged. This was a big problem last year!
- Put your <u>name</u> or <u>initials</u> and your <u>phone number</u> on the bottom or back of the pot to help me make sure the plant gets back to its owner.

- Make a list of all the plants that have your name and phone number on them so I can be extra sure you get your plants back and that you get credit for any ribbons or awards you receive. Include a copy of this list with your plants and e-mail me a copy as soon as possible so I can include them in my master list for the display.
- Fill out the show registration tags with the plants' names but leave off the exhibit information. Be sure to print clearly. If you know the new MAOC class, add that information. If you aren't sure, leave that blank or put a "guess" on your plant list and I'll check it out.
- If you have a large or particularly spectacular plant for the display, be sure to let me know so I can plan ahead for it.
- Make sure all your plants arrive on time at either one of the specified drop-off points or at the show site. Please let me know if you are planning to bring your plants to the exhibit site so I will know what to expect.

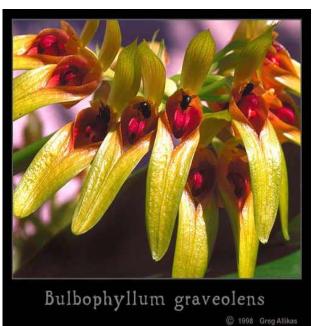


Photo courtesy of the New Hampshire Orchid Society

<u>Fall Expo – Orchid Odyssey</u> October 11th and 12th at Oakton Community College – Be There – Volunteer - Bring a Friend – Buy - Have Fun!

September Orchid Quiz - How Did You Rate?

The answers to last month's quiz can be found below. Check them out and rate your performance.

9-10 correct – pat yourself on the back and go the head of the class.

7-8 correct - better than most.

5-6 correct – you're like most of us.

Less than 5 – have you considered the mentor program?

- 1. Bulbophyllum
- 2. red
- 3. 25.000
- 4. L. purpurata
- 5. a lithophyte
- 6. osmunda
- 7. 5
- 8. several correct answers; I'll trust you.
- 9. not yet
- 10. if you didn't know this, go stand in the corner.

Additional Websites to Check Out

Try some of these websites and send me your comments on them. If you have some favorites of your own, please share them with other members by sending them in to the newsletter.

www.orchidspecies.com - The largest assemblage of orchid species images on the web. 3011 species in 432 genera listed with regular updates. Web-pages are arranged alphabetically with text links to images of the plants. Country of origin, habitat info, and plant habit included. Cultural info is limited.

www.orchidmall.com - One of the best! Addictive. Easy to navigate. Lists international orchid vendors and a separate page for supplies and related merchandise. Over 200 links to orchid societies. Links to informative articles, orchid events, and orchid images. Promotes orchid growing as a hobby, not a competition. Best of all – it's free! (Adapted from *Orchid Digest*, July-Aug.-Sept., 2001)

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

Fall Expo – Orchid Odyssey
October 11th & 12th
Oakton Community College

Vollunteers Still Needed for Fall Show!!!
Contact Lois Cinert Immediately

Next Membership Meeting: November 9th

<u>Deadline for News & Articles for November</u> <u>Newsletter - October 16th</u>