



Orchid Opus

VOL. 56 No. 2

February, 2008

IOS Meetings and Show Dates*

February 9, 2008 – AOS Judging. 1:00 p.m.
Chicago Botanic Garden

February 10, 2008 – Chicago Botanic Garden
Speaker: Sam Tsui. Topic: Paph. Culture.
Workshop: Dave Tribble - Introduction to AQPlus
software.

March 9, 2008 – IOS Board of Directors meeting at
the home of Dave and Allison Tribble, 11:00 AM, all
IOS members are invited to attend. Please contact
Barry Lubin if you plan to attend. **Note: This is a
new, revised date and time.**

March 16, 2008 – Chicago Botanic Garden
Speaker: Jason Fischer of Orchids, LTD.
Workshop: Luis Torres – Building an outdoor shade
structure.

April 5-6, 2008 – Chicago Botanic Garden
IOS Spring Show

Orchid Events

February 16-17, 2008 – Batavia Orchid Society
Show, Wheaton, IL.

March 1-2, 2008 – NEWOS Orchid Show,
Neehah, WI.

March 29-30, 2008 – Iowa Orchid Society Show,
Davenport, IA.

* Unless noted otherwise, member's meetings held at the Chicago Botanic Garden will begin at 11:30am in the Fairchild Room for the Mentor's Meeting, plant judging, and plant sales. We move to the Auditorium at approximately 12:30pm for our Workshop, business meeting, and speaker. The Chicago Botanic Garden is located one traffic light East of Route 41 (Edens Expy) on Lake Cook Road, in Glencoe, Illinois.

President's Message

Barry Lubin – IOS President

If it seems like we just had our last meeting, you're right. Due to availability of space at CBG, our January (27) meeting was later in the month than usual. Our February 10 meeting is back on our usual track of the second Sunday in the month. With a return visit by one of our favorite presenters and growers, Sam Tsui from Orchid Inn, I say the sooner the better. I want to thank all of you who attended the January meeting and a special thanks goes out to the many who brought spectacular plants for judging and delicious goodies for the snack table. I hope you will repeat the outstanding performance for the next meeting.

I am pleased to welcome Claire Papiewski and Julie Hall to the board, filling director positions that have been open. In Claire's case, it's "welcome back" as Claire has served on the board before, and has mostly recently been a leader in our recruiting activities. Julie has been a faithful member of the society for many years and is now working with Loren Pollock and Dave Tribble on an effort to share newsletter content with other orchid societies.

I look forward to seeing you on February 10.

-Barry

The View from the Speaker's Chair

Luis Torres, Speaker Chair

It's Spring.....are You Ready? As always it was a pleasure to have Dick Wells of Hilltop Orchids visit with us for our January monthly meeting. Just as appreciated as his talk covering a multitude of orchid growing tidbits for the spring months was the array of plants he and Sandy brought with them for sale. I think just about everyone walked away with something nice! As Dick pointed out, in many regards spring has arrived, at least from the perspective of our orchids. New roots are starting to push out and a flush of new growth is also evident. Of course this is also prime blooming season as was clear from the fine array of lovely plants brought for show and judging; three plants of the month no less. Dick covered the basics emphasizing maintaining a clean growing area, growing medium, watering, fertilizing and bug control (why do mealy bugs love flowers so much?). With his usual informal approach, leaning on experience gained growing in his own greenhouse, Dick unpacked many of the aspects needed to become a better grower. Overall a solid talk to kick-off 2008!

Before looking ahead to our next featured speaker, I want to acknowledge and thank our very own Loren Pollock for his inspired one-night (light) stand design and for Barry's superb delivery. I know the membership all enjoyed the workshop, and at \$140, the auction was a steal. It would be rude not to mention Barry's lovely

assistant for the workshop, Ms. Vanna (aka. Sandy Fuller). I hope this workshop not only inspires you to build a new indoor growing stand but that maybe you'll think about delivering your very own workshop? Let me know, I'm always looking for fresh ideas and volunteers.

For our February 10th meeting, our featured speaker will be the one and only Sam Tsui, Paphiopedilum grower extraordinaire and proprietor of Orchid Inn. Plan on arriving early to give yourselves time to browse the many plants Sam will be bringing for sale. Think about pre-ordering with Sam also. Look over his web site at <http://www.orchidinnusa.com> and then write to Sam with requests for that special plant. Sam will be talking to us about the specific cultural needs of the various sub-sections within the genus Paphiopedilum.

The mentor program starts at 11:30am and our workshop with a short business meeting starts at 12:30pm. Plants for judging need to be set-up by 12:30pm. Remember to bring some homemade goodies to share with your friends at the IOS (Sorry, no store bought items please).

Cheers,

-Luis



Barry and his lovely assistant Vanna



It's always a pleasure when Dick pays us a visit

Spring Show – Orchid Extravaganza

Sandy Fuller – Home Show Chair

Our Spring Show “Orchid Extravaganza” will be held on April 5th and 6th, 2008. There will be many opportunities to help with this Show as usual. This year we have some great people in roles to help make our show more successful:

Vendor Coordinator – Cleo Kiergaard
Judging/Awards Coordinator – open
Publicity Coordinator – Victor Lentini
Registration Coordinator – Pat Kralik
Registration DBA – Felicia Cochran
Volunteer Coordinator – Claire Papiewski
IOS Plant Sales Coordinator – open

The two positions listed as open are very important functions:

Judging/Awards Coordinator – What I would like for this position is someone who could be available to assist the judges during both the show judging and the AOS judging. This would entail overseeing the judging breakfast, setting out the ribbons and paperwork for the judging process, recording and handing out the special ribbons, and

placing the awards in the appropriate exhibits. Judging occurs on Saturday morning of the Show starting at 6:30 am through around 2:00 pm.

IOS Plant Sales Coordinator - This position assigns and keeps track of the sales numbers given out, makes available the sales slips, keeps the carbon slip and provides the sales information to the treasurer.

If you are interested in helping out in one of these rolls or would like more information, please contact me. Otherwise if you want to volunteer some time to help setup the show or during the show, please contact Claire Papiewski our Volunteer Coordinator. Her email is dreflap@yahoo.com and her number is in our lovely new directory.

Thanks in advance for your help with this show. It takes a lot of work for us to put these Shows on, but it is always very rewarding and time well spent.

AOS Membership Special

From now through March 31st, new members can the join American Orchid Society for \$49.95/yr or \$99.95 for two years. Current members may extend their membership at the \$99.95/2-year rate. Two-year extensions or sign ups will still receive a \$30 coupon. The website has been updated to reflect these prices, so people can sign up through the secure website, call membership at AOS (561-404-2060) or the current

membership brochures can be used -just cross out the \$60 price, and enter the new price.

In addition to the obvious benefits of membership like Orchids Magazine, membership in AOS gives our members privileges at over 200 American Horticultural Society member Gardens and Arboreta. This turns out to be, unfortunately, a rather well-kept secret. For a complete list go to: www.ahs.org/pdfs/07/0708_RAP_Brochure.pdf

Tricks of the Trade – Egg Crate – My Friend!

Dave Tribble, Contributing Editor

If you have a Trick of the Trade that you would like to share, please contact Dave Tribble at dtribble@rcn.com, and we'll get your hint posted.

My friend-Egg Crate

Egg crates (light diffusers) are a favorite of orchidists. Most simply use in pebble trays [fig.1] to keep pots out of the water. How about other uses?

Fig. 2 shows how the egg crate can be cut to



fit any shape (use wire cutters or heavy shears to snip to any desired shape).

Another use is as added shelving [fig. 3]. Many shelf supports aren't designed for small pots. This keeps even the smallest ones from tipping over.

How about your weekly watering task? Bringing all your pots to the sink for watering requires a means for temporary drainage [fig 4]. Use your baking trays with, of course, egg crate (My friend!).

Membership Renewal

Felicia Cochran, Membership Committee Chair

Our membership renewal drive is in full swing. A little over half of our members have already renewed. Please don't forget to send back your form with your cash. I will also be accepting renewals in person at the February meeting.

We are going to have a membership table setup during Orchids by Hausermann's Open House & Sale. What we need from the membership are volunteers to man the table. The weekends for the

Open House are Feb 22 – 24, and Feb 29 – Mar 2. This is a great time to meet some new people, get a little shopping done, and help out your society! You don't have to spend the whole day, just an hour or two, whatever you can manage. The hours for the table will be 9:00AM – 5:00PM Fridays and Saturdays, and 11:00AM – 3:00PM. I will have a sign up sheet at the February meeting, or you can contact me at fbc72@sbcglobal.net to volunteer.

The 2007 Joseph W. Koss Memorial Award

Jim Spatzek, Chairman, Chicago Judging Center – American Orchid Society

For the newer members, this award was established and funded by a vote of the Illinois Orchid Society Board of Directors in 1992 to honor the memory of Joe Koss, past president of the IOS, ardent advocate for the creation of the Chicago Judging Center, and its first chairman. The award, an engraved crystal bowl is presented to the owner of the highest pointed orchid plant awarded at the Chicago Judging Center or either of the two annual IOS Shows in any given year.

We are pleased to announce the 2007 winners are: **Joe & Rosalie Dixler**. This makes the third Koss award for the Dixler's since its inception. The award, a CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) 91 pts. was given to their species native to southern Mexico and Panama. The award description read: "Spectacular display of 875 flowers on 21 inflorescences; plant 35 x 55 cm in a 35 cm. pot; sepals and floral bracts brick red; lip pink tipped red; substance average; texture matte".



Stenorrhynchus speciosum.

Grower: Joe & Rosalie Dixler

Congratulations to the Dixlers on their award.

To see previous Koss awards, go to our website and click on the Koss award. There are pictures of all the previous awards since inception. Bring those great plants to the AOS judgments and maybe you'll win this award.

Misting And Stomata

By Dick Van Hyfte

*This article appeared in the February 2008 issue of **The Spike**, the Newsletter of the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society. It is reprinted here with permission.*

Stoma (Stomata –pl.): These are the openings through which transpiration takes place. Carbon dioxide enters from the atmosphere and the plant gives off oxygen and water. The water is released to relieve pressure, allowing additional water, laden with nutrients, to be brought up via capillary action from the roots (primarily). Stomata are open during the morning and late afternoon for thin leafed plants and terrestrials. They are usually open during the night on the thick leafed epiphytes which are usually found in brighter light, higher in the forest canopy. Plants which have the stomata open at night use a different metabolism method than other plants. This is called Crassulacean Acid Metabolism (CAM). Since sunlight must be available for photosynthesis, the carbon dioxide

must be stored until sunlight is available. The CAM plants store the carbon in acid until photosynthesis is possible. CAM plants include the Cattleyas and Vandas.

Respiration also occurs within all plants. During respiration, cells use food and oxygen, which were produced by photosynthesis, and release water and carbon dioxide.

Orchids typically prefer a humidity level between 40 and 70%, and good ventilation, to function properly during transpiration and respiration processes. Since water needs to be given off during transpiration, plant metabolism will slow, or stop, as humidity gets to 100%.

Below 40 percent, plants give up moisture faster than they can replenish it, causing desiccation. Ventilation will help with transpiration and respiration, and will also assist in prevention of disease that would occur from moisture accumulation. (Note that some plants require even higher humidity, up to 80 or 90%, to avoid desiccation. Many small, thin leaved plants, and especially Pleurothallids, need this.)

Misting helps avoid the problems with desiccation, especially in low humidity areas, and allows good ventilation which aids in metabolism, disease control, and strengthens the plant structurally. Misting should be done in such a way as to avoid heavy moisture build-up on the leaves, and should allow remaining moisture to dry off before dark. Misting frequency should vary according to ventilation, temperature, light conditions, and plant requirements. Best way is to observe your plants, and maintain a buoyant atmosphere. If it feels good to you, it likely feels good for the plants.

Keeping a high humidity during the night is important for CAM plants. This may be a problem for plants grown in the home, but do not mist these in the dark.

Resources for misting equipment:

Pro-mist Pumps – available in 15 or 50 nozzle versions (\$129.95 and \$199.95 resp.), can run dry for a short time. Pro-Products (also handles brass nozzles, timer and complete starter systems)
www.pro-products.com/promistproducts.html

Rainmaker misting pump (use the model WT25FI) Up to 70 nozzles (\$149.00), can run dry for a short time Ecologic Technologies (Source for fittings as well, and starter systems)
www.cloudtops.com/mistingnozzles.htm

Nozzles, plastic misting – Various spray patterns at \$1.49 to about \$2.50 depending on quantity. (These are color coded according to pattern and volume. I use the cream color 105 degree pattern) Ecologic Technologies

www.cloudtops.com/mistingnozzles.htm

These same nozzles can also be purchased on Ebay in lots of 10.

Tubing and quick connect fittings - Lowe's. Be sure to use tubing and fittings rated for over 100 psig. These can also be purchased through Pro-Products, but are higher priced.

Timer – use a digital model, without motor. (prices range from \$20.00 through \$40.00) The timer I use is an Intermatic model DT17 available through Home Depot the last time I purchased one. It has 14 programmable cycles. Intermatic also makes a timer (model HB88RC) available through Lowe's. I have purchased one but have not yet tried it out. It has 7 programmable cycles. Pro-Products also lists a timer. See the web site listed above. This one also has 14 programmable cycles. Ecologic Technologies lists a timer with 28 programmable cycles. See web site listed above.

Miscellaneous parts as listed - Strainers, Tee connections, hose fittings, and bulkhead fittings are available at Ecologic Technologies (see site above). ¼" ID flexible tubing, hose clamps (100 psi rating) available at Lowe's and probably at other building supply companies.

Foggers and Fan driven Fogger - Charley's Greenhouse and Garden
www.charleysgreenhouse.com , but suggest you enter this through www.orchidmall.com .

Foggers are also available from many other sources of Greenhouse equipment. See Orchids magazine for some suppliers. Do not confuse these with insecticide foggers.

Financial Fun

Beth Engle - IOS Treasurer

Greetings, and **THANK YOU** to everyone who participated in the 1st of three, Jewel 2008 Shop and Share program days. If you used the coupon yourself, and asked others to do so also, I send you a really big **THANK YOU**. As of writing this column, I have not yet received a check from Jewel. I will report our successes in future reports. Our next Shop and Share dates are: February 11th - 13th. I will have the slips at the January meeting if you want to get them, or use the slips in the newsletter. An separate e-mail version will also be getting to you. Then, please encourage each of your family, friends, and co-workers to shop, shop, shop.

Our treasury is sitting pretty good. At this writing we have the following balances:

Checking account:	\$11,585.08
Money Market:	\$17,374.51
La Salle account:	\$77.26

Total	\$29,036.85

Much of the recent deposits have been for membership renewals and table fees for the 2008 Spring Show.

If you made an extra donation to the Society by participating in the "Sustaining Membership" program when you renewed your membership, you will be receiving a letter for me for your 2007 taxes. If you do not get a letter, and should, please let me know. Any "Sustaining Memberships" donations, after January 1, can be used for your 2008 taxes.

Please, if you have any questions about the treasury, let me know.

Batavia Orchid Show February 15-17

Anne Kotowski, Away Show Chair

Time for Batavia's Show, they moved to the DuPage County Fair Grounds, 2015 Manchester Rd, Wheaton, IL. No longer do we have to wait until 9:00pm to start setup. Hurray!

Anyone wishing to contribute plants can drop them off at the fairgrounds (starting at 12:00pm Friday, Feb. 15) or at the usual drop-offs.

Show hours are 10:00am – 5:00pm Sat. and 11:00am – 4:00pm Sun. I don't know if they are doing registration by computer or the old way, but send me an e-mail with a list of plants by Thursday 9:00pm if you can.

Questions etc, call me (630) 833-8042 evenings or email phrag207@earthlink.net.

Drop-off locations:

Anne Kotowski (630) 833-8042

phrag207@earthlink.net

430 Addison, Elmhurst.

(Just off Interstate 290, York rd. exit)

Lois Cinert (630) 739-1068

geolocin@earthlink.net

595 Sharon Way

Bolingbrook

Sandy Fuller (847) 991-5434

sjfuller62@comcast.net

352 W. Cheryl Ln.

Palatine

Sue Golan (847) 234-6311

sgolan@aol.com

599 W. Old Mill Rd.

Lake Forest.

Awards, American Orchid Society Chicago Judging Center, Jan, 2008

Jim Spatzek, Chairman, Chicago Judging Center – American Orchid Society

The Chicago Judging Center of the American Orchid Society met on Saturday, January 12th, for its Semi-Annual Meeting and regular monthly judging. At the meeting, Lois Cinert presented her student paper with a great powerpoint presentation on Angraecums. Ernie Gemeinhart presented a program on how to use the AOS Awards Program and Orchid Wiz. We all had a better understanding of how they work after the presentation.

In addition, thirteen plants were presented to be considered for American Orchid Society awards. Four plants received awards. They are:

- *Sophranitis pumila* var. *alba* 'Widehill', AM/AOS 82 pts. Owned by Dr. Bill Rogerson (This plant was formerly known as *Laelia pumila*)
- *Cymbidium Gypsy Fire* 'Hampshire', HCC/AOS 76 pts. Owned by Arnold J. Klehm.

- *Paphiopedilum Glenlight* ' Hampshire', CCM/AOS 85 pts. Owned by Arnold J. Klehm
- *Paphiopedilum Resurrection Light* 'Easter Morn', HCC/AOS 75 pts. Owned by Arnold Klehm

You're again invited to attend the American Orchid Society judgments which take place at the CBG on the second Saturday of each month at 1:00pm at the Chicago Botanic Garden, generally in the Alsdorf Auditorium. The next judging will take place on Saturday, February 9th.

Also, this is show season. There is a show at the DuPage Fairgrounds on Saturday, February 16th for the Batavia Orchid Society. This is followed on the weekend of March 1st, with the Northeast Wisconsin Orchid Society Show at the Holiday Inn Riverwalk, in Neenah, Wisconsin. You can make it an orchid weekend.

HELP WANTED! SAVE THE DATE!

Claire Papiewski, Volunteer Coordinator

HELP WANTED: Rewarding jobs for Volunteers at the April 2008 Orchid Show. Be part of the Orchids Extravaganza produced and directed by Vice President Sandy Fuller.

DATES NEEDED: Thursday, April 3, Friday, April 4, Saturday April 5 and Sunday April 6th.

SIGN UP: We will have sign up sheets at the February and March general meetings, or you can visit <http://www.iosoc.com/show/Forms/spring-volunteersignup-2008.shtml> to try our new online sign up sheet. There, you will find the webform along with other pertinent information. If you try the online volunteer form, you can select as many time slots as you want to cover and then just click Submit.

If you can spare a few hours, look over either the paper sign up sheets or the online volunteer form and give Sandy a commitment. There will be thousands of people roaming the building during that week end. Because we will be having many vendors coming, we will need people to help with unloading, and traffic control. There will be plant registration, setup - tape skirts on exhibit tables, clerking to assist judges, plant sales, raffle, membership table, sales of books, shirts, pins, re-potting, and tear down once the show is over.

Call Claire Papiewski IOS volunteer coordinator at 1-847-622-8664 or e-mail dreflap@yahoo.com for more information.

Officers (Terms of office are from July 1 until June 30):

President	Barry Lubin	847-432-6005	(brlubin@sbcglobal.net)
1 st Vice President (Meetings/speakers)	Luis Torres	847-303-6838	(mrltorres@hotmail.com)
2 nd Vice (Home Show Chair)	Sandy Fuller	847-991-5434	(sjfuller62@comcast.net)
3 rd Vice President (Away show chair)	Anne Kotowski	630-833-8042	(phrag207@earthlink.net)
Secretary (Recorder)	(Open)		
Asst. Secretary (Newsletter Editor)	Loren Pollock	847-219-0718	(ioseditor@higrafix.com)
Treasurer (Collects/disburses monies)	Beth Engle	815-886-4953	(hortpotter@wmconnect.com)
Asst. Treasurer (Membership/ Dues)	Felicia Cochran	630-521-1529	(fbc72@sbcglobal.net)
Immediate Past President	Wendy Wesley	773-227-6064	(wswesley1@aol.com)

Board Members (Terms of office expire June 30 of the year shown.):

Jerry Garner	2008	847-651-8139	(garnerjl@comcast.net)
Claire Papiewski	2008	847-622-8664	(dreflap@yahoo.com)
Leo Schordje	2009	847-746-9355	(lschordje@dataflo.net)
Joe Dixler	2009	847-432-7708	(jmd@dixler.net)
Julie Hall	2010	773-871-1375	(jhallwbrown@access4less.net)
Lois Cinert	2010	630-739-1068	(geolocin@earthlink.net)
Victor Lentini	2011	773-763-6363	(f1orchid@aol.com)
Allison Tribble	2011	773-728-4874	(allisont@rcn.com)

*Phrag ecuadorensis**Aerangis luteo-alba v. rhodosticta*

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