



Orchid Opus

VOL. 56 No. 9

September, 2008

IOS Meetings and Show Dates

September 14 – Chicago Botanic Garden
Speaker: **Howard Ginsberg** of Bedford Orchids.
Topic: **Mini-Catts in the 21st Century**
Workshop: **Lois Cinert, Getting Your Plants Ready for the Show**
Schedule: 11:45 Mentors' Meeting (Fairchild Room)
12:30 Have plants ready for judging.
Workshop (Auditorium)
1:15 Business Meeting
1:30 Speaker

September 9 - Board of Directors Meeting (location TBD). All IOS members are welcome to attend.

September 26-27 - Your help needed for new IOS member recruiting at Orchids by Hausermann during the Chicagoland Orchid Festival.

October 11-12, 2008 – Chicago Botanic Garden
IOS Fall Mini Show

Orchid Events

September 5 – 7, 2008 – Fall MidAmerica Orchid Congress Meeting – Mason, OH.
<http://www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2008fall>

September 13, 2008 – Orchid judging, Chicago Judging Center of the American Orchid Society, Chicago Botanic Garden (Auditorium), open to the public.

September 20-21, 2008 – Wisconsin Orchid Society Fall Show, Milwaukee, WI.
<http://www.wisconsinorchidsociety.com/html/orchidshow.html>

September 26-28, 2008 – Chicagoland Orchid Fest
<http://www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com>

President's Message

Luis Torres – IOS President

So how about that picnic then; a grand day out for everyone who came and a big thanks from me for making the effort. OK, so the weather could have been a little less damp but the temperature was just perfect. The food was great, the company better and Liese's talk on "the basics" covered everything we needed a reminder on. It really was a super day hosted by our gracious friends at Oak Hill Gardens.

I love September, it's my favorite month of the year. It heralds the start of the blooming season for my orchid collection and sees several family birthdays, including mine! There's a lot to see and do also. Mark your calendars for September 26th through 28th for the sixteenth annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival. In addition to providing all sorts of orchid shopping opportunities the IOS will be setting up in Hausermann's to recruit new members. I'll provide details on how you can help at our monthly meeting on Sunday, September 14th. Speaking of which, make it a point to be there to listen to Howard Ginsberg talk about the latest trends in miniature cattleyas. He'll be bringing an assortment of premium plants for purchase, so don't miss out.

As the evenings start drawing in and night time temperatures drop I watch my over-summering collection carefully over the course of the month. Temperature differentials in September can swing more than 20° which my plants just love. The cooler evenings and shorter daylight hours initiate budding in many of my plants, particularly the paphs and cattleyas. This is also the time of year when I marvel at how much everything has grown over the course of the summer. By the end of the month it's really just about time to get everything back indoors. This inevitably proves to be a

challenge as, with larger plants and a limited growing area, there's never enough room to relocate everything. That's one of the reasons I so look forward to our fall show. Basically, it's the perfect setting to sell-off divisions or well established plants you've lost interest in. Browse through your collections now in readiness for our October 11th and 12th fall show. Keep an eye on what's coming into bud now also as chances are they will be show ready for October 11th and 12th also. Let's make this the best fall show yet with regards to IOS blue ribbons and sales table

revenues. Our own Lois Cinert will be delivering the workshop this month on getting your plants ready for the show. So, there you have it, no excuses now! Please do your bit to support the society. With everyone's help I know we're going to have a fabulous time.

Happy growing,

---- Luis.



Eplc. Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall'
Grower: Margo Criscuola



Phal. Tan Swee Kim
Grower: Jane Goodman

View from the Speaker's Chair

Loren Pollock - Speaker Chair

Recap of August Program

After a few sprinkles early in the day, Luis made good on his guarantee of nice weather for our picnic at Oak Hill Gardens. As always, wandering through the greenhouses at Oak Hill was a fascinating treat.

Liese Pigors Butler's presentation was based on years of answering questions from orchid growers of all experience levels. Liese reviewed the key factors for successfully growing a wide range of orchid species. She discussed the need to tailor her growing advice to each grower's environment. She stressed the need for the grower to understand the conditions that each plant wants - and if you don't, just ask Liese!

Many thanks once again to Liese and Greg for hosting a wonderful visit.

September Program

We have a great program for you this coming meeting.

Thank you Lois for agreeing to be our workshop presenter this month. Her timely topic will be "Getting your plants ready for the show."

If anyone has an idea for a workshop, or would like to be a presenter, drop me an email, or tap me on the shoulder this coming meeting.



Liese Pigors Butler discusses culture

Our featured speaker this month will be Howard Ginsburg. Howard is a much sought after speaker, accredited AOS judge, Phalaenopsis hybridizer, and the owner of Bedford Orchids of Quebec. To get a little more background, I've included his bio below.

His presentation - *“Minicatts of the 21st century – where we are in minicatt breeding and how we got there.”* – is sure to be a real crowd pleaser, so you won't want to miss it.

I know that many of our members look forward to the opportunity to purchase plants at our meetings, and Howard will not disappoint you. While pre-orders will not be an option this month, Howard will be bringing an assortment of high quality Phals, and Catts. And, for those of you that are not familiar with Bedford Orchids' policy, if a plant that you purchase from Bedford Orchids gets awarded by the AOS, Bedford Orchids will send you a \$100.00 gift certificate (visit his website <http://www.bedfordorchids.com> for the details).

Here is Howard's Bio:

Howard Ginsberg is an accredited American Orchid Society (AOS) judge in the Montreal Judging Centre. He began growing orchids in 1977, when he purchased a *Ludisia discolor*, at which time he tried growing many genera. Since then, his focus has narrowed to growing and breeding *Phalaenopsis* almost exclusively, although his interests remain larger. Recently, he has had to come out of the closet and admit to his love for mini-catts.

He has spoken to orchid societies across North America, throughout New Zealand and in Australia and has been a featured speaker in AOS judges' training and at AOS Trustees meetings as well as at the 18th WOC in Dijon, France. In addition to learning Mandarin, visiting Taiwan on a regular basis and speaking around the world, he finds time for his law practice in Montreal. He created and maintains his own web site - <http://www.bedfordorchids.com>.

Howard has had articles published in *Orchids* (the magazine of the American Orchid Society), *Orchid Digest*, the *IPA Newsletter*, *Orchids Australia* and the *Canadian Bar Review* (no, it wasn't about orchids).

Howard is proudest of selling so many award winners, particularly those of his breeding, including two Awards of Quality: a remake of *Phal. Rong Guan Amah* (Timothy Christopher 'Bedford' x *amabilis* 'Bedford Beauty', AM/AOS) and *Phal. Bedford Blushing Beauty* (Bedford Grumpy x Bedford Gladblush).

I think that wraps it up. See you all on the 14th!

-Loren

The IOS Fall Orchidfest

Sandy Fuller – Home Show Chair

One of the fun things about our Fall show is that it gives us all a chance to do our own display. If you have never done an exhibit before, please be sure to come to our September meeting as Lois Cinert will be doing a workshop on creating an exhibit.

Also this is the Show that is set aside specifically for our members to sell their plants, so please bring any plants you may have that you would like to sell. This is a great chance to make room for some new plants for your collection.

As usual we need help from our members to pull off a great show. Here are a reminder of the many areas we need help with:

Setup – This includes skirting tables, preparing the show room for the exhibitors, and assisting them in unloading their plants. Setup will be from noon on Friday, October 10th to 8 pm.

Registration – We will need people with general knowledge on Microsoft word for some light data entry. There will be some other non-computer related tasks, so if you do not use computers, we can still use your help here. Registration is from 2 pm to 8 pm on Friday, October 10th.

Clerking – If you are an early bird, you will learn a lot about show judging by clerking. The show clerks assist the judges in finding plants to be judged and putting ribbons on the awarded plants. You can learn a lot about how Orchid flowers are judged. Clerking is Saturday morning (October 11th) at 7 am through 10 am.

Traffic – This is a great way to see the show as we need some people to walk around and make sure show attendees are not climbing into exhibits.

Membership Table – If you have sales ability this is a position we need you for. We have a great society and we just need to convince more

people to join us. This position is needed for both days of the show.

Raffle Announcer – If you have a nice deep voice, or just like talking on a microphone this is the job for you. We will be announcing raffles at noon, two and four on Saturday and Sunday. Even if you want to show up for only one of those times, we could sure use your help.

AOS membership – We need one or two people at least to help Rosalie out by sitting at the AOS table and expounding on the benefits of being an AOS member.

Teardown – This will be after 5 pm on Sunday. Basically it entails helping the exhibitors load up, some light clean up and un-skirting the tables.

At our August meeting Claire had the sign up sheets but if you did not get a chance to sign up please do so at the September meeting. We really need your help to make our shows a great occasion for all.

And last, but not least, please support us by coming out and enjoying our Show. I hope to see you there.

-Sandy



**Howeara Lava Burst
Growers: Chuck & Jane High**

Fall Away Shows

Anne Kotowski

The weather has been great this summer. I hope all your orchids have been growing like gangbusters, I know mine have been (there is so much to repot). So it's time to show them off. The first show is Milwaukee Sept. 20-21. We had great plants last year, so I know they are out there. Joel Edwards got an AM and best-of-show for his *Habenaria medusa*, I am bringing my *H. medusa*. It's half the size, but IT'S BLOOMING! For the care of other member's plants, PLEASE check for bugs. For anything tippy, try weighting it down. I find a clay pot and duct tape works great. We have several drop-off locations (I will be picking up Friday a.m. at most spots.

Milwaukee also a great show to go to, they are at the Mitchell Domes info at www.milwaukee.org. If you have any questions call me @ (630) 833-8042 (evenings) or phrag207@earthlink.net.

Drop-offs

Lois Cinert
595 Sharon Way, Bolingbrook
(630) 739-1068

Sandy Fuller
352 W. Cheryl Lane, Palatine
(847) 991-5434

Sue Golan
599 W. Old Mill Rd., Lake Forest
(847) 234-6311

Anne Kotowski
430 Addison, Elmhurst
(630) 833-8042



Pecteilis sagarikii
Grower: Felicia Cochran



Den. Mingle's Sapphire
Grower: Sandy Fuller



Paph. Gloria Nagle

The Race is On!

Lois Cinert

Wow! We're only three months into our annual contest, and it's already an exciting race. We have some new early leaders, and some of our regular contenders are a little behind. The good news is that we have several new names on the list, who have been bringing great plants to our Show-and-Tell table at monthly meetings.

Last year's winners are using their gift certificates to get more fine plants from our local growers. You can join that group just by bringing your blooming plants to monthly meetings, and to our away shows. You get points just for bringing your plants, and more points if you get a ribbon or award for that plant. At shows the points double. You can also get points for AOS awards given at shows or at the monthly Chicago Judging Center sessions at CBG.

You can bring the same blooming plant to more than one meeting, or show, and a plant with long-lasting flowers can build your total quickly. This fall, the shows and meetings follow in rapid order, so it's a great time to accumulate points.

The point of growing orchids is to have wonderful flowers. If you grow them, show them off!

-Lois

Name	June	July	Aug	Total
<u>Greenhouse</u>				
Dixler, J & R	50		40	90
Golan, Sue		60		60
Lubin, Barry		50	20	70
Thompson, Carole			20	20
<u>Lights/Windowsill</u>				
Castillo, Karen	5			5
Cochran, Felicia			20	20
Criscuola, Margo			10	10
Edwards, Joel	40			40
Engle Beth			17	17
Fuller, Sandy		33	42	75
Goodman, J		10	10	20
Hall, Julie		16		16
High, C & J	71		40	111
Maloney, Sherry	30		21	51
Opitz, Albert	6	5	1	12
Papiewski, Claire	10		1	11
Powell, Ellen		62		62
Rainbow, Jo Ann		10	15	25
Titterton, George			41	41
Torres, Luis	55	20	46	121
Tribble, Allison	56	45	61	162
Tropp, Bob		5		5
Vrabel, Ken	71	32	16	119

Tricks of the Trade – Quick Tips

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.

This month's Tricks of the Trade brings us two quick tips:

Tip #1 - Visit your local orchid vendor monthly to build a collection that blooms year-round.

Early on in my fast growing orchid obsession, I would visit local orchid vendors to purchase blooming plants at least once a month. I would purchase plants in bloom mostly because I wanted to see what the flowers would look like, and admittedly, I was not sure whether I could ever get them to bloom on my own.

Well, happily, many of these plants did bloom for me in subsequent years, but with an added bonus. They would bloom around the same time of year that I purchased them – nicely spreading out the show of flowers throughout the year.

Now if I could only train them to flower in time for the show.

(Tip by: Loren Pollock - Contributing Editor)

Tip #2 - Buy fans now.

Many growers use standard box fans to move air around their plants. The fans are cheap and efficient, and they have a limited life. After a year or 2 of constant operation, they usually die a screechy death. Mine always seem to schedule their demise for sometime other than summer. Guess what - in this part of the country, hardware stores don't stock fans most of the year. The fans tend to go on sale right about now, then disappear from the shelves until late spring. Do

yourself a favor - buy backups now while they are readily available.

(Tip by: Barry Lubin - Editor)



Colmanara Cherry Pop
Grower: Sherry Maloney

Financial Fun

Beth Engle, IOS Treasurer

Good huswives in summer will save their own seed

Against the next years, as occasions needs

One seed for another, to make an exchange

With fellowlie neighborhood seemeth not strange.

--Thomas Tusser

Greetings all,

I hope everyone is getting ready for our fall show. By 'getting ready' I mean, you have, or are potting up, your extra plants for the plant sale at the show.

This is a great opportunity to get good homes for those plants that just don't fit into your collection any longer. Pick up plant sale tags at the next meeting, and get a start on getting the paperwork done.

If you had plant sales at our July meeting, you will have to wait a bit longer to get your money. I should have the plant sale receipts soon.

Here are our current totals:

Checking	\$13,050.56
Money Market	\$17596.83
LaSalle Bank	\$77.26

Our first Cert. of Deposit matured, and I added it back to our money market account. We gained nearly \$100.00 in interest. I am looking for the best interest rate I can find for the next CD. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know.

As always, if you have any questions about the clubs financials, please let me know.

-Beth

Plants of the Month

Greenhouse

Plant Name: Phragmipedium kovachii
Grower: Joe and Rosalie Dixler
How do you grow it: As with most Phrags, kovachii needs to be constantly wet. It likes to grow in a mix with a high percentage of limestone.



Plant of the Month - Greenhouse
Phragmipedium kovachii
Grower: Joe (pictured) & Rosalie Dixler

Lights/Windowsill

Plant Name: Seidenfadenia mitrata
Grower: George Titterton
How do you grow it: I grow this plant in an east facing window indoors. My conditions are hot in the summer. During the winter its near a radiator that keeps this room pretty warm. However, at night my place gets very cool during the winter. I have only had it since March. It was in spike when I bought it. This is the second bloom this year. It hangs from a Cattleya. Its gets a thorough soaking once a week and periodic random misting. It definitely dries out in between waterings. I was told to grow it like a Vanda.



**Plant of the Month - Lights/Windowsill
Seidenfadenia mitrata
Grower: George Titterton**

Membership Matters

Felicia Cochran , Membership Chair

It's almost time for one of my favorite annual orchid events, the Chicagoland Orchid Festival. This is basically a three day shopping extravaganza, with growers from all over the world attending. It a fantastic way to add something new and unusual to your orchid collection. And in the IOS' case, it is a fantastic way to add new members to our roster. We will have a membership table set up at Orchids by Hausermann in Villa Park (think Christmas Party...) on September 26th an 27th. This also means we need to have volunteers to staff the table. This is a great way to enhance both your IOS **and** your Chicagoland Orchid Festival experience. This is by far one of the easiest volunteer activities that the IOS has, as it involves sitting at a table and talking to people, and looking at

orchids go past your table. Please try to give us an hour or two of your time on the 26th or 27th, to try and entice some new members to go with our new orchids, whether they are unusual or not.

If you would like to volunteer, please contact Claire Papiewski at dreflap@yahoo.com to sign up. We will also have a sign up sheet at the September meeting. And to find out where the orchid vendors and food will be during the Chicagoland Orchid Fest. Visit

<http://www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com/> for more info.

-Felicia

Orchid Digest - Become a Member!

Jim Spatzek , Orchid Digest Representative

By now, I hope that all of you are members of the American Orchid Society and receiving **Orchids** magazine and all of the benefits and supporting a great organization. If you're not, go to: www.aos.org and join. IOS also has membership forms available.

If you're really into orchid growing and want to learn even more, you need to join **Orchid Digest**. This great orchid organization publishes a fine full color magazine quarterly on various aspects of orchids and specific genera each issue. You can join by going to their website: www.orchiddigest.org . The cost of membership is reasonable; it's \$34 per year with a little savings if you join for two years at a time. Visit their website to see the cover of the latest issue and the contents to give you an idea of what they're about. Mention the Illinois Orchid Society if you join so they know we're supporting them.

-Jim



Dave Tribble selects a winning raffle ticket while Pres. Luis Torres looks on.

Officers and Board Members

Officers (Terms of office are from July 1 until June 30):			
President	Luis Torres	847-303-6838	(mrltorres@hotmail.com)
1 st Vice President (Meetings/speakers)	Loren Pollock	847-219-0718	(ioseditor@higrafix.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)	Karen Castillo		(rej_yoga@yahoo.com)
Asst. Secretary (Newsletter Editor)	Barry Lubin	847-432-6005	(brlubin@sbcglobal.net)
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	Barry Lubin	847-432-6005	(brlubin@sbcglobal.net)
Board Members (Terms of office expire June 30 of the year shown.):			
Leo Schordje	2009	847-746-9355	(leosorchids@sbcglobal.net)
Joe Dixler	2009	847-432-7708	(jmd@dixler.net)
Claire Papiewski	2010	847-622-8664	(dreflap@yahoo.com)
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)
Bob Tropp	2012	874-676-2495	(jackietropp@comcast.net)
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