



Orchid Opus

VOL. 57 No. 1

January, 2009

IOS Meetings and Show Dates

January 11 - Board of Directors Meeting, Chicago Botanic Garden, 9:30-11:30AM, Fairchild Room (preceding monthly meeting). All IOS members are welcome to attend.

January 11 – Member’s Meeting

Chicago Botanic Garden

Speaker: **Harry Phillips** of Andy’s Orchids

Topic: *Marvelous Miniatures - Gems of the Orchid World*

Workshop: **A Day at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew** presented by Luis Torres

Schedule: 11:45 Mentors' Meeting (Fairchild Room)

12:30 Have plants ready for judging.
Workshop (Auditorium)

1:15 Business Meeting

1:30 Speaker

February 8 – Member’s Meeting, Chicago Botanic Garden

March 21 - 22 - IOS Spring Show, Chicago Botanic Garden

April 12 – Member’s Meeting, Chicago Botanic Garden

Orchid Events

January 10 – Orchid judging, Chicago Judging Center of the American Orchid Society, Chicago Botanic Garden (**location is Annex #1**), presentations beginning at 9AM, judging at 1:30 PM. Open to the public.

Jan. 31 - Feb. 1 – Orchid Growers Guild Show, Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI,
<http://www.orchidguild.org/orchidquest.html>

President’s Message

Luis Torres – President

The New Year, a time of anticipation, new beginnings and resolutions. I’m looking forward to what I hope will be an exciting new year for the IOS. The board of directors and I are working hard to advance the quality of our monthly meetings. Always with an eye on costs to make sure we stay in the black (thanks Beth) I expect we’ll be seeing more monthly lectures delivered by individuals from within our ranks. I know there are many of you in the IOS that are talented speakers so if you’d like to take on a lecture or workshop for one of our monthly meetings contact either Loren Pollock or me. For example, I’ll be walking you through “A Day at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Kew” during the next meeting. Essentially, it’s a photo journal and while it has orchid content I believe the larger context will go down well with everyone. If there’s an orchid-related subject you’re knowledgeable about or if you want to share an orchid-centric experience with the group, please don’t be shy.

Looking ahead to 2009, our main spring show is set for March rather than the usual April so, to the extent that you can, fine tune your peak blooms for then (yes, I know, easier said than done). Sandy Fuller is coordinating the show details and is going to need all the volunteer help she can get. You’ve all been generous with your time in previous years and I’m looking for the same from you all in March. Remember also that this will be the last show Sandy choreographs and we need to identify a replacement for her to sit on the board of directors. Now is the perfect time to buddy-up with her to follow and learn first-hand what is involved. If reading this plea you sense even a tiny tingle of anticipation please, please, please

get in contact with Sandy, the sooner the better. And while I'm on my knees, if you know your way around Excel spreadsheets consider volunteering as our next treasurer. Beth Engle has skillfully kept us in the black (and on the straight and narrow) for the past year-and-a-half but her term will be up at the end of June and I want to identify a replacement by April. The position of treasurer is also part of the IOS board of directors. Think about giving it a go!

With a view to weaving a little more variety into our monthly meetings, I understand from Loren that we'll be visiting Natts, likely in June, for a greenhouse tour, shopping opportunity and home-grown presentations. Also in the cards is a road-trip to visit Sam Tsui over at Orchid Inn Ltd. We're looking into the cost of renting a bus but, with sufficient volunteer drivers, an alternative might be to convoy there in a group of cars/vans/trucks. I'd like to hear from you regarding this as a possibility. As a society we could save quite a bit of money and in the process even build a little more community by car pooling together. Give it some thought and let me know. Having visited Sam's greenhouse myself, I can tell you it's a treat not to be missed. He's always got something gorgeous in bloom (bear in mind that slippers are my thing).

Before bidding you all adieu, I'd like to congratulate David and Allison Tribble on their "Mounted Orchids in a Condominium" article in the December 2008 issue of the Orchids publication from the AOS. This is a series of articles that I understand Rosalie Dixler has had a hand in publishing. I'm filled with a sense of pride when I see IOS members active in the broader orchid world. In the scheme of things, the IOS really is a good sized group and a challenge to you all for the year ahead is for us individually and corporately to lead and shine as an orchid society.

Happy New Year and the best of growing for the year ahead!

Cheers,

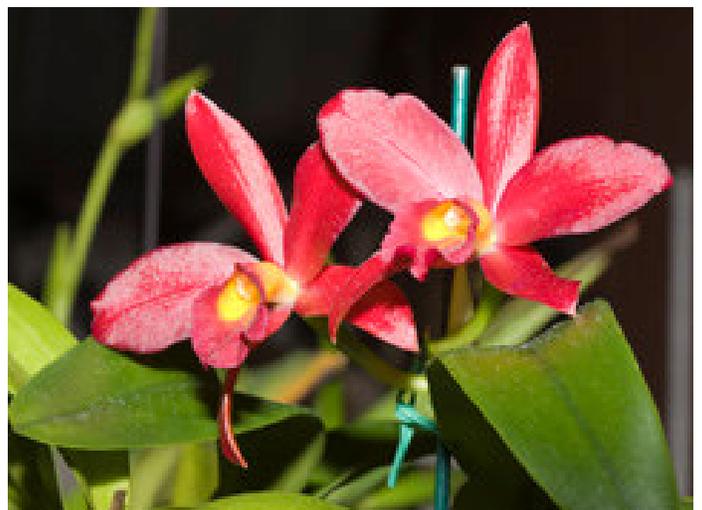
-Luis



Bealleara Peggy Ruth Carpenter 'Morning Joy'
Grower: Sherry Maloney



Dendrobium victoria-reginae x gozalesii 'Mingles Sapphire'
Grower: Julie Hall



Guarisophleya Elegant Oak 'Lung San' AM/AOS
Grower: Bob & Helen Younghale

View from the Speaker's Chair

Loren Pollock - Speaker Chair

Happy New Year to all! I hope you all had as good a time at our Holiday Party as I did. Many thanks to the Orchids by Hausermann for hosting our party. Thanks to all of you who brought the delicious dishes that made the party a true food-fest. Dana's talk about when various orchids bloom was both helpful and interesting, as always. All-in-all, I'd say we ended 2008 on a high-note to launch us into 2009.



Hausermann's Dana Harrison discusses how to build an ever-blooming orchid collection

This year we will start off our speakers program with Harry Phillips from Andy's Orchids. For those of you not familiar with Andy's Orchid, they are known for offering the interesting, and the exotic. The title of Harry's presentation is "Marvelous Miniatures, Gems of the Orchid World", and it is sure to satisfy.

Here is Harry's bio:

Harry Phillips was born in San Diego, California on July 9, 1953. His father taught him to appreciate plants at an early age. In January 1963, Harry's brother Andy (of Andy's Orchids fame) was born, and six years later is when it all started. They were both exposed to exotic plants and flowers at an early age,

but when Andy became interested and latter obsessed with orchids, Harry somehow resisted becoming involved with them for as long as he could. He assisted Andy in his passion by building his first two green houses, and Andy would reward him with a hybrid that was in bloom, tell him to bring it back when it goes out of bloom, and exchange it for one in bloom. Well this would only last about a year until he decided that he wanted to keep one and get it to re-bloom, the beginning of the end.

In 1986 Harry, with his soon to be wife Leslie moved with Andy and his orchid collection to Encinitas, California . Being constantly exposed to all of Andy's orchids was beginning to have an effect on Harry. Shortly after, Andy left for four months to Costa Rica , and placed Harry in charge of the collection. When Andy returned he found that Harry had not killed too many plants and managed to become even more addicted. Andy now, feeling more confident about leaving his orchid collection under Harry's care, began to plan a cycling trip through South America which ended up lasting two years. After that it was all over for Harry, he was completely addicted to orchids.

Harry assisted Andy part time, for 10 years, going full time about 10 years ago. His interest in miniature orchids began several years ago while constantly being exposed to Andy's minis. He decided he would try some for himself, and that was the way the story starts. Harry would like to share some of his thoughts on growing and choosing the right mini for your conditions, or creating a growing area with miniatures in mind. Once you get to know and appreciate them, miniatures will be a larger part of your collection.

Harry will be taking orders in advance for delivery at the meeting. The only catch is that you need to send the order directly to his email at harry@andysorchids.com. To know prices and availability, visit www.andysorchids.com.

Well, I hope this year is good one for all of us. I look forward to seeing you at this coming meeting.

-Loren



Dendrobium compactum hybrid
Grower: Sandy Fuller

Membership

Felicia Cochran - Membership Chair

With January comes Membership renewal time. Renewal letters are in the mail. Please check them over, and make any corrections necessary, and mail them back to me at the address on the form. If you would like, I will be accepting renewals at the next meeting. The renewal fee is still just \$25. Also, please consider our “Sustaining Membership Program” again this year. This is for members who would like to do something extra for the IOS. The three levels of support we have are:

Gold	\$100
Silver	\$75
Bronze	\$50

We will have drawing at the January meeting, for those who have renewed by the end of the meeting. The prize will be a \$25 gift certificate from a local greenhouse. You don't need to be present to win. So see me at the meeting to renew!

-Felicia



Paph. Maudiae
Grower: Betsy Buckles

Away Shows - Return To The Tundra

Anne Kotowski - Away Show Chair

The away shows are starting up again! Time to return to Madison, Jan. 31 - Feb. 1 at the Alliant Energy Center. The Orchid Growers Guild always puts together a wonderful show to contribute to and go to. Many exhibits and different vendors participant in the second biggest show around. Since my plants steadfastly refuse to bloom for a show, we need your help.

I will pickup from Sue and Sandy on Friday AM, Jan. 30. If anyone plans to be at the show Sunday at 4:00PM, I could use help bringing back plants and stuff. Last year it all just barely fit in my Escape. Tear-down is easy.

If you have any questions call me @ (630) 833-8042 (evenings) or phrag207@earthlink.net.



**Phrag. Beauport x Phrag. Barbara Leann
Grower: Sandy Fuller**



**Phal. amabilis
Grower: Julie Hall**

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

'Tis the Season

Lois Cinert - Monthly Judging

Of course, THAT season is over for another year, and the eggnog and fruitcakes are now fond memories. The season that is coming is spring show season – and lots of double points.

Plants sent to away shows, and to our spring show earn double points. January starts the

extravaganza with the Orchid Growers' Guild in Madison, followed in February by Batavia Orchid Society, Northeast Wisconsin Orchid Society, March with the Illinois Orchid Society, and MAOC/Central Ohio Orchid Society. All before the 1st of April! And don't forget to bring your plants to our monthly meetings, too.

We all love to see blooming orchids, and it seems that they look more lovely in large groups, on our monthly show and tell table, and in a display at a show. Bring them! We want to see your blooming orchids, too.

The December array at Orchids by Hausermann was wonderful, with many excellent, well-grown plants. Be part of the crowd in January.

Don't forget your heat pack!

-Lois

Greenhouse

Dixler, J & R	343
Gamson, Ed	21
Golan, Sue	394
Lubin, Barry	240
Passine, Paul	120
Rogerson, Bill	470
Spatzek, James	19
Thompson, Carole	20

Lights/Windowsill

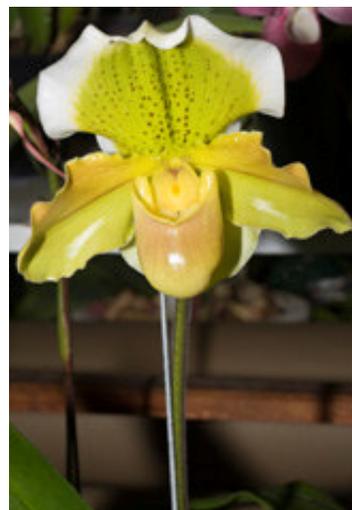
(and High-Rise Condominium Apartments)

Bloome, Cathy	65
Buckles, Betsy	15
Castillo, Karen	5
Cinert, Lois	111
Cochran, Felicia	44
Criscuola, Margo	10
Dangoria, Phyllis	5
Duvalowski, Anne	5
Edwards, Joel	361
Engle Beth	37
Fuller, Sandy	265
Goodman, Joan	35
Hall, Julie	61
High, C & J	169
Johnson, Carolyn	33
Kiergaard, Cleo	10
Kotowski, Anne	18

Lentini, Victor	48
Luce, Rebecca	21
Maloney, Sherry	191
Opitz, Albert	12
Ortega, Norrine	5
Papiewski, Claire	22
Pollock, Loren	2
Powell, Ellen	106
Rainbow, Jo Ann	57
Seidel, Jerry	10
Stafford, J & K	12
Titterton, George	53
Torres, Luis	528
Tribble, Allison	249
Tropp, Bob	5
Vrabel, Ken	171
Younghale, B & H	127
Zielinski, Wally	20



Joel Edwards (above) shows Plant of the Month Winner in the Under Lights category, a complex Paph. (below), grown by Luis Torres





Joel Edwards (right) shows Plant of the Month Winner in the Greenhouse category, *Eria pilifera* (above), grown by Sue Golan



Financial Fun and More!

Beth Engle - Treasurer

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The rich get their ice in summer, and the poor get their ice in winter...

I can't tell you who originally said it, though I remember where I read it. It has come to mind often as the old year slipped into the new. I was tired of shoveling before St. Nick had finished his yearly ride.

But enough whining... I'm sure it is time to apply the snow shovel...again. It's good exercise, right?

I will be applying for the Society to again participate in the Jewel Shop and Share program for 2009. I hope you will participate if you are able. My plan is to get the coupons to you electronically this year also (with a little help), so those of you with access can forward them to your friends. In 2008, the Society earned \$141.74 from the Shop and Share program, and I am sure we can beat that total easily in 2009.

Currently, here is our financial situation (un-reconciled):

Checking	\$11,543.79
Money Market account	\$17,568.26
Certificate of Deposit	\$5,000.00

Part of checking account total is \$342.00 in donations for the Linda Juberg fund. Linda was a wonderful lady, who generously supported the IOS every month in both in time, efforts, and her donations to the hospitality table. The fund was started to help the Board of Directors recognize members who have gone above and beyond the norm in supporting the Society and its membership.

I am always happy to receive any donations you want to make especially ear-marked for this fund. Donations can be made to the Society in the forms of cash, checks, or even donations through plant sales. Whatever way you wish to donate is welcomed. Rosalie Dixler made a large donation after the fall show from sales of her orchid cards. Most recently Barry wrote a donation check for the fund. Thank you very much Rosalie and Barry!

I hope everyone one has on their New Years list of Resolutions (along with the eating better and getting more exercise) a plan to actively participate in some aspect of the IOS. There are many opportunities:

1. Bring plants in for the monthly judging.
2. Send plants out to an away show. (Help the IOS display beat the moss out of our friends to the North's' display!).
3. Help with our Spring Show.
4. Run for an office.
5. Write an article for the newsletter.
6. Participate in a membership drive.
7. Shop at Jewel during the 2009 Shop and Share (March, June and October). Get others to participate at Jewel.
8. Participate in the beginners meeting.
9. Welcome new members at the meetings. Let them know how glad we are to have them join our Society.

However you participate, big or small, it IS appreciated!

May your 2009 be Wondrous!

-Beth

P.S. Remember to use the GoodSearch engine, [http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=IllinoisOrchid Society](http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=IllinoisOrchidSociety), for all your internet searches. IOS receives a penny each time you do!



**Paph. spicerianum x Paph. Stone Lovely
Grower: Jerry Seidel**

AOS Judging Results

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

Well it's been a couple of months since I've reported on the Center results, but better late than never. There were 22 plants presented for consideration for American Orchid Society judging at the Chicago Botanic Garden on December 13th. They were great. They ranged from Dendrobiums to Masdevallias, Bulbophyllums to Cycnoches and Sophronites. We had quite a range. Five (5) awards were granted. Here they are:

1. Dendrobium Mini Snowflake 'Janice Marie', CCM/81pts. Owned by Jayme Hennek, Avon, Minnesota.
2. Paphiopedilum micranthum 'Red Tiger', AM/82pts. Owned by Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn.
3. Paphiopedilum villosum var. aureum 'Goldfinch' AM/81pts. Owned by Tom Kalina, Fox Valley Orchids.
4. Paphiopedilum Toot Toot Tootsie 'Don't Cry', AM/80pts. Owned by Arnold J. Klehm.
5. Paphiopedilum Raisin Helen 'Havin' Fun', HCC/76pts. Also owned by Arnold J. Klehm.

Our next judging will be Saturday, January 10th, 2009 at the Chicago Botanic Garden. We will be in Annex #1 instead of our normal meeting room in the auditorium. This is our semi-annual meeting and several presentations will begin at approximately 9:00AM. Cheryl Erins will present her paper on Neofinetia falcata. Nile Dusdieker will present his paper on native Cypripediums. Ron Setiawan will present "Judging Maudiae Hybrids". And finally, Ernie Gemeinhart will present his probationary paper on a topic I can't spell or pronounce. Sorry.

You're all invited to attend. After our business meeting, AOS judging will begin at approximately 1:30PM.

Hope you all had a great holiday. Have a very prosperous New Year and thank you all for supporting the Chicago Judging Center.

-- Jim



Dendrobium Mini Snowflake 'Janice Marie', CCM/81pts. Owned by Jayme Hennek, Avon, Minnesota.



Paphiopedilum micranthum 'Red Tiger', AM/82pts. Owned by Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn.

Photos on this page courtesy of Lois Cinert



Paphiopedilum villosum var. aureum 'Goldfinch' AM/81pts. Owned by Tom Kalina, Fox Valley Orchids.



Paphiopedilum Toot Toot Tootsie 'Don't Cry', AM/80pts. Owned by Arnold J. Klehm.



Paphiopedilum Raisin Helen 'Havin' Fun', HCC/76pts. Also owned by Arnold J. Klehm.

Tricks of the Trade – NO... NOT FOR THE MID-AMERICA COOKBOOK

Dave Tribble - Contributing Editor

Today's tip comes from **Tom Franczak**, and was originally published in the January 1993 IOS Newsletter [Vol 42, No 01].

Here's my recipe for **manure tea**.

Always start with cow manure or horse manure that's been composted. Unless you grow bulbophyllums for their fragrance. Composted horse or cow manure is pretty much odorless, or if not, it may smell a bit like black dirt.

Put two cups cow manure or four cups horse manure into a five-gallon bucket. Fill with water. Wait two days. Cow manure dissolves readily, horse manure reluctantly. Stir a little. If you're in an organic mood, you can crush the clumps to help dissolve more of the material. Squish, squish.

To a gallon of water, add six ounces of cow manure tea (less if you're down to the dregs) or eight ounces of horse manure tea. This is the strongest concentration that I use. In a greenhouse environment during a cloudy spell, you may want a weaker dilution. I judge the strength of a batch by its color; the darker, the stronger.

Now, this is not an exact science by any means, but it's the way I do it. If you decide to try it, I'll be curious to know if you think it's an improvement over whatever you're currently fertilizing with. I personally think it's effective. I think it adds a lot of energy to the plant. Makes a longifolium branch, puts hair on the chest of a Paph. hirsutissimum, helps a Paph. bellatulum stand up straight, brings a rosy glow to the cheeks of any alba or aureum clone, and imparts a luster to the leaves of a chilochista.

Not that it matters, (spare no expense when it comes to orchids), but this has to be the least expensive way to feed that I've ever found. A 20 pound bag of composted cow manure (rated 2-1-1) is less than \$5 at, say, Frank's Nursery and Crafts (*Editor's Note - Frank's has gone out of business. I guess they didn't sell enough manure. There is no shortage of it, however, as it is widely available almost everywhere you look. If you have any trouble finding it, contact Tom - he always has plenty to spread around*). It might hold you for a year or two. Composted horse manure may be even cheaper, if you have a friend or relative in the horsey set.

- Tom Franczak



Paph. Angela
Grower: Lois Cinert

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)
George Titterton	2012	773-989-9044	(getinteriors@juno.com)

Support Our Sponsors!



OFE
orchid supplies
call for your free catalog
ph. 888-633-4685
fx. 305-251-8245
www.ofe-intl.com

ORCHID SUPPLIES!

WOOD & WIRE BASKETS	FERTILIZER
TREE FERN PRODUCTS	FERTILIZER INJECTORS
NZ SPHAGNUM MOSS	CORK BARK
CLEAR PLASTIC POTS	HUMIDITY TRAYS
REXIUS FIR BARK	WIRE HANGERS

AND SO MUCH MORE!!

www.orchid-supplies.com

WE ARE THE WEST COASTS LARGEST DISTRIBUTOR
OF ORCHID SUPPLIES!
WHOLESALE INQUIRIES WELCOME!

Or contact us at

CALWEST TROPICAL SUPPLY

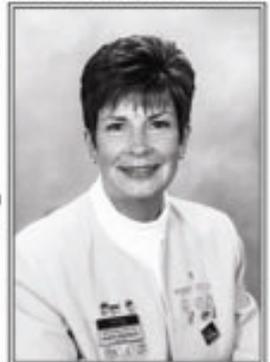
11614 STERLING AVE., RIVERSIDE, CA 92503
For a free catalog call us at (800) 301-9009 - or - (951) 351-1880
Warehouse Hours from 8 am to 4pm Monday thru Friday



McMullen Real Estate, Inc

6400 N. Northwest Highway
Chicago, Illinois 60631
(773) 802-5092
E-mail martcorcoran@realtor.com
Web Site www.martcorcoran.com

Marti Corcoran
CENTURION Producer, 1988-2007
International Hall of Fame 1999



Purple Clay Imports

Planters for orchids

Purple Clay Advantages

- Distinctive, iron rich stoneware
- Good porosity
- Promotes healthy root systems
- Burnished surfaces
- Natural colors



773.844.4788 Direct • www.purpleclay-usa.com



REXIUS

ORCHID BARK



888-4-REXIUS
one pallet minimum

**Heat-Treated
Douglas Fir Bark**