

# ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

EDITOR: James F. Spatzek

## The IOS Fall Mini Show sets plant sales record & is a great success!!

### Recap--Fall Mini Show

The **IOS Fall Mini-Show** which was held at the Chicago Botanic Garden on September 28 and 29 turned out to be a success despite my haring about a thousand times the only phrase orchid growers have in their repertoire, that is,

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"I don't have a thing in bloom". And despite a week before the Show having only 7 exhibits signed up for the event, you obviously have no desire to see me make it to old age.

Nevertheless, in the end there were the usual number of tables of displays (about 21-24) and there were more plants for sale than we've ever had before. And best of all there were bigger sales than we've ever had before.

Quite a few people worked at the Garden and heard the speakers at the various growers while a number worked very hard for a good part of the weekend. These are the people who did work in advance of the show and took on responsibility for different aspects and who must be thank first:

**Susan Crawford**(Publicity), **Tom Franczak**(Information Table), **Ed Gamson**(Set-up & Tear-Down), **Marion Hilgers**(Judges' Supper), **Sherry Maloney**(Technical Support), **Armon McPherson**(Layout & Set-up), **Jay Mullen**(Plant Sales), **Vic Schubert** (Keeper of the Sanity of the Show Chairman), and **John Stubbings**(

**Judging Chairman, Computer Program for Judging, Treasurer for IOS, and more things than can be listed in so small a newsletter).**

Then there are several others who put in a full days work or more at the Show. They gave a lot to the event and hopefully had a good time doing it. They are: **Kim Anderson, Barb Bennett, Christine Boreland, Mary Childester, Ron & Joan Hale, Jodi Hirt, Ann Kotowski, Alisha Mullen, Maxine Philipsborn, Laura Stanley, Ken Vrabel and Wally Zielinski.** A special thanks to **Leo Schordje** for filling in where needed throughout the weekend.

Others who were able to give us a hand with the various show jobs such as clerking and bring food for the Judges' Supper, working at the Information or Raffle Tables, or simply sharing their plants with us and who are greatly appreciated are: **Cathy Bloome, Olga Boor, Vill Carlos, Michael Cornwell, Jack Coutts, Joe Dixler, Kevin Dixler, Tilda Dulman, Estelle Elliott, Joel Edwards, Jack & Joan Emmerich,**

Marilyn Ferch, Sue Golan, Rob Halgren, Chuck High, Ed Hoyas, Judy Kara, Tami Kinny, Pat Kralik, Wilfried Losert, Don Maloney, Diana Maxwell, Lorraine Meyer, Morris Millman, Dorothy Nieter, Diana Nielsen, Rhonda & Steven Peters, Nicola Radcliffe, Sherrie Reddick, Ginny Rich, Laima Sahagian, Heddi Schellbach, Jim Spatzek, Reme Tesch, Chris & Rene Welch, and Bob Wolfe.

And last of all, but first in my hear, is **Sophia Harris**, who made all this possible by taking over the away shows and who also put in her own display. She picked up plants for the Wisconsin Orchid Society Show on Thursday, on Friday came by the Garden to drop off her plants for her IOS Display, drove to Milwaukee and set-up that display, drove back to the Garden to set up her display (with a little help from her spouse, **Jim**.) and then clerked. On Sunday she repeated that scenario with tear-down. I'm out of breath just recounting it, and I don't recommend it.

The following commercial growers are to be thanked also as they had big weekends with their own events, but put in displays for our Show: **EFG, Gemstone Orchids, Jewell Orchids, Klehm Growers, Oak Hill Gardens, Orchids by Hausermann, and Windsong Orchids.**

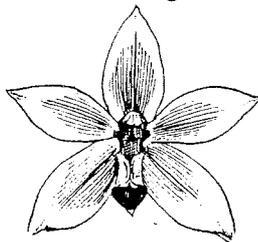
And blessings to the Orchid Societies who added a great deal to the event: **Michiana Orchid Society, Orchid Grower's Guild, and Wisconsin Orchid Society.**

I can't think that I've left anyone out. But somehow there's always someone who get omitted in the "Thank You" department. If you brought food, clerked, brought or sent plants for a display or to sell or did anything at all that benefited the Show, I want you to know that it was greatly appreciated.

LINDA

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'For me Christmas is just like a day at the office. I do all the work, and some fat guy in a suit gets the credit'.



## November Meeting

We've got the cure! Have you ever wondered at the marvelous pink of a *schlimii*, or stood in wonder before the awesome petals of a *caudatum*, or stared, mesmerized, at the dark intense red of a *besseae* and wished you could grow one of your own?? A WHAT???? **Phragmipediums!!!** We have the cure for your Phrag envy!

On November 17, **Dr. Lou Hegedus** will speak at our regular monthly meeting at the Chicago Botanic Garden. **Dr. Hegedus** will speak about **Phrags**, their culture, and current breeding trends. Bring you questions!

The meeting will be in the Multi-Purpose Romm at 12 Noon. Bring your plants for sale and display by that time.

The lecture and workshop will be in the auditorium.

1. **Cathy Bloome** will present the workshop this month. She will have a short tour of the recent World Orchid Conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, illustrated with slides. Lots of us couldn't go, and this is our chance to have a peek!

Please also remember to bring goodies for the hospitality table. It was nice to have enough last month. Let's try for two in a row!

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## American Orchid Society Judging

The judgments of the American Orchid Society are held monthly in the Linneaus Room of the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL, on the 4th Saturday of the month (unless otherwise announced and published in the AOS Bulletin). Beginning in 1997, the judgments will be the second Saturday of the month.

You are encouraged to bring you blooming plants to be considered for an American Orchid Society Award.

November 23, 1996	1:00PM
December 28, 1996	1:00PM
January 11, 1997	1:00PM
February 8, 1997	1:00PM
March 8, 1997	1:00PM
April 11, 1997	9:00PM
May 10, 1997	1:00PM
June 14, 1997	1:00PM

## IOS-IOS-IOS



## The President's Message

BY LEO SCHORDJE  
(847) 746-9355

I'm writing a couple of days after the October meeting, a few days before the Blackhawk Orchid Society Show In Rockford. Sophia says she had gotten several calls from people sending plants to Rockford. There were over 50 plants sent to Peoria, and it sounds like Rockford is going to be at least that many—a lot of plants from members who have not sent plants to away shows in the past. This is great!! Thanks! This year the IOS has been more active, back up to the level we used to be at 9 or 10

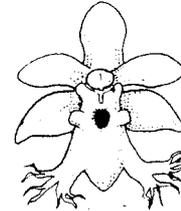
years ago when we had an exhibit in just about every show within 400 miles. We owe this to **Sophia Harris**, an undaunting Road Warrior (Ed. Note. Now with a ruptured disk!), and her faithful sidekick, **Vicki Jurin**. We also need to thank **Jim Harris**, who is treated more like Rosanande (Don Quixote's donkey) as he uncomplainingly schleps plants for Sophia. Setting up at the Peoria Orchid Society Show, Sophia's back trouble flared up, so Vicki Jurin did much of the set-up with Sophia directing from the floor. **Barry & Jane Jones**, and **Paul Turner** of the Peoria society disassembled and packed up the display on Sunday and had it ready for Jim and Sophia when they got there to pick it up. Thank you! Teamwork, that's what it is all about. Well, Sophia, now you can take it easy until spring when the next show season starts. Anyone of our four hundred odd members like to help Sophia once-in-a-while? She'd sure appreciate it and so would I!

I also want to thank everyone again who helped with the Mini Show. Without you it would not have been a success.

This month's meeting speaker, **Lou Hegedus**, is one for the Phrag nuts, myself included. Left to my own devices, I would schedule

mostly Paph, Phrag, and Cyp speakers, but I've been told there are a lot of orchids that don't have pouches, and that some people prefer them. No accounting for taste! See you all at the meeting!

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## Special Awards the 1996 Fall Mini Show

### Exhibitor/Best of Class

Wisconsin Orchid Society  
Display

L. Sahagian/Sue Golan  
Display

Rhonda Peters

Stellamizutara Kelly' Mini  
Magic'

Sherry Maloney

C. walkeriana semi-alba  
'Kenny' AM/AOS

Duane McDowell

Paphiopedilum barbigerum

Duane McDowell

Paphiopedilum Maud Rook

Bob Wolf

Phragmidium amazonica

Duane McDowell

Eurygraecum Lydia x Ang.  
magdalena

Jay Mullen

Vascostylis Pine River

Duane McDowell

Phalaenopsis Red Ball Jet

Windsong Orchids

Phal. Malibu Imp x Phal.

Alma Heidorn

Sue Golan

Odontocidium Cherry Fudge

Jewell Orchids

Oncidium forbesii' Jewell

Giant' HCC/AOS  
 Sue Golan  
 Inobulbon magnificum  
 Lauren Lenz  
 Dendrobium Kikuya  
 Harvey Brenneise  
 Masd.Owen Neils' Lemon Ice'  
 HCC/AOS  
 Laima Sahagian  
 Zygopetalum mackayii  
 Laima Sahagian  
 Rodrigueziopsis  
 eleuthrosepala  
 Tom Franczak  
 Paph.spicerianum  
 Lois Holmes  
 Ascdz.Fuchs Port Royal  
 'Robert' AM/AOS

Frank Kuper Memorial Award  
 (Cypripedium Alliance)  
 Duane McDowell  
 Paphiopedilum Maud Rook

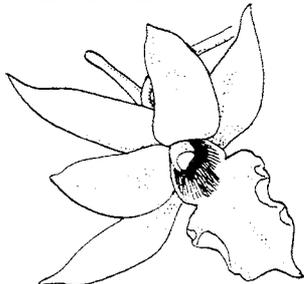
Show Chair's Award  
 (Specimen Plant)  
 Lois Holmes  
 Ascda. Fuchs Port Royal  
 'Robert' AM/AOS

President's Award  
 (Miniature Plant)  
 Sherry Maloney  
 C.walkeriana semi-alba  
 'Kenny' AM/AOS

Chicago Horticultural  
 Society  
 (Best of Show)  
 Jewell Orchids  
 Oncidium forbesii 'Jewell  
 Giant' HCC/AOS

AOS Show Trophy  
 (Best Exhibit)  
 Wisconsin Orchid Society

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## Q & A

### EXCITING NEWS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

We are starting a new column of questions and answers (Q & A) in our monthly newsletter. Anybody (member or not) can submit questions about any subject related to orchids. Questions can be E-mailed (preferred method), mailed, faxed, or phoned to Eric Lador.

Address: Eric Lador  
 311 Albright Ct.  
 Vernon Hills, IL  
 60061  
 Phone: (847)362-1087  
 After 7:00PM  
 Fax: (847)938-2346  
 E-Mail: uri.lador@abbott.com

Your questions will be answered in a future newsletter.

## IOS-IOS-IOS

## Report of the Awards Committee

Tom Franczak,  
 Chairman  
 (847) 590-5731

Here's the fourth report of the 1996-97 contest year. Included in the point totals are ribbons and awards from our Fall Mini-Show at the CBG and from the Wisconsin Orchid Society Show at the Mitchell Park Domes. There's just one AOS award this month and it came at our Show:

**Jewell Orchids....**

*Oncidium forbesii*  
 'Jewel Giant'  
 HCC/AOS

I was pleasantly surprised at the number of Class 23 entries (species Cattleya, et al). They've been under-represented of late and I just hope that we've witnessed a rekindling of interest. Among the splendid class of 23 entries that you folks shared with us were C. amethystoglossa alba, C. Walkeriana semi-alba, C. labiata alba, C. elongata, C. bicolor, and...modestly almost prevents me from mentioning....C. trianae. And were it not for a certain flower-hungry chipmunk in the north woods, there might have been a few more. Right, JH? Jodi's shopping for a live-trap and intends to offer an interesting door prize at the Christmas party. (If not, skip and pate she may bring to the table).

But what a weekend! Our fine show, a fine show at the

Milwaukee Domes, the drive-around to all the nurseries to hear the speakers and shop the plants they brought to town, and the opening of the Degas exhibit...no wonder everyone was dragging by Monday morning. We've taken steps to avoid conflicting with the show in Milwaukee in the future, but there's not much we can do about grand openings of impressionist exhibits. We've seen the Chicagoland Orchid Grower's Festival, originally "held in conjunction with the IOS Fall Show" grow to the point where it now eclipses the Show. I suspect there may be some discussion forthcoming about the tail wagging the dog and how the Fall Show can continue in the role of a "must see" for the orchid grower, not just for the general public, what with the nurseries being "way west", while the CBG is "way east". We shall see. But meanwhile, what a weekend!

**Point Score Accumulations through September 30, 1996**

**GREENHOUSE CATEGORY**

Jack Coutts	12
Joe Dixler	244
<b>Sue Golan</b>	<b>454</b>
Sophia Harris	220
Jodi Hirt	135
Barry Lubin	10
Jay Mullen	50
C & E Oslakovic(*)	77

Rhonda Peters	162
Nicola Radcliffe	32
Bill Rogerson	240
Laima Sahagian	403
Jim Spatzek	5
John Stubbings	84
Gerald Stueben	19
Carole Thompson	189
Bob Vonderohe	10
Bob Wolf	70
Wally Zielinski	22

**LIGHTSTAND CATEGORY**

Kim Aaron	17
Kim Anderson	21
Barb Bennett(*)	11
Cathy Bloome	104
Olga Boor	20
Dipen Chemburkar	11
Lois Cinert	11
Michael Cornwell	30
K & I Dixler	40
Tilda Dulman(*)	10
Joel Edwards	63
John & Joan Emmerich	25
Tom Franczak	44
Charles High	42
Eric Ladorr(*)	3
<b>Willy Losert</b>	<b>135</b>
Sherry Maloney	121
Lorraine Meyer	15
Diana Nielsen(*)	51
Marsha Ramsay(*)	10
Mel Schmidt	45
Leo Schordje	93
Cindy Smith(*)	20
Laura Stanley	15
Ken Vrabel	49
Chris & Rene Welch	17

(\*) indicates new member for purposes of the 1996-97 Competition Year.

**Future IOS Board Meetings**

11/11/96	Jack Coutt's
1/13/97	Carole Thompson's
3/10/97	Ed Gamson's
5/12/97	Lois Cinert's

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**Calendar - -  
Upcoming  
Events**

2/1-2/2/97	Orchid Grower's Guild Spring Show, WestTowne Mall, Madison, WI
3/16-3/17/97	Northeastern Wisc. Orchid Grower's 10th Anniversary Show, Greenbay Wisconsin
4/4-4/6/96	Illowa Orchid Society Show, Duck Creek Plaza, 852 Middle Road, Bettendorf, IA
4/11-4/13/97	<b>IOS Spring Show &amp; Mid-America Orchid Congress;</b> Chicago Botanic Garden & Deerfield Hyatt Hotel International
4/13/97	Phalaenopsis Alliance Meeting, Deerfield Hyatt Hotel
4/13/97	The Pleurothallid Alliance Meeting Deerfield Hyatt Hotel



## QUIZ

If you are getting excited then hold on to your seat. We are also starting a monthly quiz in the newsletter. The winner will get a ten dollar(\$10) Gift Certificate to a local orchid grower. In case of duplicate correct answers, all correct answers will be put into a hat and a single winner drawn. All answers should be sent to:

Eric Lador  
311 Albright Ct.  
Vernon Hills, IL 60061  
(Also see above for E-mail & fax)

### THIS MONTH'S QUESTION IS:

**What is the evolutionary advantage in combining pollen into 2, 4, or 8 pollinia, which lessen the chance of pollinating many flowers?**

Thought it was going to be easy, eh?

## New Members

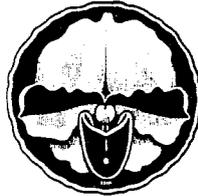
Welcome the following new members and make them feel a part of the IOS. Remember how lonely you felt at your first meeting??

Ruth Debrule	Wheeling
Lydia Scott	Lake Forest
Kevin Swagel & Natalio Romero	Chicago
Lisa Severino	Chicago
Peggy Schermerhorn	Techny
Margaret Cross	Lake Forest
Rima Lockwood	Evanston
Melinda Holmes	Northbrook
JoAnn Pallay & Joy Lippman	Schaumbur
Bruce Bousman	Waukegan

Robert Ruderman	HighlandPk
David Selph	VernonHills
Dawn Benner	ArlingtonHt
Jane DeMont	Montgomery

### Membership Directory Correction:

**Sherrie Kahn Reddick**  
**600 Naples Ct. #404**  
**Glenview, IL 60025**  
**846/803-9666**



### In Defense of Wretched

**Excess.** There are several compelling reasons to expand your collection of orchids beyond all limits that might be imposed by reason, common sense, horse sense, public ordinances, or a decent respect for the opinions of mankind. And I mean to assuage your guilt and sorrow when your sig other (or sig otter) gently tickles your conscience with a bull horn. "If those plants aren't removed from the (a) coffee table, (b) kitchen table, (c) dresser, (d) microwave, (e) sofa, (f) car seat, (g) refrigerator, (h) counter top, (i) ironing board, (j) staircase, (k) bathtub, (l) bookcase, (m) cupboard, or, (n) all of the above...IN 5 MINUTES, I'M GOING TO THROW THEM IN THE GARBAGE!!!! IF YOU'LL PLEASE TURN THE GARBAGE CANS OVER AND TAKE THE PLANTS OFF THEM !!!!DO YOU HEAR ME?????"

There, there, m'dear!  
It is a fact that more orchids die from smothering love than from neglect. Too much love means too much dotting means too much watering means

rotted roots means desiccated plants, etc., etc. The solution is to grow so many plants that you barely have enough time to eat, sleep, and minimally water your plants. Until you divine some way to operate more efficiently, your plants will benefit from this reduced attention. So if you move from watering can to hose and wand, from sink or bathtub to lightstand, (with a tub collecting the water and a submersible pump to get rid of it), from exquisite measurement of fertilizer to the equivalent eyeball method, you need merely add more and more plants to your collection to devour whatever time you might save by becoming more efficient. (I have a proof that doing this will also help close the hole in the ozone layer, but it is too lengthy to include in the margins of this essay).

It is a fact that light falling on an empty square inch of lightstand is wasteful. Think of the electricity needed to generate that light and what it costs in money and resource. Tsk!Tsk! There are plants starving for photons in Europe, and you would waste all that light. Look ashamed. Now pack those plants together more tightly and when you see how much white space there is on your lightstand shelf, go out and buy enough plants to fill it. Your plants will benefit from the increase in humidity that will result from the cramped quarters and, by some strange and tortured logic, you'll be helping to reduce our dependence on foreign oil.

It is a fact that money is at the root of all evil and will also burn a

hole in your pocket. Too much of it sitting idly by under your mattress will depress the entire economy. So go out and spend some of it on more plants. By more twisted logic, that will help balance the federal budget and it's simply the patriotic thing to do.

It is a fact that if you grow and bloom one Pap. Stonei, you will impress your friends mightily. But, if you were to grow and bloom five Paph. Stonei's (all different clones, at that), and your friends would be astounded. Twenty-five blooming stonei's and they would be flabbergasted and dumbstruck. And that's just stonei! Imagine if the plant were Paph. Rothschildianum, or the color varieties of Cattleya labiata--alba, semi-alba, coerulea, mosca, concolor, (this is like reciting ice cream flavors!), aquinii, oculata, alba plena, or combinations--instead of stonei! Or in addition to stonei!!! You see, a mere linear increase in the number of dramatic and showy orchids you grow will reward you with a geometric increase in the amount of shock and devastation you can visit upon your friends' nervous systems.

It is a fact that having numerous clones of some particular, desirable orchid affords you the luxury of always doing what is best for the plant. If you discover a pot full of dead roots when you repot your one and only Laelia purpurata, you may be tempted to do what you feel is best for you. Namely, to go into denial and repot that plant in its original pot. If this is one of your two dozen Laelia purpuratas, however, you will admit that the plant is

set back a year or two and repot it in a smaller pot, thereby aiding its recovery and helping it regrow its roots. Likewise, you won't be rushing to pot up your Paph adductum seedlings, as if that would hasten their growth to blooming size, if you already grow a dozen adult adductums. Trying to rush a plant through some particular stage, whether growth or rehabilitation or rest after blooming, is almost always self-defeating. Sure, you can trick a Phalaenopsis into producing more flowers by just cutting the inflorescence back partially, after the plant has produced an initial crop of flowers, instead of cutting it off completely. But that is such a short-sighted gimmick. You'll be left with a wilted rag of a plant after the second flowering. If you want more flowers, buy more plants. Don't wreck a few by bleeding them dry when having a lot lets them all bloom and rest, so you get your flowers and they have the energy to regroup and bloom strongly again next year. If you follow this enlightened strategy you will arrive at the point where you have at least one orchid in flower every single day of the year, and you will bring music to the spheres and promote world peace.

There you have it. By and measure: space, time, re-source power, and prestige, more orchids is always preferable to fewer. And there is no upper boundary. I rest my case.

**Tom Franczak**

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