

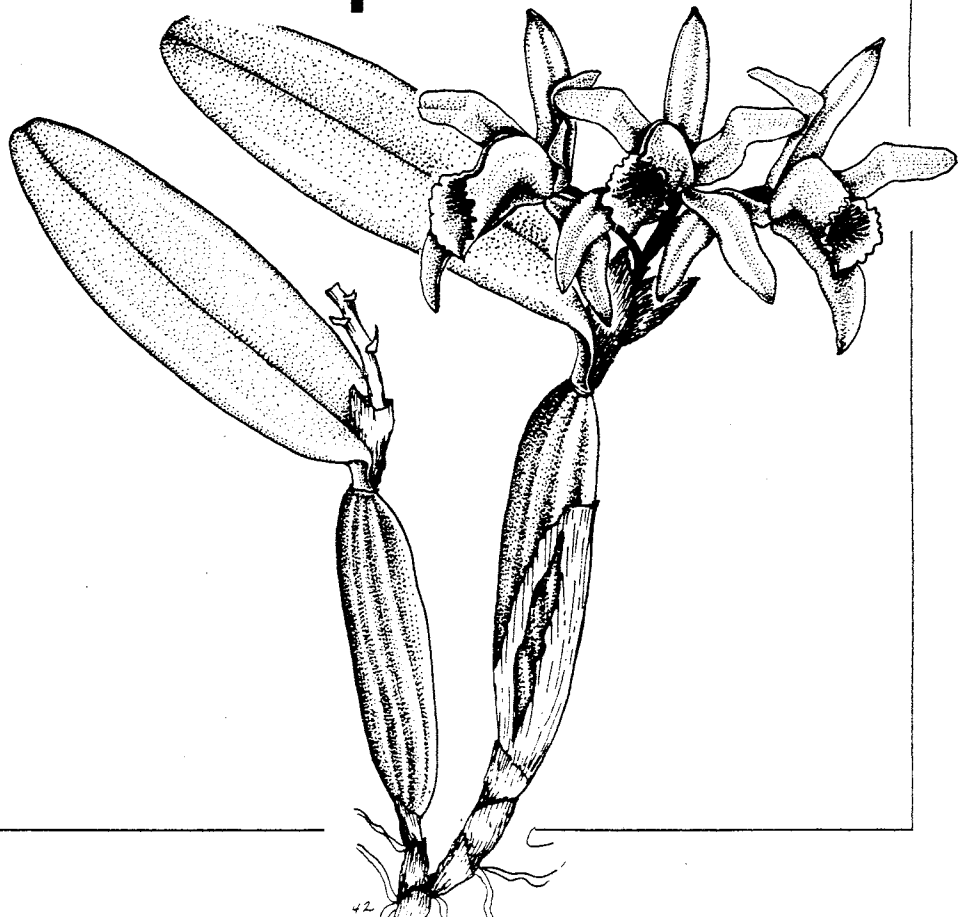
ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

James F. Spatzek, Editor

The 46th Anniversary Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show--March 14 & 15, 1998--Be There or Be Square!!

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Spring Show

March 14 & 15, 1998, mark the Show date for this year. Set-up is Friday evening, March 13th from 6:00PM on. We need your help all three days, so plan on being there and read the various related articles further on in the Newsletter.

If you have questions or need some additional information, please call **Sophia Harris**, show chairman at [847] 367-4770. You can also read about our show and orchids in the March/April issue of **Chicagoland Gardening** magazine. The entire issue is devoted to orchids. Buy a copy today!



American Orchid Society Judgings

The judgings of the American Orchid Society Chicago Judging Center are held monthly in the Linneaus Room of the Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL., on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 1:00PM (unless otherwise announced here and in the **AOS Bulletin, Orchids**). Please note that the March judging will be on Saturday at approximately 10:00AM following the show judging of the IOS Spring Show.

March 14, 1998--10:00AM
 April 11, 1998--1:00PM
 May 9, 1998--1:00PM
 June 13, 1998--1:00PM
 July 11, 1998--1:30PM
 August 8, 1998--1:30PM
 September 12, 1998--1:30PM

October 16, 1998--6:00PM
 November 14, 1998--1:30PM
 December 12, 1998--1:30PM



1997 Joseph W. Koss Memorial Award

The Illinois Orchid Society in conjunction with the Chicago Judging Center of the American Orchid Society is pleased to announce the 1997 winner of the **Joseph W. Koss Memorial Award**. This year's recipient is once again: **Dr. Bill Rogerson**. The award is presented annually to the plant receiving the highest point scoring at any judging of the Chicago Center or at either of the two annual shows of the Illinois Orchid Society and is in memory of a past president and director of the IOS and first chairman of the Chicago Judging Center, **Joe Koss**.

This year's award recognizes Bill's achievement in growing his plant:

**Vanda Sanderiana alba
 'Kathleen' CCM/AOS**

This plant received a Certificate of Cultural Merit of 89 points on December 13, 1997. The plant was described on the judging record as follows:

101.1 cm tall, robust, well-grown, two basal keikis each with two inflorescences. 106 flowers, 2 buds on 8 inflorescences.

Quite an achievement!! Our congratulations to Bill. A suitably inscribed Orrefors bowl will be presented in recognition of this achievement.

Want to see more of Bill's spectacular plants? Come to an AOS judging and watch the proceedings.

Next IOS Board Meeting

The next IOS Board of Directors meeting will be Monday, March 9, at 7:30pm at the home of Jim & Sophia Harris, in Mettawa. All officers and directors should attend as we will finalize the budget, and get an updated report of our finances.



The Illowa Show.... A Casino Royale Opportunity!!!!

The weekend following the IOS Show is the **Illowa Orchid Society Show** in Bettendorf, Iowa (just across the river from Moline, IL.

That's March 20, 21, and 22. We need a volunteer/s to take an exhibit and set it up. Betterdorf has several riverboats, so if you are so inclined, you could set up our IOS Display, see the Illowa Show, and then hit the casinos. The IOS will pay two nights hotel and gas/tolls if you are willing to set-up and take down the display. Another option is that the mall is only 2 1/2 hours from Chicago and in the past, one group put up the display and another took it down on Sunday and brought it back. In that case we would pay gas & tolls for both groups.

Well, what do ya say? Want a nice long weekend in Iowa on us? Or, would you just like to help one way? Help the IOS for once! Call Sophia Harris at (847) 367-4770.

PLANT SALES--IOS SHOW

To get log numbers for plant sales for the March IOS Spring Show, call JAY MULLEN @ (847) 432-4684 after March 7th. **THERE WILL BE NO SALES WITHOUT LOG NUMBERS!!!!!!!!**

**Happy
St. Patrick's
Day**



Hospitality Table.....

Betty Blank and I would like to thank each and every person that has so generously donated treats for our monthly meetings. We have certain enjoyed the array of cakes, cookies, candies, nuts, pretzels, etc.

Should you require your platters, plates, and tins back again, please make it a point to come and get it before the end of the meeting.

Once again, thank and come by and say "Hi"!

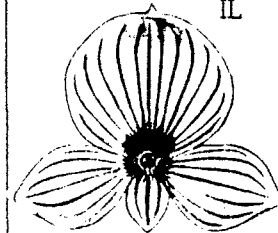
Nancy Jean Schoo
Betty Blank
Hospitality Volunteers



Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 3/6-3/8/98 53rd Miami International Orchid Show
- 3/14-3/15/98 IOS Annual Spring Show, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL
- 3/21-3/22/98 Illowa Orchid Soc. Show, Bettendorf, Iowa
- 4/18-4/19/98 Northeast

- 4/25-4/26/98 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Green Bay, WI
- 4/25-4/26/98 Michiana Orchid Society Show Bridgeman, MI
- 5/7-5/10/97 Southern Ontario Orchid Society Sh. & Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress & AOS Trustees Meeting, Eastern Orchid Congress & International Odontoglossum Alliance Meeting & The Pleurothallid Alliance Meeting
- 5/16-5/17/98 The 1998 International Orchid Festival, Homestead, FL.
- 9/26-9/27/98 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, The Domes, Milwaukee WI
- 10/16-10/18/98 IOS Fall Mini Show Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe, IL



Greenbay, WI

Following the stampede of volunteers we expect to help with the Illowa Orchid Society Show display in March, we need some hearty volunteer for the weekend of April 17, 18, & 19, to take our exhibit to the Northeast Wisconsin Orchid Society Show in Green Bay, WI (you know the place

that claims to have a professional football team!). It is truly a great time! The society's hospitality is great, we pay the hotel and gas, and tolls, and since most of the judges are coming from Chicago, we have a great dinner together on Friday night. If do don't believe me about the good time, ask **Vic & Linda Schubert** or **Lois Cinert**. They all volunteered & partied!

Please call and volunteer!(PS There is also a casino in Green Bay if that's your cup of tea!). Call Sophia Harris to let her know she can count on you.



A group of engineers just crossed a parachute with an air bag. Now they have a parachute that automatically opens on impact!



Volunteers Needed For Our "Spring Celebration of Orchids"

Have you ever wondered why your special orchid was overlooked at judging? Or, at a show, why an orchid that you think is magnificent gets no ribbon! The best

way to learn what judges are looking for is to be a clerk at our Spring Show. It is a great experience. There are about ten judging teams, each consisting of 3 judges and 3 clerks. Each team is assigned to judge particular classes (there are usually about 125 classes). The head clerk holds the registration file and records which plants have won the awards. Another clerk searches for the plants to be judged in each exhibit, thus saving time by guiding the judges to their locations. The last clerk places the ribbons on the plants selected, and makes sure each ribbon is signed and recorded in the correct category. The judges compare and debate the merits of those being considered and determine the winners. Listening to their comments is extremely educational and it is also fun to be part of this process. When your team is finished you can wander about and admire the plants at close range without the crowds.

Participating in the process that puts the show together is another way to be part of the action. We need volunteers on Friday night to help with the set-up of the Show and assist in

unloading vehicles. Watching the creative talent of the exhibitors, who combine an assortment of seemingly unrelated crates, props, greenery and fabrics into a beautifully coordinated design is truly exciting. You can feel part of this energy by assisting with draping the skirts on the tables, placing the numerical signs to identify locations for the exhibitors, and other tasks for set-up. Helping with registration is a great way to learn the various categories and classes that will be judged. An incentive for helping with set-up is the opportunity to buy from the vendors without the hordes of people arriving later. Having the vendors undivided attention gives you the opportunity to ask cultural questions they may not otherwise have time for later. In this relatively relaxed state you can get good advise.

For a smooth operation throughout the Show there are other jobs to fill. Participating with hospitality and serving the food is a good way to meet and socialize with members. Sweets are always need in the hospitality area for vendors and out-of-town exhibitors who need a

break. Someone must be there to set it up, and others to keep it nicely arranged during the Show. A good money maker for the IOS is the raffle table. Anyone with a strong voice and convincing manner is a good candidate. The IOS sales table is stocked with your extraplants that have been divided; grown too large for your space; or are no longer needed. This is the perfect opportunity to recoup part of your investment and earn money for the Society. Call Rob Halgren at 773-878-1307 (e-mail at r-halgren@nwu.edu) to register them ahead. Volunteers are always needed to sell these plants, explain how they are grown, sell our cut Dendrobium sprays, etc. Another area for the more experienced grower is the "What Now" table where advice is freely given and sometimes taken! These positions are ongoing throughout the Show and need changes in staffing. Security is needed in the exhibit area to be sure the plants are not removed or damaged. And of course helping the exhibitors break down the Show and assisting with their departure is one of the reasons they come back again and again.

The show is a combined effort of many members and is an exciting time. Participation allows you to feel that you have contributed to the success of the Show. It is a very memorable experience that I know you will enjoy. To sign up, call Sophia Harris at 847-367-4770 or fax her at 847-673-1835, or fill out the application that was in the February bulleting and mail it.

Joe Dixler

Quiz #14

What is "pseudocopulation" and what is the connection to orchids?

If you know the answer, send it to Eric Lador, 311 Albright Ct., Vernon Hill, IL 60061
Or E-mail to:

eric_lad@msn.com

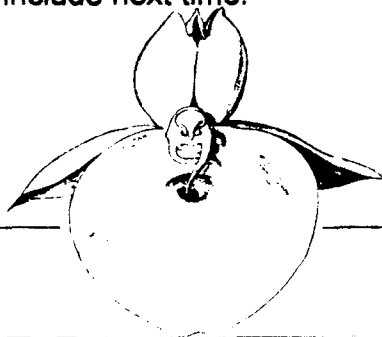
or to:

uri.lador@abbott.com

or fax to:

(847) 935-4994

If you have an interesting quiz to contribute, please send it to me as well. I will be happy to include next time.



The President's Message

by

Ed Gamson

Our February meeting was another successful event, thanks in large part to **Will Rhodehamel's** talk on Pleurothallids and **Suki Kroeber's** workshop presentation on creating a pleasing exhibit. Thank you both!

Suki's workshop was well-planned to alert us all to the upcoming **IOS Spring Show** at the **Chicago Botanic Garden** on March 13, 14, and 15. I spoke to **Sophia Harris**, our show chairperson, who told me she had already received requests from 47 exhibitors for show space. That number of exhibitors will make this IOS Spring Show one of our largest spring shows not held in conjunction with an American Orchid Society event.

That large number of exhibitors and their accompanying sales efforts attest to the excellent quality of our show and our efforts at staging our shows. That large number also means that we will need all kinds of help from you to make this show live up to our previous standards.

Remember, there will be no set-up possible this year on Thursday evening. Set-up will be compressed into Friday afternoon and evening. We will nalso not be able to use the parking lot that was adjacent to the exhibitions area because it no longer exists!

Once again, we need your help and cooperation.

We need you help to set up

the show and tear it down on Sunday evening, as well as during the show

as judging clerks(contact **John Stubbings @ 847-480-1532**) plant sales(call **Rob Hailgren @ 773-878-1307** for details), security and hospitality for example. We will also need your help in registering the plants(contact **Lois Cinert @ 630-739-1068**). Please contact **Sophia Harris @ 847-367-4770** or by fax at 847-673-1835 to volunteer to help in the areas not specified with a particular contact person. You can also sign up to help using the form in last month's Newsletter or by using the sign-up form on our webpage.

We need your cooperation in moving your cars out of the exhibition area after you have unloaded.. The traffic committee will see to unloading your plants in the proper places. We need your cooperation in having your plant sales log number slips filled out **before** you come to the Garden. We also need your cooperation during tear-down to allow our out-of-towners to remove their plants and leave the building as soon as they are ready, as many of them must drive three or more hours before they get home.

Thank you all in advance for your help and cooperation. I look forward to seeing and working with you at the Show. Please phone me at 847-432-7825 if I can assist.



A Novice Idea

by

Nancy Jean Schoo

Our upcoming Spring Show will allow many of us to add to our orchid collections. A beginning grower is often eager to buy but

with little information on the easiest orchid type to purchase. Here are some suggestions:

It is easiest to tell you what NOT to buy. First and foremost, do not purchase an orchid if you obviously cannot meet its required conditions. You will only waste your money and be very disillusioned. Ask the growers that are present. Tell them your conditions and your usual plant care routines. If you only have north window, don't buy Vandas. Conversely, if you have a bright south window, Cattleyas may be your prize. Try and purchase the most mature plant that you can. They will be more expensive but may endure a bit of neglect and abuse. These plants will also generally bloom easier as well. When a vendor says a plant is 'NBS' or 'Near Blooming Size' plan on a good year or more before you see flowers. READ as much as you can before the show so you can find other genera that will meet your conditions.

It is difficult to tell you exactly what is easiest to grow. I've been told *Neofinetia falcata* is a breeze. I will the breeze would take it away because it won't bloom for me! Conversely I have a *Sophranitis* that just won't stop. It's happy and healthy and blooming. This might not be considered a beginner plant.

Generally, phalaenopsis, some species papahs(not the complex hybrids) and some of the other intermediate orchids are the best to begin with. Start with those you have had success with. Grow a few of those and continue to learn about other genera that may require similar conditions.

Once you have made a purchase, remember, TAKE A PICTURE. These plants may only bloom once

a year and it helps to remember what it should look like. Next, if you feel you have truly followed the culture recommendations for a given plant, begin to make subtle changes to see if this prods your plant to bloom. Don't move from South to East. Move the plant away from the south window just a few feet. Try fertilizing less often, more often, quarter strength. Try drier conditions, cooler conditions, moister conditions. But do it all gradually.

Stop by the IOS information table and purchase some of the AOS orchid growing books. They are relatively inexpensive and can lead you to a wealth of information.

Good Luck and Happy Growing!

Answer Quiz #13

The quiz was "Who was Carl von Linne?" The questions did not indicate the relationship to orchids fortunately, most people understood that von Linne must have done something important for orchids. Carl von Linne(1707-1778), known academically as Linnaeus, was a Swedish naturalist who developed the binomial system of nomenclature for scientific names of plants and animals. His first treatise on orchids appeared as "Species Orchidum" in 1741. In this work he established for the first time technical names for orchid genera and species. The genera included *Cypripedium*, *Epidendrum*, *Limodorum*, *Liparis*, *Ophrys*, *Orchis* and *Serapietum*; Species included *Cypripedium calceolus*, *Habenaria*

viridis, *Orchis coriophora*, *Orchis maculata* and *Serapias rubra*. In 1753 Linnaeus published his most important work, 'Species Plantarum' in which he introduced his sexual system founded on the number and position of the stamens and pistils in plants. There was no designation of plant families as such but all the orchids were placed in one class (no. XX) under two categories: Gynandria (stamens united [andante] to the pistil) and Diandria (two stamens present). Linnaeus began studying medicine in Lund in 1727. He studied in Holland between 1732 and 1735, and was nominated professor of medicine and botany at the University of Upsala in 1741. He died in 1778.

5 members submitted correct answers for Quiz 13, Kevin Swagel, Diana Maxwell, Lorraine Mayer, J & V Mestdagh and Chery Kwiatkowski. The Mestdaghs have submitted answers 6 times but somehow never had the luck of getting the gift certificate. I got only 2 answers for Quiz 12, one from Kevin Swagel and the other from the Mestdaghs. Kevin won 3 times already, and therefore I asked for his permission to skip the drawing for Quiz 12 and award the gift certificate to the Mestdaghs as a "thank you" for their persistence in submitting answers.

Members of the Winners Club:

J & V Mestdagh	6
Kevin Swagel	5***
Lorraine Meyer	5*
Diana Maxwell	4*
Steve Peters	3*
Anne Kotowski	3*
Betty Blank	2
Nancy Jean Schoo	2
John & Joan Emmerich	2*
Jim Spatzek	2
Cheryl Kwiatkowski	2
Joe Dixler	1
June Equo	1
Earl Lock	1
Rob Halgren	1
Sophia Harris	1

Lois Cinert	1
Dorothy Nieter	1
Cathy Bloome	1
Ed Gamson	1

(The digit indicates the number of correct entries; * indicates a lucky club member.)



Report of the Awards Committee

Tom Franczak, Chair
847-590-5731
terpsichore@dataflo.net

Here's another report of the 1997-98 contest year. Included in the point totals are ribbons from the January meeting, held at the CBG plus the results of the January AOS Judging also held at the CBG. And we start with the AOS Award, as always,

Joe Dixler....*Pleurothallis fastidiosa* 'Bright Stars' CHM/AOS (86 pts)

We brought 161 plants to the January meeting, 87 from the greenhouse and 74 from our lightstands and windowsills. **Gerald Steuben** took Plant-of-the-Month honors in the greenhouse category for his *Brassavola nodosa* and **Diana Nielsen** did likewise in the lightstand category for her *Dendrobium Nagasaki*. Congratulations to them both.

Diana narrowed the gap on **Willy Losert** in January....but beware the Batavia Show. In 1996, Willy sent 30 plants there. Meanwhile, in the lightstand division, I can't help smiling at the determination of our two top rivals. Sophia continues to dog Joe, closing ground on Joe's insurmountable lead at the monthly meeting...but losing it all back to Joe's ever-growing tally of AOS Awards, like many of us, it took just forever for Joe to tear his first AOS

award. Same thing for **Sam Tsui**, **Jim Pupelis**, and a few others. But subsequent awards followed on the heels of the first in not time. So my sermon to Sophia (and to the rest of you), is simply to coddle your very best blooms and then drive them over to the Gardens on the day when the AOS judging is held. Register them; smile at the judges; and, then join us (Joe's always there too) for coffee or cider at the cafeteria in the gateway building. It will surely take some time and some near misses before you ear an award...but lightning will eventually strike if you are persistent and continue to improve as a grower.

Point Score Accumulations Through January 31, 1998....

Greenhouse:

G. Calliao/J. Wortman	15
Frieda Cogswell	10
Jack Coutts	36
Joe Dixler	1893
Ed Gamson	21
Sue Golan	409
Sophia Harris	1346
Bob Hoel	68
Maggie Kuntz	34
Anthony & Barbara Lachnit	15
Jerome & Virginia Mestdagh	11
Bob Morrison	41
Jay Mullen	16
Dorothy Nieter	47
Rhonda Peters	84
Laima Sahagian	400
Jim Spatzek	16
John Stubbings	87
Gerald Steuben	45
Carole Thompson	216
Bob Wolf	195
Wally Zielinski	121

Lightstand:

Kim Aaron	1
Barb Bennett	266
Betty Blank	1
Cathy Bloome	61
Olga Boor	1
Dipen Chemburkar	42
Lois Cinert	32
Michael Cornwell	54
Susan Crawford	5
Kevin & Irma Dixler	206
John & Joan Emmerich	1
Ron & Joan Hale	22
Rob Halgren	75
Charles & Jane High	94
James Hipkin	1
Cheryl Kwiatkowski	21
Eric Lador	2

