

ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JAMES F. SPATZEK, EDITOR

July with its heat is here! Cool off with Odontoglossums

July Meeting

Our own **Sue Golan** will be the speaker at the next meeting on July 19th at the Botanic Garden. Her subject will be the **Odontoglossum Alliance**. Sue is a past president and current secretary of the IOS, an Accredited AOS

Judge and a director of the Odontoglossum Alliance. During the last five years she has become interested in growing Odontoglossums in a greenhouse divided into intermediate and cool conditions. Sue presented a similar lecture at the recent Mid-America Orchid Congress and AOS Trustees Meeting in Toronto this Spring, and we are happy our local talent achieved national recognition.

the Winner's Circle for the coming year. **Nancy Schoo** has told you how its done, so just do it! You can get a token from the gatekeeper before the parking lot entrance to go through the rear gate and drop your plants off at the closer back door entrance but you still must bring your car back to the front to park in the regular parking lot. Let's see some new faces for the year's competition.

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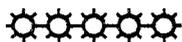
We will meet in the multipurpose room at 12:00. Please have display and sales plants in place by 12:30pm. This is the first meeting for the point count for '98-'99. Everyone starts this new growing year with a clean slate and YOU may be among

The workshop will consist of a round table panel using our own "Orchid Experts" to answer your questions about growing and problems that have occurred. We would appreciate your submitting them ahead by e-mail to

jmd@interaccess.com or by fax to : 847-432-1441, so the experts can do a bit of advanced digging! But if you cannot think ahead, please submit them to me in writing before the meeting. We will also take questions to the panel directly, but I cannot guarantee if there will be enough time to answer those that are not given to me in advance. You can also bring in a problem plant(in a plastic bag to avoid contamination with others) for assistance at the round table.

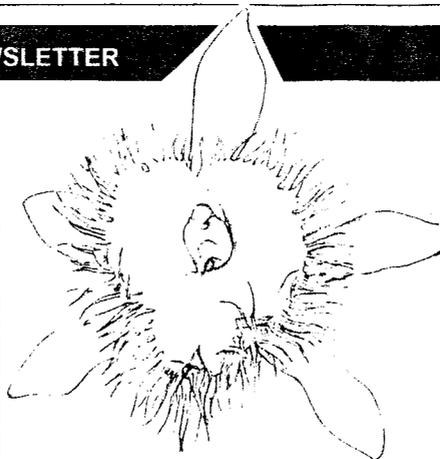
Remember to bring something for the hospitality table. There were sad eyes and empty tummy's at the May meeting when Mother Hubbard's Cupboard was almost bare. The line was long on takers, but this time some of the usual givers took a rest. There is no reason for anyone to think that the next guy or gal should do it. Everyone needs to contribute his or her share. So, let's all chip in, in the future!

Joe Dixler



IOS Web Site:

<http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/Vines/1272>



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.

July 11, 1998--1:30PM

August 8, 1998--1:00PM

September 12, 1998--1:00PM

October 16, 1998--6:00PM

November 14, 1998--1:00PM

December 12, 1998--1:00PM

January 9, 1999--1:30PM

February 13, 1999--1:00PM

March 13, 1999--1:00PM

April 9, 1999--6:00PM

And The Winners Are...

In 1973, Sham broke the record for the fastest Kentucky Derby in history. Unfortunately for Sham, he was born in the same year as Secretariat who also broke the Derby record--1/5 of a second before Sham.

We've never had a general member of our Society accumulate 2,000 points in

a single competition year. But this year, **Sophia Harris** has accomplished that remarkable feat. Just amazing! We've never had even a commercial member of our Society (back when they participated in the contest), accumulate 3,000 points in a single competition year. Unfortunately for Sophia, but to the shock and applause of the rest of us, **Joe Dixler** has accomplished that utterly incredible achievement in the very same year. Forgive my gushing over these two, but I believe these are records that will stand indefinitely. Joe add this feather after winning the greenhouse division for the first time last year, having won the lightstand division the prior year. And Sophia's performance is all the more remarkable because she did it all with ribbon judging. (Perhaps now she will start sending plants for AOS Judging!).

Again this year, I count 69 participants in the contest--26 greenhouse and 43 lightstand, just like last year. Nice! All this was accomplished despite the closing of the parking lot behind our meeting rooms and despite what could (generously) be called 'sporadic' reporting of results during the past year by yours truly.

Now let us celebrate our top growers from the 1997-98 competition year:

Greenhouse:

1. Joe Dixler	3216
2. Sophia Harris	2008
3. Sue Golan	734
4. Laima Sahagian	598
5. Bob Wolf	467

Lightstand:

1. Willy Losert	677
2. Diana Nelson	490
3. Barb Bennett	330
4. Charles & Jane High	273
5. Kevin & Irma Dixler	269

And the newbies....

Isabel Soffer	35
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No newcomer in the greenhouse division met minimum qualifications this year (there is a 20 point threshold). Accordingly, we will recognize the 6th place finisher in the greenhouse division for purposes of award distribution ... **Carole Thompson**. Because we publish the rules regarding the newbie contest so infrequently, let me state that those who were eligible in this year's contest are the folks whose names are NOT in the 1995-96 (or prior) Membership Directory. You are eligible for the newcomer division of the upcoming 1998-99 competition year if your name is not listed in the 1996-97 Membership Directory. Thus, everyone receives two full contest years with newcomer status.

Now let's look at the lightstand results. **Will** is a fixture in first place, his third win in four years (break up the Yankees!). **Diana**, last year's top years to come. Just another couple dozen orchids, Diana, and the extra ribbons will put you over the top! **Charles** and **Kevin** have finished in the money before, but this is **Barb Bennett's** first appearance in the winners list. Nicely done, Barb.

Our congratulations to the winners and to all the participants in the contest. I know that next year's contest will suffer in the cold weather months because of the lack of close-in parking at the Gardens. But let's be brave and adjust. One good orchid boxed up against the weather is not too much to negotiate from the far parking lots and it's better than not being in the game at all!

Tom Franczak, Chairman
Awards Committee

FINAL POINT SCORE ACCUMULATIONS THROUGH MAY 31, 1998

GREENHOUSE CATEGORY:

G. Calilao/Jim Wortman	15
Frieda Cogswell	10
Jack Courts	36

Joe Dixler	3216
Ed Gamson	41
Sue Golan	734
Sophia Harris	2008
Bob Hoel	104
Maggie Kuntz	50
Anthony & Barb Lachnit	15
Otto Leupi	20
Steve & July Lipson	62
J & V. Mestdagh(*)	11
Bob Morrison	61
Jay Mullen	53
Dorothy Nieter	47
Rhonda Peters	139
Bill Rogerson	85
Laima Sahagian	598
Jim Spatzek	26
John Stubbings	177
Gerald Stueben	76
Carole Thompson	420
William Trapp(*)	1
Bob Wolf	467
Wally Zielinski	158

LIGHTSTAND CATEGORY:

Kim Aaron	1
Michael Ault	2
Barb Bennett	330
Betty Blank(*)	1
Cathy Bloome	149
Olga Boor	1
Dipen Chemburkar	48
Lois Cinert	75
Michael Cornwell	76
Susan Crawford	5
Kevin & Irma Dixler	269
Joel Edwards	43
John & Joan Emmerich	1
Tom Franczak	6
Ron & Joan Hale	32
Rob Halgren	117
Charles & Jane High	273
James Hipkin	31
Carolyn Johnson	1
Cheryl Kwiatkowski	41
Eric Ladorr(*)	2
Willy Losert	677
Sherry Maloney	105
Lorraine Meyer	13
Lauren McVey--Rush	1
Bil Nelson	44
Diana Nielsen	490
Claire Papiewski(*)	12

Marsha Ramsay	15
Adele Ryndy (*)	2
Nancy Jean Schoo	51
Leo Schordje	57
Art & Ann Sellmer	15
Isabel Soffer(*)	35
Nancy Spitz(*)	10
Ruth Stabler(*)	2
Laura Stanley	71
Kevin Swagel(*)	10
Ken Vrabel	103
Dorothy Wallace(*)	11
Chris & Renee Welch	58
Susan West	46
Norman Wolff	35

(*) indicates new member for purposes of the 1997-98 Competition year.



The Orchid Hobbyist's Creed

Orchids are, to me, an escape from artificiality into a sane world of order and balance. They give me a feeling of security and satisfy a primitive need for the assurance of unchanging fundamentals. In my glasshouse I find never-shifting values, I find the eternal laws of the universe in a most tangible form.

Growing orchids makes me humble. For there, I am working with a force far greater than I. When I realize that flowers absorb color, perfume, beauty and form from a dimension beyond my understanding, my belief in God is strengthened. Orchid culture satisfies my hunger for spiritual beauty and creation.

If ideals seem futile, if friends disappoint, if my heart is sad, or my mind in turmoil, if eyes are dull and my body sluggish, I can go into the glasshouse among my orchids, and find faith, tranquillity, comfort and physical exercise, all of which gives me a renewed feeling of well-being,

confidence and inspiration.

Anon

[From the Proceedings of the 13th World Orchid Conference, 1990]

Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 8/9/98 Central Iowa Speaker's Day Des Moines, IA 11:00a.m.
- 9/8-9/15/98 6th Asia Pacific Orchid Conference Townsville, Queensland, Aust.
- 9/26-9/27/98 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, The Domes, Milwaukee
- 10/16-10/18/98 IOS Fall Mini Show, Chicago Botanic Garden Glencoe, IL
- 10/24-10/25/98 Blackhawk Orchid Society Show BloomgrenGard. Rockford, IL
- 2/6/2/7/99 Wisconsin Orchid Grower's Guild Show, Madison, WI
- 4/9-4/11/99 Illinois Orchid Society Annual Spring Show Glencoe, IL
- 4/23-5/2/99 World Orchid Congress, ConventionCenter, Vancouver, BC, Canada.E-mail: congress@venuewest.com. (Judging, Tues., April 27, 1999)
- 9/25/9/26/99 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show Mitchell Park

- 10/8/10/10/99 Conservatory Milwaukee, WI Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini Show, Glencoe, IL
- 4/4/6-4/9/00 European Orchid Congress, Copenhagen,Den.
- 9/6-9/10/00 Orchids 2000 4th New Zealand Expo Hamilton, NZ
- 10/5-10/8/00 4th Australasian Native Orchid Soc. Conference Melbourne,Aust.
- 10/10-10/15/00 15th Australian Orchid Conference & Show Burnie, Tasmania
- 2002 17th World Orchid Conference Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia

Member in Crain's Chicago Business

The headline in the May 25 issue of Crain's Chicago Business read: "Defense industry expert to sort out telecom battles".

The article went on to read, " The Federal Communications Commission has recruited an expert on the economics of defense contracting to help sort out the many battles raging in the newly deregulated telecommunications industry.

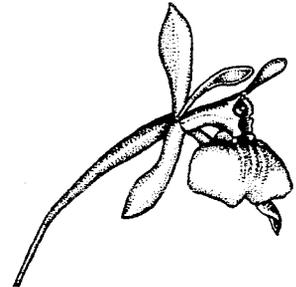
William P. Rogerson, a professor and chairman of the economics department at Northwestern University, will be among several noted academics who have held the post of chief economist at the Federal

Communications Commission(FCC) in recent years.

But Mr. Rogerson, a world class orchid grower in his spare time, isn't a ivory tower thinker.....

He has a great gift fro explaining the most intricate concepts of economics in terms that most...can understand".

Congratulation to our own Dr. Bill Rogerson on this great accomplishment. He will still commute to Washington, so hopefully his orchids won't suffer.....and maybe he'll be able to get us the real story of the Oval Office going on!



The President's Message

By Ed Gamson

We had a great meeting at Klehm Growers on the 14th, attending and "Orchid Country Fair". Our thanks to Arnie Klehm for his hospitality, the food and drink, his presentation on breeding during which he made some new crosses and showed the

assembled seventy or so of us how to plate out our own "babies" in flasks, and for the plant goodies received by all who attended.

We also had a display of "things" orchid that **Rosalie Dixler** shepherded, with those bringing a non-plant item also receiving an orchid goody. I saw a quilt, T-shirts, stamps, a silver dendrobium and more things than I would have imagined with one or more orchids on them. Needless to say, we also got to spend some quality time wandering through the greenhouses, and many of us found other Klehm goodies to bring home.

Another feature of last month's meeting was the annual presentation of awards for those bring the most plants/receiving the most ribbons and awards at shows and monthly meetings throughout last year. We set new records for points received for those actions. See **Nancy Jean Schoo's** article in the June 1998 [IOS Newsletter](#) for details on obtaining those points, and another article in this issue about the winners this year.

My thanks to **Maggie Kuntz** as the only member so far to respond to my request in the June newsletter for written comments on sales space at our shows. Speaking of show, it is not too early to start thinking about our fall show and bringing

your plants for us to see. See you at the Garden for the July meeting and our new year.

Next IOS Board of Directors Meeting:

The next IOS Board of Directors meeting will be held on Monday, July 13, 1998 at the home of president, Ed Gamson, in Highland Park. The meeting will begin at 7:30pm and all officers and directors must attend. Please call Ed for directions.



Quiz#17

How do *Oncidiums* attract their pollinators?

If you know the answer, send it to Eric Ladrör, 311 Albright Ct., Vernon Hills, IL 60061

Or e-mail to:

eric_lad@msn.com

Or e-mail to:

uri.ladrör@abbott.com

Or Fax to:

(847) 935-4994

If you have an interesting quiz to contribute, please

send it to me as well. I am getting low on ideas.

Eric Ladrör



A Novice Idea

by Nancy Jean Schoo

Ok, so it's June, the weather is nice, and you want to put your orchids outside for the summer. Most orchids can benefit from summering out, however there are certain rules and "remembers" when doing so.

First, realize that when you summer your plants outdoors, you will be inviting the little critters that will live in the bark, back into your home in the fall unless you are willing to debug and treat each of you plants prior to bringing them back indoors. This may sound easy but it is a big chore especially when you have 150 plants as I do! This is fair warning.

Next, remember that the cool growing plants may not like the Chicago outdoors since our temperatures rarely go below 60 at night. I keep those plants in my basement where they are

happiest.

Even though many plants like bright light, direct sunlight is not recommended for most plants since they will burn after just a few hours. Shading is important. You can purchase shade cloth from the garden supply mail-order houses for around \$50. I keep my phals on the east side of the house under 80% shade. My sun lovers are hanging in the trees if they are mounted, or under 50% shade on my plant stand.

Watering will be required more frequently since there is constant breeze and evaporation. Get yourself one of those fogging nozzles for your hose. These will moisten the plants without soaking through with every watering. I will do a **VERY LIGHT SPRAYING** everyday.

Finally watch your plants. Look for signs of too much light, too much water, not enough water, signs of infection. You may need to move your plants to more or less shade as told by the color of the leaves. I did lose some plant last year because I thought they'd be ok with time." If you have some very expensive plants or those that are particularly sentimental,

keep them indoors.

I have plans for a plant stand that I built for outside. There are 2 shelves that are 4 feet long and 20" wide. The sides and top of the stand have lattice board to add shade and areas from which to hang plants. It takes some muscle but was well worth the effort.

Other supplies can be obtained from a greenhouse supplier. My favorite is Charley's Greenhouse Supply. You can contact them at 1-800-322-4707 or at their website: www.charleysgreenhouse.com. Please note that the IOS does not endorse any particular greenhouse supplier with the exception of our commercial grower members.

If you e-mail me, I will forward the plans. Good Luck & Happy Growing!

Note: Nancy Jean & "A Novice Idea" take a vacation next month but will return in the September issue>



**Deadline for materials
for the August
Newsletter is:
July 25, 1998**

Answer-Quiz#16

Who was Lewis Knudson and what was his contribution to Orchidology?

In the beginning of the century, virtually all the orchids sold in Europe and North America were brought (plundered in today's terms) from the tropics. In 1909 Noel Bernard in France and Hans Burgett in Germany, had show that orchids in nature required mycorrhizal fungi for germination. Out of this work a method was developed for germinating orchid seeds whereby the fungus was artificially introduced. Knudson developed an asymbiotic method for germination of orchid seed which revolutionized the orchid industry. One of Knudson's main interests was the organic nutrition of plants. As a part of this research in plant nutrition, Knudson developed techniques for growing plants in sterile environments. Following a sabbatical in Europe, Knudson became interested in the work of Bernard and Burgett on symbiosis between orchids and mycorrhiza. He hypothesized that the fungi provide some essential elements for the orchid seeds, such as sugars. As a first step he showed that agar conditioned with mycorrhiza, was sufficient for seed germination, indicating that symbiosis with live fungi is not necessary. After 8 years of research, he proved conclusively that orchid seeds could be germinated on an artificial culture medium. This breakthrough brought about a revolution and new awakening in orchid hybridization on both the amateur and commercial levels.

Three member submitted correct answers: J & V Mestdagh, Ralph Minnis, and jrejee@Juno.com ("jrejee" did not include his/her name). We'll find who the third person is, so three will enter our drawing.

The Winners Club is as follows:
(Note: the digit indicates the number of correct entries; * indicate a lucky club member)

J&V Mestdagh	8*
Lorraine Meyer	7*
Kevin Swagel	6*
Anne Kotowski	4*
Diana Maxwell	4*
Steve Peters	3*
John&Joan Emmerich	3*
Ralph Minnis	2
Betty Blank	2
Nancy Jean Schoo	2
Jim Spatzek	2
Cheryl Kwiatkowski	2
Joe Dixler	1
June Eguro	1
Earl Lock	1
Rob Halgren	1
Sophia Harris	1
Lois Cinert	1
Dorothy Nieter	1
Cathy Bloome	1
Ed Gamson	1



**Never lend your car to anyone
to whom you have give birth!**

Erma Bombeck

&

**"I am a marvelous
housekeeper. Every time I
leave a man I keep the
house."**

Zsa Zsa Gabor

