

Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter

Jim Spatzek, Editor

It's "Party Time"! Join us at Hausermann's on the 13th for our Christmas Bash!

December Meeting

It's time to celebrate! Remember all the good times you had this past year? Consider the new friends you've made at our IOS meetings. Look at your new plant acquisitions and remember how you enjoyed watching them grow and flower. And, make a New Year's Resolution to attend

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every meeting next year and help as much as possible!

When an expert grower chooses a plant, how does he make his selection from a group of hundreds of the same? He must decide which seedlings he will choose to keep for his private stock. He can't wait until they all flower, as space and financial considerations are necessary. There are certain secrets that **Dana Harrison** will divulge on Sunday, December 13th at **Hausermann's**. His subject will be **"How to Choose the Best Plant from the Lot"**. This will make it easier for you to admire their huge inventory and know which plants to pick for yourself. As a special Christmas present to us, **Hausermann's** will demonstrate the art of

corsage-making and supply us with the materials to make one and bring it home to that special someone for the holidays.

Our host will supply the drinks, but each of our member must bring food for this celebration. Many of our members come from different ethnic backgrounds with unusual dishes we would love to share. Because our members as well as our orchids originate from all over the globe, why not bring some international foods this year? An appetizer, casserole, main course, salad, dessert, or any other holiday specialty that can feed 12-15 or more people is your entry ticket to this party. Guests are welcome, but be sure to add another helping, or have them

bring their favorite dish.

Come to **Orchids by Hausermann** on Addison Road in Villa Park (North Avenue-Rte 64-- & Addison Road, about a mile west of Rte. 83 and North Avenue. Phone 630- 543-6855 if you're lost. Their doors will be open at 11:00am and the festivities begin at noon. There will be not member plant sales but do bring your plants for judging which will begin at 12:30pm. Lunch will be ready about 1:00pm with the program to follow.

Joe Dixler



Membership

EVERYONE SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED THEIR MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS WITH THEIR NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER. PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO CHECK OUR CURRENT DIRECTORY AND CONFIRM THAT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, ZIP AND AREA CODES ARE CORRECT. YOU MAY ALSO INCLUDE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS & FAX IF YOU DESIRE. MEMBERSHIP CARDS WILL BE SENT OUT WITH THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER. SHOULD YOU

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT NANCY JEAN SCHOO AT [630] 837-3153, OR E-MAIL: NANCYJEAN@EARTHLINK.NET

IOS WEB SITE:

<http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/Vines/1271>

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.](#)

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
 May 8, 1999--1:00PM
 June 12, 1999--1:00PM
 July 10, 1999--1:30PM
 August 14, 1999--1:00PM
 September 11, 1999--1:00PM
 October 8, 1999--1:00PM
 November 13, 1999--1:00PM
 December 11, 1999--1:00PM



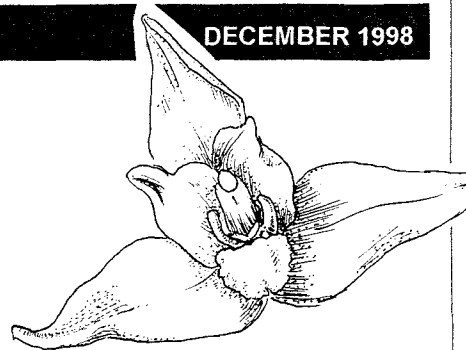
HOSPITALITY....

WE ARE IN NEED OF A FEW PEOPLE TO HELP OUT WITH HOSPITALITY. THIS INVOLVES MAKING COFFEE, PUTTLING OUT THE TREATS, AND CLEANUP AFTER EACH MEETING. IF WE GET MORE PEOPLE, WE CAN ROTATE THE MEETINGS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLACE CONTACT NANCY JEAN SCHOO AT [630] 837-3153, OR E-MAIL: NANCYJEANSCHOO@EARTHLINK.NET.



Calendar of Upcoming Events

1/29-1/31/99	Winter Carnival Orchid Show St. Paul, MN
2/6/-2/7/99	Wisconsin Orchid Grower's Guild Show, Madison, WI
2/20-2/22/99	Batavia Orchid Society Show, Charlestowne Mall



Speaker for 1999

Please note the dates for 1999. Most are the **SECOND** Sunday of the month now. PLEASE PAY ATTENTION AND NOTE THESE DATES!

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| January 10 | Speaker:
Dennis Delassandro
Gypsy Glen Orchids
Workshop:
Open |
| February 14 | Speaker:
Guido Braem
Workshop:
John Stubbings on
Plant Registration
for Shows. |
| March 14 | Speaker:
Milton Carpenter
Everglade Orchids
Workshop:
Open |
| April 10-11 | Illinois Orchid
Society Spring
Show |
| May 16 | Speaker:
Robert Dressler
Workshop:
Kerry Dressler on
Photography |
| June 13 | Klehm Growers
Highlight:
Used Orchid
Equipment Flea
Market |
| July 11 | Member
Greenhouse Walk |
| August 8 | Oak Hill Picnic |
| September 12 | Speaker:
Steve Gettel
Sunset Orchids |

ABOUT THE LAWYER'S RATES.
"\$50.00 FOR THREE
QUESTIONS", REPLIED THE
LAWYER
"ISN'T THAT AWFULLY STEEP?"
ASKED THE MAN.
"YES," THE LAWYER REPLIED,
"AND WHAT WAS YOUR THIRD
QUESTION?"

*

Holiday Gift ideas.....

For the Orchid Grower!

Leave this note on the refrigerator for an easy gift idea for your spouse! The following are relatively inexpensive:

- Light Meter
- Temperature/Humidity Gauge
- Books
- Pump Sprayer
- Shop Light
- Grow-Lux Bulbs
- Plant Tags
- Single Edge Razors
- Pots & Bark
- Photo Albums
- Orchid Magazine Subscriptions
- Copper Wire
- Wire Snips
- Needle Nose Pliers
- Bottle of Super Thrive Fertilizers
- Ledger Book to Record Plants
- Hi-Low Thermometer
- Web Access
- Plant Stands
- Fine Scissors
- Toolbox
- Bark Slabs

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 3/19-3/21/99 | St. Charles, IL
NEWOS Spring Show, Green Bay, Wisconsin |
| 4/9-4/11/99 | Illinois Orchid Society Annual Spring Show Glencoe, IL |
| 4/23-5/2/99 | World Orchid Congress, Convention Center, Vancouver, BC, Canada. E-mail: congress@venuewest.com . (Judging, Tues., April 27, 1999) |
| 9/25/9/26/99 | Wisconsin Orchid Society Show Mitchell Park Conservatory Milwaukee, WI |
| 10/8/-10/10/99 | 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 |

FOR ED GAMSON:

A MAN WALKED INTO A LAWYER'S OFFICE AND INQUIRED

Workshop:

Open

IOS Fall Mini Show

Speaker:

Ron Hamilton

Petit Plaisance

Orchids

Hausermann's

Christmas Party.

October 9-10

November 14

December 12

Don't say you didn't know about the meetings in advance!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

□□□

A Novice Idea

by Nancy Jean Schoo

The outlook is dismal. Your favorite plant is on its last leg. Is there hope or should I put it out of its misery and throw it in the compost? The suggestions I will give are mostly directed towards phals and perhaps paphs since there two genera are most popular with novice growers. I have tried similar tricks with other genera but you may need to adapt a bit according to their growing requirements.

The first step in helping a sick plant is to determine the cause of the problem. Consider the basic needs of the plant in regards to light, water, and temperature requirements. As one's collection grows, a plant may have been forced to adapt to requirements of another genera and it simply cannot cope.

Once you are convinced these crucial points are addressed, you need to go to the next step. Look for any infestations..critters that is.

This is particularly important if you have had your plants outside for the summer and did not treat with a general insecticide. If the plant is definitely on its death bed, pull it out of the pot and inspect the plant thoroughly.

When depotting, look for mites, slugs, etc., in the potting mix. DO NOT RECYCLE YOUR MIX! Keep the 'throw-aways' completely separate from your clean mix and pots to prevent contamination. Rinse the pot and put it immediately into a bucket of bleach water to kill any remaining bacteria.

Once the plant is out of the pot, I inspect it under a halogen lamp with a magnifying glass. Look at the root structure. Are the roots healthy green or are they dried, brittle, and flat? Is the center of the root ball dead and the periphery apparently still healthy? Are there no roots at all? (Gulp) Remove any dried out roots at minimum, pull off the dried sheath and leave the wirey root center attached especially if there are no healthy roots left. I will generally leave the dried stalk (from where the roots emerge) on the plant because it helps in maintaining stability when repotting. Sometimes bark mixes will decompose and get caked onto that stalk preventing air and water from getting to the plant. Use an old toothbrush to lightly brush that wet gunk off.

Next inspect the leaves. Remove any scale with isopropyl alcohol and a paper towel. Old paint brushes are also helpful to get in the crown of the plant or between tight leaves. Dry the plant completely. I also spray the roots with a bit of alcohol.

If any of the leaves have wet spot or obviously diseased areas, lop it off with a STERILE razor blade. DO not reuse this razor again. You can coat the edges with a bit of phyan to the open cut. Leave as much of the healthy leaf as possible because the leaf is working for you in creating food and energy for the plant.

Lastly if there is a flower spike growing....close your eyes and cut it off below the first nod. It is merely trying to reproduce to sustain the genera but will use its last bit of energy in doing so. The plant needs to rest from flowering or it is sure to die.

Once you are satisfied that most of what is left is healthy, you will need to repot. If there are still some healthy roots attached, put the plant into a fine bark mix with a bit of perlite. This will prevent the plant from getting too much moisture, yet keeping more than the coarse bark will supply. Keep the plant a bit warmer than usual. Avoid any water in the crown of the plant especially on cloudy days or after sundown. I will also carefully inspect for any new roots every other week or so. If the leaves remain green and healthy, or if a new leaf emerges, it is recovering.

Plants without any roots can be put into a gallon size zip lock freezer bag with some damp New Zealand Sphagnum Moss. Zip the bag 3/4 of the way and then blow into the bag to inflate it. This inflating does several things. It keeps the plant in a high carbon dioxide environment; keeps the leaves away from the sides of the bag, and also puts humidity into the bag. You will

need to reinflate the bag every other day or so. Also check the dampness of the sphagnum to see if it needs more. It will take many weeks to a few months to grow new roots. Again, if the leaves are looking "ok" keep going. Transplant to fine bark when roots have established themselves.

The is Orchid Intensive Care--101. Some survive, some don't. Three years ago, I had a phalaenopsis plant that was without any roots and only one leaf left. Today it has four leaves and a flower spike emergin for the first time. The treatment was a success!

Happy Growing!



Best Wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from the officers and Board of Directors of the Illinois Orchid Society.



NEXT IOS BOARD MEETING: The next IOS Board meeting will be held on Monday, January 11,

1999, at the Johnson Bank, on the corner of Green Bay Road and Scott Street in downtown Hubbard Woods. It's between Winnetka & Glencoe. Call Linda Schubert if you need directions. The meeting will begin at 7:30 pm.



The President's Message

by
Ed Gamson

Well, I was out-of-town again for one of our meeting and its speaker. This time it was HAROLD KOPOWITZ and his talk of new directions in paph breeding. From what I heard, most of you didn't miss his talk.

You will be hearing more about this over the next few years but let me be the first to let you know, at least informally, that we will be hosting the American Orchid Society Trustees Meeting, as well as the Mid-America Orchid Congress in the spring of 2002. This will mean at least that our usual Spring Show will be even larger than usual, with more exhibits, and more vendors. We'll also

need more help than usual.

A quick few comment on the errors in the November 1998 AOS magazine, Orchids, article entitled "Riches of Peru" by AOS trustee, Paul Bechtel. I missed the last meeting because I was in Peru with my wife celebrating our thirtieth. We were at Machu Picchu. Mr. Bechtel wrote that Hiram Bingham, who "found" the "lost city" was a European. Binham was an American who eventually became a US Senator. Bechtel wrote that Bingham "found" the city in 1915, whereas Bingham actually got there in 1911.

We saw orchids growing on lichens on rock walls along the Inca Trail above Machu Picchu. We also saw orchids growing on ledges in Machu Picchu itself.

In addition, although the Machu Picchu Pueblo Hotel, which is situated near the river about 1500 feet below Machu Picchu, is truly gorgeous and loaded with orchids planted in gardens and naturalized. The hotel on the mountain called the Ruinas is the place to stay. That hotel has about forty rooms, not eight as reported by Mr. Bechtel. The rooms are quite comfortable and even have cable TV.

More importantly to us, if you stay at the Pueblo or in Cuzco, you leave the mountain and Machu Picchu at 3-4 in the afternoon. If you stay on the mountain at the

Ruinas, you are there alone in that Edenic spot when all of the other have left and until they come back the next day. There is an amazing serenity among the fallen stones and clouds of that mountain top ruin.

Report of the Awards Committee

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

Here's another report for the 1998-99 contest year. Included in the point totals are ribbons from the September monthly meeting at the CBG, from the Milwaukee Show, our own Fall Mini-Show, the Blackhawk Orchid Society Show in Rockford, and awards from the monthly AOS judging held at the CBG. We start with September AOS awards.

Larry Sexton

Max.elegantula 'Cuspid Cutie',
CHM/AOS 80 pts.

Charles & Jane High

Phrag. Inca Ember 'Condor'
AM/AOS 83 pts.

This is the first AOS Award for Chuck and Jane and we congratulate them. They grow some pretty mean plants so we expect this to be only the beginning.

Let's catch up on the September meeting...remember that nice warm

day? We brought 31 plants to the meeting, 13-greenhouse & 18 --lightstand. **John Stubbings** took Plant-of-the-Month honors for his *Catasetum integerrimum* and **Laima Sahagian** was cited for growing a spotless *Lockhartia oerstedii*. The rest of the blue ribbons are listed elsewhere in this report.

I was far out of town when the Fall Mini Show took place. It was the first show I've missed in nine years and the withdrawal symptoms were dreadful. My regrets were all the more when I learned that an FCC Award plant graced the proceedings. The plant belonged to **Jerry Fisher of Orchids Unltd, Minnesota** and was:

Phrag. Jason Fisher 'Velvet Fire'
FCC/AOS 91pts

Now I must admit I was in attendance only two of the three times that an FCC has been granted to a plant at our judging center. Seattle was nice but....an FCC!

FIRST PLACE RIBBONS

Greenhouse

Jay Mullen

Ascda. Motes Hot Chestnut

Laima Sahagian

Lockhartia oerstedii

Pleurothallis simulans (*)

Maxillaria (unidentified species)(*)

Rodriguezia chasei (*)

Polystachya caloglosa (*)

John Stubbings

Catasetum integerrimum

Oncidium Florida Gold

Galeandra batemanii

Bob Wolf

Cirrhopetalum makoyanum

Dendrobium Precious Pearl

Lightstand

Barb Bennett

Phrag. Hanna Popow

Charles & Jane High

Paph. Concolor v. hennisianum

Ctna. Rosy Jewel

Willy Losert

Phal. Cordova

Sherry Maloney

Galeandra batemanii

Diana Nielsen

Angraecum Longiscott

Galen.(Sandy Stubbings x batemanii)

Phal. tetraspis

(* indicates species not known to be in cultivation. Such plants should be brought to the AOS judging for consideration for the CBR award. At the least, their owners should send a flower to Selby Gardens for authoritative identification.

POINT ACCUMULATIONS through October 31, 1998.

GREENHOUSE

Joe & Rosalie Dixler	589
Sue Golan	103
Sophia Harris	938
Maggie kuntz	67
Steve & Judy Lipson	50
Jay Mullen	15
Paul & Lori Passine	30
Robert & Sue Rosenbacher(*)	19
Laima Sahagian	216
John Stubbings	60
Gerald Steuben	35
Lew Seidenberg	11
Carole Thompson	120
Bob Wolf	62
Wally Zielinski	99

LIGHTSTAND

Barb Bennett	47
Cathy Bloome	81
Lois Cinert	6
Kevin & Irma Dixler	1
Joel Edwards	19
Robert Feliszak	10
Tom Franczak	16
Ron & Joan Hale	5
Charles & Jane High	200
Wendy & David Holtzman	15
Willy Losert	113
Sherry Maloney	122
Diana Nielsen	119
Claire Papiewski	18
Sherrie Reddick	9
Nancy Jean Schoo	13
Art & Ann sellmer	16
Nancy Spitz	7
Ken Vrabel	6

(* indicates new member for purposes of the 98-99 competition year.



Under the Weather

Sad to report that member, Maggie Kuntz, is in Lake Forest Hospital about to undergo surgery or probably will already have by the time you read this!

Hope you're feeling a little better by now, Maggie!



Join the American Orchid Society

It's only \$30 per year for which you receive the periodical, Orchids, (used to be call more appropriately The American Orchid Society Bulletin). Send your check to the AOS, Membership, 6000 South Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach, FL 33405.



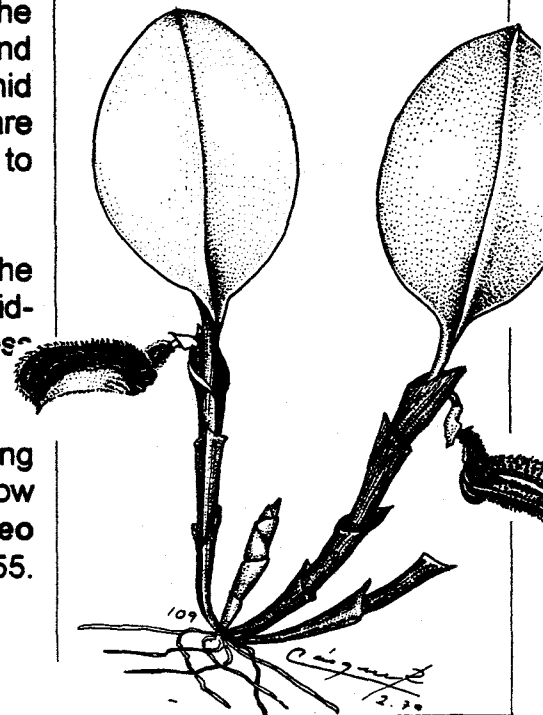
Good News!

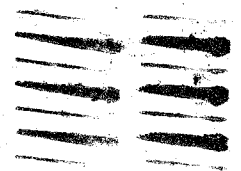
In the year 2002, the IOS will celebrate its **50th Anniversary**. We have already been making plans toward celebrating this event with the rest of the orchid world. In the effort to share our anniversary we applied for the Spring 2002 AOS Trustee's Meeting. We have heard back from the AOS Headquarters and the official word is that we will be hosting the meeting. This will be the biggest orchid event in the Chicagoland region in almost 20 years. There will be speakers, vendors and fellow hobbyists from all over the world that will come for this meeting. The scale of the trustee's meeting is second only to a World Orchid Conference in scale. We are excited; there will be a lot to do but it will be fun.

We are also hosting at the same time the Spring Mid-American Orchid Congress Meeting.

Anyone interested in helping out, please call the Show Chairman for 2002, Leo Schordje, @ (847) 746-9355. Thanks!

Felix Navidad
Froliche Weihnachten
Buon Natale
Bon Noel





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