

# ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Jim Spatzek, Editor

## Jerry Fisher, Orchids Ltd., Wins the 1998 Joseph W. Koss Memorial Award!

### 1998 Koss Award

The Board of Directors of the Illinois Orchid Society in conjunction with the Chicago Judging Center are pleased to announce that the 1998 Joseph W. Koss Memorial Award will be presented to:

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**Jerry Fisher  
Orchids Ltd.  
Plymouth, MN**

The award is presented this year to recognize his plant, *Phragmipedium Jason Fisher*, FCC/AOS, 92pts. awarded at the judging as the IOS Fall Mini Show. Truly an exceptional new direction, the cross has large flat, full-formed flower and rich, almost solid carmine red color. Since this awarding, two other clones of Phrag. Jason Fisher were awarded at the Orchid Society of Minnesota Show in January. One plant received another FCC/AOS of 91 pts. and another clone received an AM/AOS of 86 pts. This is truly and outstanding new hybrid. As soon as the engraved crystal bowl is ready it will be presented to Mr. Fisher.

Listed below are the previous winners of

this award:

1997  
**Dr. Bill Rogerson**  
*Vanda Sanderiana alba 'Kathleen'*  
CCM/AOS (89pts)

1996  
**Dr. Bill Rogerson**  
*Cattleya Schilleriana var.coerulea*  
"Orchidglade" CCM/AOS(93pts)

1995  
**Darlene Carlson**  
*Dendrobium anosmum 'Doll's*  
*Delight'* CCM/AOS (92pts)

1994  
**Hoosier Orchids**  
*Masd.ophioglossa'Megan'*  
CCM/AOS

1993  
**Fox Valley Orchids**  
*Phragmipedium besseae'*  
FCC/AOS

1992  
**Cyps Etc.**  
*Neolauchia pulchella 'ETC'*

*Neolauchia pulchella* 'ETC'  
CCM/AOS



## March Meeting

Our next bright star in the 1999 IOS firmament will be **Milton Carpenter** of **Everglades Orchids** in Belle Glade, Florida who will shine at our meeting on Sunday, March 14th at the Botanic Garden. His lecture, "The New Oncidiinae Intergenerics", will cover many intergenerics combining *Odontoglossums* with warmer genera such as *Oncidium*, *Brassia*, and (warm) Brazilian *Miltonias*.

As the new president of the American Orchid Society, he is indeed a mega-star. In addition to being the past president and a life member of the Orchid Societies of the Palm Beaches, he is also an accredited judge and a life member of the AOS. Milton is a world-renowned speaker, author, hybridizer, grower, photographer, and explorer, having made numerous trips to different countries of the world to study and photograph orchids in their habitat. A native of the Florida Everglades, he has been growing orchids for 38 years. His quest in hybridizing has been to "take the road less traveled" and develop new hybrids within the *Oncidiinae*

and *Cymbidiinae* that will tolerate wide variations in temperatures. You will have an opportunity to buy some usually cool growing orchids that he has hybridized to grow in warmer conditions. I have seen some of these plants and can honestly say that they are among the most beautiful hybrids available.

To start your preparation for our April Spring Orchid Show, our own starlet, Cathy Bloome, will present a workshop on how to arrange an orchid display. She has won many ribbons for the IOS in the society division, which is for our member's participation. We hope her demonstration will activate your star power and stimulate you to participate in the IOS exhibit where you can learn by helping. Or get together with a few others and radiate your own energy in the upcoming show. But even better, become luminous and do your own thing. Don't be a stargazer, we want you to become a rising star. We all began with low emission rates but Cathy will help your radiation level go up by light years.

Our meeting will be held in the multipurpose room at 12:00 noon. Please have display and sales plants arranged by 12:30pm. The lecture will be in the Auditorium. The Ides of March are upon us and we want the sunlight focusing on the

hospitality table. We observed an almost total eclipse at a few of our meetings and want to be sure that munchies will be visible again this month. So twinkle, twinkle all you little stars and don't make us wonder where you are.

Joe Dixler



## Hospitality

We are sorry to announce that we have not received volunteers that will take over the hospitality table. Betty & I have done this for 2 years. It makes for a busy morning in making coffee, cutting cakes, putting out the serving pieces and cleanup. We have tried to have other help by "taking a meeting" and giving us a break but we had no offers. Some have been helpful in assisting with partial duties and we are most appreciative for this.

So now the kicker....our meetings are now a BYOC meeting—BRING YOUR OWN COFFEE. Should anyone have other ideas to resolve this, or wish to take charge, please contact Nancy Jean Schoo at (630) 837-3153.



## The President's Message....

By Ed Gamson



We had a wonderful meeting last Sunday that included witty comments and gorgeous slides of plants and flowers of the genu *Laelia* provided by **Dr. Guido Braem**. Nancy Jean Schgo graciously filled in for John Stubbings in discussing plant registration for shows.

A key point to remember from Nancy's talk is if there is a doubt, register you plant in the lower-numbered class. Plants are judged in increasing numerical order of their Classes. If you are wrong as to the class for your plant and the plant should have been in the higher-numbered class, e.g Class 33 instead of Class 32, the judges may place the plant in the proper, higher-numbered class when the error is discovered. However, once a class has been judged, it is unlikely that judges will go back and rejudge it because you have erred in entering your plant.

Speaking of entering

your plants, this letter is being written for the March 1999 IOS Newsletter. Our Spring Show, **A Spring Orchid Fantasy**, is next month, April 9-11, 1999. Get yourselves ready to rock and roll, or at least for you to help and you plants to be seen.

And, speaking of April and the approach of the end of our societal year, I have asked Past President, **Sue Golan**, to chair a committee to nominate a new slate of officers and two new Board Members. Should anyone have any suggestions on this matter, please contact Sue at (847) 234-6311.



## 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.**

- 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



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

- 3/6-3/7/99 NEWOS Spring Show, Green Bay, Wisconsin
- 3/20-3/21/99 Central Iowa Orchid Society Show, Des Moines, IA
- 4/9-4/11/99 Illinois Orchid Society Annual Spring Show Glencoe, IL
- 4/17-4/18/99 Illowa Orchid Soc. Show; Bettendorf IA
- 4/23-5/2/99 World Orchid Congress, ConventionCenter, Vancouver, BC, Canada. E-mail: [congress@venuewest.com](mailto:congress@venuewest.com). (Judging, Tues., April 27, 1999
- 5/22-5/23/99 Mid-American Orchid Congress & Greater Lansing Orchid Soc. Show Lansing, MI
- 9/25/9/26/99 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show & Mid American Orchid Congress Mitchell Park Conservatory Milwaukee, WI
- 10/8/-10/10/99 Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini Show, Glencoe, IL
- 10/22-10-24/99 Blackhawk Orchid Society Show , Rockford, 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



## Board of Directors Meeting

The next IOS Board of Directors meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 1999, at the Johnson Bank in Hubbard Woods, IL. All officers and directors are expected to be there.

If you miss more than two consecutive meetings, you are subject to replacement.



## Membership

Membership cards that are sent out will be put into an envelope and stapled to your newsletter. Please look inside the envelope!!! Some have mistaken this for a renewal envelope and have thrown

their cards away! If you did not receive yours, please contact me and I will send you one.

Nancy Jean Schoo  
630-837-3153

A Marine Colonel on his way home from work at the Pentagon came to a dead halt in traffic and thought to himself, "Wow, this traffic seems worse than usual. Nothing's even moving."

He notices a police officer walking back and forth between the lines of cars so he rolls down his window and asks, "Excuse me, officer, what's the holdup?"

The officer replies, "The President is just so depressed about the impeachment this and he stopped his motorcade in the middle of the Beltway and he's threatening to douse himself in gasoline and set himself on fire. He says his family hates him and he doesn't have the \$33.5 million he owes his lawyers. I'm walking around taking up a collection for him."

"Oh really? How much have you collected so far?"

"So far only about three hundred gallons but I've got a lot of folks still siphoning."



## Spring Show

There's only about eight weeks to go. Our Spring show, "A Spring Orchid Fantasy", begins setup on April 8 at noon. Exhibitors are welcome after 4 pm that day, and Friday the 9th from 9am-5pm. Registration of

plants and displays closes at 4 pm.

This is where you come in. The invitations are in the mail, the exhibitors and vendors are making plans. Your part is to call to let me know how you will participate in what is always our biggest event of the year.

On Thursday, the 8th, we need help at noon to mark exhibit spaces, set up tables, and help unload the folks who come in the evening for setup. On Friday we need more unloading help, people to register the plants, help with the judges' dinner, clean up, and clerk at the judging. We also need your blooming plants for the IOS Display, which Cathy Bloome will organize. Please have them available by 1pm on Friday.

Saturday and Sunday are the big days when all our guests will come to admire our beautiful flowers, and take one of their very own home with them. We need help with traffic, which is guiding our guests and answering casual questions; our raffle, which helps us run our Society funding; membership information; plant culture information, plant sales; and, hospitality.

There is something for everyone to do. I'd love to have too many volunteers! Whether you are shy or outgoing, laid back or

hyperactive, there will be a place for your own special skills and talents.

Please call or fax or mail the sign up sheet. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** This is your Society and your show. It will be so much better if everyone lends a hand!

Lois Cinert



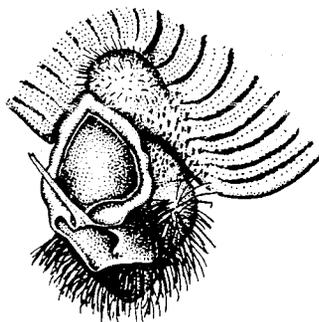
## The IOS DISPLAY

Bring Blooming Plants! This is your chance to show off all those special babies you've groomed and fed and loved. Cathy Bloome will be designing and setting up the IOS Display at our Spring Show. She has a special knack for making sure everyone's flower is shown to its best advantage, from the potential AOS Award candidate to the beginner's first bloomer.

Drop them off at the Chicago Botanic Garden any time from noon on Thursday until 1PM on Friday. Please make your pots somehow with your name, address, and

telephone number, as well as make sure the plant is labeled with its full name and details. Fill out a registration tag before leaving your plant. Call Cathy for details.

Let us all share in the pride and exuberance in the beautiful flowers you grown. **BRING PLANTS!** We cannot have an IOS Display without your plants.



## A Novice Idea

by Nancy Jean Schoo

What Do you do when you run out of growing space? The answer...refine your collection. As beginner growers, we tend to purchase any orchid that is reasonably cheap and also in bloom. A beginner will often look at the price before the plant name. This habit satisfies our desire for color and beauty in its

simplest form. The realization comes when you accept the fact your next orchid must be worthy of your precious space.

Refining your collection comes with experience and knowledge. You will begin to see that certain genera grow better than others in your area, or that you focus on one or two specific genera that pleases you most. Going to shows and asking questions is one of the most beneficial ways to gain knowledge on specific plants. You will see several plants that are supposedly 'exactly' the same, yet harbor different qualities in the makeup of the bloom. Remember, plants that come from orchid seed can pass along different traits from seed to seed, while orchids from stem propagation or meristemming generally produce an exact replica of the plant and its qualities. When going to shows, look for the AOS awarded plants. Our Spring Show is certain to bring a few newly awarded plants. While examining these plants, look for other plants in the show that are of the same name and compare their qualities. How are they similar and what makes one awardable and the other not? Those truly interested in learning about which characteristics are desirable may sit in and listen during an AOS judging.

READ, READ, READ! Purchase books on the different genera. These books will impart information about the plants that will assist you in recognizing a quality bloom. There are orchid magazines such as Awards Quarterly, and The Orchid Digest that discuss the most recently awarded plants and gives a description of its characteristics. The AOS has a book call "Descriptive Orchid Terminology for the Orchid Judge" by Kenneth S. Wilson, Ph.d.(actually a member of our society). This book gives more information about the makeup and markings of a plant and the current lingo used to describe the plant. This book is most helpful to me. There are also the specialty societies such as The Pleurothallid Alliance, The Odontoglossum Alliance, the International Phalaenopsis Alliance, The Maxillaria Tribe, and on and on. All offer a wealth of information.

Order catalogs from the nation's growers. These are generally free of charge and include color photographs of the blooms. Look for those plants that have an AOS award listed after the name, AM/AOS, FCC/AOS, HCC/AOS, etc.

Finally, write down the names of plants that intrigue you the most. Be sure to get the

entire name including the hybrid name. Look for these plants at shows, at your area grower, and at our monthly meetings. Remember, you may wish to know if the plant you are buying is a seedling or a stem prop, or a meristem. Stem propagations are of course more expensive than the seedling. I was lucky enough to get a division of an awarded species from Leo Schordje. This plant, *Broughtonia sanguinea* "Mem. William Fouraker" AM/AOS, is one of my favorites and is an offshoot of the original awarded plant. It had made its way to our members selling table but I was able to intervene! I have also been given GOOD seedlings of awarded plants that would have cost me hundreds of dollars from a few of my generous orchid friends. (Names withheld to protect them!). It pays to be choosy.

Happy Growing!



## The Orchid Digest

Interested in membership?  
Subscribe by sending your  
check for \$20.00 to:

The Orchid Digest  
c/o Robert H Schuler  
Executive Director  
P.O. Box 1216

Redlands, CA 92373-0402

You receive four (4) great colorful issues each year with articles on many different genera along with advertisements from selected growers ( in a better proportion that the journal Orchids).

Specialty "Checklists" which are great informative reviews of particular genera are also part of the package. In early 1998, members received "An Annotated Checklist of the Genus *Phragmidipedium*" and "An Annotated Checklist of the Genus *Dracula*". Both are spectacular additions to anyone's orchid library.

Don't hesitate! Join today!



Who's taking the IOS Exhibit to the Central Iowa Orchid Society Show in Des Moines on the weekend of March 20-21? Do we have to count on the same volunteers who came in droves to help with hospitality? AND, who's taking our display to the Illowa Orchid Society Show in Bettendorf the weekend of April 17-18.

It's only a 2 ½ hour drive. Who's going to volunteer? HOW ABOUT YOU!!! Call Lois Cinert and let her know she can count on you!

Remember, we pay for gas, tolls, and up to two nights hotel (limit \$50 per night). It's a great weekend getaway! Don't always expect someone else to do it!



No Monthly Competition Report This Month!



A truck driver used to amuse himself by running over lawyers he would see walking down the side of the road. Every time he would see a lawyer walking along the road, he would swerve to hit him, and there would be a loud "THUMP" and then he would swerve back on the road.

One day, as the truck driver

was driving along he saw a priest hitch hiking. He thought he would do a food turn and pulled the truck over. He asked the priest, "Where are you going, Father?"

"I'm going to the church 5 miles down the road!", replied the priest.

"No problem, Father! I'll give you a lift. Climb in the truck."

The happy priest climbed into the passenger seat and the truck driver continued down the road. Suddenly the truck driver saw a lawyer walking down the road and instinctively he swerved to hit him. But then he remembered there was a priest in the truck with him, so at the last minute he swerved back to the road, narrowly missing the lawyer. However even though he was certain he missed the lawyer, he still heard a loud "THUD". Not understanding where the noise came from he glanced in his mirrors and when he didn't see anything, he turned to the priest and said, "I'm sorry Father, I almost hit that lawyer".

"That's okay, " replied the priest. " I got him with the

door!"



Happy  
St.  
Patrick's  
Day