

ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JIM SPATZEK, EDITOR

Great Bargains at our Orchid Flea Market!!!!

June Meeting

It's not too late for a Spring cleanup of your orchid supplies that are gathering dust in the basement. Items such as posts, lights, trays, fertilizers, planting medium, books, magazines, jewelry, pottery, or whatever are welcome to our **IOS Flea Market** on June 13th at **Klehm Growers** in Hampshire. "One

CONTENTS

<i>June Meeting</i>	1
<i>American Orchid Society Judgings</i>	2
<i>The President's Message</i>	2
<i>Calendar of Upcoming Events</i>	3
<i>Report of the Awards Committee</i>	3
<i>Special Awards IOS Spring Show</i>	4
<i>News from the Net</i>	5
<i>June Meeting</i>	1

man's junk is another man's treasure". Here is the perfect opportunity to recycle your surplus goods. Bring a table for displaying merchandise only (orchids not permitted) at noon. We strongly encourage everyone to participate to make this a fun day and perhaps an annual event.

Arnold Klehm will welcome us with refreshments in his greenhouse which in spite of his recent fire, has facilities for rain or shine. He still is operational and has high quality plants to purchase. A potting demonstration will be offered for those who are interested.

This day will also honor the IOS members who have achieved high scores by display their plants at shows and meetings, as well as by earning AOS awards,

in both greenhouse and under lights. Since this is the awards day with no plant judging, you will have your hand and trunks available to bring those resale items instead.

Joe Dixler



Which IOS member was overhead on radio station WBEZ 91.5 discussing her hot flashes while meeting opera stars?

AmericanOrchid 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.

June 12, 1999--1:00PM

July 17, 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



Spring Show.....

This year the IOS Spring Show came and went so quickly. Now, we'll only have our memories or our web site to remind us of how lovely it was. The IOS exhibit pulled in some top awards for the display and several exceptional plants. Thanks to all that brought in so many outstanding plants to be used in the display. Thanks goes to **Hermann Pigors fo Oak Hill Gardens** who was kind enough to lend many of the foliage plants we used in the

exhibit. And special thanks to all the members who volunteered to give me a helping hand during the set-up and tear down: **Barb Bennett, Charles and Jane High, Pat Kralik, Tim Legant** (a 6-month member who gave his all!), **Diana Nielsen, Paul Passine** (glad you're back!), and my long time helper, **Ken Vrabel!**

Cathy Bloome



IOS WEBSITE.....Better than Ever!

Visit the IOS website. It's better than ever! At least two way to get there:

1) Go to www.orchidmall.com and click on societes. Go to the Illinois Orchid Society and click.

Or,

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

Enjoy **Tom Franczak's** hard work!



Cypripedium candidum in Bloom!

THE MCHENRY COUNTY

CONSERVATION DISTRICT RECENTLY INVITED THE PUBLIC TO VIEW THOUSANDS OF LADY SLIPPER ORCHIDS IN BLOOM.

ON MAY 13TH, ABOUT TWENTY ADVENTUROUS NATURE LOVERS TREKKED THROUGH FIELD AND MARSH TO A PROTECTED AREA ON PRIVATE LAND. SEEING *CYPRIPEDIUM CANDIDA* IN BLOOM WAS A WONDEROUS SIGHT. OUR GUIDE, ANN BASTEN ALSO IDENTIFIED SOME OF THE OTHER 180 WILD FLOWER SPECIES IN THE AREA.

ALFRED & CLAIRE PAPIEWSKI



The President's Message

BY

ED GAMSON

My stint as president of the IOS is coming to a close with some really great events. In April, the Society, Led by **Lois Cinert**, held its wonderfully successful Spring Show. In May, **Joe Dixler**, came through again with further giants of the orchidom as **Dr. Robert Dressler** shared his slides and experiences of living in Panama and Costa Rica with us. **Kerry Dressler, Mrs. Dr. Robert**, shared her

experiences and slides as photographer to Dr. Dressler's excursions.

Our meeting also saw the election of our next officers and Board as provided by our nominating committee, chaired by former president, **Sue Golan**. **Lois Cinert**, who was temporarily felled by the horrid head and chest cold that is making the rounds these days, will be our new president. Congratulations to Lois and all of the new electees.

We also passed a new bylaw that created the office of third vice president. The person in that office will be in charge of our away shows, while the second vice president will be show chair for our two "home" shows. One of the first tasks of our new president will have is to appoint someone to fill this position.

Our next meeting will be at the greenhouses of **Arnold J. Klehm Grower** in Hampshire, Illinois. This issue of the Newsletter has a map for getting there, as did the June, 1998 Newsletter. See you on June 13 at Arnie's!



Calendar of Upcoming Events

8/8/99	Annual Speaker's Day, Des Moines Orchid Society, Des Moines, IA American Orchid Society will take place.
9/17-9/19/99	1999 7th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival 8am-5pm American Orchid Society Judging at Klehm Grower's.
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
10/30-10/31/99	2nd Slipper Symposium, 2501 OldLakeRd. Kissimmee, FL Inform: 407-396-1881
11/18-11/21/99	Muestra Mundial De Orquideas Cali, Colombia
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
10/18-10/26/02	17th World Orchid Conference Shah Alam,

Selangor, Malaysia



A man was walking along a California beach and stumbled across an old lamp. He picked it up and rubbed it and out popped a genie. The genie said "OK, OK. You released me from this lamp, blah, blah, blah! This is the 4th time this month and I'm getting a little sick of these wishes so you can forget about three. You only get one wish!"

The man sat and thought about it for a while and said, "I've always wanted to go to Hawaii but I'm scared to fly and I get very seasick. Could you build me a bridge to Hawaii so I can drive over there to visit?"

The genie laughed and said, "That's impossible. Think of the logistics of that! How would the support ever reach the bottom of the Pacific? Think of how much concrete...how much steel! No, think of another wish!"

He said, "Ok", and tried to think of another wish. Finally he said, "I've been married and divorced 4 times. My wives always said that I was insensitive and didn't care! So, I wish that I could understand women...know how they feel...and what they're thinking when they give me the silent treatment...know why they're crying, know what they really want when they say "nothing"know how to make them truly happy...."

The genie said, " You want that bridge two lanes or four?"

Report of the Awards Committee

Tom Franczak, Chairman
[847] 590-5731
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Here's the penultimate report for

the 1998-99 contest year. Included in the point totals are ribbons earned at our IOS Spring Show, ribbons from the Michiana Show, and a ton of AOS awards from the judging at a variety of venues.

Sue Golan

Encyclia cymbidiodes 'Paolo'
CBR/AOS

Stones River Orchids

Phal. Black Lion 'Magenta King'
HCC/AOS

Paul Parka

Paph. haynaldianum
AM/AOS

Gerry Dizon

Phrag. Jason Fisher 'Gerry'
AM/AOS

Bob Wolf

Stelis persimilis 'Highland Park'
CCM/AOS

Bob Mortenson

Paph. Cyberspace 'Birch Point'
HCC/AOS

Carole Thompson

Miltonia Celle 'Wasserfall'
AM/AOS

Next month's report will have the final totals for the competition year. The winners will be known before then (after the Lansing Show results are in) and they will be recognized at the June meeting.

POINT SCORE ACCUMULATIONS

Greenhouse thru 3/31/99

Joe & Rosalie Dixler	909
Ed Gamson	12
Sue Golan	566
Sophia Harris	1478
Bob Hoel	80
Maggie Kuntz	67
Timothy Legant (*)	2
Steve & Judy Lipson	265
Jerome & Virginia Mestdagh	10
Jay Mullen	289
Paul & Lori Passine	55

Bill Rogerson	77
Sue & Robert Rosenacher (*)	19
Laima Sahagian	294
Lew Seidenberg	71
John Stubbings	150
Gerald Stueben	193
Carole Thompson	734
Bob Wolf	488
Marilee & Walter Zielinski	231

Greenhouse thru 3/31/99

Barb Bennett	569
Cathy Bloome	206
Lois Cinert	42
Kevin & Irma Dixler	1
Joel Edwards	133
Jack & Joan Emmerich	10
Robert Feliszak (*)	10
Ed Fiedler	1
Tom Franczak	18
Ron & Joan Hale	61
Charles & Jane High	494
Wendy & David Holtzman(*)	129
Carolyn Johnson	5
Anne Kotowski	18
Cheryl Kwiatkowski	35
Willy Losert	814
Sherry Maloney	236
Morris Millman	11
Armon McPherson	46
Diana Nielsen	223
Dorothy Nieter	5
Claire Papiewski	60
Sherrie Reddick	20
Nancy Jean Schoo	47
Leo Schordje	8
Linda Schubert	2
Art & Ann Sellmer	41
Nancy Spitz	8
Ruth Stables	7
Ken Vrabel	24
Dorothy Wallace	10

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



Special Awards IOS Spring Show

AOS SHOW TROPHY & AOS GOLD
MEDAL CERTIFICATE....

HOOSIER ORCHID COMPANY
EXHIBIT

ORCHID DIGEST SHOW TROPHY
JOE & ROSALIE DIXLER
EXHIBIT

CHICAGO HORTICUL. SOCIETY RIBBON
BOB WOLF

STELIS PERSIMILIS

PRESIDENT'S AWARD
HOOSIER ORCHID CO.
GONGORA TRUNCATA

SHOW CHAIRMAN'S AWARD
BARB BENNETT
PAPH. PEPPERMINT

IOS RIBBON
JOE & ROSALIE DIXLER
MEMBER'S EXHIBIT

FRANK R. KUPER MEMORIAL AWARD
(CYP ALLIANCE)
ORCHID GROWER'S GUILD
PAPH. HAYNALDIANUM

BEST OF CLASS AWARDS

OPEN EXHIBIT
HOOSIER ORCHID COMPANY

SOCIETY EXHIBIT
ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY

AMATEUR EXHIBIT
JOE & ROSALIE DIXLER

CATTLEYA ALLIANCE
JAY MULLEN
ENCYLCIA BRACDESCENS

CATTLEYA HYBRIDS
HAUSERMANN ORCHIDS
BLC. BRIAN WHEELER

PAPHIOPEDILUM SPECIES
ORCHID GROWERS GUILD
PAPH. HAYNALDIANUM

PAPHIOPEDILUM HYBRIDS
FOX VALLEY ORCHIDS
PAPH. (VINTNER'S TREASURE X
AMANDA)

PHRAGMIPEDIUM
CHARLES & JANE HIGH
PHRAG. LONGIFOLIUM

VANDA ALLIANCE
NATT'S ORCHIDS
ASCDA. TUBTIM VELVET X AERIDES
FALCATA

VANDA/ASCOCENTRUM
BOB WOLF

JUMELLEA SAGITTA

PHALAEOPSIS
STONES RIVER ORCHIDS
PHAL. BLACK LION

BRASSIA/MILTONIA/ODONTOGLOSSUM
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN ORC. SOC.
ODCDM. TIGER BUTTER X
ODM. GOLDEN HALLS

ONCIDIUM ALLIANCE
NATT'S ORCHIDS
ONCIDIUM RALPH YAGI

CYMBIDIUM ALLIANCE
FOX VALLEY ORCHIDS
CYMBIDIUM EBURNEUM

DENDROBIUM ALLIANCE
BATAVIA ORCHID SOCIETY
DENDROBIUM ANDREE MILLAR

MASDEVALLIA/PLEUROTHALLID ALL.
HOOSIER ORCHID CO.
SCAPHOSEPALUM ANTENNATUM

MAXILLARIA/LYCASTE/ZYGOPETALUM
NORTHEAST WISC. ORC. SOCIETY
MAXILLARIA TRILORIS

MISCELLANEOUS SPECIES
HOOSIER ORCHID CO.
GONGORA TRUNCATA

FIRST BLOOM SEEDLING
BARB BENNETT
PAPH. PEPPERMINT

ARTWORK
LOIS CINERT
GLASS WITH LEAD & FOIL CATTLEYA



News from the Net

BY

BARB BENNETT

This month's internet selection comes from across the border from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, namely Gideon's Castle. ([Http://membrs.home.net:80/gsing](http://membrs.home.net:80/gsing))

er/gideon/gidshom). This is the home page of Gideon Singer, who lists his interests (with links) as Water Gardening, Gardening, Orchids, and Tropical Aquarium. Clicking on his [Orchids](#) link brings you to [Orchids I have bloomed and Growing Orchids in water](#). The pictures of his bloomed orchids are outstanding, and they show the bloom better than many pictures I have seen, even those in the [Awards Quarterly](#). The pictures of blooming orchids grown in water culture were what lead me to seek out the information in last month's article.

He includes general cultural information on Dendrobiums, Vandas, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Cymbidiums, Oncidiums, Bletillas, Coelogyne, as well as Orchid FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) and General Cultural Informations. His "Orchid Tips & Tricks" provide helpful hints that you don't come across in the general culture books. For example, he says that Ivory Liquid dishwashing soap (not the clear type) works as well as Safer's Insecticidal Soap (1 tablespoon per gallon of water). Want to increase flowering lead on Cattleyas? Cut through the rhizome with a sterile knife and leave the cut portion in the same pot. New growth will occur, followed by more flowers and plants. Want to add magnesium to your orchids? Try Epsom Salts at the rate of 1 tablespoon per gallon of water. And my favorite is sprinkling ground cinnamon (borrow it from your baking spices) on a fungus spot to arrest its spread.

Gideon includes links to other great information, such as [Names or How to Tell What that Name Means](#). This link lists the parentage of all the various hybrids, with their abbreviations. Other than satisfying your orchid curiosity, this information would help you know what type of culture a hybrid might need. Some

examples include: Cookara (Cook= BroxCxDiacmXL; Dontaenopsis (Dtps.)+ Dorities xPhal; Klehmara (Klma) = Diacm xLx Schom; Iwanagara (Iwan)= BxCxDiacmXL. Even if you are not interested in the hybrids, the full list of abbreviations is worth bookmarking this page or printing it out (For future use when making out name tags at orchid shows).

Other links include [Growing Under Lights: A General Discussion](#), and, [Links to more than you will ever want to know!](#), and an [Orchid FAQ](#) that has 20 links to information such as: Planning a Greenhouse, Fertilizers, Watering (Did you every wonder if aquarium water is okay for watering orchids? A lot of people use it with no problems, but watch the pH), Orchids Grow well in boggy places (Bletilla, Cala pogon tuberosus, Spiranthes odorata, grow well in peat, and much much more.

But wait, there's still more! If you are interested in putting in a water garden or building a greenhouse, Gideon has listed all the steps he went through, with before and after pictures. He also has other greenhouse links that would prove useful to anyone contemplating greenhouse orchid growing. His own Greenhouse Tips & Tricks include: Paint large cans black and fill with water. During winter, place them on the sunny side of the greenhouse to absorb heat during the day and release it at night. He suggests using hot air furnace blowers obtained from junk dealers or furnace replacement companies. He says they are quiet and move a lot of air.

To sum up, Gideon Singer's website shares a lot of orchid-related information for the beginner and for the experienced orchidist, as well. I hope you can take a look at it.

**QUESTIONS & ANSWERS from:
Orchid Discussion Online**

Question from AusOrchids@AOL.COM
RE: The Nun Orchid

I have read that one can produce plantlets of the "nun orchid" (*Phaius grandiflorum* or *tankervilleae*) along the stems if they are laid on beds of vermiculite with or without a heating cable underneath. I have tried this several times, with and without keiki paste, but have not been successful. The plants continue to thrive, but propagation had alluded me. I would appreciate hearing about any successful attempts.

*****The Nun orchid is one of the common names. Swamp orchid is another for *Phaius tankervilleae* (syn. *Grandifolius no grandiflorum*). The common name comes from the posture of the flower while in the process of opening. The reverse of the flower is chalk white and the front of the flower is a copper/bronze with a lot of lavender in the lip (some gold, too). The appearance, if you stretch the imagination, give the impression of a nun "in habit". Since the appearance is the origin of the name, the other Australian *Phaius* do not approximate this image and are not referred to as Nun orchids.

The common name "Swamp Orchid" is helpful in determining the cultural practices required to successfully grow this plant. You cannot overwater them. When I leave for long periods, I place the pot in a bucket or tub of water. Their normal habitat is the swampy bogs and billabongs of Queensland. Never let the plant dry out completely! Likews lots of water and are heavy feeders.

These plants will reproduce naturally by the tall flower spikes bending to touch the ground after flowering. Wherever the spike touches the swampy surface, at a node, a plantlet develops.

Replicating this process is fairly easy. I take a ten foot sections of plastic guttering, drill drainage holes in the bottom, cap off the ends, and fill with good quality potting soil--fortified with a healthy dose of Osmocote.

I then lay the entire, not chopped up, severed spike/spikes on top of the soil and press down until the spike is half submerged in the mix. No chemical or hormonal pastes are utilized. This mix must be kept wet-wet-wet until the plantlets sprout; as they will do at most of the visible nodes. This can take from 4-8 months. Not a quick process. Attention to soil moisture and lots of patience are rewarded. I have realized as many as 10 new plants from a single spike. --GK

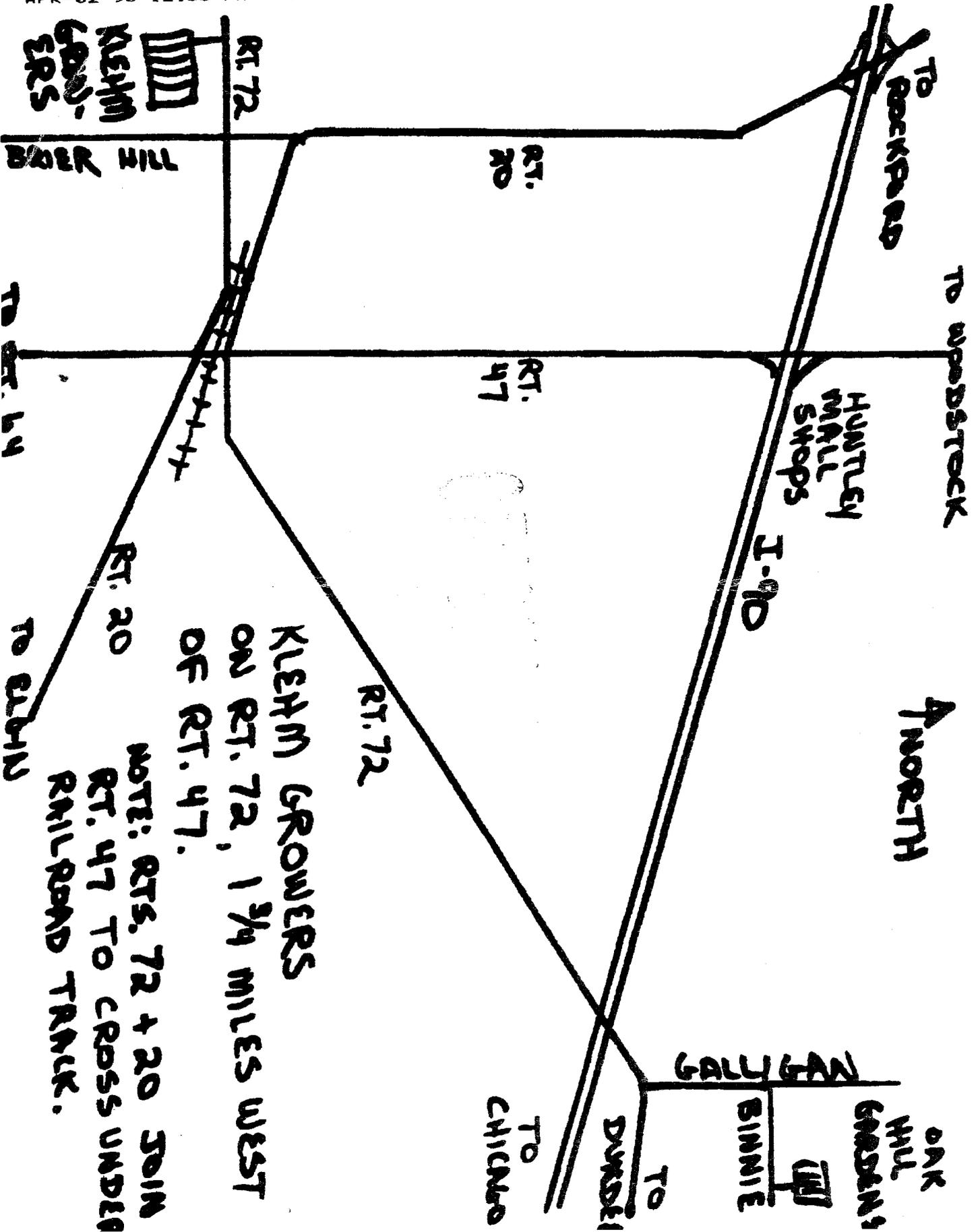
*****It's an extremely complicated procedure. Cut off the flowering spikes and lay them on moist peat. Do not disturb. I put mine in a clear plastic shoebox with about 10/90 perlite and peat. The canes were too long so I cut them in half. Each had 3 nodes. Half-buried in the peat they started putting up shoots in a month, and dropping roots in another 2 months. I just looked at it last night; some nodes formed two plants, so I have about 8-9 of them right now, from one single cane. I water it once a month and the lid keeps the humidity in. No hormones, no removal of anything--just lay them down. I suppose sand would work as well. Cheap/fast/good; pick two? All three! Wish it were this easy with all orchids.

*****The *Phaius tankervilleae* mentioned (note the spelling with honors Lady Tankerville) I have had no end of success with striking keikis, using the method widely employed around here. As soon as the last flowers drop, cut the raceme near the base (about 5 cm. From the pseudobulb) and cut into section with

2 nodes. Lay these flat onto a seedling tray filled with sphagnum moss (live stuff) and then tuck them in slightly. It won't matter if they become slightly covered by the moss. Then, wait. It can take as little as a month for the primordial shoots to appear, or as long as a year. (I've had both experiences--off the one raceme!) I then pot the young plants into sphagnum for the first year or so, and they they are mostly flowering size within 3-4 years.

By the way, around here the plants grow naturally in wet to damp, sandy, peaty or alluvial soils, often among *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (grey tea tree or paperbark), and have the vernacular name of Swamp Orchid. One of the few times when a common name actually lends some useful information--GS

*****I have two "stems" that are currently growing plantlets at each segment. Each plantlet is currently about a 1/4" long. All I did was put some sphagnum moss in a Pyrex casserole dish, wet it, laid them stems on top, and covered the whole thing with Saran wrap. I then placed this out of direct light on top of a heating vent in my living room. Once the plantlets sprouted, I moved the pan to a shelf out of direct light and off the heater. I open the dish about twice a week to get some ventilation and I plan to pot them up once they get bigger and put out some roots (assuming they do get bigger that is.)--Max (in cold windy NJ)



KLEHM GROWERS

RT. 72

BOER HILL

RT. 20

TO ROCKFORD

TO WOODSTOCK

HUNTLEY MALL SHOPS

RT. 47

I-90

← NORTH

RT. 20

KLEHM GROWERS
ON RT. 72, 1 3/4 MILES WEST
OF RT. 47.

RT. 72

NOTE: RTS. 72 + 20 JOIN
RT. 47 TO CROSS UNDER
RAILROAD TRACK.

TO GLASGOW

GALLIAN

TO CHICAGO

TO DURDELL

BINNIE

OAK HILL GARDEN