

ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

JIM SPATZEK, EDITOR

Attention All Bargain Hunters: Flea Market Rescheduled at Oak Hill Summer Picnic!

August Picnic

Hermann & Dorothy Pigors request your presence at **Oak Hill Gardens** for our annual summer picnic on Sunday, August 8th at noon. Reserve this date for a relaxing day in the country, usually outdoors in beautiful, sunny wather but with the option of remaining

indoors if Mother Nature doesn't cooperate. The Pigors' will provide the repast unless you prefer to bring your own picnic lunch. Judging is at 1:00pm so remember to bring your best blooming plants and make a resolution to gain recognition as a top grower in this year's Millenium Point Count Down. Since you won't need to shuttle those plants from a remote parking lot as we must at the Botanic Garden, this is the best time to bring them with the least hassle.

renewed opportunity to get rid of that sphagnum moss or rock wool that doesn't work for you--it could be another member's bonanza. Bring those extra pots, trays, lights, fans, books, magazines, etc. that you aren't using and recycle them into easy money to re-exchange for Hermann's wonderful plants!

The program will begin at 2:00pm when Hermann will relate "Climate Control and Growing Orchids to Perfection". Before or after his rewarding recitation you can reacquaint yourselves with his greenhouse, where a large selection of remarkable orchids is available for sale. There will be no member's plants for sale at this meeting.

Directions are easy: Northwest Tollway (I-90) to Randall Road; take a right (north) on Randall Road

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You may have returned while en-route to the June Flea Market with a trunk full of items that you did not wnat to re-shelve. We were rained-out at **Klehms** but please repack those boxes! Hermann has graciously allowed us to reattempt our swap shop. Wehave arranged one more chance to resell your used orchid equipment. Here is a

and go two and one half miles to the second traffic light which is Binnie Road (be sure you resume on the accepted speed limit). Then left (west on Binnie) until you recognize Oak Hill Gardens, just across from the golf course. Or call (847) 428-8500 for a recap directly from Hermann.

Joe Dixler



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).

August 14, 1999--1:00PM
 September 11, 1999--1:00PM
 October 8, 1999--6:00PM
 November 13, 1999--1:00PM
 December 11, 1999--1:00PM
 January 8, 2000--1:30PM
 February 12, 2000--1:00PM
 March 11, 2000--1:00PM
 April 8, 2000--7:00AM
 May 13, 2000--1:00PM
 June 10, 2000--1:00PM
 July 8, 2000--1:30PM
 August 12, 2000--1:00PM
 September 9, 2000--1:00PM
 October 6, 2000--6:00PM
 November 11, 2000--1:00PM
 December 9, 2000--1:00PM



Future Board of Directors Meetings

All Board of Directors meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (unless otherwise advised) at the Johnson Bank on Green Bay Road, 2 blocks south of Tower Road, in Hubbard Woods, IL at 7:30pm. Please advise President Lois Cinert if you cannot attend!

September 14, 1999
 November 9, 1999
 January 11, 2000
 March 14, 2000
 May 9, 2000
 July 11, 2000



Open House-- Hilltop Orchids

Dick & Sandy Wells of Hilltop Orchids invite everyone to attend their 4th Annual Open House on Saturday, August 22, from 11:00am until everyone tires of talking orchids. Their 4th greenhouse will be in place with many more orchids to see.

Mark Rose, owner of Breckinridge Orchids will be this years' featured guest speaker. Mark's discussion will be "Breeding and Culture of Paphs & Phals". He will have Paphs and Phrags for sale as well as stem props fro his extensive collection.

There will be flasks, compots, stem props and over 45,000 plants available. Luch will be

provided, so please advise how many will be attending from your society so we can better plan for meals. Reserve your spot now. Contact them by phone, fax or email for directions and reservations. Hilltop Orchids is located near Greencastle, IN, west of Indianapolis off Interstate 70.

Phone: (765) 795-6016
 Fax: (765) 795-4066
 e-mail: rwells@ccrtc.com



Mini this, mini that.....

I don't begrudge you your tastes in orchids, and I don't want to drive any commercial growers into bankruptcy by changing their focus, but but but....there *is* another side to this preoccupation with mni-catts, mini=-paphs, masdevallias, lepanthes and diminutive orchids in general. Our most recent paph speaker, Harold Koopowitz, mentioned the efforts being made to use Paph. barbigerum in hybrids to reduce plant size. Within the past year or so, we have had at least one speaker who brought a jillion mini-catts for sale and sold every one. Sure, sure, Cattleya luteola x Sophronitis cernua is bount to be cute, even cutesy. And in every conversation about orchids, the highest recommendation that is accorded a plant seems to be a reference to its tiny size that it fits nicely in a 1/32" pot. "Why, I can fit 3000 of them on just half my windowsill!" Good Dosh!

I say, enough already! Who speaks for the brobindignagian orchid, the elephant, the great big galumphing Paph. Rothschildianum, the romping, stomping Cattleya maxima (got that name? Aaaaah, maxima!), the move-it-or-lose-it Paph. Kolopakingii, the 900 pound gorilla Phaius tankervilleae, the suburban sprawl of the Schombocata hybrid, or the coast-to-coast Grammatophyllum scriptum? These are but a few of the orchids with enough heft and character to keep you company, share your beer, and double as a guard dog. Savor their names....longifolium....gigantifoliumgrandifolium....gigantea. Nothing cute about these guys. You'd never hand the clonal name "Poopsie" on a Laelia purpurata.

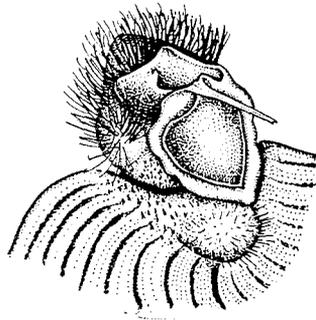
The time is now to revamp your collections. Let us gather up all of the pleurothallids and cadetias, the dendrochilums and the ascocentrums, the schoenorchis' and the chilochistas. We'll find a nice eastern windowsill where they can all live happily ever after. And then let's populate our greenhouses and lightstans with *real* orchids. Phrag. caudatums, Cattleya warscewiczii, Onc. Papilios, Paph. Supardiis, Brassia Rex.

You know, a 25 square foot exhibit with 80+ tiny plants in it is, well.... if you can even see the plants for all the labels, it's kinda busy. But there is an exhibit class, Class 14, and you may not be aware of it. "14. *Orchid exhibit with emphasis on artistic effect using 1 to 5 plants, 25 square feet maximum.*" In ten years of attending orchid show, I can only remember once seeing an exhibit registered in Class 14. They may be more common than that, but I can

only remember a single exhibit, at Madison Wisconsin's botanical garden a few years ago. A very few large plants in flower, your artistic creativity, and perhaps we could enjoy such exhibits more frequently. Go ahead and take that as a challenge.

Of course, this is but my humble opinion. But then, I've got this Paph. stonei with leaves 22 inches long, inflorescences 24 inches high, 5 flowers, and a chip on its shoulder, (Tentative) clonal name 'Bubba'....Bubba want to know, "You got a problem with this?"

Tom Franczak



U p c o m i n g Events Calendar

9/17-9/19/99	1999 7th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival 8am-5pm American Orchid Society Judging at Klehm Grower's.	10/22-10-24/99	Show, Glencoe Blackhawk Orchid Society Show, Rockford, 2nd Slipper Symposium, 2501 Old Lake Rd. Kissimmee, FL Inform: 407-396-1881
9/25/9/26/99	Wisconsin Orchid Society Show & Mid American Orchid Congress Mitchell Park Conservatory Milwaukee, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini	10/30-10/31/99	Muestra Mundial De Orquideas Cali, Colombia Wisconsin Orchid Growers Guild Show, Madison, WI Illowa Orchid Soc 24th Spring Show Bettendorf, IA Central Iowa Orch. Society Show Des Moines, IA Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Glencoe European Orchid Congress, openhagen, Den. Mid America Orch Congress Livonia, MI Orchids 2000 4th New Zealand Expo Hamilton, NZ Mid.America Orch Cong. Muncie, IN 7th Chicagoland Orchid Festival IOS Fall Mini Show, Glencoe 4th Australasian Native Orchid Soc. Conference Melbourne, Aust. 15th Australian Orchid Conference & Show Burnie, Tasmania 17th World Orchid Conference Shah Alam, Selangor, Malaysia
10/8/-10/10/99		11/18-11/21/99	
		2/5-2/6/00	
		3/18-3/19/00	
		3/25-3/26/00	
		4/8-4/9/00	
		4/6-4/9/00	
		4/15-4/16/00	
		9/6-9/10/00	
		9/16-9/17/00	
		9/15-9/17/00	
		10/6-10/8/00	
		10/5-10/8/00	
		10/10-10/15/00	
		10/18-10/26/02	



1999 Meetings--Balance of the Year

September 12

Leon Glicstein
Hoosier Orchids

October 9-10

IOS Fall Mini Show

November 14

Ron Hamilton
Petit Plaisance Orchids

December 12

Annual Holiday Buffet Party
Hausermann's Orchids



In Memoriam

Sadly we report the sudden passing of Jim Thompson, a member & orchid friend of long standing. Our deepest sympathy to his wife & fellow member, Carole & all of the Thompson Family.

New 3rd Vice President

President Lois Cinert has

appointed **Mr. Leo Schordje** to fill the new office of 3rd Vice President (Away Show Chairman) for the 1999-2000 year. This is a new office which will take some of the burden from the 2nd Vice President (Home Show Chairman), and will allow a greater concentration of the away shows. This doesn't mean that Leo will be personally doing all the away shows; expect to hear from his asking for assistance and volunteers. We still need your plants and your time in order to continue attending our neighboring shows.

Remember, it's a great weekend away and the IOS pays up to 2 night's hotel rooms and mileage.



The President's Message

by
Lois Cinert

Hope you all took advantage of our July "do-it-yourself" meeting. Greenhouse--light tours are a great way to see how some of our more successful growers get the job

done. Sharing our secret methods is good for all of us who need a little help getting those little beasts to bloom.

August is always a great month for the IOS---we get to visit Oak Hill Gardens, picnic under the great shade trees, and buy a couple of Hermann Pigors' wonderful orchid plants. The information and advice delivered with Hermann's presentation is always useful and encouraging. This is another "can't miss" opportunity.

Do you have your plants outside for the Summer? It's not too late to take advantage of the warm, windy, humid conditions to give your plants a boost. Vacations are wonderful, even for plants. Bask in the sun, eat hearty, drink plenty of fluids; both people and plants benefit!!!



New Members

Welcome is extended to three new members who all grow under lights and on windowsills!

Joe Slattery

Leona Kim

DeLoise Gaines

New members will be so indicated on their name badge,

below their name. Please watch out for our new members and help to show them the ropes.

Barb Bennett

Attention Beginner Growers.....

Would you enjoy getting together with other beginners and a few experienced growers to discuss orchid growing? If there is enough interest we may be able to get a **Beginner's Group** started. This group would meet at times (to be determined) other than the monthly meetings and would take place in someone's home. The group would set the agenda. Call Barb Bennett (847-948-8163) if you are interested.



News from the Net

by Barb Bennett

August's internet site is the **O Zone** and is located at <http://www.orchidworks.com.ozone>, hosted by Greg Allikas.

Previously I had visited this site and there was a great review of the basics of how to do orchid displays. Apparently this was received very well and it will be appear again soon. Even though I miss the orchid display info, there is a great variety of articles and pictures to peruse on this site. There are "permanent

fixtures" and others that change from time to time.

Permanent articles include:

Orchid Oddities: the Sex Life of Catasetums--Ah, yes, the S-word always piques the interest. Catasetums have cigar-shaped pseudobulbs topped by several broad, thin leaves that are usually deciduous. They often bloom more than once a year. Many of them produce blooms only their mothers can love. They are fragrant with a strong, spicy scent but one that is not so pleasant to most of us. Catasetums have flowers that are wither male or female--rarely both. (Most orchids have both female and male sex organs...er...parts.0. Their spicy scent is like bee-cologne. (This is where the sex comes in, so pay attention.) As the male bee collects this cologne from the lip of the flower, he hits a trigger that shoots the pollen onto his head or back and blasts him out of the bloom! In his travels, he eventually visits a helmet-shaped female flower that relieves him of the pollen, and so it goes....A "rogues gallery" of Catasetums is provided.

How to Kill Your Orchids, by Milton O. Carpetner. Milton Carpenter is current president of the AOS, who presented at one of our recent meetings. He had been growing, and killing (his admission) orchids for 35 years. His article is truly enjoyable and educational. It serves as a reminder that we have to keep a sense of humor about us in our orchid growing pursuits, and always pay attention to the basics, which he review here.

A Fantasy Orchid-- This is a picture of a totally white cattleya with a green lip, BLC. Irish Spring 'Nancy's Dream'. Truly worth a visit to this site.

A Word about Binomial Nomen-

clature-- The binomial (bi=two; nomial=name) naming of orchids is briefly described. The author points out that many names are descriptive and us Latin terminology. A few examples include aurea (meaning gold-colored), bicolor (two-colored), flava (yellow), grande (large), hirsutissimum (very hairy), pulchellum (pretty) and so on. The American Orchid Society's Orchidist's Glossary is recommended to provide more insight into orchid nomenclature and name pronunciation. A like is provided to [AOS-Names](#).

Culture Shock-- Shown here are pictures of several BLC. Pollyanna blooms from the same plant (same culture) but one was exposed to high light levels (2500 +foot-candles), the other to low phalenopsis type light levels (1500 foot-candles). The bloom that developed under low light was green. The one that developed under high light was more pink/lavender and cream. It is explained that the pink/lavender color was produced by anthocyanin pigments, which are produced in response to the higher light levels. These are the same pigments that cause the reddish colors in leaves and pseudobulbs of orchids. In many species the presence of anthocyanin in the vegetative parts of the orchid can be an indication that the plant is receiving adequate light.

Temporary articles include:

Cities and the Export of Thai Orchid Species, by Richard Saporita

I can never remember what CITES stand for but I know you need a CITES certificate to take plants from one country to another. (CITES=Convention for International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna.) This article

discussed this issue with regard to Thai orchids and is a good review about why CITES exists. Following that discussion is a great overview of orchid propagation with pictures. It is always so amazing to see plants, which we Midwesterners must baby and monitor year-long, on hundreds of tables in open fields.

Kyle, Grandson of Ugly Duckling, C.forbesii, makes good-read all about it [here](#). Since I was not familiar with C.forbesii, I did not understand what this link might lead to. C.forbesii is a Cattleya species that is a mustard color with rather narrow petals. However, when used in hybridizing it produces some knockout yellow catts. Apparently there are now 155 hybrids using C.forbesii. Beautiful pictures are provided and a description of the breeding line of the "ugly duckling" orchid.

Photo Tips-- One of these days I want to start taking pictures of my orchids and others at shows and meetings. You too? Well, this little article gives you a lot of practical advice to get us rolling. Equipment is the first item discussed. Several types of single lens reflex cameras are discussed and a digital camera, as well. Several of the pictures on the site were taken with a digital camera (Kodak) and he challenges the viewer to identify them. *I couldn't, maybe you can. He recommends Kodak EPN film.* Reasons given include its neutral color, enhanced sharpness, and brightness reduction of highlights on waxy flowers which can often appear as hot spots. Suggestions to improve our orchid photography (with links to show you how) include:

- 1) Don't use point and shoot cameras; get a single lens reflex.
- 2) Find the best flowers you can; shoot only fully opened, flawless flowers.
- 3) Use tape, string, twist ties, etc. to

pull distracting elements out of the picture. Remove stakes or shorten them so they are not in the photograph.

4) Good lighting is key. Suggestions include good window light, bright open shade (shady side of a building), or a modified flash. Dense shade under a tree is not suitable. A strobe (electronic flash) is convenient and portable but pictures can appear harsh with too much contrast. Harsh light can be modified by diffusion (placing a screen of some type between the light source and the flower) or bounce (the light source is pointed at another bright object and the light that "bounces" off it onto the flower is less harsh). Diffused light can substantially improve light quality and can be achieved with a white handkerchief covering the flash lens with a rubberband. A piece of white foamcore (available from office supply mega-stores) can be easily fashioned into a bounce reflector or you can buy one ready-made. Even a white file card and rubbed band can be used for bounce flash.

5) Find shelter out of wind to avoid flower movement.

6) The background should be a neutral color in poster board or mat board. Muted earth tones set off the flowers well without being distracting. Try colors like charcoal, olive green, brown, dull blue and of course, black. If using flash, place background at least 2 ft. behind the flower to avoid shadows. A set-up is shown using 2 card tables and a white sheet. Invert one card table on top of the other. (The table tops will be together.) Place the white sheet over the extended legs of the table to create a little square tent. Place the plant in the tent and poke the camera through the tent opening. Use in sunshine! The sample picture shown seems to glow.

7) Black backgrounds are preferred for orchid photos. Directions are given to construct a stand with

Velcro and black velvet to isolate a single flower.

8) Also included are instructions for saving a WWW picture (including any of his wonderful orchid pictures) to your computer.

The Orchid Photo Page

You guessed it--photos of orchids, over 200 of them, and one is more beautiful than the next. Surely the crown jewel of this great orchid web site!



Report of the Awards Committee

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

It's off to the races with the 1999-2000 contest year. First out of the gate, **Joe Dixler & Bill Rogerson**, both with multiple awards at the June AOS Judging.

Joe Dixler
Scelochilis heterophilus
"Yellow Minnow" CBR/AOS

Dendrobium victoria-reginae
'Blue Boy', AM/AOS (80 pts)

Kefersteinia pulchella
'Rapunzel' CCM/AOS (82 pts)

Bill Rogerson
Cattleya granulosa 'Paul'
HCC/AOS (77pts)

Cattleya granulosa 'Claire'
HCC/AOS (76 pts)

Fox Valley Orchids
Paph. Lynnleigh Koopowitz
'Fox Valley' HCC/AOS (79 pts)

The end of this contest is far, far off. This one won't be over until the next century.

This is the easy part of the contest year. For me! An occasional AOS award, >yawn<, >stretch<. No plant display in June, none in July. Comes the picnic in August with the first show-and-tell of the year. Can't break a sweat over that. But then starts Show Season and the heavy lifting begins in earnest. Let's make me work this year. Everbody pick their best plant then in flower and drive it to a drop-off point...for every single away show this year. And back up the truck from our home shows. Drop-offs are the Wednesday and Thursday before and away show and they will be posted on our website. Better yet, be a drop-off point for an away show this year and come join us for set-up and tear-down festivities.

**Point Score Accumulations
through June 30, 1999
GREENHOUSE**

Joe & Rosalie Dixler	212
Bill Rogerson	153



SHOW SEASON

We're getting close to show season again. Our own fall show is October 9 & 10. Please start to think about putting up your own display, or joining with a couple of friends. This is our mini-show, table top only. There is no IOS display, but you can bring as few as four or five plants for a half-table for half a table display and do very well. This is also a good time to chock those crowded benches for extra divisions or seedlings to sell. This is a great opportunity to make room for your new purchases you will make at the away shows you will attend.



**1999 7th Annual
Chicagoland Orchid
Festival- Sept. 17, 18,
19, 1999**

**Friday, Saturday, Sunday
8:00am-5:00pm**

Visiting "Guest Growers"
and Presentations by
world-renowned orchid
specialists from all over
the globe!

American Orchid Society
Judging at Klehm Growers

Grand Prize Drawing!
Top quality orchid
collection valued at
\$1000+

to be awarded at the
festival conclusion

Call any grower for details!

Participating Growers:

**EFG Orchids
(630) 543-5628**

**William J. Shaban
(At EFG)**

**Klehm Growers, Inc.
(847) 683-4761**

**Orchids by Hausermann
(630) 543-6855**

**Fox Valley Orchids
(At Hausermann)**

**Oak Hill Gardens
(847) 428-8500**

**Windsong Orchids
(847) 683-4761**

**Natt's Orchids
(630) 904-0942**



**Next time you think you're
having a bad day recall
that....**

1. The average cost of rehabilitating a seal after the Exxon Valdez oil spill in Alaska was \$80,000. At a special ceremony, two of the most expensively saved animals were released back into the wild amid cheers and applause from

onlookers. A minute later, they were both eaten by a killer whale!

2. A psychology student in New York rented out her spare room to a carpenter in order to nag him constantly and study his reactions. After weeks of needling, he snapped and beat her repeatedly with an ax leaving her mentally retarded.

3. A woman came home to find her husband in the kitchen, shaking frantically with what looked like a wire running from his waist towards the electric kettle. Intending to jolt him away from the deadly cureent she whacked him with a handy plank of wood from the back door, breaking his arm in two places. Till that moment he had been happily listening to his walkman.

4. Two animal rights protesters were protesting at the cruelty of sending pigs to a slaughterhouse in Bonn. Suddenly the pids, all 2000 of them, escaped throught a broken fence and stampeded, trampling the two hapless protesters to death.

And the capper...

6. Iraqi terrorist, Khay Rahnajet, didn't pay enough postage on a letter bomb. It came back with "return to sender" stamped on it. Forgetting it was the bomb, he opend it and was blown to bits!

Here's hoping you days are better than any of these.

The Illinois Orchid Society, Inc.
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