

**ILLINOIS ORCHID
SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**

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ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Jim Spatzek, Editor



The President's Message by Lois Cinert

Happy New Year!!!! No, I didn't forget to turn the calendar pages, and I haven't fallen out of a tree lately. It is our happy new year. The fiscal year of the Illinois Orchid Society starts July 1, each year. You will most notice this milestone by the arrival of the new membership directory. If you haven't picked it up at a meeting, it will be mailed to you. It has lots of new features this year, and lots of new information for you.

This also marks the beginning of the term of officer for the new Board of Directors and Officers. We have lots of the experienced (dare I say old) members for stability,

and some new ones, because new ideas are good, and we welcome them. Please feel free to call any of the board or officers if you have any questions about anything society related. If we don't know the answer personally, we can usually direct you to the person who does. We welcome your ideas and suggestions; this is your society, and we only work to manage it effectively for you. We need to know what you expect from your membership. Call us! That's why our numbers are listed separately in the directory.

Our budget year begins now also, and the board spends you money. Most of your dues go for the newsletter and our monthly speakers. We also support the Chicago AOS Judging Center with our books, money, and plants for judging. If you haven't attended a judging session, put it on your calendar. It's an interesting exercise to watch, and afterwards, the judges will

explain what and why they awarded or didn't. Selby Gardens and the Orchid Identification Center, Volo Bog, Nature Conservancy are among the other beneficiaries of our benevolence. We try to spend you money well. We are also open to suggestions for other worthy causes.

We are also creeping closer to the BIG ONE. The 2002 show will become a more prominent item in our lives as committees are formed. We will need the best effort from all of you for this grand occasion...our 50th Anniversary. Watch for announcements at the meetings and in the newsletter.

Happy New Year! Grow your orchids and bloom them well.

P.S.

Please mark your calendars for next years meeting dates now so you don't make other plans! Here they are:

Jan.7, Feb.25, April 29, May 20, June 24, July 8, Aug.12, Sept. 9, Nov.11, and Dec 9.

The Spring Show will be March 29-April 1, and the Fall Show Oct. 11-14, 2001.



American Orchid Society Judging ..

The judging of the American Orchid Society Chicago Judging Center are held monthly in the Linnaeus 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 8, 2000-1:30PM
August 12, 2000-1:00PM
Sept 9, 2000-1:00PM*
Oct. 6, 2000-6:00PM
Nov.11, 2000-1:00PM
Dec. 9, 2000-1:00PM



IOS Website:

www.iosoc.com



Future Board Meetings:

July 11, 2000

All Board of Directors meetings are currently held at the Private Bank on Green Bay Road, 2 blocks north of Tower Road in Hubbard Woods at 7:30pm. Please advise President Cinert if you are unable to attend.



The July Meeting.....

Ned Nash formerly the full-time Director of Education and Conservation at the American Orchid Society and now a partner at Cal Orchids, will be the speaker at the next meeting on July 9th at the Botanic Garden. His subject will be **"Interesting Primary Hybrids-No Paphs!"** Ned received a BA in Botany from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1975 and has been active in the orchid world ever since. He has worked for a number of nurseries in California including Dos Pueblos Orchid Company, Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, and Armacost & Royston which became Stewart Orchids and assumed the presidency in 1987. He has been an AOS judge, committee member

and chairman, as well as a Trustee for two terms. While he still remains as the Director of Conservation for the AOS, he left Florida in late 1999 to join Cal Orchids.

We will meet in the multi-purpose room at 12:00 noon. Please have display and sales plants in place by 12:30pm. This is the first meeting for the point count for this year. Everyone starts this new growing year with a clean slate and YOU may be among the winner's circle for the coming year. So begin with this first opportunity and watch your point count grow. So begin with this first opportunity and watch your point count grow. You can get a token from the gate keeper before the parking lot entrance to go through the rear gate and drop you 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 this year's competition.

The workshop will be presented by **Lois Cinert** . Unfortunately last month we got the work that she was out of town for our meeting too late for our editor to make the correction for the workshop topic. We appreciate **Diane Nielsen's** excellent advise at the June meeting on "Making Due" with the conditions in your

home.

Remember to bring something for the hospitality table. Everyone likes to enjoy a sugary, energy boost to get the mouths going for our social hour after the sedentary lecture. Please help so we all get a few extra calories and can stay long enough to do some orchid networking and make a few new friends.

Joe Dixler

	S h o w , Charlestown Mall, St. Charles, IL
3/24-3/25/01	Illowa Orchid Society Show
3/30-4/1/01	Bettendorf, IA Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show
9/29-9/30/01	Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Milwaukee.
10/13-10/14/01	IOS Fall Mini Show, Glen- coe, IL



activities of the IOS. Recently voted changes in the by-laws are reflected in this copy.

Activities of the IOS... This description of IOS activities was previously sent to new members when they joined, but yours may have been misplaced. Now when you have questions about meeting format, monthly judgings, away shows, etc., you can refer to the directory.



Upcoming Events in the Orchid World.....

8/6/00	Central Iowa Speaker's Day & A O S Judging, Des Moines
9/8-9/10/00	8 th Chicago- land Orchid Grower's Festival
9/16-9/17/00	Mid-America Orchid Congress, Muncie, IN
9/23-9/24/00	Wisconsin Orchid Society Show , The Domes, Milwaukee, WI
10/6-10/8/00	IOS Fall Mini S h o w , Glencoe
10/27-10/28/00	Blackhawk Orchid Society Show, Klehm Bot- anic Garden, Rockford, IL
11/4-11/5/00	Batavia Or- chid Society

2000-2001 Directory....

Take a close look at the directory included with this newsletter. In addition to members' names, we have included several other new items that are important for members of the IOS. We hope you find these new addition to the directory useful!

Meeting Dates.. Meeting dates (as of July 2000) will be found on the back cover of the directory. Any changes in these dates will be in the newsletter and on the IOS webpage, www.iosoc.com Please note the variances from the usual 2nd Sunday of the month schedule.

IOS Bylaws... These are the guidelines that govern the

Welcome New Members!!!!

Please welcome the following new members to the IOS:

**Ari & Bob Herman
Claire Manganno
Roberta McGlinn
Katharine Oldak**



Upcoming Cultural Discussion Group Meetings & Topics...

The next Orchid Discussion Group will meet:

**July 18, 7-9pm
Topic: Pests & Diseases**

Host: Barb Bennett
10 Fairfax Lane
Lincolnshire, IL
(847) 948-8163

Directions: Fairfax is located east off Riverwoods Rd. (Sanders Rd. North of Deerfield Rd becomes Riverwoods rd), between Rt.22 (Half Day Rd) and Deerfield Rd.

Next meeting will be in September (Grooming & Showing plants/Orchid Show set-up).

**NEWS FROM
THE NET
BY
BARB BENNETT**

The following July/August Checklist is from the American Orchid Society Website (<http://orchidweb.org/>) and provides a few helpful reminders on what should be happening with your orchid collection in the middle of summer. There are 5 other Bi-Monthly checklists available on the Website, found under Monthly Checklists. From the home page, click on About Orchids and you will find the following topics:

Frequently Asked Questions
Beginners Corner
Orchids A to Z
AOS Culture Sheets
The Orchid Doctor
Orchid Names
How-To Information
Where to Grow
Technical Talk
Orchid Propagation
Monthly Checklists

Glossary

July/August Orchid Checklist CATTLEYA

Cattleya require careful attention to watering and fertilizing needs this month due to high temperatures. Increased air flow is important when humidity and temperatures soar. Increased air flow with low humidity dries out potting medium more quickly. This may necessitate more frequent misting and watering. Higher light and heat in the summer months mean plants will need more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of energy for autumn, winter and spring blooms. Don't overdo fertilizer, but don't skip it during these months of rapid growth. High temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Be on the look out for pests during this time of the year also.

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these hot summer months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be either blooming or spiking. Be sure water does not sit in growths, leading to rot.

PHALAENOPSIS

Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now (See Below). Phals are at their maximum growth now. Flower spikes for the coming season will depend on this growth. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking. Again, high heat and light call for adequate water and fertilizer.

CYMBIDIUM

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums and growths should become strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with low light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

HIGH ELEVATION PLANTS

For cooler growing plants such as masdevallias and other pleurothallids, these hot months are stressful. Keep plants shaded and be sure to keep the humidity level much higher. Do not let plants dry out. Delay any potting until the weather cools. The stress of heat and repotting can considerably weaken plants.

LAELIA PURPURATA

The flowering season of this majestic plant will be coming to an end, presenting a good time to repot. As soon as the new roots start to appear, clean off old bark and repot into a clean medium-grade fir bar. Place the plant in a little less light and higher humidity to relieve stress until it is more established, which is about one month after potting.

ODONTOCIDIUM

Many of the intergeneric crosses between odontoglossums and oncidiums, such as Odontocidium, Wilsonara and Colmanara, will be getting ready to bloom now. Take care to train spikes for the best floral display. Keep plants under fairly shady conditions.

VANDACEOUS GENERA

These hot, humid days are close to this genera's native habitat and

they will be growing quickly now. Watch for pests, as they also enjoy the same hot & humid conditions. Watch that flower spikes extend unimpeded for the best flower presentation later.

Cultural Tip from Orchid Guide Digest:

Grow phalaenopsis in sphagnum moss. Use only Chilean or New Zealand sphagnum, not Wisconsin sphagnum. Do not use an automatic watering system or mister as this will keep the medium to wet all the time. Water plants when the moss feels almost dry. This may be as infrequently as every two weeks. The time it takes for the medium to dry out will depend on the temperature and humidity of the environment where the plant is growing. If summering outdoors, let the rain water them, but not too long. The medium should never be soggy. Repot sphagnum medium at least once a year, even if there is a spike. Repot with moist, not wet, moss. Wrap the roots loosely and be sure not to pack tightly as you would a Cattleya. Growers sometimes add other media to sphagnum moss in various proportions, for example: Packing peanuts, charcoal, bark, large perlite, chunky peat moss. Please note this information is not provided to suggest that you

repot all your phalaenopsis in sphagnum, but the question has come up because many plants we buy are in sphagnum and many people have an interest in keeping their plants in it over the long term.

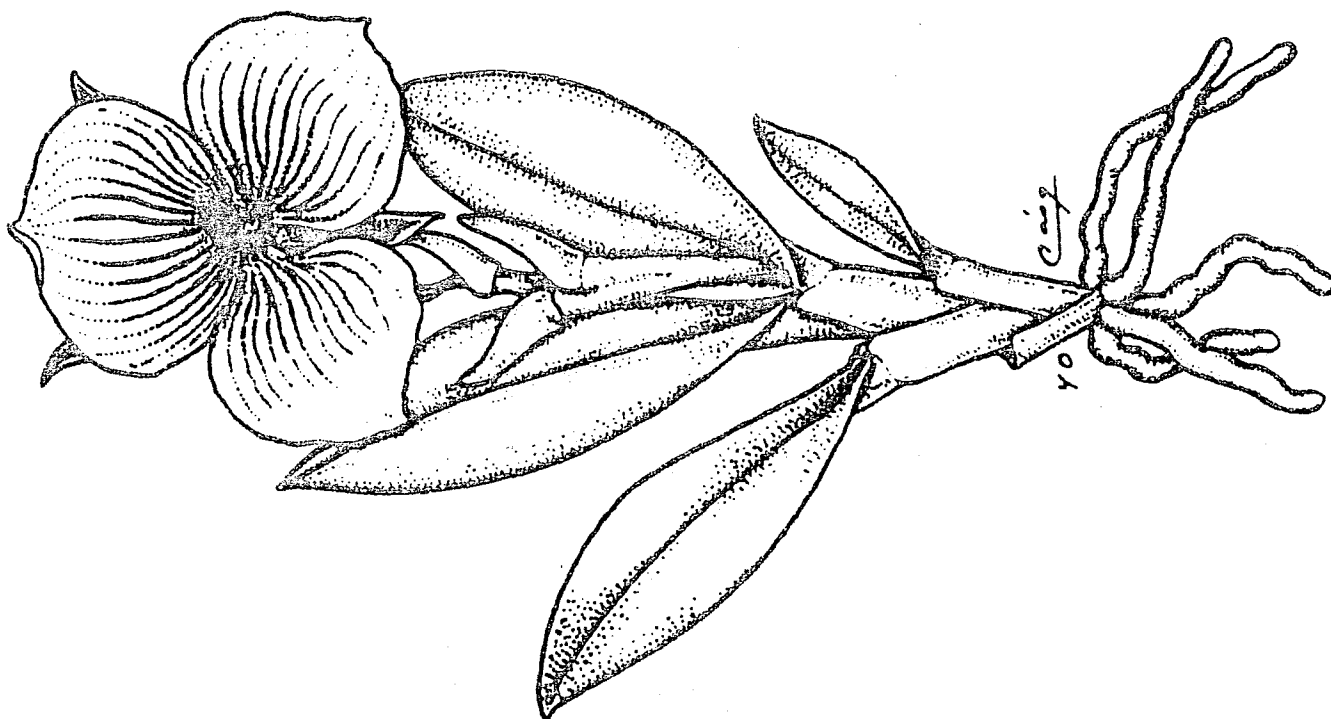


A blonde was visiting Washington, DC for the first time. She wanted to see the Capitol Building. Unfortunately, she couldn't find it, so she asked a police officer for directions. "Excuse me, officer, how do I get to the Capitol Building?"

The officer replied, "Wait here at this bus stop for the number 54 bus. It'll take you right there." She thanked the officer and he drove off.

Three hours later the police officer returned to the same area and, sure enough, the blonde is still waiting at the same bus stop. The officer got out of his car and said, "Excuse me, but to get to the Capitol Building, I said to wait here for the number 54 bus. That was three hours ago. Why are you still waiting?"

The blonde replied, "Don't worry, officer, it won't be long now. The 45th bus just went by!"



The Illinois Orchid Society, Inc.

Jim Spatzek, Editor

10 Fairfax Lane

Lincolnshire, IL 60069-4013

July 2000

Dated Material Deliver by

July 5, 2000

Address Correction Requested