



The Informer

Newsletter of the Greater Omaha Orchid Society

PO Box 241871 Omaha, NE 68124

greateromahaorchidsociety.org

June 2014

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Submission deadline for the

June Informer: June 30, 2014

Omaha Orchid Society Membership Information

Annual Dues:

Single: \$15.00

Family: \$20.00

Annual dues are paid to the treasurer by January 1 of each year and are delinquent the day after the February meeting. Dues for new members joining after July 31st are one-half the annual rate.

Dues should be made payable to G. O. O. S. and may be mailed to the G. O. O. S. post office box: G. O. O. S., PO Box 241871, Omaha, NE 68124.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS MEETINGS

NOTE THE LOCATION CHANGES FOR EACH MEETING BELOW:

June 11, 2014

LOCATION CHANGE!!!

Olive Crest United

Methodist Church

60th & Girard St.
6:30 PM Potluck dinner, board provides
7:30 Program: Guest Speaker: Glen Decker, Piping Rock Orchids

June 25, 2014

Papillion Library
6:45 PM Papillion Library Board meeting

July 9, 2014

Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.
7:00 PM Grower's Group discussion (all welcome)
7:30 Program: Guest speaker, Kathy Creger, hunting orchids in Jamaica.
Refreshments: TBD

EVENTS

June 19, 2014, 7:00 PM

Lauritzen Gardens
Summer Solstice Lecture by Evelyn J. Hadden, "Eco-Friendly Gardens." \$10 for members, \$14 for non-members. Info: 402-346-4002, ext 201.

June 28 - 29, 2014

River City Cactus and Succulent Society Show. Mulhalls Nursery, 3615 N. 120th St. Omaha.

July 27, 2014

Central Iowa Orchid Society Annual Speakers Day. Camp Dodge, IA. Speakers: Russ Vernon, New Vision Orchids, IN; Peter Lin, Big Leaf Orchids, Southlake, TX.

September 13 - 14, 2014

Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI; Contact: Richard Odders, 262-632-3008, odders2445@gmail.com

September 19-20-21, 2014

Twentieth Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival. Natt's Orchids and Orchids by Hausermann plus guest growers. www.chicagolandorchidfest.com

THIS MONTH'S MEETING

NOTE: TEMPORARY LOCATION CHANGE

NOTE: This month's meeting will be at the Olive Crest United Methodist Church at 60th and Girard (see the maps on page ??). We will have a potluck dinner, starting at 6:30 PM. The board members will provide the food but if anyone else would care to bring something, fell free to do so.

Last month we discussed some temperate zone slipper orchids native to the US and in particular Nebraska. But for the June meeting, we have the REAL deal, the tropical slipper orchids. And Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids in Galway, NY will tell you just about everything you want and need to grow slipper orchids, regardless whether they are Paphiopedilum (Asian slippers) or Phragmipediums (South and Central American slippers).

Glen Decker began growing orchids at the age of 15 and holds the degree of Associate in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. Glen is presently the owner of Piping Rock Orchids in Galway New York. He was the previous chair of the American Orchid Society's Publications Committee and a past Director of the Orchid Digest Corporation. Glen has won numerous AOS awards, including

JUNE AOS ORCHIDS MAGAZINE HIGHLIGHTS

the Butterworth Prize, Nax Trophy, WW Wilson Award and the Carlyle A. Luer Award. He has appeared in Martha Stewart's Better Living Magazine and on a PBS TV special "Orchid Delirium". He rewrote the Slipper section of the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's "The Best Orchids for Indoors" and was the technical editor for the "Orchids for Dummies" book. He also has written many articles on Paphiopedilums and Phragmipedium, which have been published worldwide.

Glen will have plants for purchase and we will have free food for you. So plan to spend the evening with us.

Next month's meeting will be at the Extension Office.

A NOTE FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Two of our library collection's best beginner books are: Simon & Schuster's guide to ORCHIDS and Taylor's guide to ORCHIDS. Each has hundreds of outstanding photographs of orchids. Each has cultivation notes, name variants, and family details. Pretty nearly any plant you are likely to meet is listed, indexed, and described. Color variants, fragrance, blooming habits, environmental preferences, and basic needs are clearly given. Best of all, it's all brief but chock full of info. Definitely a gold mine of essentials, either or both of these will meet your needs. Check them out!

CIOS SPEAKERS DAY NEXT MONTH

Remember CIOS Speakers Day is July 27. The registration form is on page 4 of this newsletter. More info: <http://c-we.com/cios/ciosspk.htm>

The June 2014 issue of AOS Orchids has some great articles. In the section "For the Novice," there is plenty of information even for the non-novice. In "Orchids Parts and Why They Matter," the Sue Bottom discusses the differences between monopodial and sympodial orchids and the part of each of these types of orchids: flowers, roots, etc. And there is another article intended for "novices" by Ray Barkalow on repotting. He discusses the importance of healthy root systems and growing media.

There is an extensive interview with Gene Crocker of Carter and Holmes Orchids (Newberry, South Carolina). (We had Gene give a seminar some years back that was well attended.) His specialty is hybrid Cattleyas and there are pages full of Cattleya photos.

For the orchid addict, there is an essay by Ellen Cross Kennedy, a fellow addict. Her essay won the 2013 Gordon W. Dillon/Richard C. Peterson Prize for "Finding Space for One More Orchid."

After last month's meeting (and for those who went on the field trip to Columbus, NE) there should be some members more familiar with Cypripediums. An article by Ron Hanco discusses the species found in the Pacific Northwest.

This issue of AOS Orchids and other recent ones are available in our library. There are a couple of new additions to the library: the 2-volume compendium on miniature orchids and a book on the genus *Huntleya*. Check out the offerings.

CONSERVATION REPORT: HUNTING FOR RARE ORCHIDS IN NEBRASKA PRAIRIES

Seven GOOS members traveled to central Nebraska on May 24 to search for the illusive and State-protected Small White Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*). And they were rewarded with the sights and fragrance of one of Nebraska's floral treasures. There were numerous plants in the roadside ditch and more could be seen on the adjoining hay meadow. Some plants on the roadside shoulder were damaged by mowing.

The landowners (two brothers) came by and explained that they had mowed the shoulder. We showed them the orchid and discussed its rarity and it's need for special growing conditions and the presence of a fungus for the germination of seeds. We complimented them on the maintenance of the hay meadow, which apparently provides excellent growing conditions for the plant. We recommended that if they mow the roadside shoulder, that they should raise the blade somewhat to avoid mowing the orchids or mow at a different time.

They gave us permission to go on the hay meadow but only Eric Stoiber went (since it meant broad jumping over an expanse of water). Once on the hay meadow, he noted numerous slipper plants as well as a number of unusual Nebraska wild flowers.

A few days earlier, Jim Pырzynski and Eric surveyed a population of the Showy Orchis (*Galearis spectabilis*) in Fontenelle Forest. Some plants, seen in previous years, were not found this year but one plant had additional growths (and blooms), another group had several growths and flower spikes and one plant not seen previously was noted. Since the flowers were nearly spent, other GOOS members were not contacted.

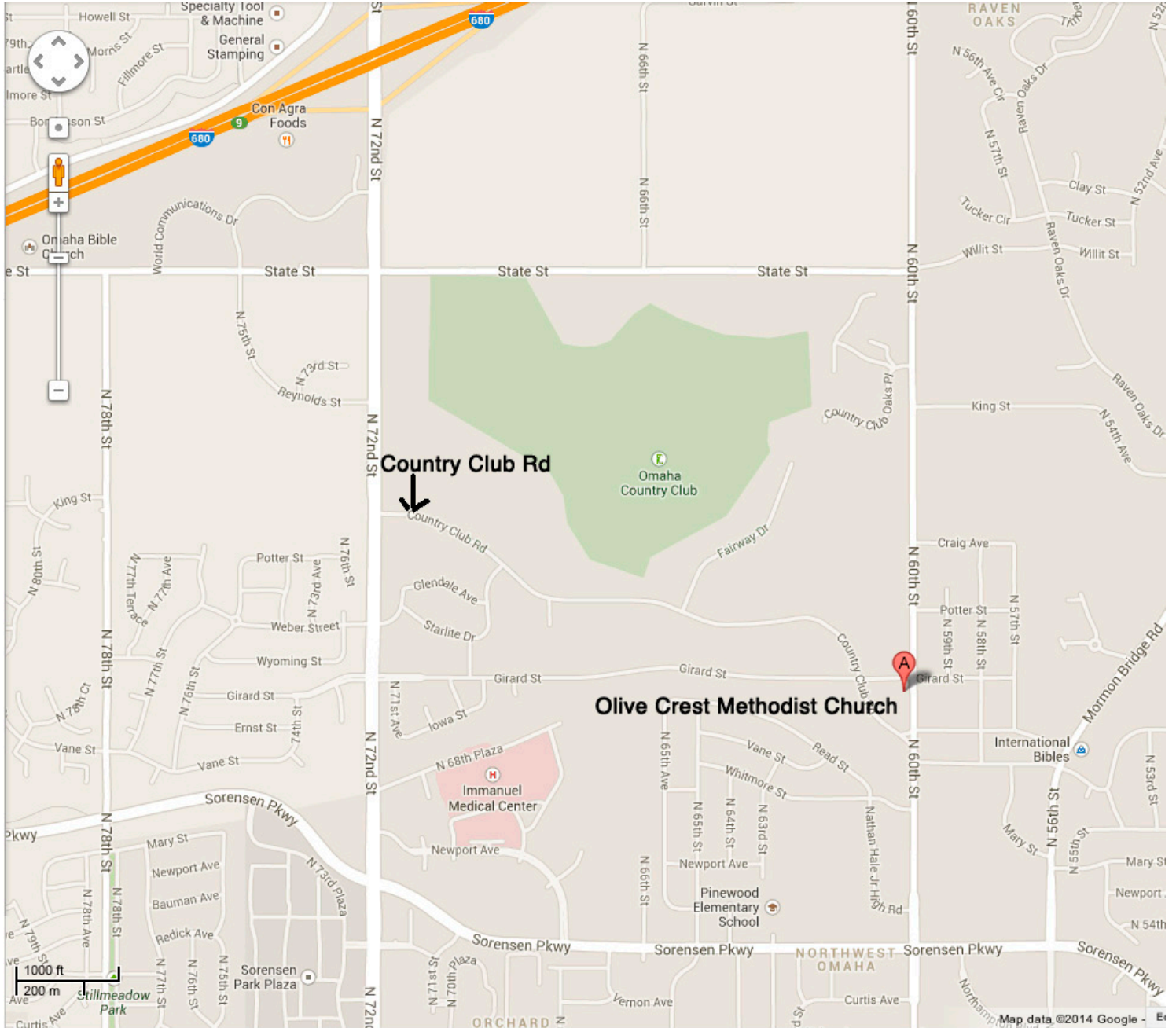


Small White Lady's Slipper (*Cypripedium candidum*). Photo by Eric Stoiber



Eric Stoiber gives Anne Pamperl an assist in taking a photo. Photo by Jim Pырzynski

MAPS AND DIRECTIONS TO JUNE 11 MEETING LOCATION OLIVE CREST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 60TH ST AND GIRARD ST.



If arriving from the south and/or east, take the North Freeway to Sorenson Parkway. Take the Sorenson Parkway to 60th St and turn north (right) and turn left onto Country Club to access the church parking lot. The parking lot is on the south end of the church property (see detail on next page).

If taking I-680, exit at 72nd St. and go south on 72nd St to Country Club. Turn east onto Country Club and proceed on to the church. Alternatively, you could turn on Girard St. but the street is in need of some repair, or you could also take 72nd St. to Sorenson Parkway and go east to 60th St, and then north on 60th as in the first paragraph.



Detail of Olive Crest United Methodist Church area. "A" is the church building, Note the locations of the church parking lot, Country Club, and 60th St.



**Central Iowa Orchid Society Speaker's Day
July 27th, 2014
Registration Form**

To help us plan for Speaker's Day, we encourage you to fill out this registration form and return it to:

**Central Iowa Orchid Society
c/o Ardie Strawman
3206 Bel-Aire Road
Des Moines, IA 50310.**

We would like these returned by July 12, 2014 if possible.

Please make checks payable to the Central Iowa Orchid Society.
\$25.00 per person (\$30.00 at the door).

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ City _____

State _____ ZipCode _____

Number of people attending _____

Amount Enclosed _____

Interested in attending a Saturday evening Reception with our speakers and CIOS members _____

MONTHLY REPORTS

05-14-14 Greater Omaha Orchid Society - General Meeting
Douglas / Sarpy County Extension Office, Omaha

Joe Langton began the Learner's Class on Dendrobiums with samples from Hawaii and flowers that "last forever." Every color, shape are available; not much for fragrance. Repot every few years; likes small pots; growths are beside each other; hard to get divisions; needs good light. A new member requested advice on a mounted orchid and wanted to pot. Eric suggested net pot; coarse bark in clay also suggested by Joe.

Minutes/Newsletter: No questions or comments.

Financials: Aaron Bugjo reported \$1,231.87 net following the Orchid Show.

June: Glen Decker presenting at church location; members may pre-order; others available for purchase. Potluck: board-main items; members-sides (optional).

Spring into Spring: volunteers to meet with Jim Pyrzynski for details.

Old Business: Dave Taylor 'exceeded expectations' for recovery of recent surgery. Members encouraged to send cards. Due to house fire from sodium lights, Vi and Jack Thraen are in a hotel.

New Business: See Joe Langton for ride to St. Louis July 12th for First Orchid Seminar by Greater St. Louis Orchid Society.

Compensation: should be available to GOOS members attending on business; to be worked out and initiated for hotel and mileage.

Orchid Books: Roberta Ginavan received books ordered for \$118.52 each.

Break-time: mini-meal items by Mr. & Mrs. Bugjo; Mrs. Lewzader; drinks.

"Reintroduction of Nebraska's Native Orchids" by Jim Pyrzynski:

Nebraska orchid slides started with one found near the Mormon Bridge; others growing at Indian Caves state park. Native orchids starting to bloom; small; sheltered by tall grasses; sandy soil. *Cypripedium parviflorum*; *C Reginae* (MN State Flower) noted as "one of the easiest ones to grow." Jim described media and water used for seedlings: chicken grit, coir, Turface, and sometimes crushed oyster shell. "Kentucky Lady's Slipper Orchid Restoration Project" passed around. Jim described conditions needed for serious members deciding to attempt growing seedlings in one of ten pots he brought for distribution (free). "If we can grow these, the State needs to consider the possibility of growing native Nebraska cyps for reintroduction ." Aaron noted yellow orchids blooming in project posted on Henry Doorly Zoo's FaceBook.

Raffled orchids preceded "Show and Tell." *Dendrobium polymorphous* species with a lemony fragrance from Berma's Himalayas, and a tiny red-violet orchid were shown by Don Steinegger; indicated lights with adjustment dials for wattage from 700 to 360 was helpful; induction lights also used. Jim Pyrzynski: four orchids including a pink orchid from Mexico. Eric Stoiber: two orchids acclimated to his greenhouse including a large, mounted *Encyclia*.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. Church directions: see June newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Anne Smith

05-28-14

Greater Omaha Orchid Society
Meeting of the Board of Directors

Present: Eric Stoiber, Jim Pyrzynski, Aaron Bugjo, Roberta Ginavan, Ron Fechner, Jacque Lewzader, and Marie Smith.

Meeting called to order.

Jacque mentioned menu items for the Pot Luck in June. Board to provide foods. Jim is bringing 10' wide paper for projection and projector. Church will be opened at 6:15 for dinner setup, dinner starts at 6:30. Roberta may meet Glen Decker at the airport. Vi's home may be of help as near the church.

July speaker: Eric mentioned "Orchids of the Caribbean" by a speaker who would need flight (Kathy Creger) from Minneapolis. Financial status was discussed for speakers, with budget of \$1,250 remaining for the fiscal year, with new FY starting October 1st. Jim kindly volunteered to sponsor Kathy Creger. Society picks up airfare and what able. Concerns regarding size of attendance, due to July schedule, were raised. Jim suggested other groups to come and enjoy this especially good speaker. Marie suggested Paradigm to get word out. Jim and Eric will speak with Nick. Eric will offer his home. Roberta noted that botanical art is fairly rare; unique. Discussion occurred regarding draws of people between the botanical art and "Orchids of the Caribbean." Jim suggested "Orchids of the Caribbean" for society members, with invitations to other groups.

March 7 - 8, 2015 is scheduled for Annual Orchid show at Lauritzen.

August 13th Auction: Where to purchase orchids and how much to designate in fund (\$250-\$335 max.) began discussion. Dave Bird provides blooming plants. Due to winter's weather and other factors, Florida and California growers have little to offer. Roberta volunteered to get plants from Bird. Possible auctioneers were discussed. Decision: \$200/Dave Bird for blooming orchids; Roberta will contact Bird. If needed, can go to \$250.

Spring into Spring: Member volunteers mostly bought plants. Kevin Smith from Metro Community College may be a new member and working with orchids. Another possible new member will be checked by Jacque.

Newsletters and Membership:

Courtesy copies of the newsletter was brought up by Jim. Membership list discussed. Newsletter distribution is by email (and some USPS mail) to those who are current members. A few courtesy copies are emailed. The current membership list can now be finalized and expired membership mailings eliminated. Caution should also be exercised so that only valid (current paid) members represent the Society at events (e.g., annual orchid show).

Nominating Committee: By-laws supersede Roberts Rules of Order. One board member is to report status and is preferred for the 3-member committee, and with consideration for seeking persons who are and remain engaged and are committed. Jacque, out-going board member, will chair.

Columbus Orchid Conservation Trip: Jim provided an update. The zoo posted info about the area near the Mormon Bridge. "Marge" could be a possible speaker about the conservation efforts in that area/Nebraska; possible October speaker?

Mileage and Costs: Eric reiterated the issue and question of reimbursement brought up by Joe Lankton at the General Meeting for show attendance, if there for official purpose, representing G.O.O.S. Conflict of interest/double-dipping is needed for mindfulness; pre-designations/authorizations and expectations were also noted. Board will need to mull over and discuss further to ensure a sound policy that is fair and affordable, while also, perhaps, authorizing representation by GOOS at specific shows.

Meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Marie Anne Smith

