



The Informer

Newsletter of the Greater Omaha Orchid Society

PO Box 241871 Omaha, NE 68124

greateromahaorchidsociety.org August 2016

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Submission deadline for the
September Informer: September
5, 2016.

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:

August 10, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.
7:00 PM AOS Webinar demo
7:30 PM Program: TBA
Refreshments: Marilyn Hawes

August 24, 2016
Denny's 84th and I-80!!!
7:00 PM
Board meeting

September 14, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.
7:00 PM growers group
7:30 PM Program: Annual Meeting and TBA program
Refreshments: Jim Pyrzynski

EVENTS

September 17 - 18, 2016
Wisconsin Orchid Society Show "Fall In Love With Orchids" Contact: Richard Odders, 262-632-3008, odders2445@gmail.com. Location: Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI

September 24 - 25, 2016
Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City Annual Orchid Show and Sale, Loose Park Garden Center, Kansas City, MO.

September 23 - 25, 2016
24th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Fest. Natt's Orchids, Naperville, IL and Orchids by Hausermann, Villa Park, IL http://www.chicagolandorchidfest.com/images/2016Chicagoland_Orchidfest_flyer.jpg

October 8 - 9, 2016
Illinois Orchid Society Show "SAY IT WITH ORCHIDS" Contact: Kay Perry 843-290-9917, spencer.aloysius@gmail.com. Location: Chicago Botanic Gardens, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, IL

October 15 - 16, 2016
Eastern Iowa Orchid Show & Sale, Contact: Andy Coghill-Behrends, 319-512-8076 mistercoghill@hotmail.com. Location: Noelridge Gardens Greenhouse, 4900 Council St. NE, Cedar Rapids, IA

November 5 - 6, 2016
Kansas Orchid Society Fall Orchid Show & Sale Contact: Greg & Susan Tompkins 316-283-1265 setompkins@outlook.com. Location: Botanica, The Wichita Gardens, 701 Amidon St., Wichita, KS

AUGUST GETTING TO THE ROOT OF THE MATTER

Wednesday's program is about getting to the root of the matter – literally. We're going to view an American Orchid Society Webinar on orchid roots and how to maintain them. Most people ooh and aww over the beauty of some orchid flower but rarely consider the condition of the roots of the plant in question – are they healthy, or are they mush? A beautiful flower will not last long without the support of a healthy set of roots.

John Salventi, former owner of Parkside Orchids in Pennsylvania, gives the talk. He discusses the importance of orchid roots, root structure, growth habit, etc. Afterwards we can discuss the issue further if desired.

At 7:00 PM Eric will give a demo on how to access the webinars online.

Additionally, there will be an announcement from the nominating committee (Ron Fechner, RJ Hadley and Wendy) about the slate of candidates for the board. (You just can't escape elections this year.) At the September meeting, additional nominations may be made from the floor (but the nominee needs to agree to the nomination) and the election will be held.

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY
ORCHID SHOW
SEPTEMBER 24 - 25, 2016

The OSGKC will hold its annual orchid show next month, September 24 – 25 at Loose Park in Kansas City, MO. We WILL have a display – no ifs or maybes allowed. If you have an orchid blooming at that time, we will need it for the display. So make plans now for what might be coming into bloom then. We can use some help transporting plants – both ways, setting up the display, registering the plants, etc. Contact Jim if you can help out.

Monthly Checklist for July and August

Cattleya

Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher 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. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum

Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two 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 at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Phalaenopsis

Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now. This month and next are when these plants achieve their maximum growth. This growth will be that from which they set their spikes for the coming season. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking will be realized. Growers in cooler areas such as the Pacific coast have the advantage this month, should they choose, of cooling for early season spikes. Lots of heat and light call for liberal applications of water and fertilizer.

Cymbidium

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growth should be coming 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 flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower 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, other pleurothallids and the like, the next few months will be a challenge. During the hottest times, keep your plants more shaded and be sure to keep the humidity level much higher. Do not let plants dry out. Delay any potting until the weather cools.

Oncidium intergenerics

Many of the intergeneric crosses between odontoglossums and oncidiums, such as *Odontocidium*, *Wilsonara* and *Colmanara*, will be blooming now. Take special care to train the spikes for best floral display. Keep plants under fairly shady conditions. Watch for snails and slugs.

Vandaceous

Plants will be growing quickly now and really enjoying the hot humid days so similar to their native habitat. Watch for pests though, as many of these also enjoy the same conditions as the plants. Check flower spikes so that they can extend unimpeded for the best flower presentation later.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.
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MID-AMERICA JUDGING CENTER JULY 2016 AOS AWARDS



Phalaenopsis Taisuco Micky 'Kaleidoscope' HCC/AOS 77 points
owned by Matt and Michele Jaenke of the OSOGLS group



Podangis dactyloceras 'Pink Dink' CCM/85 points
owned by Melissa Garner of Memphis, TN

**CIOS Speakers day
AOS AWARD WINNER**



Encyclia Nina Chin 'Orkiddoc'
Owned by Larry Sexton