



The Informer

Newsletter of the Greater Omaha Orchid Society

PO Box 241871 Omaha, NE 68124

greateromahaorchidsociety.org

January 2016

OFFICERS

President:

Eric Stoiber
(402) 206-4554

Vice President:

Jim Pyrzynski
(402) 734-4112

Secretary:

Cindy Mass

Treasurer:

Aaron Bugjo

Board Members:

Don Steinegger
1 (402) 488-8064

Robert Mann
(402) 896-1709

Ron Fechner
(402) 618-4268

Past President:

Roberta Ginavan
(712) 487-3085

Newsletter Editor:

Jim Pyrzynski

Articles may be mailed to Jim at
2107 Alberta Ave., Bellevue, NE
68005 or emailed to:

jpyrzynski@cox.net

Submission deadline for the
February Informer: February
4, 2016.

Omaha Orchid Society Mem- bership 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 Febru-
ary 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:

January 13, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension
Office, 8015 West Center
Rd.

Douglas/Sarpy Extension
Office, 8015 West Center
Rd.

7:00 PM GROWERS
GROUP

7:30 PM Program: How
register plants for the show
Refreshments: Jacque
Lewzader

January 27, 2016
Papillion Library
6:45 PM Papillion Library
Board meeting

February 10, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension
Office, 8015 West Center
Rd.

(February cont.)

7:00 PM GROWERS
GROUP

7:30 PM Program: show
preparations
Refreshments: TBD

EVENTS

January 30 – 31, 2016

Madison Orchid Growers
Guild "Orchid Quest 2016"
Marriott Madison West
Conference Center, 1313
John Q Hammons Dr.,
Middleton, WI, Contact:
Terri Jozwiak. 608-592-
7905, lodijoz@charter.net

January 30 – 31, 2016

Orchid Society of
Minnesota "Winter
Carnival Orchid Show"
Como Park, Marjorie
McNeely Conservatory,
1225 Estabrook Drive,
St. Paul, MN, Contact:
Michael Dyda, 612-223-
4059, [michael1027us@
yahoo.com](mailto:michael1027us@yahoo.com)

January 30 - 31, 2016

St. Cecilia Flower Festival
701 N. 40th St. Omaha, NE

February 18 -- 21, 2016

Omaha Home Lawn,
Flower, and Patio Show,
CenturyLink Center
Omaha.

March 5 - 6, 2016

Greater Omaha Orchid
Society 29th Annual Orchid
Show & Sale, Lauritzen
Gardens, 100 Bancroft St.,
Omaha, NE, Contact: Jim
Pyrzynski, 402-734-4112,
jpyrzynski@cox.net

THIS MONTH'S MEETING WHAT CLASS IS MY ORCHID IN?

This is a busy time of year
for Orchid Societies and
ours is no exception. For
us, to start off the new year
is the St. Cecilia Flower
Festival at the end of Janu-
ary, followed a little more
than a month later by our
annual orchid show. Sand-
wiched between these to
events is the Home and
Garden Show at the Cen-
turyLink Center at which
we will have a booth with
Society and orchid cul-
ture information but that is
about all.

For the January, Joe Lank-
ton will attempt to remove
some of the mysteries in
the Show Schedule (which
is used to determine what
classes plants are to be
entered in). Some of the
terms in the Show Schedule
can be confusing or dif-
ficult to understand for the
novice (and sometimes the
not-so-novice).

Additionally, last year there
were some mistakes made
in entering plants by a
GOOS member who had
her own display. Each ex-
hibit has its own exhibit
number but some exhibits
may have more than one
exhibitor, so different ex-
hibitors have their own
exhibit numbers (and this
information is recorded on
the show tags at registra-
tion).

So now is your opportunity to learn the process. Come to the meeting to learn this and more.

**ST. CECILIA
FLOWER FESTIVAL
JAN. 30, 31**

The St. Cecilia Flower Festival is the last weekend in January (January 30, 31). We will have a display at the event and we have been assigned to do a display with the theme, "The King and I." The theme for the entire festival is "A Night at the Movies!"

Eric Stoiber will be discussing the details of the display with Brother William Woeger who is responsible for the event. Eric could use some help with the display. We will purchase plants (we receive a stipend from the Cathedral Arts Program organization to cover our expenses) and the display will be setup on Friday morning, January 29. Contact Eric if you want to help.

**ANNUAL ORCHID
SHOW
MARCH 6, 7**

Our annual orchid show is only about 2 months away – March 6, 7 (setup on March 5). Every year people in the Omaha area flock to the event and we need to be prepared to put our best foot forward. We'll have sign-up sheets for the areas we need support – setup, tear down, information booth staffing, clerking at judging on Saturday morning (6:30 a.m.), Society display, etc.

Hospitality for our visiting vendors and orchid societies is highly important – they drive long distances, and work long hours. We NEED a hospitality committee. This was discussed after the show last year and

we have some members that expressed an interest but nothing concrete developed. So just maybe there is someone out there with some organizational skill who would like to take on the task.

The program for January (see 1st page) is on entering your plants. Look at the plants you have now and start grooming them for the show. Give them some extra care to ensure they are ready. For February we will continue with show preparations – our bark shipment should be here and we will bag up potting mix, which will be sold at the information table.

We welcome member displays at the show. If you would like to have your own display (rather than having your plants in the Society display), get a show application from Jim Pyrzynski.

**IT'S MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL TIME**

If you haven't already done so, it's time to renew your membership. The form is on the last page of this newsletter. Your membership helps the Society move forward and you are an important component of the group. Remember, you will need to have an up-to-date membership to place your plants in the Society display and to be involved in Society show activities (which includes free entry to the Gardens during the show). So renew now, memberships become delinquent on the day after the February meeting (February 11).

**LOS
DISBANDS**

We're disappointed to learn that the Lincoln Society has decided to disband. They voted to donate their assets

to our Society.

**ORCHID AND
HUMAN B.O.**

A study, conducted by researchers at the University of Washington, on mosquitoes attracted to a North American orchid determined that some species of mosquitoes were attracted to *Platanthera obtusata* by the scent that it gives off. They observed some mosquitoes carrying pollinia and identified sites where the orchids were present. They evaluated the compounds from the orchid scent and determined that *P. obtusata* gives off some chemicals found in human body odor. The scent is barely detectable to humans but apparently mosquitoes are able to detect it. The conclusion is that the scent helps attract mosquitoes to act as a pollinator of the orchid.

P. obtusata is a small orchid found in wetlands and coniferous forests. It is found in northeastern U.S., the Rockies, across Canada and Alaska. There are a couple of different subspecies with one found in Eurasia. The nearest locations to Omaha to observe *P. obtusata* would be Minnesota or the Colorado mountains. It blooms from June to August depending on the location.

Thank you Anne Vidaver for this interesting information.

<http://news.sciencemag.org/plants-animals/2016/01/orchids-give-human-body-odor-attract-mosquitoes>

**THIS MOTNH'S
AOS ORCHIDS**

The January issue of AOS Orchids is available for your review. There are several pages of AOS awarded orchids which should give you an idea of what a great orchid looks like. Tom Miranda has some helpful hints on how to grow those temperamental but gorgeous Miltoniopsis. Sue Bottom discusses the culture of terrestrial Habenarias. Pepe Portilla tries to lure us back to Ecuador for the 2016 World Orchid Conference. A Lindleyana article discusses an attractive Cymbidium species found in Southern China. Alexander Vasiljev gives us an overview of the orchids of Laos.

There are two articles about native North American Orchids. One discusses the North American Orchid Conservation Center, which was initiated by the Smithsonian Institution and the US Botanic Garden. The other discusses a species (*Hexaletris parviflora*) new to the US (it grows in neighboring Mexico). The orchid was recently discovered growing in the mountains of Arizona.

Check it out.



Some of the food at the 2015 Holiday Party.

MID-AMERICA JUDGING CENTER DECEMBER 2015 AOS AWARDS



Paphiopedilum Kemp Tower 'Twist of Fate' AM/82
owned by Matt and Michelle Jaenke (their first AOS
award) of Columbia, IL



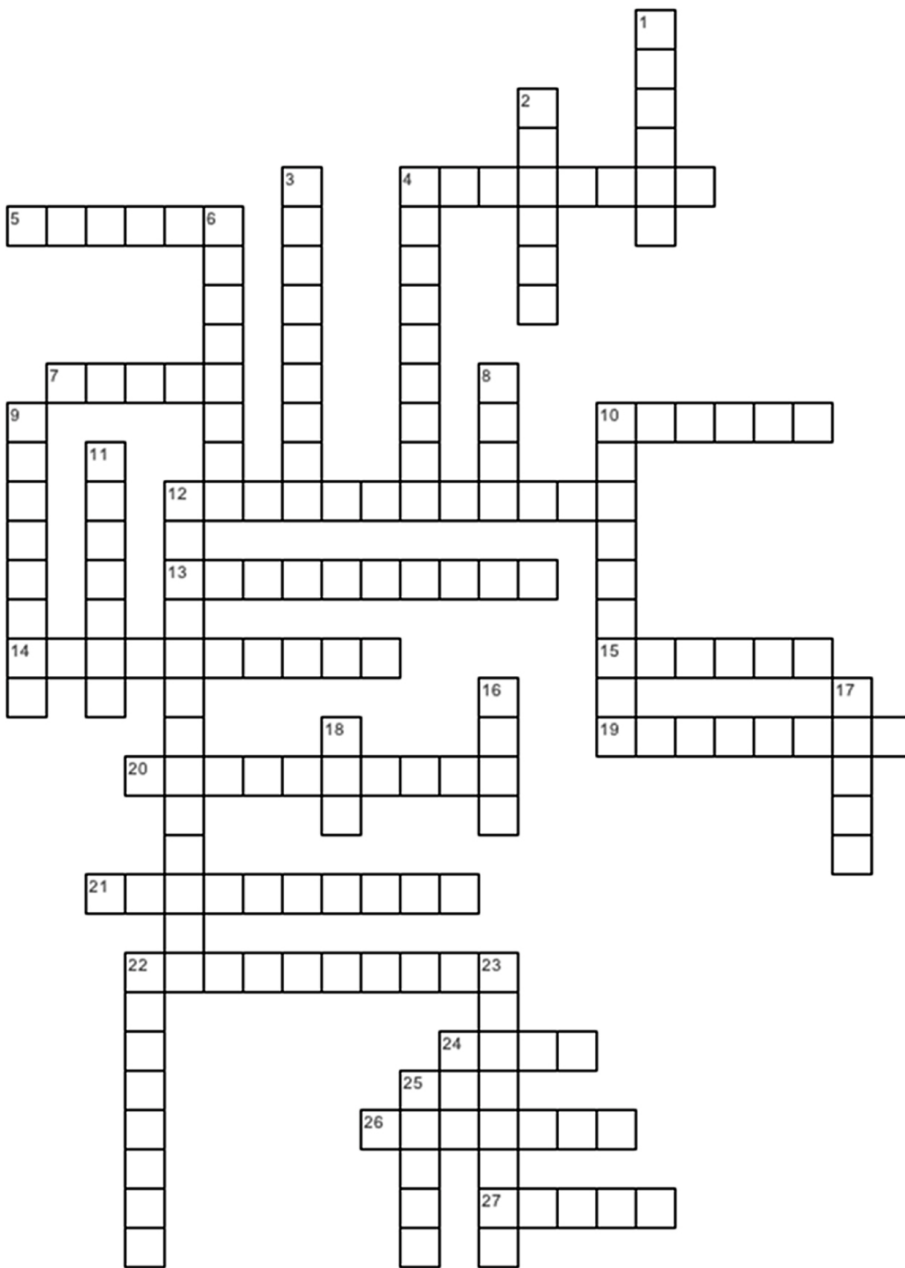
provisional award to
Rhyncattleante (Cattleya Pole Star x Elaine Taylor) HCC/76
owned by Nathan Bell of Branson, MO



Paphiopedilum Angry Bird 'Joanne Barnick' HCC/79
owned by David Bird from Blue Springs, MO

ORCHID CROSSWORD PUZZLE

All About Orchids



Across

- 4 White fuzzies
- 5 Orchid crosses
- 7 Rules governing trading of endangered plants
- 10 Uppermost sepal
- 12 cross between two or more genera
- 13 Light measurement
- 14 Grows on rocks
- 15 Common weed amongst orchids
- 19 Huge plant
- 20 Water & nutrient storage system
- 21 Single vegetative shoot growing upward
- 22 2x the chromosomes
- 24 group of progeny of a specific cross
- 26 Root cover
- 27 growing tip of plant

Down

- 1 Potting material
- 2 Tiny grains of genetic material
- 3 Two leaves on a single bulb
- 4 Plant duplicate made in lab
- 6 Means of sharing plants by cutting
- 8 Joint or notch on flowering stem
- 9 Old pseudobulb for propagating loss of leaves
- 10 loss of leaves
- 11 Orchid babies out of the flask and into the ...
- 12 flowering portion of the orchid
- 16 White form of a flower
- 17 group of orchids with common ancestry
- 18 Seed capsule
- 22 Naming orchids
- 23 rest period
- 25 A baby!

Answers?? Get them at the January meeting or in next month's newsletter.

**GREATER OMAHA ORCHID SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL FORM (2016)**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE (____) _____

EMAIL _____

SINGLE DUES - \$15.00 FAMILY DUES - \$20.00 STUDENT (18 YRS AND UNDER) - \$5.00

Make check payable to the Greater Omaha Orchid Society, and mail to:
Greater Omaha Orchid Society, P. O. Box 241871, Omaha, NE 68124