



The Informer

Newsletter of the Greater Omaha Orchid Society

PO Box 241871 Omaha, NE 68124

greateromahaorchidsociety.org October 2016

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Submission deadline for the
November Informer: October
30, 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:

October 12, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.
7:00 PM sale plants purchase
7:30 PM Program: Guest Speaker, Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn USA
Refreshments: Mary Keast

October 26, 2016
Denny's 84th and I-80!!!
7:00 PM
Board meeting

October 12, 2016
Douglas/Sarpy Extension Office, 8015 West Center Rd.
7:00 PM growers group
7:30 PM Program: TBD
Refreshments: Craig Mayer

EVENTS

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

November 12 - 13, 2016

Niagara Frontier Orchid Society Show and Mid America Orchid Congress - Fall Meeting. Buffalo and Erie County Botanical Gardens, 2655 South Park Avenue, Buffalo, NY. Contact: Donna Lipowicz 716-479-7698 ladysliper@roadrunner.com

January 28 - 29, 2017

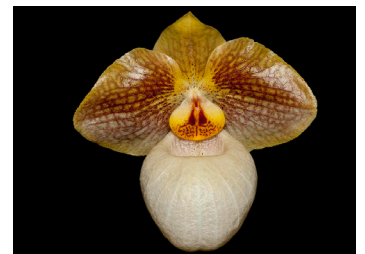
Orchid Society of Minnesota "Winter Carnival, Como Park, Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Drive, St. Paul, MN. Contact: Michael Dyda 612-223-4059 michael1027us@yahoo.com

GET YOUR PAPH FIX WEDNESDAY

Sam Tsui, of Orchid Inn USA will be our guest speaker. He's been a regular at our shows for a number of years, and he brings spectacular displays of Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums with flowers that boggle the mind. His plants have received numerous AOS awards – and lots of demand.

Sam will talk on how to grow Paphs, and what's out there that is new – and old. He will bring plants to sell – and for those who pre-ordered please be there to complete the purchase of your plants.

We will take Sam to dinner at the Farmhouse Café around 5 pm before the meeting. If you're interested in dining with Sam, contact Jim (jpyrzynski@cox.net, 402-734-4112). Instead of a growers group preceding the meeting we will leave that period open for browsing through the Sam's sale plants.



KANSAS CITY REPORT

A big thank you to John Dolen, Eric Stober, Jacque Lewzader and yours truly (Jim Pyszynski) for providing more than plants for our display at the the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City show at Loose Park, October 1 – 2. Eric helped with developing a mockup of the display in my driveway (while a large bumblebee tried to pollinate a large *Cattleya* flower (it succeeded in removing the anther cap)) and then photographing it for reference when doing the actual setup in KC. My faithful 17 year old Toyota 4Runner (>233,000 miles) carried the plant cargo and my photographic supplies (I was also the awards photographer). I drove back for an event on Saturday evening, and Eric returned with me for the teardown. So, an extra thanks to Eric for coming up with the display design and helping with the teardown.

Many of the plants won ribbon awards and one of John's plants, *Anguloa ruckeri*, won a trophy. Some plants were pulled for American Orchid Society judging but no GOOS plants received AOS awards. The AOS Show Trophy went to the Springfield Orchid Society exhibit which was awarded a point score of 83. Two plants received AOS awards (photos are on page 4). *Phragmipedium Fritz Schomburg* exhibited by Bird's Botanicals, and *Dendrobium Woon Leng*, exhibited by Jean Rogers of Overland Park, KS. A very informative educational display on *Neofinetia falcata* by Joan Curtin of Kansas City received a 93 point Gold Certificate and the same 93 points for an

Education Exhibit

It was interesting and informative to see how other societies run their shows and it gives some ideas for things we should consider for ours. And that thought leads me to...

GOOS 30th ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW, MARCH 25 – 26, 2017

It's time to start making plans for our next show, our thirtieth annual show! It's less than 6 months away and there are a lot of things that need to be done. We will need volunteers for the hospitality committee, some for a display committee, etc.

Our display needs work, granted the specifics of the layout can't be done until we know what plants we have to work with, but the various components need to be gone through to ensure we have what we need when 5 pm, Friday, March 24, 2017 arrives.

It would be very helpful if someone took responsibility for the information desk.

We should consider some sort of educational display about orchids – where do they come from, what is their lifecycle, etc. We need have something that will grab the interest of visitor beyond just looking at pretty plants in well-designed displays. We need to get them interested in growing orchids and joining the Society.

So give it some thought and lets discuss it further – but we're looking for some volunteers before the holidays. And we also have the St. Cecilia Flower Festival in January to consider.

Paphiopedilum Pfitzer 1886

Pronunciation: paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum

Tribe: Cypripedieae

The generic name *Paphiopedilum* was derived from the Greek Paphos (a city with a temple dedicated to Venus) and pedilon (sandal). As cypripediums, phragmipediums and selenipediums are popularly known as 'lady's slippers', so too are paphs since they are all characterized by a slipper-shaped lip.

Rather than growing from a pseudobulb, these mostly terrestrial, sympodial plants instead form fans of six or more leaves. The flowers of some species present warts and hairs, fascinating traits for lovers of this genus. Depending on the species, the flowers are borne either singularly or in multiples.

Ernst Pfitzer separated the 60-65 known species from *Cypripedium* in 1886. The genus has been further divided into subgenera which form more or less natural groupings. These subgenera include: *Parvisepalum*, *Brachypetalum*, *Polyantha*, *Sigmatopetalum* and *Cochlopetalum*.

Due to their ease in adapting to cultivation, paphs are common in hobbyist collections, far more so than cyps or phrags. Many artificial hybrids have been made with *paphiopedilums* and the number of awards is history. Unlike other popular orchid genera, ways to meristem *Paphiopedilum* have yet to be found and all plants are either collected or grown from seed. Artificially created species are always better in shape and ease of cultivation due to line breeding. Buying collected plants is not recommended – and could land you in jail!

Species popular in collections include: *P. armeniacum*, *P. barbatum*, *P. callosum*, *P. charlesworthii*, *P. concolor*, *P. delenatii*, *P. farrieanum*, *P. lowii*, *P. malipoensis*, *P. micranthum*, *P. rothschildianum*, *P. sanderianum* *P. sukhakulii* and a long etc.

Number of species: The World Monocot Checklist currently recognizes over 100 species, including numerous varietal forms and 23 natural hybrids. (2007)

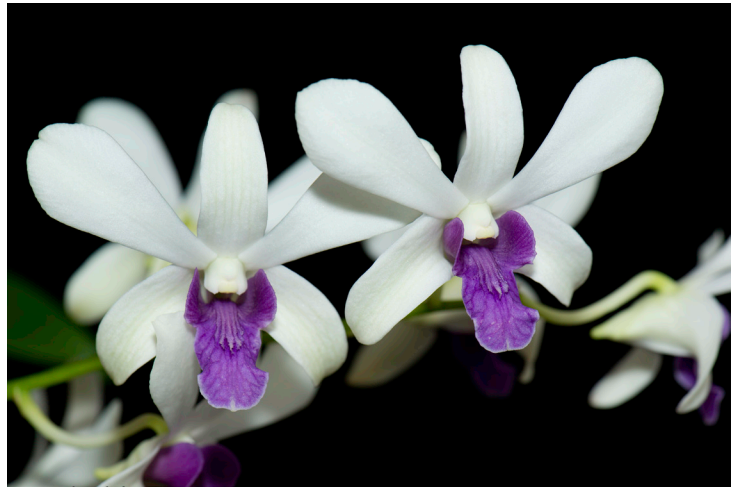
Distribution: Tropical Asia

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MID-AMERICA JUDGING CENTER AUGUST 2016 AOS AWARDS
ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY SHOW, OCTOBER 1 - 2, 2016



Phragmipedium Fritz Schomburg, AM 86 pts.
Exhibited by Bird's Botanicals, Blue Springs, MO



Dendrobium Woon Leng, HCC 76 pts.
Exhibited by Jean Rogers, Overland Park, KS



AOS Show Trophy, Springfield Orchid Society awarded a point score of 83



Educational Exhibit, Neofinetia by Joan Curtin of Kansas City received a 93 point Gold Certificate and the same 93 points for an Education Exhibit

Paphiopedilum

paff-ee-oh-PED-ih-lum

Paphiopedilums, the lady's-slipper orchids, originate in the jungles of the Far East including Indonesia. They are semiterrestrial, growing in humus and other material on the forest floor, on cliffs in pockets of humus and occasionally in trees. They are easy to grow in the home, under lights or in the greenhouse.

LIGHT is easier to provide for paphiopedilums than many other types of orchids. They require shady conditions, as in the home in an east or west window, or near a shaded south window. In the greenhouse, shade must be provided. Give about 1,000 to 1,500 foot-candles. In the home, fluorescent lighting is excellent; suspend two or four tubes 6 to 12 inches above the leaves.

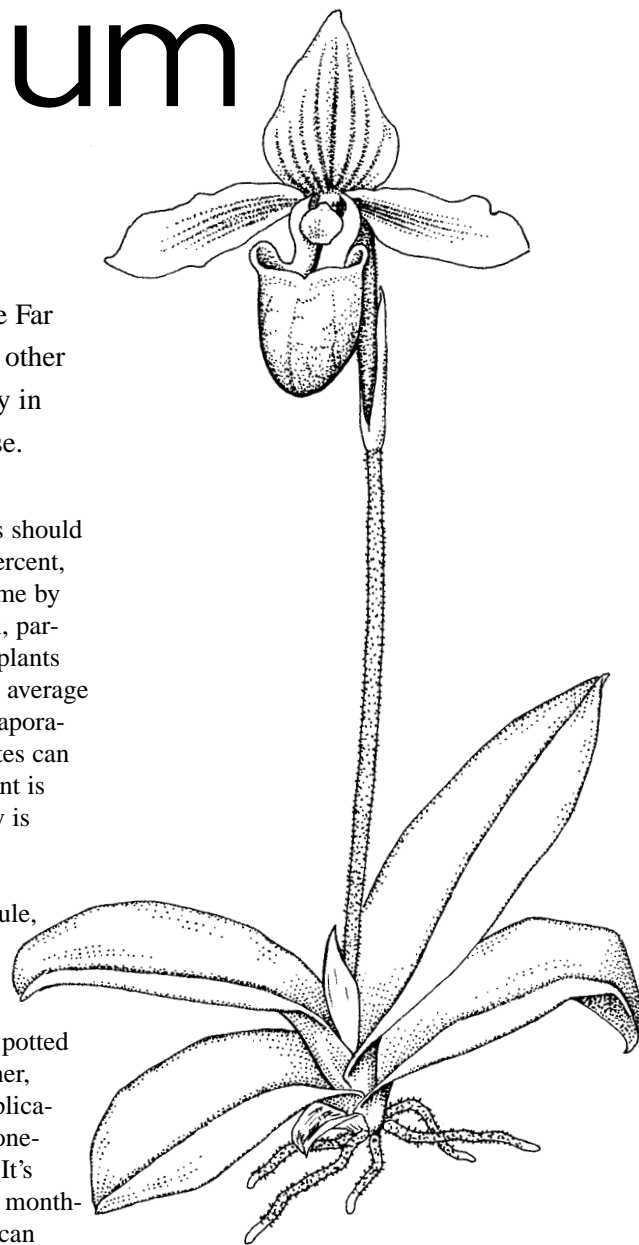
TEMPERATURES for paphiopedilums cover a considerable range. Paphiopedilums are traditionally separated into two groups: the warm-growing mottled-leaved types and the cool-growing green-leaved types. A third, increasingly popular group is the warmer-growing strap-leaved multi-floral paphiopedilums. Warm-growing types should be kept at 60 to 65 F during the night, and 75 to 85 F or more during the day. Cool-growing types should be kept at 50 to 60 F during the night and 75 to 80 F during the day. However, many growers raise all plants in the same temperature range with excellent results. The plants can stand night temperatures in the 40s if necessary (as when grown outside in mild climates), as well as temperatures to 95 F. Care must be taken to protect the plants from rot when cold (keep humidity low, and avoid moisture on leaves or in the crowns of the plants), and also to protect from burning when hot (shade more heavily and increase humidity and air movement around the plants).

WATER must be available at the roots constantly, because all plants in this genus have no pseudobulbs. All of these plants need a moist medium — never soggy, but never dry. Water once or twice a week.

HUMIDITY for paphiopedilums should be moderate, between 40 and 50 percent, which can be maintained in the home by setting the plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water, so that the plants never sit in water. In a greenhouse, average humidity is sufficient. Using an evaporative cooling system in warm climates can increase the humidity. Air movement is essential, especially when humidity is high.

FERTILIZE on a regular schedule, but care must be taken to avoid burning of the fleshy, hairy roots. High-nitrogen fertilizers (such as 30-10-10) are recommended when potted in any fir-bark mix. In warm weather, some growers use half-strength applications every two weeks; others use one-quarter strength at every watering. It's important to flush with clear water monthly to leach excess fertilizer, which can burn roots. In cool weather, fertilizer applications once a month are sufficient.

POTTING should be done about every two years, or as the medium decomposes. Seedlings and smaller plants are often repotted annually. Mixes vary tremendously; most are fine- or medium-grade fir bark, with varying additives, such as perlite (sponge rock), coarse sand and sphagnum moss. Moisture retention with excellent drainage is needed. Large plants can be divided by pulling or cutting the fans of the leaves apart, into clumps of three to five growths. Smaller divisions will grow, but may not flower. Spread the roots over a small amount of medium in the bottom of the pot and fill with medium, so that the junction of roots and stem is buried $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep in the center of the pot. Do not



overpot; an average plant should have a 4- to 6-inch pot.

The American Orchid Society is the world's leading provider of information about and related to orchids. We invite you to join us and learn about the world's most fascinating flowers and plants. Your membership entitles you to our monthly award-winning magazine *Orchids*, a free copy of our cultural guide *Your First Orchid* and the *AOS Orchid Source Directory*, a 10 percent discount on items purchased through The AOS BookShop and Orchid Emporium, and free admission to the International Orchid Center in Delray Beach, Florida.

American Orchid Society

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REPORTS

Greater Omaha Orchid Society, General Meeting Minutes,
September 14, 2016, Douglas-Sarpy County Extension Office, Omaha

The meeting was the Annual Meeting and was called to order by President Eric Stoiber at 7:30 PM.

Minutes. The minutes of the preceding meeting was approved without changes.

Treasurer's Report. Anne Vidaver noted that the donation from the Lincoln Orchid Society was not a memorial as implied by the report. She requested that the donation be noted as just donation. Eric Stoiber agreed and contacted the Treasurer for corrective action.

Audit Committee. Jacque Lewzader gave the report for the Audit Committee (which consisted of Jacque and Dick and Carol Behrens). There were no problems noted in the book, the ledger was in "great shape."

Lauritzen Gardens Donation. Eric discussed the need for an annual donation to the Lauritzen Gardens. We made a one-time donation but an annual donation would further our relationship with the Gardens. They host our annual show and publicize the event widely without any funds from us. The 2016/17 budget contains a line item for an annual donation of \$200. A motion was made to approve the donation, the motion was seconded and approved.

2016/17 Budget.

Board Nominations. Ron Fechner, chair of the Nominating Committee, announced the names of the committees nominees: Robert Mann (second term), John Dolen, and Anne Pamperl. He then asked if there were any nominations from the floor – there was none. He then asked for a voice vote on the nominees. The nominees were approved unanimously.

October Guest Speaker. Eric advised the members that Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn USA was the guest speaker for the October meeting and that Sam was offering a 10% discount on pre-orders made by October 4.

Kansas City Show. Jim will be traveling to Kansas City and set up the display. We need plants for the display – get with Jim.

Future Guest Speakers. Fred Clarke needs to be booked well in advance, so we have booked him for October next year. Other suggestions are welcome.

Facebook. Eric advised that he was working on a Facebook page for the Society.

Refreshments were provided by Jim Pyrzynski.

Meeting adjourned.

Jim Pyrzynski
for Cindy Mass, Secretary

Greater Omaha Orchid Society, Board Meeting, September 28, 2017
Denny's Restaurant, Omaha NE

Present: President Eric Stoiber, Vice President Jim Pyrzynski, Board Members Anne Pamperl, Robert Mann and John Dolen.

Meeting was called to order at 7 PM. Jim stated that he had grabbed the wrong material and thus did not have the Conflict of Interest forms for the officers and board members to sign.

October speaker. Eric advised that guest speaker Sam Tsui will be arriving just before 11:24 on October 12 and returning at 9 AM October 13. His airline cost is \$276 and hotel fee is \$104 for a total of \$380.

The program for the November meeting is still to be determined – possibly Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids.

December is the holiday party. We plan to have another potluck with the board providing the main/meat dish. Gift swap would be in the \$10 - \$15 range.

St Cecilia Flower Festival in January. Eric asked to have show flyers and membership info to handout at the event.

Annual show. Jim it was time to start making plans for the show – what type of trophies, additional informationa (educational) displays to draw the public interest rather that just flowers. Volunteers need to be identified soon. We need to use the show more effectively to get new members. Rich Sukovaty has some other items of the LOS show display items.

Website. Need to discuss the website with Rich Sukovaty.

John Dolen discussed the need to young people interested in the society and growing orchids. We need to look for other means of contacting people through school groups, etc. And we need to increase meeting attendance. Free plants were offered for the September meeting and we still had more plants than members in attendance – enough for almost 2 plants per attendee.

Meeting adjourned.

Jim Pyrzynski, for Cindy Mass