

# Central Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter

Nov.-Dec. 2015

Vol. 9 no. 11-12 Nov.-Dec. 2015

## In this Issue

- From the president
- Officers for 2016
- Year-end board mtg
- Next meeting
- Events in the area
- Scenes from dinner
- Notes and tips

## Contact us at:

[www.ciorchidsociety.org](http://www.ciorchidsociety.org)

## Join us on Face book

Central Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter is published monthly. Subscription is through membership in the Society.

Membership is \$15/person and \$25/couple. Please visit our home page for Membership form and mailing address.

## CIOS Officers for 2015

Joanne Miller, President  
Bettina Francis, Vice Pres. /Secretary

Mark Williams, Treasurer

Mitzi Williams, Editor, Newsletter & Webpage content.

## From the President:

By the time this message goes to print, the Holiday Season will be upon us. My wish for you and your family is happiness for this beautiful season and throughout the coming year!

We had such a nice Holiday Party at the Olive Garden and I am thankful that so many were able to come and join us! Thank you for sharing a bit about yourselves and your favorite orchid. I thought the gift plants were varied and it seemed like everyone was happy with their choice. We also received lots of membership renewals and appreciated everyone showing their support in that way. The dinner was delicious and the wait staff very accommodating. Jay was perfect for calling the ticket numbers and I appreciate everyone that helped make it a success.

If you were at our October Member Sale Meeting, I passed out an evaluation survey for everyone to fill out. I'd like to share some of the results from that handout. Many of you enjoyed the potting party we had at Mitzi and Mark's home last year. Repotting old orchids always involves some guesswork, so we will be having another potting party next year. Many of you also enjoyed the Round Table Discussion on Orchid care, so we will have another discussion next year about that.

Several of you grow orchids under florescent lights, so we plan to have a program about lighting systems next year. I was also glad to see that several of us are members of the American Orchid Society. The magazines they publish each month are invaluable if you want to learn more about Orchids.

At our last meeting we also had quite a long discussion about how important it was to initiate a temperature change in the fall and winter seasons to get spikes on your Phalaenopsis (and other orchids). The drop in night temperature at this time of year is critical to flowering. My temperatures are 70 degrees during the day and around 60 degrees at night. This seems to be enough of a change for my orchids. They are all spiking right now and professionals say you should see Phalaenopsis spiking by Thanksgiving. So we are right on target! See you next year!

Joanne Miller, CIOS President

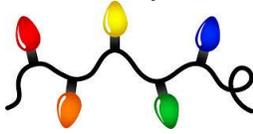


---

## Officers for 2016:

The new/continuing officers elected and confirmed at the October 2015 meeting are as follows:

President:	Joanne Miller	Show/Sale co-chairs:	Terry Moore and Linda Bial
Vice President/Secretary:	Linda Bailey	Treasurer:	Mark Williams
		Web / Newsletter Editor:	Mitzi Williams



---

## Year-end board meeting:

The 2015 board members and the newly elected board members met on November 22, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.. Topics reported, discussed or decided upon included the following: Treasurer's report; a gift certificate for Bob Long, who helped us as webmaster from June 2012 to Dec. 2015; 2016 activity calendar; March Show and Sale; May sale; repotting demo during the Show and Sale; membership list responsibilities on the Treasurer; update on the new website; the new logo.

---

## Next meeting:

- The next meeting will be on January 14, 2016 at 6:30 pm at the Hessel Park Church. Terry Moore will show us how to mount orchids, and how to care for them. We will also begin discussing the plans for the 2016 Show and Sale at this meeting.
- Please renew your membership. Despite the Feds threatening to raise interest rates, we will keep our membership cost the same--\$15 for an individual and \$25 for a couple. If your e-mail, phone number, or street address have changed, please mail the membership form along with your check.
- Mark your calendar **NOW** for **March 5, 2016** for our Show and Sale. We plan to acquire more plants for this sale. Your participation is critical for this event to succeed. The co-chairs will be contacting you about volunteering for various tasks.

---

## Events in the area:

- December 12, Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wine, Cheese, and Orchid Open House, hosted by Hilltop Orchids. Come out and celebrate the holidays by taking a tour through our greenhouses. Enjoy the dazzling colors of thousands of plants in bloom. The event is free. Discounts will be offered throughout the greenhouse. Chilled wine and cheese will be served all day.
- February 6 - March 27, 2016. Orchid Show, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO. The 2016 theme is "Where the wild things grow." Details will be posted on their website in early 2016: [www.mobot.org](http://www.mobot.org).
- February 13-14, 2016. Orchid Show and Sale. Prairie State Orchid Society, Washington Park Botanical Garden, Springfield, IL. For more information, see: [www.prairiestateorchids.org](http://www.prairiestateorchids.org).

## Scenes from the holiday dinner outing:

Twenty members and 4 guests attended the Holiday Dinner party on Sunday, Nov. 15. It was a great opportunity to get to know each other, and talk up an orchid storm. Our honorary raffle caller, Jay, did an excellent job picking numbers for members to select a blooming or budding orchid. Linda Bial received a personal serenade of Happy Birthday by one of the waiters. If you were unable to join us this year, hope you can do so next year!



A table showing the present plants to be drawn.



Happy Birthday, Linda.



Sharing secrets of orchid growing.



OK, we are done eating. Time to call the ticket numbers!

## Notes and tips:

- Paphiopedilum: A note in The AOS Bulletin, Nov. 1995 (p.1239), says the following:

"While Paphiopedilums never like to dry out entirely, [November] makes the beginning of the time when growth, and hence water needs slow down dramatically. ... Do not water if they are not at least partially drying out. The same goes for fertilizer."

- Dendrobium: The AOS culture sheet (<http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=197>) says:

"*Dendrobium* is a diverse genus of orchids with different cultural needs. Many go through a growth phase and then a rest phase during the course of one year, and must be given water and temperature to match these periods of growth and rest. Flowers can last one day to many weeks, depending on the type."

Group 1 in the AOS culture sheet includes *Den. nobile*, *Den. chrysanthum*, *Den. friedricksianum*, and *Den. wardianum*. **The key to getting these plants to bloom is dryness of the roots in winter.** The leaves often yellow and drop, while the buds form up and down the bare canes. The AOS recommendation is: "in summer; give warmth, water and fertilize heavily from when roots appear until top leaf appears on canes. Then give high light, little or no water, no fertilizer, cool nights (40 to 50 F). In other words, **forget about them.**"

Other types of the Dendrobium that you may be familiar with is the type called *Dend. phalaenopsis*. As the name implies, the flowers of this type of Dendrobium resembles those of the *Phalaenopsis*. The plant spike typically appears near the top of the plant. They seem to prefer slightly warmer temperatures than those in the above "Group 1." A good information about this type of Dendrobium is available from Akatsuka Orchids in Hawaii. They recommend watering similar to *Cattleyas*--let dry in between waterings. For more information, see: <http://www.akatsukaorchid.com/Shared/Care%20Sheets/Den-Phal.pdf>



Left and Center: *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* type.

Far right: *Dendrobium nobile* type.

- Cymbidium flower spikes : Cymbidiums are well worth trying in our area because they can be set outside in bright light from spring to fall, and watered by rain or from a hose. Their flowers come in white, pink, yellow, orange, dark red, brown, and green. Some have very nice fragrance. The flowers last a long time, and can be used in corsages.

After being exposed to the bright light and cold temperatures in September and October, your Cymbidium should be showing new shoots at the side of the newest growth. If the conditions have been good, these shoots should be flower shoots, but it is hard to tell sometimes. In the image below left, two new flower spikes are visible. They are slightly bulged in the middle. They are also red-casted because the flowers of this particular plant are dark reddish in color. Yellow to white-colored Cymbidiums will have green bulged shoot for flower spikes. If the new shoot is thin (below right), it is a new leafy growth. These are often seen during the summer when active growth is taking place.

In either case, Cymbidiums should be kept watered throughout the season. Stake the flower stalks as they elongate.

