



Central Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter

June-Sept. 2018

Vol. 12 no.6 - 9, 2018

In this Issue

- From the President
- Next Meeting
- Events in the area
- Orchid of the month
- Notes and tips
- AOS News
- Editor's note

Contact us at:

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 2018

- Joanne Miller, President
- Terry Moore, Vice President & Show Chair
- Linda Bailey, Sale Chair
- Linda Bial, Secretary

- Mark Williams, Treasurer
- Mitzi Williams, Editor, Newsletter & Webpage

From the President:

Greetings! I wanted to give you a short report on our fun day at the St. Louis Botanical Garden Orchid Auction. There were lots of orchids to bid on and we each came home with a box full! We had plenty of time to bid on each orchid we were interested in and all were congenial and laughter was prevalent. We ended our day at Guido's on the Hill and had a nice Italian dinner. Hoping more can participate next year!

I am anticipating you are having good luck with your orchids grown outside this year. I usually put my stubborn orchids out there in June and just found an Oncidium Lemon Heart 'Sunshine' with 2 huge spikes on it. So hopefully it will bloom like crazy this year! There is nothing quite so stimulating as a thriving plant, especially when it is your own personal orchid. It is full of vigor and strength right now and benefiting from the natural humidity and air movement it gets when placed in the right microclimate outside. I think it's enjoying summer camp!

Many orchids need cooler nights to set flower buds and spikes and to bloom well. Being outside gives them that drop in temperature, so plan to leave them out until it gets below 60 degrees at night. Probably sometime in Sept. you will be bringing them inside. Check closely for pests. If spraying is called for, doing so is much easier while the plants are outdoors.

Please join us for our next CIOS meeting on Monday, Sept. 10 at 6:30. We have invited a speaker, Russ Vernon, from New Vision Orchids in Indiana to speak on Odontoglossums and intergeneric genera. Intergenerics are orchids that have parents from more than 3 genera, and are given different generic names such as Vuylstekeara, Wilsonara, Beallara, and Aliceara to name a few. There are many popular ones and most are very beautiful and are more tolerant for a wide range of growing temperatures. They can also be more compact in growth, easier to flower, bloom multiple times per year, and have a bright colorful pattern in the flowers. I am looking forward to his program! Hope to see you there.

Good Growing,
Joanne Miller, CIOS President

Next meeting:

- Our next meeting is on Sept. 10, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hessel Park Church. Russ Vernon of New Vision Orchids in Indiana will talk about *Odontoglossums*. Rarely do we find species *Odontoglossum*, but because it is very widely used as one of the several backgrounds in creating many new *Oncidium*-type hybrids that you may have, his talk would be of great value to understanding how best to grow them.
- September meeting is also important as the month to nominate officers for 2019. The positions we have (but not necessarily vacant) are: President; Vice President; Secretary; Treasurer; Show Chair; Sale Chair; and Editor. Some of these positions have been combined, and the individuals serving currently may be willing to continue.

Events in the area:

As the summer comes to an end, show time is popping up everywhere. If you travel out of town, be sure to check the News and Events link of AOS.ORG.

- Sept. 15-16, 2018: Wisconsin Orchid Society Show "Fall In Love With Orchids". Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI
- Sept. 22-23, 2018: Kentucky Orchid Society Show and Sale. St. Mathews Episcopal Church, 330 N Hubbards Lane, Louisville, Ky

Orchid of the month:



Ponerorchis graminifolia is a miniature terrestrial orchid from Southern Korean peninsula and Japan. It is rarely over 6 inches tall. The flower colors come in pure white to white with purple spots, and pink. According to Jason Fischer of Orchids Limited, this plant is rather easy to grow. This species were known to have grown throughout the main island of Japan once, but they are all but gone due to over-harvesting rather than habitat loss. The relative ease of cultivation is helping them to be available in the market.

They cannot tolerate winter temperature below freezing, with an average of 50°F being the most ideal. Unlike other orchids familiar to us, the roots of this plant are very different and consist of small potato-like tubers with some fleshy roots. New tubers form during the growing season, while both the roots and the old tubers die out. Several sources say this plant is rather easy to cultivate, but the management of the tubers may present some challenge to the hobby growers.

<http://botanyboy.org/a-miniature-terrestrial-orchid-from-japan-ponerorchis/>

Notes and Tips:

- In the President's message, Joanne mentioned the intergenerics, and named four Oncidinae intergeneric hybrids: Vuylstekeara, Wilsonara, Beallara, and Aliceara. Though the word 'Intergeneric' is not limited only to the Oncidinae crosses, Odontoglossums and/or Oncidium seem to be most heavily involved in the creation of a new hybrid. Below is a heads-up tip for the upcoming talk by Russ Vernon so that some of the hybrids names would be less intimidating for the members.

The AOS explains "Intergeneric" as follows:

"By the beginning of this century, nomenclature rules had developed into the uniform naming of intergeneric hybrids. Hybrids between two genera are always a contraction of the two generic names, such as Brassocattleya (Brassavola x Cattleya), Odontonia (Odontoglossum x Miltonia) and Ascocenda (Ascocentrum x Vanda). Usually, hybrids with three genera in the background are also contractions. Brassolaeliocattleya (Brassavola x Laelia x Cattleya) and Vascostylis (Vanda x Ascocentrum x Rhynchostylis) are two of these. However, hybrid genera with three genera in their background can also end with -ara, which is used for hybrid genera of four or more genera. The genus name is derived from the originator's name (or choice of name) with an -ara suffix _ Potinara (Brassavola x Laelia x Cattleya x Sophronitis) or Vuylstekeara (Miltonia x Odontoglossum x Cochlioda."
 (source: <http://www.aos.org/orchids/additional-resources/intergeneric-hybrids.aspx>)

Other commonly seen Oncidinae intergenerics (& abbreviations) are shown below. For an extended list, see: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Odontoglossum>.

Aliceara (Alcra.)----- Brassia x Miltonia x Oncidium
 Beallara (Blra.)-----Brassia x Cochlioda x Miltonia x Odontoglossum.
 Burrageara (Burr.)----- Cochlioda x Miltonia x Odontoglossum x Oncidium
 Colmanara (Colm.)-----Miltonia x Odontoglossum x Oncidium
 Degarmoara (Dgmra.)----- Brassia x Miltonia x Odontoglossum
 Vuylstekeara (Vuyl.)----- Cochlioda x Miltonia x Odontoglossum.
 Wilsonara (Wils.)----- Cochlioda x Odontoglossum x Oncidium



- If you have plants outside, watch out for grass hoppers and praying mantis that love to chew on soft, juicy orchid leaves. Insecticide may be needed to ward off some of them during the last stretch of summering outside. After several days of heavy rain, slugs may find the bottom of your pot their new home site.

- It is warmer this year than in the past, but temperatures may suddenly drop near 50°F at night. A thin crop cover (also called floating row cover) helps to protect the temperature sensitive plants from damage.

- For Cymbidiums, consider switching the fertilizer from the balanced formula to a bloom boosting one, i.e., high in phosphorus. The Cymbidiums need to experience near 40°F temperatures in order to produce flower spikes. During the fall, there will be occasional sudden drops in night temperatures, but the plants can be covered just for the night, and exposed to the sunlight during the day until the cold temperatures settle, usually late October to early November. Caution: if you have a summer blooming Cymbidium, this treatment is not necessary.

AOS News:

- It is not too early to start writing! The Dillon-Peterson Essay Contest deadline is November 30th, 2018. This year's theme: **Bells and Whistles: Ingenuity and the Orchid Grower.**

Orchid growers are famous for devising ways to accommodate their charges on the windowsill, under lights and in the greenhouse. Maintaining tropical plants in a desert climate, cool-growing plants in a tropical climate or warm-growing plants in sub-Arctic conditions all demand ingenuity that you can share with readers of the *ORCHIDS* magazine.

The winning entry (if any) will be published in the June 2019 issue of *ORCHIDS* at the discretion of the editor. The winner of the prize will receive a cash award supported by the dividends and interest on an endowment from the Northeast Judging Region.

CONTEST RULES

- The essay must be an original, unpublished article.
- The contest is open to all persons except AOS employees and their immediate families.
- Submissions must be no more than 5,000 words.
- Manuscripts must be submitted in English and should be submitted electronically as MS Word or compatible word processor file.
- Submissions will be judged without knowledge of the identity of the author. The decision of the judges is final. If no entries meet the expected criteria of excellence, the award will be withheld.
- Artwork is not necessary for entering this competition.

For more information, visit: <http://www.aos.org/news-and-events/dillon-peterson-essay-contest.aspx>

Editor's note:

1. There have been postings of many beautiful, unusual, and simply spectacular flower images posted by the members on our Face Book page. Even if you don't want to be active on FB, by creating a skeleton account, you can see them every time something is posted.



2. I should go on an apology tour. Since early summer, I have been late for and with everything, including this newsletter. This is the first time I had to make the issue to cover four months, from June to September.

Needless to say I was busy, but I also procrastinated--and I did not want to pull candle-burning days just to get the newsletter out in time. It is the sign that someone with enthusiasm should take over. So, as you can guess, if any of you want to be the Editor, please step forward.

iwilldobetternexttimeiwilldobetternexttimeiwilldobetternexttimeiwilldobetteriwilldobetternexttime □