



Central Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter

June 2019

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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 2019

- Linda Bailey, President
- Terry Moore, Vice President & Show Chair
- Joanne Miller, Sale Chair
- Linda Bial, Secretary
- Mark Williams, Treasurer
- Mitzi Williams, Editor, Newsletter & Webpage

From the President

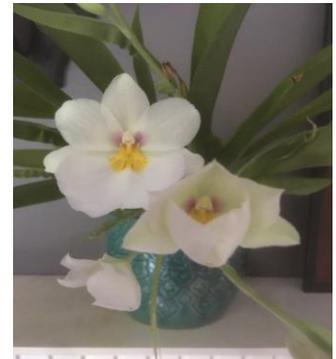
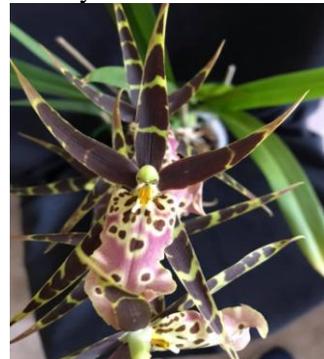
Summer is almost officially upon us. Time when my focus turns outside. I love working in my yard. I've been having a love hate relationship with the bunnies. I wouldn't mind them if they would eat all the maple tree sprouts. Doesn't seem to be their preferred diet. They have eaten so many of my perennials all the way to the ground. My orchids are mostly outside now. They live during the summer on my little back deck, just outside the door. Fortunately up high enough that the bunnies don't bother them. My orchids tend to take a back seat during summer months. I do think they enjoy being outside. I have better bloom in the winter when they have been outside and neglected.

Look forward to seeing each of you Sunday, June 23rd at 4:00 at Bettina and George's home for our summer potluck picnic. Their address will be sent to you by e-mail in a few days.

Also, plan to join us on Saturday July 27th for our field trip to Natt's orchid shop. We will leave around 8:00 am and return late afternoon. We will need drivers, so more info to come.

Linda Bailey
CIOS President

Recent postings on our Face Book Page by members, Cindy (left), Joanne (center) and Melissa (right). Our members are very talented!



Next meeting:

- The next meeting is the annual pot luck picnic and takes place on Sunday, June 23 at 4 p.m. at Bettina and George Francis' residence. The Society will supply the main dish but please bring a side dish or desserts to share. Members and guests only. Details will be sent by e-mail. Please note we did not meet on the 10th this month.
 - Irregular meeting for July also. Instead of a picnic, we will go on a field trip on Saturday the 27th to Natt's Orchids ([www.nattorchids.com](http://www.natt orchids.com)) in Naperville, IL. Details will be forthcoming. Members only.
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Events in the area:

The AOS site under Event Calendar (www.aos.org/news-events/event-calendar.aspx) will show you what is happening in the U.S. and elsewhere.

- July 27, 2019 OSOGSL (St. Luis, MO) 6th Annual Orchid Seminar. Sunset Hills Community Center 3915 S. Lindberg Blvd. Sunset Hills, MO 63127 (about 15 miles S.W. of St. Louis). Peter Lin from Diamond Orchids in California will be presenting. Registration is \$25 (required) with lunch \$10 (optional) Questions: OrchidSeminar@osogsl.org
 - Aug 17, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Prairie State Orchid Society Seminar, Rochester Public Library. Rochester, IL. This year's speaker is Paul Storm of Meke Aloha Orchids in Sarasota, FL. They specialize in Laelia-Schoms and Myrmecophila, and are one of the leading breeders of hybrids involving these genera.
 - August 18, 2019 12 noon to 5 pm. OSOGSL (St. Louis) Annual Orchid Auction. Missouri Botanical Garden in the Beaumont Room. No registration fee. For more information, visit: <http://www.osogsl.org/calendar.php>
 - Sept. 20-22, 2019. 27th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Fest, Natt's Orchids (Naperville, IL) and Orchids by Hausermann (Villa Park, IL). For more info, see www.chicagolandorchidfest.com.
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Notes and tips:

- From time to time, we hear the acronym, CITES, in relation to obtaining orchids from other countries. A friend of mine traveled to Costa Rica, and brought me a gift of *Cattleya skinneri*, their National flower, fondly called "Guaria Morada" (or country girl) in Spanish. The 3 little plants, barely 1/4" tall were in gel within a small test tube. This is the only way a live plant could have been brought out of Costa Rica into the U.S. without being CITES certified. The young plants didn't survive when taken out of the tube.

CITES stands for **Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora**, and "is a treaty designed to ensure that international trade in wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival in their natural habitat. CITES became effective in 1975, and was conceived in the spirit of international cooperation to safeguard certain species from over-exploitation. Countries and regions that agreed to participate, known as Parties, are legally bound by the treaty and must implement its provisions through national legislation, but may also have their own stricter domestic laws. Ironically, CITES does nothing to protect the species when, in the name of economic progress, their habitat is destroyed and them along with it.

Within the CITES context, "trade" means both large, commercial quantities as well as for small personal use, and includes the specimens dead or alive and in full form or in parts. Today, CITES protection covers more than 30,000 species of animals and plants. CITES permits are not required for any activity conducted within a country, although national laws may apply, especially for native species." (AOS Website: <http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchid-conservation/cites.aspx>)

Even though, all orchids are covered by CITES, harvesting and selling of wild orchids go largely unregulated. (<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2015/09/150914093154.htm>). From the same conservation stand point, some orchid enthusiasts consider CITES as hampering conservation efforts.

Violation of CITES rules carry a fine of up to \$50,000 and/or up to 1 year imprisonment. Not only are many countries not enforcing CITES rules, but for an individual who has little income in many developing countries, this is a risk he/she is willing to take in order to feed their families.

- Phalaenopsis leaves: Are your Phalaenopsis leaves soft and rubber-like? In the April 1994 issue of the AOS Bulletin, Bob Gordon of Rialto, CA. says that it might be due to too high a temperature, i.e., over 85°F, but also maintain the lower temperature at 68°F. Too high a temperature produces rapid soft growth, especially if given nitrogen-high fertilizer, and light level above 1,000 foot candles.

- If you are interested in a light meter, a product available from Hydrofarm may be of interest. <https://hydrofarm.com/p/LG17000>. This item sells for about \$27, is light weight, and is very easy to use. The readings are in foot candles, and has a setting for Fluorescent, Sun (outdoor), and High Intensity lighting.

When searching for light meters on Amazon, the products seem to be mostly for photographic lighting. Other greenhouse supply companies may also carry light meters for plants.



AOS News:

The AOS is asking everyone to send images or short videos of orchid flowers, and what you love about orchids to be part of their Instagram. The mailing address is: americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo or video. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Editor's note:



One of the featured plant in the Prairie State Orchid Society's seminar is Myrmecophila. Its conical, tapering, hollow pseudobulbs provide safe home to colonies of ants. The ants and the plant have symbiotic relationship and are said to protect delicate parts of the plants such as root tips. Some of the Myrmecophila species were once in the Genus Schomburgkia group.

(Image at left: "copyright Pelican Coast Farms used with permission" from Jerry Meola, OrchidsAmore, Ft. Myers, FL.

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