



Central Illinois Orchid Society Newsletter

September 2017

Vol. 11 no.9, 2017

In this Issue

- From the President
- Next Meeting
- Events in the area
- Notes and tips
- Member profile
- AOS news
- Orchids of the month

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 2017

- Joanne Miller, President
- Linda Bailey, Vice Pres. /Secretary
- Terry Moore and Linda Bial, Show & Sale co-chairs
- Mark Williams, Treasurer
- Mitzi Williams, Editor, Newsletter & Webpage

From the President:

We had a great trip to the Prairie State Orchid Society Seminar on Saturday, August 26 in Rochester, Illinois. Six of us went to the Seminar and it was a lovely and enjoyable day. The speaker was Art Chadwick who owns Chadwick & Son Orchids in Richmond, Virginia, and has 11 greenhouses in Powhatan, Va.

He has the distinction of naming Cattleya hybrids after the wives of the last five U.S. Presidents, and has personally presented the flowers to the honored recipients. He told many humorous stories about the presentations, and various things that happened under such tight security, as you can imagine. He also shared several snapshots of the occasions.

His morning program was about the various species of Cattleyas and some of the hybrids that have been made over the years. We learned blooming times according to species, and a little about how to pollinate orchids. Art is looking forward to speaking at the World Orchid Conference in Ecuador this October, 2017. Wish I could be there!

Art and his father have published many articles in the AOS Orchids magazine. You may have read some of them if you have a subscription. They are entitled "First Ladies & Their Cattelyas". He was also featured in Southern Living Magazine and the New York Times. He and his father have authored an Orchid book called The Classic Cattleya. This book is no longer in print, but you can obtain it on Amazon if interested.

His website is chadwickorchids.com. If you have time, look him up! You can see pictures of his orchid shop on this website and can also order a plant or two. He has several you-tube tutorials that I've enjoyed watching - Just look up Chadwick & Son Orchids YouTube on the web.

Hope to see you at our next meeting, September 11, 2017 at 6:30. We will be watching "What Plants Talk About", a Nature film.

Joanne Miller, CIOS President

Next meeting:

- Our next meeting is on Monday, September 11 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hessel Park Church. A fascinating video program entitled "What plants talk about" will be shown. The business meeting will include nomination for the officers. If anyone wishes to run or nominate someone for the positions of: the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Sale Chair, Show Chair, and Editor of Newsletter and Website, please let Joanne know. The voting will take place at the October meeting.
 - Heads up for the October meeting on Monday, October 9. The main event will be member orchid sale where members donate extra or no longer wanted orchids to the Society for other members to purchase. More on this in the next issue.
-

Events in the area:

- Sept. 16-17, 2017. Wisconsin Orchid Society: *Fall in Love with Orchids*. Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, Milwaukee, WI. For details, see: www.wisconsinorchidsociety.com/htm/orchidshow.html
 - Sept. 22-24, 2017. Chicagoland Orchid Festival hosted by Hausermann's in Villa Park and Natt's Orchids in Naperville. Participants must travel to these locations located within 40 minutes drive. Visitors who went to both places can enter a drawing for various gift certificates amounting to \$600 total for 5 winners. There will be guest growers at both locations so you can select from a wide variety of orchids from many parts of the world. For more information including a map, visit: <http://www.chicagolandorchidfest.com/>
 - October 14-15, 2017. The Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show and Sale, *Orchid Artistry*, Glencoe, IL: Chicago Botanic Garden. For more information, see: www.iosoc.com/
 - October 21-22, 2017. Eastern Iowa Orchid Society Show and Sale. Noelridge Park Greenhouses, Cedar Rapids, IA. Details are given at: http://easterniowaorchidsociety.org/index_files/Show.htm.
 - October 20-22, 2017. The Mid America Orchid Congress Fall meeting in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Biannual Orchid Show and Sale. For more info, visit: <http://midamericanorchids.org/>
-

Notes and tips:

- With the night temperatures consistently in the 50's, most of your orchids should be indoors. The only exception is Cymbidiums. They should be left in a bright (but not hot) spot outside, and given the bloom booster fertilizer (i.e., higher Phosphorus represented by the middle content number.) The change should encourage the formation of flower growth, instead of yet another vegetative (leaf) growth.
- As the daylight shortens, and the sun light intensity diminishes, begin reducing the level of watering. Some growers recommend reduction of fertilizer frequency as well. Some stop fertilizing completely until early spring. A calendar dedicated to keep track of when you did what may be helpful during the transitional period.

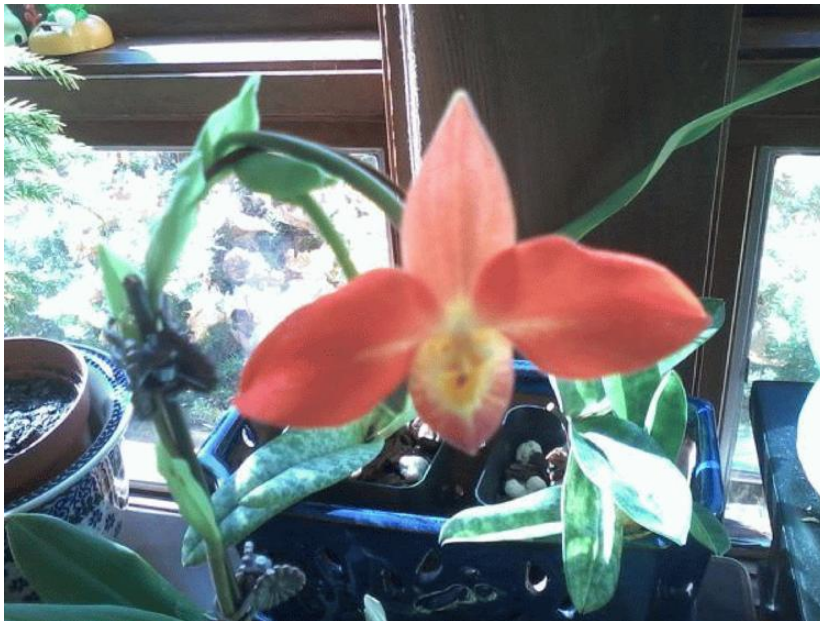


Member profile: Patty Floess

By Patty Floess

In 2006, my oldest daughter went, just one time, to a UIUC Horticultural Club meeting while she was an undergraduate. She was given a very small free vanilla orchid, which she brought home to give to me. It did end up dying almost immediately but it got me researching about it and other orchids, why it might have died, etc. And then (of course!) I was hooked. I proceeded to buy a few orchids all around town and I would show up at the Orchid Society sales. Mitzi and Mark were always so friendly and enthusiastic and the orchids were so beautiful that more and more would follow me home.

I have about 50 orchids of about 10 different types. My oldest one is actually one of my first orchids from back in 2006; it has a great root system but has never blossomed again.



My favorite orchid might be the *Phragmipedium besseae* (above) that I bought when the owner of Orchid Inn came to a meeting a few years ago to give a lecture on *Paphiopedilums* and *Phragmipediums*. Immediately after buying it, Cindy and Mitzi both told me a bit about the habitat of this orchid (grows along mountain streams in Ecuador, Colombia and Peru). My initial reaction was fear that it wouldn't survive; I read up about it and learned that it was the one orchid that the author of my orchid book had not had success with (William Cullina in *Understanding Orchids*). Based on Cullina's comments about pure water, etc., this is the only orchid that I water using distilled water only and have the pot immersed in distilled water (imitating that mountain stream hopefully!). It is doing very well; it has grown beautifully and the root system is very healthy; no blossoms have appeared again but hopefully one day! My other favorite orchids would be the two hanging ones that I bought at Debbie's UIUC Plant Conservatory sale many years ago; I believe these two are from the orchid collection in the story about the infamous divorce where the angry ex-husband threw out all the identifying tags from the ex-wife's orchids (a truly low blow!). I actually am not sure what kind they are (I should ask CIOS members) and it has not rebloomed since I bought it, but the root system is very healthy. I must admit: I get as excited about really healthy roots as I do about blossoms; when the roots are vigorous and super healthy I am very happy!

As concerns orchid shows, I particularly enjoyed seeing the orchid show at the New York Botanical Gardens in NYC a few years back. It was beautifully done with the orchids displayed magically throughout the display room.

What orchid would I like to grow in the future? Of course I should retry a vanilla orchid since that started it all!

On other interests: I am currently a Master Gardener intern. I just need to put in a few more hours on the hotline and the community garden that I've chosen and I'll be all set. In college, I was a biology major with a focus on botany and marine biology. My senior thesis was on the wild Japanese rose; I lived on Appledore Island off of the coast of Maine/New Hampshire for a few weeks, and studied this particular rose in a few locations around the island.

At our home, I have five large outdoor gardens, each with different focuses, like a wild geranium (cranesbill) section with about 10 different types of wild geraniums or a Hellebores section with about 10 different types of lenten roses, etc., etc. This Spring, I planted a Japanese influenced garden with a few Beautyberry bushes (which are just forming their purple berries now!), a Deutzia Yuki bush, Japanese maple (of course!), Japanese anemones, etc. The drought this summer has worn me and the plants down a bit (but not for long!).

One goal I do have is to make it to more meetings. The Monday evening meetings have been difficult to attend; there always seems to be a conflict. But hopefully that will not be for long.



American Orchid Society News:

- Don't forget about the AOS Essay contest. This year's topic is: Species or Hybrids. The details are available at <http://www.aos.org/news-and-events/dillon-peterson-essay-contest.aspx>.
- AOS headquarters are located at the Fairchild Tropical Botanical Garden in Coral Gables, Florida, about 7 miles S.W. of Miami. While they may not escape from Hurricane Irma (and possibly from Jose), we hope the staff members will be safe, and the damages to the facilities will be minimal.



Orchid of the month: amusing and amazing



Above: This plant, *Coelogyne* (pronounced: see-LODGE-eh-nee) *usitana* x *sib.*, was grown by Mitzi Vasconselles of Prairie State Orchid Society. It is fragrant, and is one of the most beautiful of the *Coelogyne* with white flowers and a chocolate-red lip. They are from the Philippines. Up to 20-inch flower spikes with 10 to 20 flowers blooming on and off throughout the year. Requires medium light, and intermediate-warm temperatures. Another species, *Coel. speciosa*, in flower was posted by Terry Moore on our Face Book. Check it out.

Right: A flower with a cup with turkey feathers? This is *Galeandra leptoceras* grown by Terry Moore. Terry says it is a miniature with nice fragrance. Can you tell which parts of the flower are sepals and which are petals?



Far Right: Is this a Chinese lantern tassel? Is this even a flower? Where are the petals, the sepals, the lip, etc.?



It is *Bulbophyllum plumatum*, grown by Linda Bial, the under recognized queen of most unusual orchids.

□

□