

AGENDA  
Sunday, August 25, 2019 @ 1:30

- I. Presentation Doug Allen: Some Thoughts and Suggestions on Growing Phalaenopsis Successfully. The talk will discuss the culture of Phals., and my thoughts about building a Phal. collection. I retired after 35 years as an R&D chemist. I grew orchids for over 30 years. For the last several years of growing, I had over 200 Phals. in my collection. I have had 15 plants awarded by the AOS, many of them Phals. I have been a member of a local orchid society since 1977. I have served numerous times as president, vice president, treasurer, and show chairman.
- II. Reports: Treasurer's and Minutes' Reports.
- III. Old Business
  - A. Picnic results: See Minutes
  - B. Cincy Report: See Addenda
  - C. Calendar
    - 1. Ian Wilhte will present in September
    - 2. Remaining CIOS Calendar: October and November are fluid since we are trying to have a speaker from South America (Francis Miranda) come before our group. Please note that we will meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in November since Thanksgiving is later in that month. One of these months our speaker will address the subject of growing orchids under lights. Xmas Bingo will be December 8<sup>th</sup>
    - 3. Michiana Show: October [dates not set]. Set up = Friday before show; tear down = Sunday 5PM at South Bend, across from Notre Dame.
    - 4. Louisville Show: Sept. 28 – 30 @ St Matthews Church, 330 North Hubbards Lane, Louisville. Sunday hours are abbreviated – Noon to 4PM
    - 5. Chicagoland Orchid Show: Sept 20-22 at Hausermann's, 2N134 Addison Road, Villa Park, IL; and, at Natt's Orchids, 24654 103Street, Naperville, IL
- IV. New Business.
  - A. [In keeping with the expertise of our guest speaker, I have provided some thoughts about KEEPING ORCHIDS CLEAN. Do not hesitate to ask him about this issue during our break or after the meeting.]
  - B. MOTION: Whereas our CDs are expiring in the near future and they provide minimal earnings; and, whereas, the organization [CIOS] will need money to invest in the Mid America Orchid Show in 2021, Be It Resolved that the CDs be sold as they become due.
  - C. Volunteer needed to do workshop on a list of easy to hard orchids to grow with appropriate demonstrations.
  - D. Late summer orchid care. Hopefully the July and August heat have encouraged the following to grow wildly and bloom profusely when placed outdoors in dappled light: vandas, barrasvolas, catasetums, hard cane dendrobiums, laelias. Be sure to water and feed freely. There is, however, one consideration on watering. Orchids that come from rainforest where they receive nightly rainfalls. These orchids can close their stomata during the heat of the day thereby requiring watering at night. Incidentally, this is what cacti and succulents do during the summer. Some cattleyas and oncidiums, among others, require cooler nights, i.e., below 70 F. Keeping them outside for long periods over a hot summer is not advisable.
  - E. Snack for the September Meeting?

## F. Show & Tell, Raffle

WORK TABLE: Disinfect regularly, have a handy supply of newspapers handy to act as temporary table cloths.

TOOLS: Sterilize tools with "2% Virkon, 10% Clorox regular bleach solution (0.5% sodium hypochlorite) and 20% nonfat dry milk." [fr. ORCHIDS, 10/18, p. 742]

Most important is to remember that your pots and carrying trays, and storage areas for these items are tools and require the same attention. Remember to use gloves when working with chemicals.

MORE ON POTS: Plastic pots use 10% Clorox and soak for an hour or more. Clay pots absorb pathogens so they need a large and long dose of heat: 400 degrees F for up to two hours. Wooden baskets and other permeable products are too difficult to clean and should be discarded after one use.

FORGOTTEN, UNNOTICED and NEED ATTENTION: Do we sterilize shards? How about the stakes we use? Even those plastic clips?

HANDS: With plants suspected of infections, a fresh pair of latex disposable gloves is recommended between handling plants. However, many prefer to use a hand sanitizer.

PLEASE LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A FULL PRESENTATION ON THIS MATTER.

## Minutes of the June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 Meeting

32 Attendance

- I. Presentation: Speaker, Sam Tsui was a no-show
- II. Reports: There was no meeting minutes to report; the treasurer's report indicated a balance of \$3,264.45. Report was unanimously approved. Member expressed desire to sell CDs which amounts to about \$11,000. This money will be used to help pay for our participation in Mid-America Orchid Congress
- III. Old Business
  - A. Calendar discussed [see revised above]. See Cincy seminar info e-mail.
  - B. Picnic to begin at 1PM, serve traditional burgers and dogs. Send e-mail to members on the picnic.
  - C. Other ideas added for future presentations: growing terrestrial orchids, native orchids of Indiana, a workshop for new people providing a progressive list of easy to hard orchids to grow.
- IV. New Business.
  - A. Flyer to be sent out shortly containing all necessary info for picnic. DO NOT reply if you are NOT coming. Reply with your choice of food you're bringing. The sooner the reply, the more likely you can bring the food of your choice. After all, we can't have 15 people bringing potato chips.
  - B. Lowell will bring snacks for the August meeting.
  - C. 5 new members appeared at today's meeting. Fabulous!

## Minutes of the July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 Meeting (picnic)

19 Attendance

- I. Normal 'steps' of a regular meeting skipped.
- II. Results:

- A. Sales of plants (at least 25). Books, pots, and magazines) exceeded \$170,
- B. Three dozen + hamburgers and hot dogs consumed,
- C. Standouts: hot peppers as garnish from Rachel (Whew!), apple cobbler from Nancy, c. 20 plants from Lowell for auction

## PARTING SHOT

# The Cravin'

by Edgar Allen Faux (aka Bill Thoms)

With Apologies to Edgar Allen Poe's *The Raven*

Once I saw an orchid flower,  
I was struck by all its power.  
Overwhelmed I muttered, stuttered, "what's this feeling?"-- I'll explore.  
Adrenalin did make me shaky,  
suddenly I felt so flaky,  
As if someone tried to make me,  
make me, open up a door.  
"What's the harm?"-- I wondered, bleakly, if I open up this door.  
I'll be like I was before.

Ah, distinctly I remember  
for my birthday in November,  
just one plant to ease the itching, twitching that did make me sore.

Eagerly I looked for mercy,  
wishing only for some nursery,  
where I'd ease this dreadful thirsting,  
never thinking, "how 'bout four?"  
Then the flowers, left and right that followed me through any door,  
Changed my tune to, "JUST SOME MORE"

Now I'm haunted, poor and weepy,  
some would even say I'm creepy,  
thinking only of the blooms that fill my being and my soul.

Orchid shows and orchid flowers,  
just these things to fill my hours,  
hobbies stopped, I've lost my goals,  
and friends all say I'm such a bore.  
Addicts live in sweet denial -- I'm just fine, but need  
to score.  
Now my mantra's "MUST HAVE MORE!!"

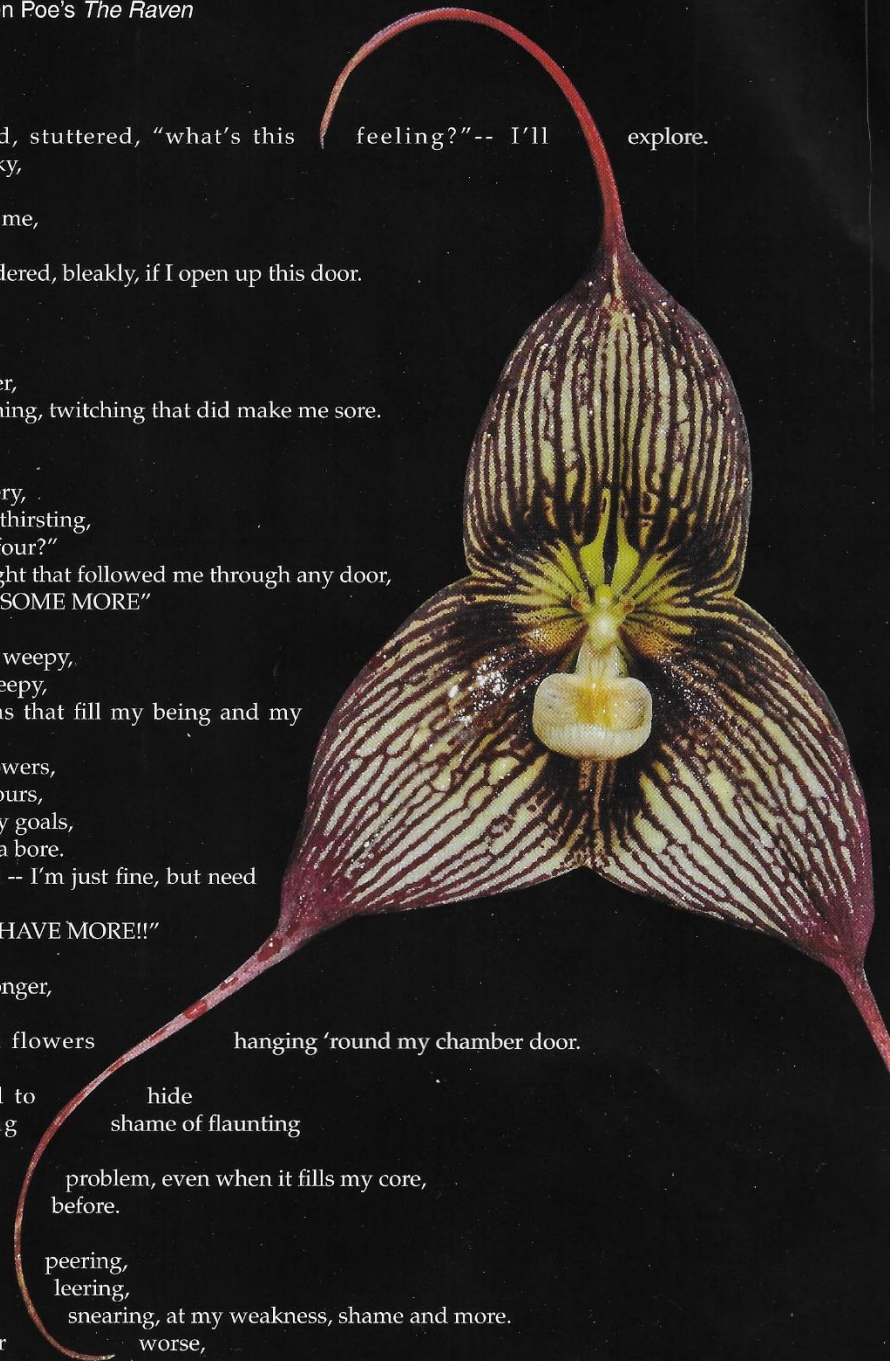
Presently my need grew stronger,  
I could put it off no longer,  
I must have more orchid flowers hanging 'round my chamber door.

So I travel far and wide  
- and never feel the need to  
the haunting, daunting  
my addiction as before.

Scarcely does it seem a  
but I'm different than  
hide  
shame of flaunting  
problem, even when it fills my core,  
before.

Deep into the darkness  
in my soul the goblins  
hearing them all jeering,  
Bank accounts are gone or  
my days are filled with this  
there seems no end to constant  
-- never saving like before.

Hope might spring eternal still, the itching, twitching's as before.  
Now I'm cravin' "EVERMORE"!



[above poem is from a 10/18 AOS magazine]

#### ADDENDA

Summary of Robert Fuch's presentation on vandas at the July 13<sup>th</sup> Cincinnati orchid symposium.

All presentations, including those by Sam Tsui, featured lengthy slide presentations of the various genera and hybrids of the species they specialized in, e.g., Robert Fuchs = vandas, Sam Tsui = *patheopedilums*.

Since I cannot duplicate the seemingly endless slide show, I searched for some theme that I could latch onto. Fortunately, it didn't take very long. What I have come up with is, I believe, something of interest to beginning hobbyists and those of us who have limited space.

For several years I found myself enchanted by the enormous variety of orchids, the profusion of glorious colors to enjoy, the delicate shapes, etc. Sadly, as holder of an award for killing the most orchids in a single year, I began to realize that I needed to specialize, i.e., stick with a species (or two) that survived me and my home OR is there a species I like so much that I'm willing to make some changes in order to grow them?

OK, once I found those, what do I do? This is where the presentations I attended came in handy. For example, Robert Fuchs pointed out why collecting vandas has its rewards. These include the greatest variety or colors for flowers, plants which produce the most flowers, and flowers that are solid, spotted, basket weave and striped. Many are aromatic. Lastly, the flowers/plants come in a variety of sizes. See a collection of photos below.

An important take away from this presentation is that you need to order plants from a recognized grower of the species you prefer. This provides access to species plants as well as hybrids. These growers are also a great source of information on how to successfully grow the plants you buy. They can help with the big five: temperature/humidity, watering, fertilizing, potting mixtures, and light.

It is also important to use the internet to read up on the genus you are interested in. The source of material is almost overwhelming, but it can help you narrow down what to look for.

Of course, before embarking on specializing it is important to know what are the ideal growing conditions for your chosen species. Vandas are relatively difficult as they generally need lots of light, high heat, daily watering and feeding. These are difficult for the average homeowner.





Vanda sanderiana





Vanda Coerulea



*Vanda ampullacea*.

Note roots: Most vandas are grown this way

BELOW: *Vanda tricolor*







Vanda Falcata