

Summer 2006

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild



Photo by Jeff Baylis
Showy Orchid, *Galearis spectabilis*

MY EXPERIENCE WITH GROWING NATIVE ORCHIDS—

Sue Reed

I have limited experience growing native orchids, but have managed to grow three different species in pots and one planted in the flowerbed.

The *Goodyera pubescens* has survived outside growing underneath clematis, violets and daylilies. The area gets direct morning sun, so I planted them under the other plants for protection from the sun. The area tends to be dry, so I try to water them if we are not getting much rain. The first plant died under an oak tree close to the trunk. I think the area was too dry or the plant was too exposed to survive the winter. These orchids grow in the woods in sparse ground cover but with heavy shade from trees. I've seen them in sandy soil, but my soil is more clay like. This is the first year they are going to bloom for me. I've had one for two years and the other two were planted this spring. The flowers should be small and white.

I received some of my seedling *Cypripedium reginae* from Gene Smalley and I bought a *Cypripedium reginae* seedling from Scott Weber. The *Cypripedium reginae*s that are blooming I received from Gene. I've had them a number of years and have always grown them in pots. I grow them under my deck where they receive dappled sunlight for several hours in mid-afternoon. I've bought my mix from Scott or made my own. I use fine fir bark, perlite, and some Fafard mix. I fertilize them when I fertilize my other orchids. After they die down in the fall, I knock them out of their pots, take off all of the mix and place them in Ziplock freezer bags with 1-2 Tablespoons of water soaked aquarium charcoal. These go into my designated vegetable crisper in my "extra" refrigerator. About when the yellow lady slippers, *Cypripedium parviflorum var pubescens*, start growing the end of April, is the time when I repot the orchids in all fresh mix and place them outside under the deck. They can survive the spring frosts. The *reginae*s bloom much later than the *parviflorum*s.

This year my yellow lady slipper bloomed with two flowers. (Somehow I never did get a photo of it.) This is the very first year

Meeting Dates

- September 17 – Meeting Room
- October 15 – Meeting Room
- November 19 – TBA
- December 17 – Meeting Room
- January 21, 2007 – Atrium
- February 18 – Atrium
- March 25 – Atrium
- April 22 – Meeting Room
- May 20 – Atrium
- June Picnic – TBA

Up-coming Events

- July 30, Central Iowa Orchid Societies, 2006 Speakers Day
- August 5, Oak Hill Gardens Open House
- August 25-27, 2006, Fall meeting of the Mid-America Orchid Congress
- September 16-17 Wisconsin Orchid Society Show
- September 22-24, 14th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival
- October 14-15 Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show
- October 27-29, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show
- Orchid Quest, February 3-4, 2007
- March 23-25, 2007 32nd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show
- April 27-29, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show in conjunction with Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress
- February 2 – March 2, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress

Officers and Committees

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Ribbon Judging:

Wayne King

that my *reginae* has bloomed and it has two growths and three flowers!!! So I must have done something right last summer! I grow all of the potted native orchids under the same conditions.



Dactylorhiza incarnata var. *pulchella*, non-native but an interesting hardy terrestrial



Dact. incarnata var. *pulchella*, closeup

Photography by Sue Reed



Cypripedium reginae



Cypripedium reginae foliage



Goodyera pubescens, note the attractive foliage



Goodyera pubescens with blossom stalk



Web Master:
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Liaisons:

Alliant: Elaine Malter (2007)
AOS: Jill Hynum (2007)
MAOC: Don Fago (2007)
Orchid Digest: Jill Hynum (2007)

Submit your photos to be included in the newsletter. Every month we want to include a gallery of photos to enjoy. Email your photos to Brook (orchids@tinamouppottery.com) and Denise (jrbaylis@tds.net)

More Native Species



The smaller yellow slippers are *cyripedium calceolus* var. *parviflorum* and the larger ones are *cyripedium pubescens* I think. I believe there is still some dispute about naming these slippers.
Jill



Photography by Jill Hynum

The *Dactylorhiza incarnata* var. *pulchella* I received from Joan Smalley as blooming sized plants. They have bloomed every year for me. I even kept them in the same mix for several years and put the pot and all in a Ziplock freezer bag for the winter refrigeration. After several years the plants started to decline, so I knew I had better repot them. They are all in the same pot for I haven't separated any of them yet. I use the same mix as the Cyp.s.

I have also purchased a showy orchis, *Galearis spectabilis* [see photo first page upper left]. I'm trying to do pot culture on this species. Wish me luck!

JUNE PICNIC

The annual picnic was a great success. Although the weather started out cold and cloudy, the day ended up cool and sunny. There was great food, great conversation and a wonderful garden to admire. Thanks to Meg, our hostess.

JUDGING RESULTS OF JUNE 10, 2006 MEMBERSHIP MEETING

First Place Ribbons:

Jill Hynum	<i>Cyp reginae</i>
Elaine Malter	<i>Paph liemianum</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Paph moquethianum</i>
Judith Rapacz	<i>Laelia purpurata</i> 'Lady Godiva' x <i>Laelia purpurata</i> 'Bion'
Sue Reed	<i>Dactylorhiza incarnata</i> var. <i>pulchella</i>
Liz Wood	<i>Milt lycaena</i> 'Stamperland'
Liz Wood	<i>Cattleya</i> Marjorie Hauserman

Second Place Ribbons:

Elaine Malter	<i>Bulbophyllum odoratissimum</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Epidendrum/Encyclia</i> 'Green Hornet'
Meg McLaughlin	P. I-Hsin Golden Dragon x P. I-Hsin Smile

ODDS AND ENDS

- To those of you whose address has changed, please notify our Secretary, Meg McLaughlin so that Guild records can be updated.
- Treasurer Don Fago reported that the Guild made a profit of \$847 from the Spring Orchid Sale at Olbrich Gardens. A



10% donation to Olbrich will be forthcoming.

- OGG received an additional \$125 memorial that had been given to Orchids by the Acker's on behalf of Kay Moore. Members are asked to submit ideas or suggestions on how to use this memorial either at the next meeting or send to Judy Stevenson.

UP-COMING EVENTS

- July 30, Central Iowa Orchid Societies, 2006 Speakers Day, Camp Dodge, Des Moines IA. Harry Philips will speak on "Mounted Orchids Fact and Fantasy" and "Miniature Orchids Natures Little Gems." Chuck Acker will speak on "*Phragmipediums* From the Dull to the Dazzling" and "Krazy for *kovachii*."
- August 5, Oak Hill Gardens in Dundee, IL is hosting its annual open house for Wisconsin Orchid Societies. Greg says that the greenhouses are open to the public at 10 a.m. on Saturdays, so folks are welcome to arrive as early as 10:00 o'clock. Lunch will be served at noon, and a program will be given at 1:00 p.m. by Liese Pigors-Butler entitled, "Common Sense Orchid Growing Wiz-Dumb." If you are planning to attend, please phone Judy Stevenson so that she can provide a head-count.
- The Fall meeting of the Mid-America Orchid Congress will be August 25-27, 2006 in Lexington, KY, hosted by the Blue Grass Orchid Society
- Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Milwaukee September 16-17, 2006
- 14th Annual Chicagoland Orchid Festival September 22-24, 2006
- Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show, Glencoe, IL October 14-15, 2006
- Blackhawk Orchid Society Show, Rockford IL October 27-29, 2006
- Orchid Quest, February 3-4, 2007
- March 23-25, 2007 32nd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show
- Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show in conjunction with Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress, Glencoe, IL, April 27-29, 2007
- The 19th World Orchid Congress will be held in Miami Beach, Florida February 2 – March 2, 2008.



Habenaria hookeri, from a woodland in southern Ontario, May 2006



Pink Lady Slippers, *Cypripedium acaule*



These Pink Lady Slippers are from a bog in Vilas County, Wisconsin 2006

Photography by Jeff Baylis