

September
2008

The Orchid Grower

Madison Orchid Growers' Guild



NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 7TH

- ♦ **OGG PICNIC IN CROSS PLAINS**
- ♦ **SCOTT WEBER TO SPEAK, "Photography for an AOS Show"**

The picnic has been rescheduled to September 7 at the Baylis' residence in Cross Plains. This is our **REGULAR SEPTEMBER MEETING** and there is a lot scheduled for that day. If you wish to attend the picnic, come around 11:30 a.m. with a dish to pass. Jeff and Denise will supply grilled chicken, plates and utensils. If you only wish to participate in the regular meeting, bring your plants for ribbon judging at the usual time. We will also have Scott Weber who will present "Photography for an AOS Show." RSVP to Denise so she can plan how much chicken to provide. If you have a folding chair, please bring it. There may still be **ORGANIC** apples on their trees so if you would like to pick some, bring a pail and suitable shoes. (Directions on page 8)

Meeting Dates

September 7 - Picnic at Baylis'
October 19 - Atrium
December 14 - Meeting Room
January 18, 2009— Meeting Room
February 15 -Meeting Room
March 15—Meeting Room
April 19—Atrium
May 17—Meeting Room
June TBA
September 27—Meeting Room
October 18—Meeting Room
December 20—Meeting Room

Meetings start at 1:30 unless otherwise noted

Up-coming Events

- September 5-7, Fall MAOC, Mason OH
- September 20-21, Wisconsin Orchid Society Show
- October 25-26, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show, Rockford, IL
- January 31—February 1, 2009 Orchid Quest
- February 21-22, Batavia Orchid Show
- March 14-25, NWOS

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is nearly gone; September is already here, and our monthly

meetings will begin on Sunday the 7th of September. Please mark your calendars, not all of the meetings are on the 3rd Sunday of each month this year due to prior commitments at Olbrich Gardens. The meeting dates can be found in this newsletter. Our first meeting will combine the picnic with a normal meeting, so bring your plants for judging. The 2008-09 budget will be presented and Scott Weber will talk about photographing orchids. September

will be quite busy. There will be at least two members attending the Fall MAOC in Ohio. The Wisconsin Orchid Society Show is the 20-21st and the Chicagoland Orchid Festival is the 26-28th. Great activities for all members.

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- March 27-29, 2009, Spring MAOC, Columbus OH
- April 11, 2009 –Spring Orchid Sale

Officers and Committees

President:

Rich Narf (2010)
znarfi@powercom.net

Vice President:

Jill Hynum (2009)
jhynum@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:

Annette Minter (2009)
Studio725@charter.net

Treasurer:

Irene Mackie(2010)
Irenepeacemaker2004@yahoo.com

Board:

Judy Williamson (2011)
jwilliamson@usgs.gov

Steve Thimling (2010)
orchidbird@charter.net

Open seat

Away Shows:

Judith Rapacz
jrapacz@facstaff.wisc.edu

Hospitality:

David Kahlway
riceguy1@juno.com

Librarian:

Liz Wood (2008)
ewood@biochem.wisc.edu

Membership:

Board of Directors

Newsletter:

Denise Baylis
jrbaylis@tds.net

Orchid Quest:

Judy Stevenson
judy_stevenson@sbcglobal.net

Programs:

Elaine Malter

Ribbon Judging:

Lorraine Snyder
 Jody Thistle

Web Master:

Gary Brendemuehl
gbrendemuehl@verizon.net

Liaisons:

Alliant: Elaine Malter (2009)

AOS: Jill Hynum (2009)

MAOC: Wayne King, Judith Rapacz

Orchid Digest: Jill Hynum (2009)



Photograph by Rich Narf

Hermann giving presentation at Oakhill

variety of plants and how they grow. If you can believe it, six plants grabbed my arm and forced me to take them home!

Hermann gave an informal talk covering several subjects. He explained what he has done to reduce cost of operations through the use of several insulation materials, clear plastic for the roof, and which ones worked best at various locations. His cost for natural gas has doubled since last year, sound familiar? His second subject was the time for repotting. To summarize, he suggested the following schedule: November to January - no potting; February the Paphiopedulum's after blooming; March through May the vandacious plants when it is hot, humid and bright; August to October the Phaleanopsis; October the cool growing orchids. Thirdly what does high, medium and low mean as temperature for plant growth? Hermann sets his thermostats to the low temperature and lets the sun heat the greenhouse. If there's no sun that's just fine; not every-day has to be warm. For cool plants the temperature is 55F, intermediate is 60F and warm is 68F.

What I gleaned from Hermann's presentation was a growing concern about costs to the large growers and to the individual grower. We are losing Hoosier Orchids (see accompanying letter) and their contribution to orchid propagation and, as a consequence, their support of orchid growing in Central America. Consider all factors when you purchase that next plant and support those that give us these great plants. If that plant you like so well fails, where will you get a replacement?

Rich Narf

P.S. There was judging at Oakhill and Wayne King won first place for his *Brassavola nodosa* and a second for his *Trichopilia tortilis*.

(Continued from page 1)

The Oakhill open house was again a very nice day in the green houses and with lunch under the trees provided by Oakhill. We were free to roam the green houses and observe a wide va-

APRIL CHINA VISIT

Judy Stevenson

By now the Olympics have come and gone. My husband Walt had a preview of China this past April 1st – 13th. We arrived in Beijing for the Third Annual International Potato Conference sponsored by CIP (International Potato Center headquartered in Lima Peru). Walt was one of two scientists from the USA among representatives from 35 countries presenting scientific information to 150 attendees. I was fortunate to tag along.



Walt and Judy Stevenson with their friend Coco in China



Cymbidium at a greenhouse market

Our impressions of China were varied. The country was very excited to be the hosts of the 2008 Olympics. “One World, One Dream” was advertised on the television, at the airport and on billboards. The people are proud of China and were friendly and warm toward us. They were anxious to show off their famous sites such as the Forbidden City, Summer Palace, and Temple of Heaven, which ten years ago tourists would not have been allowed to see. We also saw the “Great Wall” which had been open to tourists. Much has been done to restore these sites to make them ready for Olympic tourists.

The country is experiencing an economic boom.

Construction workers were working day and night in order to complete the Olympic Village and surrounding structures as well as finish five new subway lines. Elsewhere, we saw many cranes building tall, new apartment buildings in the cities of Beijing and Chengdu. (It is estimated that one quarter of the world’s cranes are currently located in China).

A total of 1,500 new automobiles are added to the streets of Beijing daily and bicycle traffic is down. We have heard so much about the pollution in China. When we were there it was variable. Initially skies were clear because there had been a lot of wind before we arrived. The skies in Chengdu seemed more gray and cloudy. Back in Beijing, it was cloudy but after a cold front and rain, the sky was clear again. On our final day, our trip to the Great Wall was gorgeous with clear blue skies and bright sun. China is in hopes that the Olympics will give people of the world enough of a glimpse to encourage tourists to return and explore their country. China has indeed changed.

While Walt was in meetings, I had a chance to explore the

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Floral arrangements incorporating orchids





Woman constructing orchid corsage

area around the China Agricultural Science Academy (CASA). Near the Plant Pathology Department, there was a complex of greenhouses which CASA sold to private industry because they were too expensive to maintain. This is where I would go to get my "orchid fix." Numerous vendors sold orchid plants or arrangements of orchids for weddings or funerals. Almost none of the orchids were identified, but I enjoyed them just the same. Surprisingly, one grower was from Taiwan. He explained that relations between mainland China and Taiwan had relaxed so that now he was welcome to sell his



Heading home with her floral display

goods in Beijing. Of course I could not bring any of the orchids back with me, but I had the opportunity to take lots of pictures. The prices of the orchid flowers were very reasonable which is perhaps why we saw orchids on display in hotel lobbies and restaurants. Orchids are indeed a universal wonder!

Coming soon —

Beginning next month I hope to have a series of articles about orchid growing in Thailand. Bill Beamish, a Canadian, has lived in Thailand the past eight years. He and his wife probably have 400+ orchids. Their neighbor has more and is mostly interested in the domestic varieties such as Dendrobium, Vanda and Cattleya. They have purchased many domestic varieties but also have collected a number of "wild" species in areas being cleared for agricultural purposes. Prices are quite reasonable there. For example Dendrobium-type orchids run from 40¢ to \$6+ depending on size and "newness." Cattleya are a little more costly at \$2.50 and up, some are extremely expensive.

Photographs by Judy Stevenson



BOLZ
CONSERVATORY

Photographs by Denise Baylis

Last month Olbrich Gardens had their annual "Blooming Butterflies" in the Bolz Conservatory.

Cirrhopetalum gusdorfii with busy butterfly (above) and *Brassavola* sp. with visitor



HOOSIERS IS CLOSING!

July 28, 2008

To our friends & customers,

Nineteen years ago Hoosier Orchid Company moved into our facilities here on the northwest side of Indianapolis, building on a tradition of providing species and fine hybrid orchids that traced back through Sea Breeze Orchids, Great Lakes Orchids and Margaret Ilgenfritz Orchids. We joined our legacy with those of Fred Hillerman, the late Madeline Elder, Steve Stevenson, John Schwind and others. Over these 19 years we have experienced great success in getting to know our customers, providing you with fantastic service as well as fine plants, and the joy of learning about orchids and sharing our love of orchids with you.

It is in recognition of that joy and success that I write to let you know that Hoosier Orchid Company will close as a retail nursery on August 30, 2008. We have enjoyed growing and sharing our orchids, developing new and exciting lines of breeding, discovering new species, speaking to orchid societies, educating our local customers, displaying at shows around the country, making rare species available, and so many other aspects of our business. Our closing is a bittersweet recognition of the changing aspects of the orchid industry and societal trends.

We are in the process of inventorying our plants and breeding program, and will shortly be offering these items for sale. We will be offering groups of plants and flasks for sale first, and then we will be making a general offer of our inventory to the public. Many plants we offer will be from our breeding and display collections gathered over nearly thirty years and will include awarded plants and species otherwise unavailable, as well as new and groundbreaking hybrids, and our flask collection.

Sales of our inventory will be in a deliberate, public way with email and web announcements of offerings at each stage. Until August 30th we will continue our regular business, and sales will continue through our website and at our nursery. Following August 30th we will begin our inventory reduction. You are receiving this letter because you are on our e-mail list. Because we value your business and your friendship you will continue to receive regular updates on our closing offerings. Please notify us by e-mail if you wish to opt out of these updates.

Thank you for your patronage and friendship over these years.

Sincerely,

William Ames Rhodehamel
President, Hoosier Orchid Company"



FINAL HOOSIER SALE PROCEDURES

- ◆ Plants will be auctioned in affinity groups
- ◆ Group listings will be published on our website
- ◆ Interested parties must register and be given a qualified bidder number
- ◆ Qualified bidders may inspect the plants by appointment
- ◆ Each group will have a seven day auction period
- ◆ Sealed bids for each group will be accepted during the auction period
- ◆ High bid wins each group
- ◆ Payment must be arranged 48 hours after the end of each auction
- ◆ Plants not sold by auction will be offered individually after all auctions end

For detailed information contact Hoosiers at 888-291-6269, or www.hoosierorchid.com

Opportunities for OQ 2009

We have been fortunate to have the guidance, hard work and inspiration of Elaine Malter as Show Chair for the past four years. (Thank you very much Elaine). With Rich Narf assuming Presidential responsibilities, I have more time and energy to put toward Show Chair for 2009. After OQ 2008, both the membership and Elaine gave me some excellent suggestions for next year. One suggestion was to have a chair of each activity at OQ. Each chair reports directly to the Show Chair.

Many of you have already told me that you are looking forward to working as a team to make next year a success. Because of record gas prices and the declining economy, I think we will all need to work harder than ever before to ensure 2009 is a success. That is the reason I am writing you at this early date to decide which OQ job is the best fit for you. **What are the available jobs?** Some are listed below but there are many others that need doing well in advance of OQ. The primary strength of OGG has been members banding together to divide up the jobs so that none of us burn out, we have more fun and the organization runs more smoothly. If you do not wish to be a Chair, consider volunteering to assist one.

If you are interested in one of these positions or are interested in volunteering where needed, contact me, Judy Stevenson, 2009 Orchid Quest Show Chair.

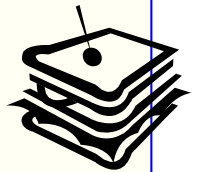
Correspondence

- ◆ Send invitations to potential judges
- ◆ Send invitations to potential vendors
- ◆ Send invitations to Orchid Societies
- ◆ Keep log of responses



Catering Coordinator

- ◆ Determine menu and order meal for judges' luncheon
- ◆ Order food for hospitality room and keep it replenished



Raffle Chair

- ◆ Determine how the raffle will be run.
- ◆ Obtain permit from the State
- ◆ Obtain raffle tickets
- ◆ Obtain prizes
- ◆ Maintain staffing during OQ
- ◆ Arrange for ticket drum rental
- ◆ Organize the selection of winners
- ◆ Supervise the distribution of prizes
- ◆ *Responsible for the smooth operation of the raffle*



Programs

- ◆ Contact potential speakers and obtain biography
- ◆ Help create Show Book and the Program
- ◆ Introduce speakers and keep program on track
- ◆ Send "Thank you" notes to speakers



Publicity

- ◆ Contact and work with newspapers, television and radio stations
- ◆ Recruit sponsors (Corporate and Nursery)
- ◆ Send "Thank-you" notes (e-mail is OK)



Gifts and Awards

- ◆ Gifts for judges
- ◆ Awards for show winners
- ◆ Ribbon inventory



OGG Exhibit Coordinator

- ◆ Develop theme for the display
- ◆ Arrange for props, as needed
- ◆ Arrange for supplies to be conveyed from and back to storage locker
- ◆ Recruit volunteers to assist in set-up and take-down



Graphics and Poster Design

- ◆ Create an eye-catching color as well as a black and white poster and have copies printed by October
- ◆ Design flyers for OQ and have enough printed for distribution by OGG by November
- ◆ Design tickets and arrange for printing



Banner

- ◆ Obtain permit from City Clerk, ASAP
- ◆ Take banner to printer for date changes
- ◆ Recruit persons to put up and take down banner

Plant Registration Coordinator

- ◆ Send out plant registration forms to Vendors and Societies
- ◆ Arrange for computers and printer
- ◆ Train registrars

Plant Check Coordinator

- ◆ Arrange for supplies (check-tickets, tape, boxes, plastic bags, etc.)
- ◆ Maintain staffing during OQ

OGG Sales Table Coordinator

- ◆ Maintain knowledgeable staffing during OQ
- ◆ Sell OGG memberships
- ◆ Determine items to be sold
- ◆ Responsible for security of monies collected

Clerking Coordinator

- ◆ Recruit clerks
- ◆ Responsible for clerking supplies

FAREWELL SVETLANA

In the fall of 2004, Svetlana Kot came to the OGG. She had a keen interest and love for the world of orchids and started volunteering in the guild events very quickly. Within a year, she agreed to be the Web Master for OGG, making many additions and improvements to our website; she also scanned all the guild newsletters back to 1987 so we now have an electronic copy for our archives. Svetlana served on the board of directors for the past two years, and volunteered at our annual ORCHID QUEST show. In addition she participated in the away shows by setting up or taking down the displays which included some of her own beautiful orchids. We appreciate all her efforts and service over the past 4 years and wish her well as she and her family moves to Tulsa, OK.

Jill Hynum, with the approval of the Board, nominated Svetlana for the "Orchid Digest Award of Excellence" for her service to the Orchid Growers' Guild. The award was presented to Svetlana at a luncheon with some OGG members.

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Ticket Sales Coordinator

- ◆ Maintain ticket sales staffing during OQ
- ◆ Sell tickets
- ◆ Responsible for security of monies collected

AOS Photographer

- ◆ Take photographs of plants selected for AOS awards
- ◆ Complete appropriate paperwork and forward to AOS



I was in Ireland for two weeks in June. This is a photograph of a common, native orchid which I believe is called dactylorhiza (marsh orchid). In this picture, they're being grown in a garden.
— Jill Hynum



Photograph by Rich Narf
Svetlana holding her "Award of Excellence"

Fall in Love with Orchids, 2008

September 20 and 21, 2008, 9 am to 5 pm

The Show Dome

Mitchell Park Conservatory

You are invited to enjoy our award-winning exhibits of flowering orchid plants, pottery, photographs, and other orchid-related exhibits. After you have enjoyed the exhibits, you will want to go to the sales area and purchase your favorite orchids, pots, books, potting medium, and possibly a T-shirt or two. There will be a variety of items to purchase at reasonable prices.

There will be Wisconsin Orchid Society Members at the show and in the sales area to help you with any questions you may have. Do visit the Society table in the sales area. New this year is a "Silent Auction" of orchid-related items.

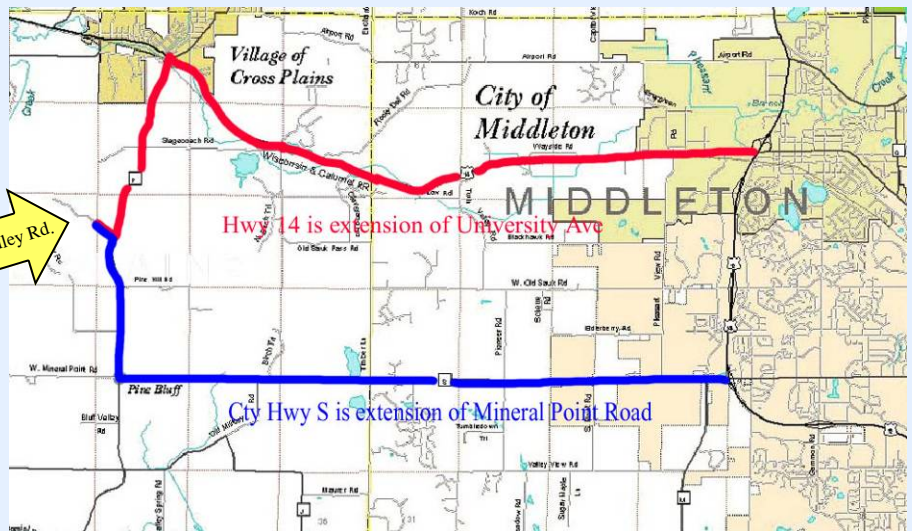
There are many other activities for you to participate in – informative talks, videos, and a number of raffles.

Baylis Address: 8735 Hidden Valley Road, Cross Plains

Phone: 798-3602

From Madison head west on University Avenue which turns into Hwy 14. At the stop light in Cross Plains, turn left onto County P. At the crest of the hill just past the Hilltop Inn is Hidden Valley Road on your right. We are the first house on the left.

From Madison head west on Mineral Point Road which turns into County S. Continue west until the stop sign at Pine Bluff. Turn right. At the top of the hill on the left is Hidden Valley Road. We are the first house on the left.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 5-7, Fall MAOC in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society, Kings Island Convention Center, Mason, OH
- September 20-21, Milwaukee Orchid Society Show, Mitchell Park Domes, Milwaukee, WI
- September 26-28, Chicagoland Orchid Festival, Chicagoland IL
- October 16-19, 2008, next meeting of the American Orchid Society, at Longwood Gardens, PA, with the conference hotel in Wilmington, DE, the Hotel Dupont
- October 24-26, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show, Klehm Arboretum, Rockford, IL
- January 31–February 1, 2009 Orchid Quest
- February 21-22, Batavia Orchid Show
- March 14-15, 2009 - Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Spring Show. "An Orchid Luau," Neenah
- March 21-22, 2009, Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Glencoe, IL
- March 28-29, 2009, 34th Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show, Davenport, IA
- March 27-29, 2009, Spring MAOC, Columbus OH