

January 2015 The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison
Website orchidguild.org



Next Meeting January 18th Olbrich Meeting Room "Getting Ready for the 28th Orchid Quest"

Orchid Quest is just around the corner and the next meeting will be on preparations for this show at our new venue. Come to the next regular meeting for a sneak peek at the new set-up at the Marriott for OQ 2015.

HOLIDAY PARTY

The OGG Holiday Party was great as usual. This year we used Sign-UpGenius.com again for RSVPs. Unfortunately flu hit hard this year and several members to miss the fun. Liz Wood was 'Santa' this year. Earlier this year Lorraine Snyder and Keith Nelson selected species orchid plants from Orchid Garden Centre & Nursery. Anyone who paid \$10 had a chance to pick an orchid. Keith concealed the orchids this year. When our number was called we could either take someone else's plant or take a new one from the table in the front. Only a few orchids traded hands this year.



Tubecentron Niu Girl
(*Tuberolabium kotoense* x
Ceratocentron fessellii), a
miniature grown by Steven
Thimling

Meeting Dates

January 18, 2015, Meeting Room
February 22, Meeting Room
March 15, Meeting Room
April 19, Meeting Room
May 17, Meeting Room
June TBA, Annual Picnic
September 20, Meeting Room
October 18, Meeting Room
November 15, TBA
December 13, Meeting Room

Meetings start at 1:30 pm at Olbrich Gardens unless otherwise noted

Up-Coming Events

- **January 31-February 1, 2015**, Orchid Quest, Middleton
- **February 21-22**, Batavia Orchid Society Show, Wheaton, IL
- **March 7-8**, Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Neenah WI
- **March 19-21**, Spring MAOC, Nashville TN
- **April 4**, Spring Orchid Sale
- **Spring 2016**- MAOC, Cincinnati/Dayton Area

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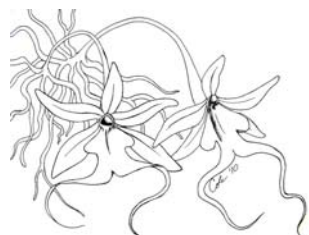
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ANNUAL AWARDS

The Orchid Growers' Guild set up a program many years ago. We've made a few changes over the years. I hope to get a copy of the current rules out to all members soon.

Two years ago, we revised the growing awards program so that there were only two levels of growers – experienced growers with more than 2 years of experience and new growers with 2 or less years. We also have an exhibitors' award for participating in away shows and Orchid Quest.

For 2014, we didn't have any new growers who submitted plants for judging. As the grower with the most points, Terri Jozwiak received the Milo Gilbertson certificate in addition to a gift certificate to Orchids Garden Centre.

The exhibitor with the most points was Sue Reed. Sue received an award certificate and a gift certificate to Orchids Garden Centre. Congratulations to both Sue and Terri.

The results of the ribbon judging done at our monthly meetings, Orchid Quest and away shows are published in our newsletter, along with any best of class, AOS or special awards received. Make sure you check those listings for errors. If there is an error or omission, please contact the editor. Also, when you're registering your plants, make sure you put your name on the slip and leave it on the table so you get credit for your plant.



Vice-President Jill Hynum with Terri Jozwiak, this year's winner of the Milo Gilbertson award



Sue Reed with her certificate for Best Exhibitor

Orchid Quest Updates

Orchid Quest planning is almost completed. However we are still looking for someone to take the lead setting up the OGG exhibit.

The speaker's program is set, check our website for the line-up. \$1 off admission coupons will be available at the OGG January regular meeting.

The Marriott will allow us to bring our lunches with us while we are setting up on Friday but not during the show itself. We will not be offering box lunches this year as we will have a 'Bistro' during OQ with selections from the Marriott menu.

Denise Baylis is the Volunteer Coordinator again this year. If you want to volunteer and cannot use SignUpGenius, contact her and she will do it for you. Also on SignUpGenius is a list of awards at OQ that you can sponsor for \$50 (tax deductible.)

OQ Banquet on Saturday Night

The banquet begins at 5:30 PM. Dinner is at Benvenuto's Italian Grill, 1109 Fourier Drive, Madison. For those who need a ride from the Marriott, the hotel bus will supply transportation. The meal is \$30.00 including gratuity. If a vegetarian meal is desired, please indicate that when you make reservations. Sign up for the OQ dinner with Nancy Thomas (mikeandnancy@tds.net)

Reservations and payment for dinner are due January 24, 2014. Please make the check out to 'Orchid Growers' Guild' and mail to Nancy Thomas, Orchid Growers' Guild, PO Box 5342, Madison, WI 53705.

6:00 PM Keynote speaker, Jason Fischer, will speak on "Phragmipedium breeding and culture including kovachii and hybrids. It should be a great meal, a good talk and a great time to relax from a busy, full-packed work day.

Holiday Party Pics..



Jeff Baylis and David Kohlwey making their selections



Jill Hynum and Judy Williamson.

LEAD ON OGG EXHIBIT MUCH NEEDED!

Sue Reed

The Orchid Quest 2015 OGG exhibit needs some motivated volunteers to get the exhibit set up. What is required is a minimum of three people with several others to help pitch in with some of the duties.

One or two to lead the exhibit, meaning to have an idea or theme for the exhibit and to secure the props to support that theme.

The leads will coordinate with Jeff and Denise to get the needed supplies from the locker, such as pots, staging materials, props, wire, hanger, crates etc.

The leads will coordinate with Rich Narf who has volunteered to make all of the plant labels.

The leads need to decide who fills out the electronic spread sheet for the plant registrations, and when the deadline for plant registration is, plus when the plants need to be at the exhibit.

The person doing the plant registration, receives and reviews all of the plant registrations from members, double checks with owners, fills out the electronic form, and brings the form on a memory stick to the show for Plant Registration. Print a master list for double checking and making changes at the site before the final plant registration is handed over to Registration for registration labels to be printed.

Before the plants can be placed in the exhibit they need to be checked in on the master list. Then the plant registration tags and special names tags need to be added before placement in the exhibit. Several hands for the two labels to be

put on is very helpful. Last year there were 100 orchid plants so this was a time consuming task that needs to be completed before the real work of the exhibit. (This year I predict maybe half that number of plants based upon Meg possibly not sending any and mine are not in great shape. Between Meg and me, we had maybe a third of the plants last year. So members step up PLEASE!)

Amy Ripp will try to be there for set up in the early afternoon for a few hours. Amy is the genius behind the color flow! She has a great eye so listen to her suggestions.

Setting up the exhibit last year was done in record time with completion by about 4 PM, with a start time of ground work tarp placemen about 10 AM. So it is a long day. Many hands will make lighter work for all. Fresh eyes to review and make suggestions are helpful but advice may not always be taken. So don't anyone take offense at giving advice or taking advice or ignoring suggestions.

I have a lot of moss which I will soak and bring for the exhibit. So I don't think we will need to buy any moss this year.

It is time for someone else to take home the ribbons and exhibit awards! I think I will be available to help out but with limited time and energy to be heavily counted upon. You will find this exhausting but a lot of fun and a great opportunity to work with other OGG members. So please step forward and help out the Guild and your creative side!



A selection of orchids ready for 'Santa' Liz to distribute

CRITIQUE OF AN ORCHID EXHIBIT

Sue Reed

This article will attempt explain what characteristics some judges view as important in an orchid exhibit. Last year's AOS awarded OGG exhibit will be used here as an example. There are some set rules for AOS orchid exhibits and many other subjective individual preferences. As the saying goes: "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder".

Rules for an AOS exhibit include: (1) the size of an exhibit is used to place it in the proper class based upon whose exhibit it is, vendor, orchid society, or individual; (2) no artificial material is allowed except artificial grass; (3) only orchids may be blooming flowers; (4) no cut flowers (except educational exhibits).

The unofficial rules (strong recommendations) for setting up an exhibit.

A. Exhibit starting point:

1. Start out with a theme as a way to add props to create an interesting exhibit. Minimal usage of two to three items that complement the orchids should NOT be a major focal point. (Notice the two handing glass window on the backdrop of the exhibit.)
2. Focal point: Notice the large pink multi-flowered orchid plant in the back the 2014 exhibit. (A focal point plant should have a 'Wow' factor and is a larger plant to attract attention.)
3. From the focal point the color pallet was started with pinks down the center moving to the left to more whites with pinks to whites then adding yellows to greens.
4. Going right with the darker pinks to reds, bronze, oranges, then greens with reds.
5. An off-center focal

point can often add visual interest. The exhibit doesn't have to be symmetrical, but balanced

6. Including the backdrop in the exhibit adds interest. Plants should not extend above the backdrop.

The judges loved the color flow in the OGG exhibit. Use the whites as a color break. Also note that each individual orchid plant should be showcased by placing it with the best possible angle and position, without obscuring the flowers on another plant. Remember that dark flowers do not show off as well as whites and light colored flowers. Dark flowers are best set up more towards the front with the lighter ones in the back because the light colors come forward and stand out.

Notice the back drop helps set off the orchids and the windows were used to hang other orchids and all hangers are covered in moss. The hanging orchids need to fit the color flow and require good presentation as well.

B. Non-orchid parts

1. Black background and base layer helps show off the plants
2. Using green moss helps minimize the darkness of the black fabric making a



more natural setting, adding moisture to the exhibit, and is a non-detracting covering for pots and other unwanted features.

3. Using a nature or garden path stone that is mostly covered in moss helps mute the light color of the "stone". Linoleum tiles were used here and must be stuck down to the plastic tarp that is protecting the carpet. Darker color would be better.
4. The height is created by a portable, multi-tiered stand, and by using crates, boxes, other pots, etc. to adjust the height of plants for the best effect.
5. Foliage plants are best in the back and on the sides. They are great fillers of holes and covering of the sides. Non-orchid plants should not be front and center in any numbers. Maybe one or two at the most. Foliage plants must have predominately green leaves and should be cleaned and all brown tips cut off just like the orchid plants. Foliage plants must be nice looking and full.

The major criticism of the exhibit was the one narrow opening that slowed down judging. A wider entrance or two points of entry would have been better.

NAME TAGS

Need a new name tag for Orchid Quest? Carrie Weisman would be happy to make you a new one if you have lost yours.

You can contact her at

carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov



'Santa' Liz with Don Fago and the orchid of his choice

UP-COMING EVENTS

- **January 17-18, 2015** - 59th Paphiopedilum Guild & First World Slipper Orchid Conference, Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, 71 Banyan Drive, Hilo, Hawaii
- **January 24-25**, Orchid Society of Minnesota Winter Carnival Orchid Show, St. Paul MN
- **January 31-February 1**, Orchid Quest, Marriott West Conference Center, Middleton
- **February 21-22**, Batavia Orchid Society Show, DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Rd., Wheaton, IL
- **March 7-8**, Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Holiday Inn Neenah Riverwalk, 123 East Wisconsin Ave., Neenah WI
- **March 14-15**, Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Chicago Botanical Gardens
- **March 19-21, 2015**, Spring MAOC, Nashville TN
- **Spring 2016**- MAOC, Cincinnati/Dayton Area

December 2014 OGG Ribbon Judging

First Place

Steven Thimling	<i>Macradenia brassavolae</i>
Keith Nelson	<i>Ludisia discolor</i>
Keith Nelson	Lycaste Drumbeat 'Triumph'
Terri Jozwiak	Paph Bell Ringer 'Chimes'
Terri Jozwiak	Oncidium Twinkles
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Rhynchostylis gigantea</i>

Second Place

Shirl Roberts	Bc Maikai 'Mayumi'
Wayne King	<i>Oncidium obrazatum</i>
Keith Nelson	<i>Ascocentrum pumilum</i>
Steven Thimling	Phrag Lutz Rollke

Third Place

Audrey Lucier	<i>Osmoglossum pulchellum</i>
Audrey Lucier	Caulocattleya Ethel's Paradise 'Hawaii' [syn. Diacattleya]
Steven Thimling	Tubecentron Niu Girl (<i>Tuberolabium kotoense</i> x <i>Ceratocentron fessellii</i>)



Close-up of *Osmoglossum pulchellum*, grown by Audrey Lucier



Rhynchostylis gigantea, grown by Terri Jozwiak

RAFFLE DONATIONS NEEDED

We still need donations to the Raffle and the Silent Auction. Remember that your donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law and you will receive a receipt for your records. Contact Lorraine Snyder at lorraine.snyder127@gmail.com to notify her that you will be making donations.

If you have obtained a donation from an area merchant please let the Show Chair Terri Jozwiak know so that she can give you special tickets to Orchid Quest for those merchants.

GETTING YOUR ORCHIDS READY FOR A SHOW

by Sue Reed

If you have been sending plants to the shows this is familiar stuff but if you haven't here are some guidelines and tasks.

1. Start staking your plant spikes as soon as possible to have them grow as up right as you can. This makes for much easier transport and much better presentation at the show.
2. Keep a watchful eye out for bugs and always treat immediately. I use a spray of rubbing alcohol early and often or an insecticide that lasts longer. I have noticed that the dry air is encouraging mealy bugs again!!
3. Clean up your plants NOW, so there is less to do right before the show when you will (hopefully) have many plants to deal with. Cut off all brown leaves and anything that detracts from the appearance of the plant, for example dry pseudobulb sheaths and brown leaf tips.
4. Make sure the plant is stable in the pot. If not, use a larger outer pot for stability. If your plant isn't stable on your shelf, it will be even more unstable in the display and might fall and damage your plant as well as others.
5. Make sure that all pots are labeled with your name on the bottom or on the side near the bottom.
6. Leave the plant tag in the plant with your name on the tag. If the tag is really large, make a new smaller one that will be easily hidden in the pot.
7. Label your boxes and remove the transportation supports at the show. You need to hang on to the transportation supports. Your boxes might be needed for the show set-up. So if they can be, they especially need to be labeled. There should be a storage area at the show for storage of boxes.
8. Get your plant information in on time to the exhibit set-up people (I would say the Monday before the show.) And get your plants to the show on time! I would suggest by 11 AM but whatever the exhibit

lead suggests for their due time.

9. Be willing to step in and help out on the exhibit or any place that you can will help make the show a great success!
10. Remember to tell your friends, coworkers, anyone you can about our great orchid show!! Thank you so much for your great past support!! 2014 year was a special year!!

Also please bring nice green foliage house plants for the exhibit to help fill out the background! Again clean up those plants and label the pots to make sure you get them back!

Remember that take down is at 4 PM on Sunday February 1, so make sure you have a way home for all of your plants from the display and from your purchases! Have fun and enjoy the show!



This *Ludisia discolor*, commonly referred to as jewel orchid, is the only species in its genus. It is native to southern Asia. As a terrestrial orchid, in its natural setting would be found growing on the forest floor. They need high humidity and warm temperatures with low to medium light. Keith Nelson grows this one on a hanger so that it is able to spread out.

WHERE DO I FIND INFORMATION ABOUT ORCHID CLASSIFICATION FOR JUDGING?

Sue Reed

The best place to look is at the Mid-America Orchid Congress website under Judging: (<http://midamericanorchids.org/judging/>).



The first document listed called Orchid Classification: Lists all of the genera and crosses, listing the correct abbreviation, the class for judging. One class is listed if the species

and hybrids are judged in one class and if two classes are listed the class number for the species and the class number for the hybrids. (A hybrid is the cross of at least two species.)

MID-AMERICA ORCHID CLASSIFICATION				
July 1, 2014				
Name	Abbreviation	Class	Species	Hybrid
A				
Abaxianthus (see Flickingeria)				
Abdominea (see Robiquetia)				
Aberconwayara	Acw.	13		
Aberrantia (see Pleurothallis)				
Abola (see Caucaea)				
Acacallis (see Aganisia)				
Acampe	Acp.		68	69
Acampodorum (see Aracampe)				

The second document is the Intergeneric Cross Reference: This lists the intergeneric name, the correct abbreviation and what

genera are used to make this cross. This document helps you decipher the sometimes confusing abbreviations used in the beginning of the orchid name.

Mid-America Intergeneric Makeup Listing

July 1, 2014

Name	Abbreviation	Cross
A		
Aberconwayara	Acw.	Broughtonia x Caularthron x Guarianthe x Laelia
Acampostylis	Acy.	Acampe x Rhynchostylis
Acapetalum	Acpt.	Anacallis x Zygopetalum
Acinbreea	Acba.	Acineta x Embreea
Aciopea	Aip.	Acineta x Stanhopea
Adacidiglossum	Adg.	Ada x Oncidium x Rossioglossum
Adamara	Adm.	Brassavola x Cattleya x Epidendrum x Laelia

The last document is the MAOC Show Schedule which we use for our Show Schedule book. For each show, the show can make their own Show Book so to make sure you are using the correct class for your plant and exhibit ALWAYS use the specific Show Book for that show.

Our show book is online at our website at the top tab 'Orchid Quest':
<http://www.orchidguild.org/orchid-quest.html>
 Download and view the Show Book by clicking on 2015 ORCHID QUEST Show Book.

The people doing the exhibit need to download the 2015 Plant/Exhibit Registration Forms and directions. If you are entering your plants in the Guild exhibit do not use this form for your registration. You could download it then copy your plant registration information and email that to the person collecting that information. But do not send that form for your plant registration UNLESS you are doing your own exhibit and you have told Judy Stevenson and Lorraine Snyder that you are doing an exhibit.

The Show Book gives you instructions and hints on how to register your plants in areas that are generally confusing, and rules on the registration: such as orchid plants can only be entered into one class, and the flower size for the multiflora phalaenopsis (flower size 3 inches or less with multi-branched inflorescences when mature).

One confusing area is the Primary and Complex hybrids of paphiopedilums. Primary means that the name tag should list two species as the parents. Species names are in lower case and in Latin format. If the parents have names that are capitalized and not Latinized then the parents are probably hybrids and your orchid is considered a Complex hybrid meaning many species have been used in the past to produce this plant. Google is a great place to do your searching and you can usually find out what you want from doing a Google search. Remember YOU are responsible for the correct classification of your orchid. The people putting the exhibit together will try to correct any mistakes that they come across but ultimately they are not responsible for your orchid class, YOU are!

