

May
2020

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison
www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



Photograph by Gary Lensmeyer
Cymbidium Sunshine Falls
'Butterball'

Meeting Dates

- May 17 - **Cancelled**
- June TBA
- September 20
- October 18
- November 15
- December 20

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

Up-Coming Events

TBA

Officers and Committees

President:

Susan Reed (2020)
Greed@chorus.net

Vice President:

Cynthia Wadsworth (2021)
cynthia.wadsworth@thermofisher.com

Secretary:

Keith Nelson (2021)
nelsonridge@tds.net

Treasurer:

Denise Baylis (2020)
jrbaylis@tds.net

Board:

Barbara Soderling (2020)
bhsoderling@yahoo.com

Nancy Thomas (2022)
mikeandnancy@tds.net

Carrie Weisman (2021)
cleocatz@msn.com

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

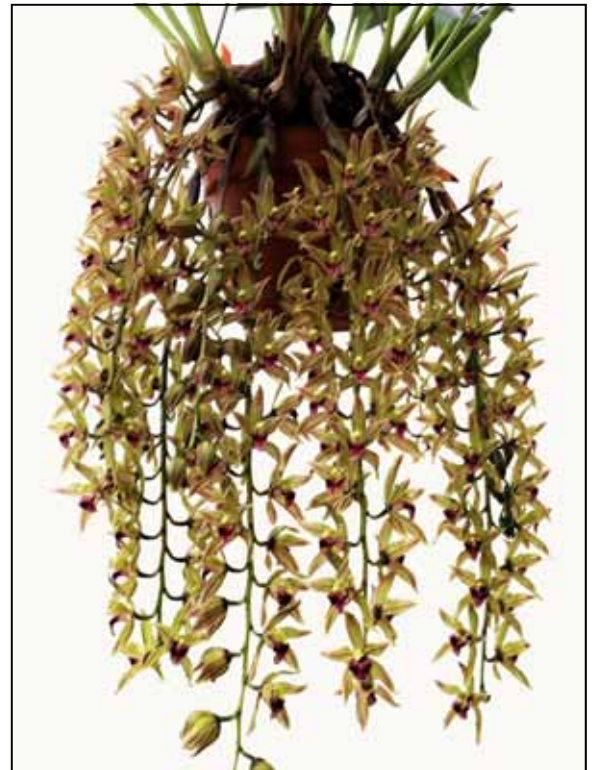
Hello OGG members,
I hope all of you are well and staying safe!

Olbrich has notified me that it will be closed in May therefore our May meeting is canceled. Our May meeting would have been our election of officers and our member orchid plant and supplies auction.

We have made some adjustments for the lack of a voting meeting. We have asked the present officers if they would continue, Denise as Treasurer and myself as President, and Barb S as board member. Denise and myself have agreed to continue and Barb has asked to be excused from the board. Lisa L has agreed to run for the open board position. Thank you Lisa L for offering to be on the board! And thank you Denise to continue being our excellent treasurer!

We also will not be having our May Orchid auction. Because we cannot have the auction, we will be giving the members information about other sources for buying orchids and supplies.

Spring is the perfect time to do repotting. Gary has continued his excellent series on the care and repotting of catasetums. Keith has written an article about repotting orchids in general and



Photograph by Terry Hodge
Cymbidium devonianum
"It set its flower spikes last fall! It took forever for it to actually bloom."

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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CATASETUM PROJECT

This month, we will focus on repotting your catasetum

Away Shows:

Nancy Thomas
mikeandnancy@tds.net

Hospitality:

Volunteer

Librarian:

Open

Membership:

Carrie Weisman
carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov

Newsletter:

Denise Baylis
jrbaylis@tds.net

Orchid Quest 2019:

Terri Jozwiak
lodjjoz@charter.net

Programs:

Cynthia Wadsworth
cynthia.wadsworth@thermofisher.com

Ribbon Judging:

Open

Web Master:

Richard Jozwiak
OGGweb@charter.net

Liaisons:

AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Keith Nelson



You will know that it is time to repot when the roots of the new sprout are at least 3 inches long.

Remove the plant from the pot and evaluate root growth. (Pic #1)

The fleshy, succulent roots are from the sprout and will be growing on top of the moss and buried deep into the moss. You will also notice roots emanating from the mother bulb. Some roots will be dry/papery and others will be viable (pic #2).



Soak the entire root mass in water for about an hour to loosen the root mass. (pic #3)



Tease apart the roots and discard the moss and plastic peanuts. Cut away dry/dead roots from only the mother bulb to reduce it's overall root mass by 50%. Do not disturb roots from the sprout. (Pic #4A is front showing roots primarily from sprout. Pic #4B shows back of mother bulb with manicured roots).

CATASETUM PROJECT (continued)



Wrap the root mass in fresh moss that was prepared, in advance, by soaking it in water for 15 minutes after which the water is squeezed out. The water wash is repeated a second time with fresh water. After 15 minutes, excess water is squeezed from the moss. Add enough moss to stabilize the plant in a plastic pot 4 inches (top) by 3½ inches (height) or something similar (pic #5).

Place the catasetum in very bright light. Fertilize with copious amounts of water containing 1 teaspoon of your favorite fertilizer per gallon. Use this solution every time you water. Do not allow moss to go dry. I rotate two types of fertilizers, Dyna Grow 'Grow' and Michigan State fertilizer for RO water. I also add 1/2 teaspoon epsom salts/gallon of water, once per month. Other additives, such as Super Thrive, Phyan or you favorite spice, can also be included. Every third week, I flush the pot with just water free of any additives. At the end of August, the strength of fertilizer can be reduced to 1/2 teaspoon per gallon water. Stop using additives at this time

Happy growing and feel free to contact me with questions.
--- Gary Lensmeyer



Do not over-pot in anything larger. The plant roots like to be tightly confined to minimize rot and to improve potential for blooms. Position the plant such that the mother bulb is touching the side of the pot allowing the sprout plenty of room to grow (pic #6).



April Virtual Ribbon Judging

Thanks to all of you who sent in photos for orchid judging.



Diplocaulobium pulvilliferum grown by Sue Reed



Phalaenopsis Sogo Vivien 'Leaf's Edge' (Sogo Alice x Zuma's Pixie) grown by Lorraine Snyder

First Place

Steven Thimling	<i>Ascocentrum miniatum</i>
Nancy Thomas	<i>Bratonia</i> [<i>Miltassia</i>] Kauai's Choice (<i>Brassia arcuigera</i> x <i>Bratonia Aztec</i>)
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Brsdm.</i> Nittany Gold 'Dr. John' AM/AOS (<i>Brassia verrucosa</i> x <i>Oncidium ghiesbreghtianum</i>)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Bulbophyllum falcatum</i> 'Standing Tall' AM/AOS
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Cymbidium</i> Sunshine Falls 'Butterball'
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Dendrobium</i> Royal Wings (Roy Tokunaga x Silver Wings)
Keith Nelson	<i>Dendrobium</i> unknown hybrid
Steven Thimling	<i>Dendrobium</i> Yukidaruma 'King' AM/JOS, AM/AOS (Shiranami x Pinocchio)
Susan Reed	<i>Diplocaulobium pulvilliferum</i>
Keith Nelson	<i>Laelia sincorana</i>
Susan Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum besseae</i>
Susan Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Kolosand (<i>kolopakakingii</i> x <i>sanderianum</i>)
Bruce Luebke	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Unknown [Bulldog type]
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Purple Pride [unknown hybrid]
Nancy Thomas	<i>Phragmipedium caudatum</i> FCC/AM
Steven Thimling	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Eric Young (<i>besseae</i> x <i>longifolium</i>)
Nancy Thomas	<i>Phragmipedium humboldtii</i>
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Peruflora Cirila Alca (<i>kovachii</i> x <i>dalessandroi</i>)
Susan Reed	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Red Sky (Demetria x Twilight)
Keith Nelson	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Stairway to Heaven (<i>wallisii</i> x <i>popowii</i>)
Keith Nelson	<i>Pleione formosana</i> 'Tongariro'
Steven Thimling	<i>Pleurothallis andreae</i>
Steven Thimling	<i>Trichoglottis pusilla</i>

Second Place

Susan Reed	(<i>Paph</i> Ang-Thong var alba 'In Charm' x <i>niveum</i> var 'Pathana' FCC/AOS) x <i>Paph niveum</i> 'In Charm' BM/TPS
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Encyclia cordigera</i>
Nancy Thomas	<i>Mormolyca ringens</i>
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Oncidium sphacelatum</i>
Steven Thimling	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Jolix x Lovely Land) 'Showtime' x Helenae 'In-Charm'
Susan Reed	<i>Phalaenopsis parishii</i>
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo Vivien 'Leaf's Edge' (Sogo Alice x Zuma's Pixie)

Members' Orchid Photos



Dendrobium Yukidaruma 'King' AM/JOS, AM/AOS (Shiranami x Pinocchio)
This is 1 of 2 divisions of my very first orchid purchased at the OGG show at West Town Mall. -- Steven Thimling



Laelia sincorana

Here's one Chuck Acker gave me several years ago. He said it is difficult to get to bloom so he didn't want it anymore. It didn't bloom for him. I checked and it needs a very bright, cold, and dry winter rest. I have kept it in the entranceway putting it on the cold floor in the winter right up against the south facing glass. It grows very slowly and blooms regularly every spring, always two flowers, no more no less. ---Keith Nelson



Mormolyca ringens

Olbrich had divisions for sale, I think it was at our first OQ there, and this is the first flower I've gotten to fruition (others had bud blast). Just a single cute little flower on a long stalk which I guess is their character. It took a while but I'm glad to see it finally. --- Nancy Thomas



Dendrobium Royal Wings (Roy Tokunaga x Silver Wings)
This one started blooming at OQ and is still in great shape, opening every few weeks with a different set and the original set still lovely looking. --- Terri Jozwiak

What's Blooming at Olbrich

Photographs by Terry Hodge



Coelogyne pandurata



Paphiopedilum esquirolei



Phragmipedium bessae var. *flavum*



Cyrtopodium andersonii



Bulbophyllum echinolabium



Paphiopedilum 'Magic Lantern'

Orchid Quest ABCD Awards.

At the February meeting Cynthia gave out the newly named awards: Orchid Quest ABCD Awards. There were so many members and members' families that helped make Orchid Quest 2020 a really grand success. We would like to recognize some of you for ALL that you do. Some people do a little and some do a lot and we are grateful to every single hour that each of you devote to the promotion, planning and the weekend of Orchid Quest. It is so true that many hands make the work-load lighter and you came through again like champions. We (the co-chairs) would like to recognize some of the best of the best of the volunteers in 2020 with the new ABCD award:

Going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty in preparation & fruition of Orchid Quest 2020

Terri Jozwiak and Cynthia Wadsworth, OQ 2020 Co-Chairs

Nancy Thomas worked tirelessly in preparation to Orchid Quest by her contact with the Orchid Societies and organizing the awards. She made multiple contacts with the societies to find out if they were coming, the size of the exhibit and giving them directions and instructions associated with their potential exhibits at Orchid Quest. When asked she always knew who was coming and what they needed. She also was in charge getting the awards, ribbons, paperwork ready for each award. Her attention to detail made the job look effortless but we know that there were hours involved to make everything perfect. She was so approachable for questions and help and she communicates expertly. Thank You Nancy for going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty in the preparation and fruition of Orchid Quest 2020.

Denise Baylis put in countless hours in the preparation for Orchid Quest. She designed and made the main advertising poster and suggested many ideas that were discussed. She contributed many of the raffle items and auction items that were distributed during Orchid Quest. She researched and compelled us to hold to our budget when discussing options for the event. Her generosity and unselfishness makes her an extraordinary outstanding person. Thank You Denise for going Above and Beyond the Call of Duty in the preparation and fruition of Orchid Quest 2020.

More members will be recognized in the next newsletter

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places to check on the internet for further information, either written or videos. The American Orchid Society website (<http://www.aos.org>) is making some of the members-only webinars available for the general public only through the month of May! Please take advantage of this great opportunity!

For the month of April we had 30 plants from members for our virtual orchid judging. We used Webex to meet and to share the photos. This is open to everyone. We discussed why the plant should get a ribbon and the growers are usually at the virtual meeting thus information about how the plant is grown and purchased is shared.

Virtual ribbon judging will continue in May. We will need a close up of the flowers AND a photo of the plant. We request the two best photos you can take plus a photo with a ruler to help judge the

flower and/or plant size. If that is impractical, a description of the size of the flower. This is ribbon judging, NOT a photo contest although a clear image of your plant helps for judging. A short note about how you grow the plant, perhaps how you obtained it, or the joy it has provided. Perhaps it was your very first orchid, or you rescued it from a friend, or scavenged it from the trash. Photos are worth a thousand words! If you wish to attend the virtual ribbon contact me and I will explain the logistics and send you an invitation. Send the photos and accompanying information to Denise Baylis by Sunday May 17.

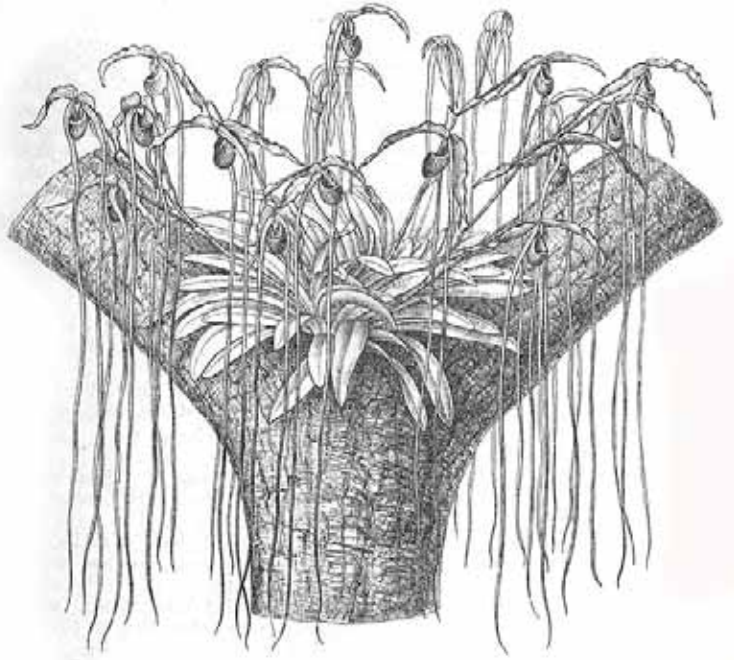
Please send Denise or me topics you would like in the newsletter. The newsletter is our key method of keeping in touch with each other. This is your newsletter and we want to make it more responsive to our members!

Please stay well and enjoy your orchids!

Phragmipedium

Phragmipedium caudatum, *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum*, *Phragmipedium wallisii*, *Phragmipedium lindenii* and *Phragmipedium extaminodium* are typified by their large flowers which have extremely long, slightly twisted petals. The mature petals should be at least 45 to 50 cm and can grow as long as 100 cm. For purposes of AOS judging, longer definitely is better.

Why the long petals? it may be that all of these long-petaled species are pollinated by the same type of insects — flies of the family syrphidae, or hover flies — in the few cases that have been observed. The long petals apparently function as perfume glands. Thus, it is suspected that the small "bees" that climbed up the petals of *Phrag. caudatum* were actually hover flies following a perfumed path to the lip (Fowlie 1972).



This illustration shows an example of the growth habit of *Phragmipedium caudatum*



Phragmipedium Stairway to Heaven (*wallisii* x *popowii*) 26 inches grown by Keith Nelson



Phragmipedium humboldtii 26 inches, grown by Nancy Thomas



Phragmipedium caudatum 28 inches, grown by Nancy Thomas

Repotting Orchids

By Keith Nelson

What you're trying to accomplish

1. Orchid roots need air to survive. You need to provide the roots with the opportunity to get air and water and to dry out quickly after watering.
2. Keep the roots from suffocating by replacing decayed organic matter.
3. Avoid spreading bacteria, fungi, virus or bugs by using sterile tools.
4. Secure the orchid in a position so it won't fall over.

When to repot

1. March and April is the best time.
2. Repot when the media (bark, moss) shows signs of decay.
3. Repot when you get a plant that needs immediate attention.
4. Repot when the roots are jumping out of the pot.
5. Repot a keiki (baby plant) when it has roots 3-4 inches long.
6. Don't repot when the orchid is blooming if you can avoid it.

What you need

1. Sterile cutting tools.
2. A new pot with good drainage.
3. Bark or moss potting media.
4. A wooden spoon or other tool to tamp down the media.
5. Optional stones at the bottom of the pot to add weight for stability of the pot.
6. If the orchid plant is tall or unbalanced you may need support rod or a rhizome clip to hold the plant upright.

Step-by-step

1. Water the orchid. Moist plants are easier to get out of the old pot.
2. Gather the materials and sterilize the cutting tool. If repotting several orchids, put several layers of newspaper on your work area so you can discard the top layer be-

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tween each plant.

Re-sterilize your cutting tools between each plant.

3. Cut off dead or dying leaves and stems. Remove the orchid from its current pot, breaking as few healthy roots as possible. If the roots have adhered to the pot, you may have to run a knife around the inside of the pot or break the pot.

4. Inspect the roots. Use the sterile cutting tool to cut off dead, blackened, or shriveled roots. Remove as much old potting material as possible. Thoroughly rinse the roots and then spray with a disinfectant like PHYSAN 20. [Two tsp. PHYSAN per gallon of water.]

5. If dividing the plant, cut the roots apart carefully.
6. Orchids that grow from pseudobulbs can



Wait until the roots on a keiki are 3 inches long before attempting to repot



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be divided at repotting. Keep at least three pseudobulbs behind the newest pseudobulb, and make sure there are healthy roots on both divisions. Divide the stem with sterilized cutters and plant each division. Division of sympodial orchids like phalaenopsis is rarely possible.

7. Wrap the longer roots into a loose ball and position the roots inside the pot. Insert a stabilizing rod if necessary. Gently fill in around the orchid with potting media, one small handful at a time. Tamp down the media as you go to give the plant stability in its new home. Keep adding media and tamping it down until the top of the media is level with the crown of the orchid. If using moss as the medium it needs to stay somewhat loose, not tightly packed.

Resources

Orchids Limited
www.orchidweb.com

The website has several repotting videos.
800-669-6006
4630 Fernbrook Lane north
Plymouth, MN 55446

Kelly's Korner Orchid Supplies
www.kkorchid.com
603-673-9524
P.O. Box 539
Milford, NH 03055-0539

YouTube Videos

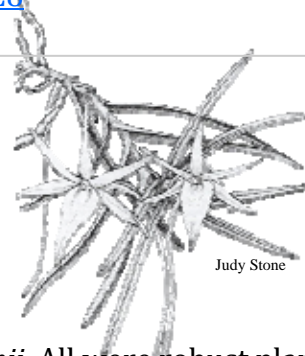
<http://www.aos.org/orchids/orchid-care.aspx>

<http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars/member-only/it-is-all-about-the-roots.aspx>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAWws_0uLE8

Repotting Using Lava Rock

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sAWws_0uLE8



Support Orchid Vendors

Sheltering in place leaves many of us struggling to find something stimulating to do with ourselves. Why not support commercial orchid growers while expanding your orchid collection? I would like to suggest you review the orchids available from Botanical Ltd. in Missoula Montana. The owners are Brenda Oviatt and Bill Nerison. They specialize in angraecoids and other species. Some of the angraecoids are rarely seen elsewhere.

An orchid growing operation in Missoula near the Blackfoot River is an amazing vision! The setting must be beautiful. I picture a starlit, quiet Montana winter's night with deep snow all around and the soft glow of a greenhouse lighting up the wolf looking in from surrounding countryside. I think I am going to put visiting them on my bucket list, orchid buying and fly fishing in the same day.

Plants I have purchased from them are *Angraecum distichum*, *Angraecum mahavaveuse*, *Macroclinium manabinum*, and *Dendrophylax* lin-

denii. All were robust plants arriving in excellent condition.

The *Anagraecum mahavaveuse* is featured in Orchids Magazine October 2018, Vol. 87 No. 10. The authors are Brenda and Bill who are frequent contributors. The article has extensive cultural information. It is found in Northwest Madagascar in shady, humid forests. This orchid is extremely uncommon to find for sale. The Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia has very little information about this orchid but it does show the symbol for maximum shade. This is a small orchid that is only 5-7 inches across with a flower a bit over one inch. My plant was 4 ¼ inches across when received. It is living by an east window in mostly indirect light.