

FEBRUARY
2024

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



Meeting Dates

- February 18
- March 17
- April 21
- May 19
- June TBA
- September 15

All in-person and Zoom Meetings start at 1:00pm in the Meeting Room at Olbrich Gardens unless otherwise noted

Up-Coming Events

- February 3-4 — Orchid Growers Guild of Madison, Orchid Quest, Madison WI
- February 17 - 18 — Batavia Orchid Society's "Winter Wonders", Cantigny Park, 1S 151 Winfield Rd, Wheaton, IL 60189
- March 1-4 - 23rd World Orchid Congress, Tainan, Taiwan
- March 2 - 3 — Wisconsin Orchid Society's "Orchids for Everyone", Milaeger's Garden Center, 4838 Douglas Ave, Racine, WI 53402
- March 9-10 — Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe IL 60022
- April 5 - 7 - Apopka International Spring Orchid Festival - AOS Member's Meeting, Krull-Smith, 2800 W Ponkan Rd, Apopka, FL 32712.
- May 11, Spring Orchid Sale, Evjue Commons

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NEXT MEETING February 18

In February we offer a public meeting in conjunction with Olbrich's Schumacher Library. Bring a friend! The library houses our orchid book collection and as part of this collaboration we offer in return a public seminar. This year Chuck Acker will be presenting a seminar entitled, "Breeding with the World's Most Beautiful Orchid: *Phragmipedium kovachii*."



Phragmipedium kovachii

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

OGG members,

Orchid Quest time !!!

By the time you read this you will have all ready sent your orchid lists to me and will be in the process of your final clean up of your orchids. Your packing plans will have been made in anticipation of sending them off to Orchid Quest on Friday!

So thank you all for your great support of Orchid Quest and the Orchid Growers Guild. Your support and participation is what makes this organization great and growing!

February will be short but busy month. Our February 18th meeting is expected to be larger than usual with the general public invited to hear Chuck's talk on *Phrag. kovachii*. Plus some kovachii hybrid plants will be available for purchase!

The Batavia Orchid show is scheduled for the same weekend as our meeting. We will need plants for that away show as well as for ribbon judging at our monthly meeting. Chuck's presentation will be recorded so if you volunteer to setup/take down at Batavia, you will not miss out on his presentation.

Again thank you for all of your efforts on Orchid Quest!

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Chuck Acker

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Liaisons:

AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

FEBRUARY PROGRAMMING NOTES

12:30 - 1:00 pm. Socialize. Set up plants with slips for ribbon judging.
1:00 pm In-Person and Zoom Meeting Starts
1:00 - 1:45 pm Announcements followed by ribbon judging review
2:00. Presenter Chuck Acker of Orchid Growers Guild, "Breeding with the World's Most Beautiful Orchid: *Phragmipedium kovachii*."

THE SPRING SHOW SEASON BEGINS!

Orchid Quest is followed by a series of wonderful Midwestern orchid shows including two in which OGG will participate and YOU CAN TOO! Our 2024 Spring away shows will be:

Batavia Orchid Society Show, February 17-18, with set up on the 16th, at Cantigny Park, 1S151 Winfield Road in Wheaton IL.

Illinois Orchid Society's Spring Show, March 9-10, set up on the 8th, at the Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe IL.

If you haven't experienced an away show this is a great year to give it a try! You can get a ride, and on the way, get better acquainted with the members you'll be working with. Apply your artistic skills to the challenge of arranging our beautiful plants during set up Fridays (usually a full day of work). You can meet the members of other societies in a collegial atmosphere, as well as get to know the vendors and browse their stock as they set up. Sunday take downs (usually a half day) give you the first chance at the "big reveal" when you see what ribbons and awards our members won. You can scope out all of the exhibits to see which beauties took the biggest prizes, and we usually arrive early to have a chance to look for bargains on the vendor tables.

If you haven't sent a plant to an Away Show before, then make this your year! If every member could send just one plant, we'll make a great showing. We can make it easy for you by helping to find the right class and sorting out any name ambiguities. You'll be supporting our efforts to reciprocate for the wonderful displays our neighboring societies bring to Orchid Quest this year.

If you want to volunteer or just have questions, contact me, Nancy Thomas, by email (mikeandnancy@tds.net) or phone (608-523-3607). So be sure to watch your plants for bloom potential, and check your calendars to see if you can get away on a Friday (set up) or Sunday (take down) for either one of these shows!

— Nancy Thomas

Orchid Quest 2024

Orchid Quest is this weekend! February, 3-4 with set-up on Friday, February 2.

We need YOU! It takes a village to put this event together. Help for an hour, or help for the weekend!

Reminders:

- Send Sue Reed (greed@chorus.net) your blooming plant list by Monday, January 29, also send her the “maybe-blooming-by-the-weekend”.
- Sign up to clerk on Saturday morning. Great Orchid learning opportunity. We need 30 people so we need YOU. Sign up with Meg (megmcl6@gmail.com)

Times to arrive:

- Friday – unload at the Head House doors after 10 am. Sue would like all plants for the exhibit by 11:30 am. We need to be out by 6 pm.
- Saturday – come after 6:30 am to Head House doors if you are clerking, or at minimum ½ hour before your shift. Head House doors unlocked 6:30-10 am, otherwise use the front doors. We close to the public at 4 pm so you should be out before 5 pm.
- Sunday – Head House doors will open 9 am-10 am, otherwise use the front doors. We close to the public at 3 pm and clean up is till 5 pm or we are done.

Parking

- Friday – you may park in the Olbrich lot.
- Saturday and Sunday – **Park in the OUTER lot** and use the valet service. Rich Jozwiak 608-692-5845 (Put that in your phone for valet)

Bring your blooming plants, food/drink for our communal kitchen, other plants for sale for the OGG table and anything else you promised.

Thank you one and all for all your enthusiasm and time and energies.

—Terri Jozwiak, Orchid Quest Chairperson

Recap of January OGG Monthly Meeting

The focus of the meeting was to provide members with the final plans and instructions for Orchid Quest 2024. This included the presentation by our speaker, AOS judge Terry Kennedy, on preparing plants for showing and designing orchid displays. Terri, our OQ24 Chair, has summarized the set-up activities and show logistics in the adjacent article. Sue will provide information on how to enter plants for the OGG display in a future email. There was also a limited ribbon judging.

Please consider entering plants for the display even if you only have one or two plants. You may think that your plant doesn't have a chance of being awarded a ribbon, but if you follow the guidance provided by Terry Kennedy below your plant will be more likely to be judged favorably.

1. Don't change the facing of plants to the light source once the spike begins to grow. This produces the best arrangement of the flowers on the spike.
2. Stake spikes (early) using supports that will not detract from the flower. A dark green color is preferable. If possible, use dark green floral tape to attach the spike to the support. Avoid the butterfly/dragon fly style clips. Plain green clips are OK.
 - a. Take care when staking the spikes. Not all spikes are flexible. If a spike has a bend, it may not be possible to get it completely flat the support.
 - b. The stake should not be taller than the spike.
 - c. The goal of spiking is to have the flower face point to the audience.
3. Grooming
 - a. Remove any dead leaves and sheaths. If a portion of a leaf needs to be trimmed off use a sterile tool and cut off the damaged part in a

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JANUARY OGG RIBBON JUDGING

First Place

Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Phrag Jason Fischer (besseae x Mem Dick Clements)</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Bc Maikai 'Mayumi' (Brassavola nodosa x Guarianthe bowringiana)</i>
Sandra Gray	<i>Paphiopedilum delenatii x sib</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Paphiopedilum Meredyth Ellen (hainanense x wolterianum)</i>
Ken Cameron	<i>Oncidium Twinkle (cheirophorum x ornithorhyncum)</i>
Jeff Baylis	<i>Dendrobium lindleyi (syn. aggregatum)</i>

Second Place

Meg McLaughlin	Unknown mini phal
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Miltoniopsis Sun Glow 'Amazing' (Pink Lady x roezlii)</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Brassavola nodosa</i>



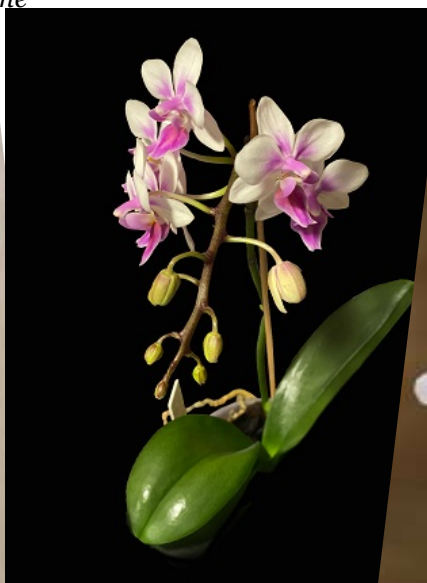
Meg McLaughlin's *Bc Maikai 'Mayumi' (Brassavola nodosa x Guarianthe bowringiana)*



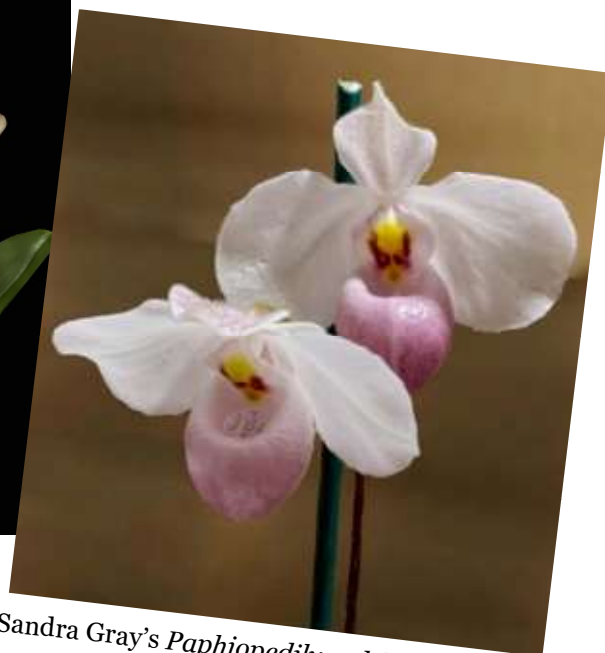
Ken Cameron's *Oncidium Twinkle (cheirophorum x ornithorhyncum)*



Gary Lensmeyer's *Phrag Jason Fischer (besseae x Mem Dick Clements)*



Meg McLaughlin's Unknown mini phal is over 20 years old!



Sandra Gray's *Paphiopedilum delenatii x sib*

Blooming at Bolz . . .



Bulbophyllum rothschildianum



Maxillaria splendens



Dendrobium oligophyllum



Paph victoria-regina v sumatra



Paph Magic Lantern (Delantii x micranthum)



Macodes sanderiana x limii



Rhyncattleanthe One Love 'High Top'

manner such that the result will resemble the end of a normal leaf.

- b. Remove hard water spots using milk, dilute lemon juice or plain distilled water. Don't use leaf shine products as these can plug the stomata.
- c. Remove weeds.
- d. Remove insects and other living critters.
- e. Remove flowers that have gone over.

- f. Remove any buds that blasted.
- g. Plants with at least half of the blooms open are good to show.

4. Prepare plants for transport.

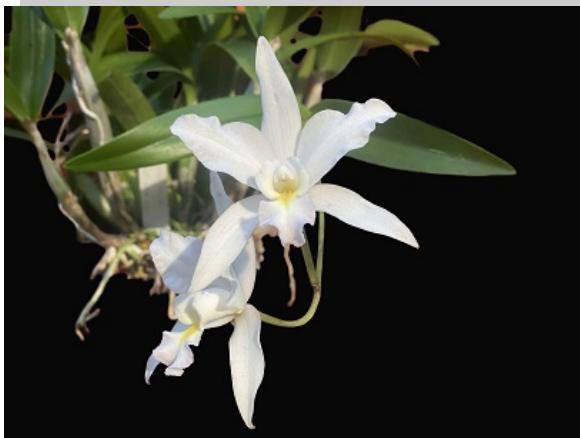
- a. Pack plants in a manner that will prevent bruising of the flowers. The use of cotton batting can help. If a flower gets bruised during transport, arrange it in the display with the damage to the back.

— Lynn West

More Blooming at Bolz . . .



Cattleya gravesiana



Laeliocattleya Nina Bonita (*Laelia albida* × *Cattleya Claesiana*) (syn *Cattleya Claesiana Alba*)



Gastrochilus bellinus