

April, 2003

The Orchid Grower

Upcoming Events:

- Apr. 13: 1:30 PM Guild meeting at Olbrich
- Apr. 19: 10-3 Easter Sale at Olbrich
- May 5: 7 PM Directors Meeting at Perkins on the Beltline
- May 10: Deadline for May Newsletter
- May 18: 1:30 PM Guild meeting at Olbrich including Annual Membership Meeting.

Inside This Issue:

Budget Time Is Here.....	2
Has Your Membership Expired?.....	2
March Meeting Awards.....	5
Newest Members.....	2
Officers & Committees..	4
President's Message.....	2

Orchid Growers' Guild

Questions & Answers at Next Guild Meeting

The program at our next Guild meeting on April 13, 1:30 PM will feature a time for questions and answers. We will ask those growing blue ribbon orchids to share their secrets for growing and then there will also be time for general questions to be asked as well.

If you have plants that you would like to enter for ribbon judging, they must be at Olbrich Botanical Gardens by 1:00 PM.

Also remember that for refreshments, there will be coffee and tea. If you would like to bring snacks to share, please feel free to do so. But please, if you plan on bringing snacks, let our Hospitality Chairs know this so they can be sure to have plates, forks, or whatever else might be needed.



Your Help is Needed for the Spring Orchid Sale

Our Spring Orchid Sale will be at Olbrich Botanical Gardens on Saturday, April 19th. The sale begins at 10:00 AM and will run until 3:00 PM or until our supply of orchids runs out. Set-up will be at 9:00.

This sale is a great way to get to know members of the Guild better and also to help other people learn to

love orchids as much as you do. Its also a good way to help the Guild raise funds for our budget. Please remember that the funds raised from this sale helps to fund our educational programming.

If you are able to help, please contact Joan Smalley at 608-838-9702 or japlsmalley@aol.com.

Thanks to Wayne King

We want to thank Wayne King for his tireless work as Away Show Chair. Wayne has spent many hours assuring that we have people to take our plants

to away shows, to set up our display, and to bring the plants back to Madison again. Wayne said he's looking forward to having more time to simply enjoy growing orchids and attending our meetings.

President's Message – Doug Dowling

Spring is coming! Even though we've had some additional snow and cold this past week, the spring bulbs are poking their green heads about the ground and I've seen lawn services in the area putting down early spring fertilizer treatments. I've also noticed that many of my orchids are putting out new growth and that means flowers and leaves.

Gary and I are getting ready for our spring vacation. This year we'll be traveling to Arizona and California. We've made arrangements to visit Andy's Orchids and will also visit some of the other growers as well. We always find it so interesting to see how other people grow orchids.

One of the lessons we've learned is that what works for one person may not work for another. There are so many variables with light intensity, quality and quantity of water, level of humidity, types of fertilizers, types of potting mix, etc. Because of this we've learned one must experiment. If one potting mix doesn't work, try another. Hopefully you'll notice that the mix isn't working before you kill the plant.

There are also many variables even when growing in the same area. Gary has great luck with various bark mixes for his standard sized plants. I've found that for my mini plants the best potting mix is expanded clay. I've also found that mounting the plants on cork, fern, or even sticks (like Andy's Orchids) seems to work better yet. I tend to use fern or sticks for plants with fine roots and cork for those with more substantial roots. I also use a very dilute fertilizer in the water that I spray on them ever day. I think this mimics the daily rains that the plants would get in nature.

Our latest venture in experimenting is hydroponics (both ebb and flow and spray systems) for orchids. It's too early to tell how the plants will ultimately do, but we are getting some good results. I'll keep you informed of how this experiment works out.

Our Newest Members

Welcome to our new members joining in 2003!

Joanne Bernardi

Bob Hafner

Has Your Membership Expired?

Has your membership in the Orchid Growers' Guild expired? If you received this issue of The Orchid Grower through the mail check your mailing label. If there is a flower like this one 🌸 on the label, you have renewed your membership. If there is no flower, please renew today.

Budget Time Is Here

Once again, it's time for the Orchid Growers' Guild to begin the budgeting process. Anyone with leadership responsibility and budgeted funds should submit their detailed requests for fiscal year 2004 to Doug Dowling by April 24th. Any member of the Guild who would like a special request considered may also submit it.

The Board will review all requests at it's May meeting. If the Board finds it necessary to seek further input about a specific budget area, the appropriate individuals will be asked to meet with the Board at the June Board meeting.

A final budget based on anticipated income will be adopted by the Board at the beginning of our fiscal year in July. Please remember that most often, there are far more funds requested for expenditure than anticipated income can cover. The Board will prioritize and reduce expenditure requests where necessary.

The final summary budget for fiscal year 2004, as approved by the Board, will be printed in the July newsletter. The detailed budget in Excel format will be available via e-mail to those requesting it. It will also be available at the September Guild meeting.

March Membership Meeting Awards

Plants Provided for Judging (38)

Doug Dowling (6) Gary Lensmeyer (3) Sue Reed (9) Steven Thimling (10)
Wayne King (5) Meg McLaughlin (4) Judy Stevenson (1)

First Place Ribbons

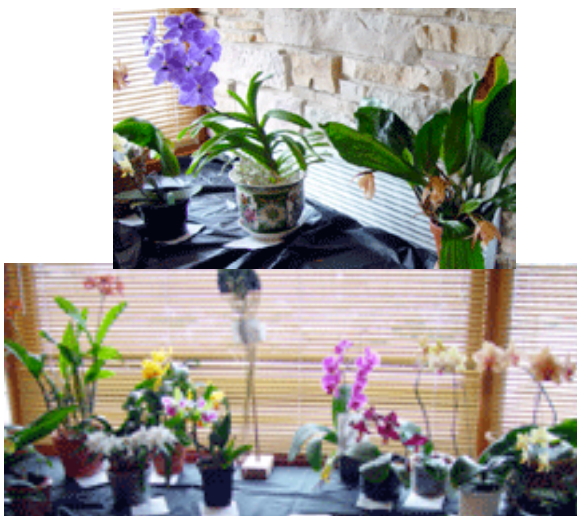
Doug Dowling: *Oerstedella centradenia* & *Pleurothallis grobyi*
Wayne King: *Phrag.* Madalene Rose
Gary Lensmeyer: *Vanda* Manuvadee
Meg McLaughlin: *Pot.* Kayla's smile 'Ben'
Sue Reed: *Phrag. longifolium* & *Stellis sp.*
Steven Thimling: *Dendrobium rigidum*

Second Place Ribbons

Wayne King: *Phal.* Golden Revenge X Carmela's Brite Lites 'Chili Pepper' & *Phrag.* Eugene Conroy
Meg McLaughlin: *Dial.* Snowflake 'Northland'
Sue Reed: *Paph.* Alma Gavaert X Kiwi Ingenuity; *Phal.* Crystal Sands 'Sands of Time'; *Phrag.* Don Wimber & *Stelis hallii*
Judy Stevenson: *Paph.* hybrid
Steven Thimling: *Cattleytonia* Why Not; *Epidendrum geminiflora* & *Phal.* hybrid

Third Place Ribbons

Wayne King: *Cattleya aurantiaca* X *Laelia crispa* & *Paph. philippinense*
Meg McLaughlin: *Phal.* Brother Golden Wish 'Aladdin' X Brother Lawrence 'Sundial' & *Phal.* Little Emperor
Sue Reed: *Phrag.* Cajanuma Sunset & *Stelis superbiens*
Steven Thimling: *Epicat.* Rene Marquis 'Flame Thrower' & *Polystachya campylossa*



Plants for Ribbon Judging at the March Guild Meeting.

Orchid Growers' Guild

Newsletter Office
902 Twin Pines Dr.
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

The Orchid Grower

ORCHID GROWERS' GUILD
PO Box 5432
Madison, Wisconsin 53705

We're on the Web!
See us at our new site:
www.orchidguild.org

Officers and Committees

President: Doug Dowling (2004)
608-244-2123
ddowling@mhsjvl.org

Vice President: Jerry King (2003)
608-246-0347 orchid-
man4u@aol.com

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer: Steven Thimling (2004)
608-643-6917
orcidbrd@chorus.net

Board: Joan Smalley (2003)
608-838-9702
japlsmalley@aol.com

Elizabeth Barlow (2004)
608-238-1939
barlow@biochem.wisc.edu

Cleo Kiergaard (2005)
608-838-3120
okaara@netscape.net

Past President: Dennis Pfarrer
608-877-0249
grnthumb@merr.net

Away Show Chair: Vacant

Hospitality: Dawn Weckler
920-563-3192 & Jeri Gjertson
920-563-7442

Librarian: Jill Hynum
608-238-8011
jhyn@aol.com

Orchid Quest Chair: Elizabeth Barlow
608-238-1939
barlow@biochem.wisc.edu

Programs: Gary Lensmeyer
608-244-2123
gl.lensmeyer@hosp.wisc.edu

Ribbon Judging: Wayne King
608-839-4669
wayking@prodigy.net

Sunshine: Kay Moore 608-752-3062