

October 2006 **The Orchid Grower**



Photograph by Judy Stevenson of Dendrobium Nobile-type hybrid

Meeting Dates

- October 15 – Meeting Room
- November 19 – Acker's
- December 17 – Meeting Room
- January 21, 2007 – Atrium
- February 18 – Atrium
- March 25 – Atrium
- April 22 – Meeting Room
- May 20 – Atrium
- June Picnic – TBA



Photograph by Sue Reed

The flowers of this Stellis species miniature orchid are approximately ¼ inch in diameter

Orchid Growers' Guild

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE OCTOBER 15 AT 1:30 PM, AT OLBRICH: REMINDER, THERE WILL BE NO ORCHID JUDGING

There will be no orchid judging at our October meeting due to the Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show in Glencoe, IL. **If you have plants you wish to show in Glencoe**, drop them off at Orchids by the Ackers by noon on Thursday, October 12. **If you have plants you wish to show at the Blackhawk Orchid Society Show in Rockford**, your plants must be at Ackers by noon on Thursday, October 26. Make sure the plant name and your name is on each pot with the box clearly labeled. Please email your plant list (with full names by the Sunday prior to the drop-off date to Sandy Delamater sldjn@aol.com). She needs this information ahead of time so she can start making the labels. All plants must be clean and bug-free and should be securely packed for transport. We look forward to seeing your plants at our November meeting.

OCTOBER SPEAKER SUE REED **“Miniature Orchids for the Home.”**

I've been growing orchids since one of my bosses gave me two orchid plants he had bought at the Philadelphia Flower Show in the late 1970's. The first orchids I purchased were non-blooming plants without labels from the bargain table at a Main Line garden supply store. Orchids were harder to find then and generally more expensive. These bargain plants were \$5 in the late 1970's.

I've always liked smaller plants, for you can get more in a smaller space! But after getting an Orchidarium, growing the high humidity-loving minis is much easier and a reason to buy more to fill it. But many orchid genera have some smaller species that make good windowsill plants. Come find out what minis you can grow!

Sue Reed

Up-coming Events

- October 14-15 Illinois Orchid Society Fall Show
- October 28-29, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show
- Orchid Quest, February 3-4, 2007
- February 16-18, Batavia Orchid Show
- March 3-4, NorthEastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Show and Sale
- March 23-25, 2007 32nd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show
- April 27-29, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show in conjunction with Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress
- February 2 – March 2, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress

Officers and Committees

President:

Judy Stevenson (2008)
608-2313163
judy_stevenson@SBCGlobal.net

Vice President:

Sarah Lunday (2007)
608-698-8033
sarahlunday@charter.net

Secretary:

Meg McLaughlin (2007)
608-592-5331
lodi4ever@charter.net

Treasurer:

Don Fago (2008)
608-882-4917
Donfago@jvlnet.com



Speaker Lou Jost

ITEMS FOR AUCTION

Several members reported for Fall housekeeping at our storage locker. Useful items that we are no longer using will be auctioned off at our October meeting. These include a large metal tiered plant display rack, a metal trellis-arch, approximately 7' tall, 2 Halogen work lamps, straw, accent acorns, and accent wicker pumpkins.

SEPTEMBER TALK

Lou Jost spoke on “The Endemic Orchids of the Pastaza Valley of Ecuador”

FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR ORCHID HABITAT

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources will get \$93,800 to purchase a conservation easement on approximately 61 acres of eastern prairie fringed orchid habitat and surrounding oak savanna located in Rock County. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently announced \$67 million in grants through the Cooperative Endangered Species Conservation Fund to support conservation and to acquire habitat for threatened and endangered wildlife.

The Department will hold the easement and manage the land in perpetuity for the long-term benefit of the orchid. Monitoring results for the past few years indicate this is one of Wisconsin's larger populations containing between 50 - 100 flowering plants.

The Andes of South America are home to more species of orchids than anywhere else in the world. Many of the peaks have never been explored, and there are still plenty of new species hidden in those cloud forests. Lou Jost, who grew up in Franklin, Wisconsin, exploring Whitnall Park and the Domes, now lives in Baños, close to the Andes of Ecuador and has spent the last several years exploring these mountains.

Lou spoke about the special orchids of his area, especially the miniature orchids in the genera *Lepanthes* and *Teagueia*. He showed a map of variations of rainfall starting at the Amazon (east), with a lot of rainfall, across the Andes (west), which is

Board:

Liz Barlow (2008)
608-238-1939
ebarlow@wisc.edu

Svetlana Kot (2009)
608-332-6476
grigkot@gmail.com

Sandy Delamater (2007)
608-835-8118
sldjn@aol.com

Away Shows:
Sandy Delamater (2007)

Hospitality:
Dawn Weckler (2007)
920-563-3192
Jeri Gjertson (2007)
920-563-7442

Librarian:
Liz Wood (2007)
608-238-2919
ewood@biochem.wisc.edu

Membership:
Board of Directors

Newsletter:
Svetlana Kot
Denise Baylis
jrbaylis@tds.net

Orchid Quest:
Board of Directors

Programs:
Elaine Malter

Ribbon Judging:
Wayne King

Web Master:
Svetlana Kot
grigkot@gmail.com

Liaisons:

Alliant: Elaine Malter (2007)
AOS: Jill Hynum (2007)
MAOC: Don Fago (2007)
Orchid Digest: Jill Hynum (2007)

Submit your photos to be included in the newsletter. Every month we want to include a gallery of photos to enjoy. Email your photos to Svetlana (grigkot@gmail.com) and Denise (jrbaylis@tds.net)

almost a desert. Many of the species are exclusive to a particular mountain range and altitude. These wonderful genera are beautiful but very poorly known, and many of the species he discussed are new to science. He showed how some of them have unusual pollination mechanisms and special habitat requirements.

The genus *Teagueia* is especially interesting; it was thought to include only six species worldwide, but Lou and his student overed 31 new species on remote peaks near his home! DNA analysis showed that all 31 of these new species are closely related and have evolved from a common ancestor over the last 800,000 years.

The lower slopes of the mountains Lou Jost studied are being deforested as Ecuador's population grows. From Ecuador to Brazil, Mexico, Madagascar, Indonesia, and Thailand and beyond, the story is the same: A majority of the world's finest orchid habitat has been cut, burned, and destroyed. Lou and his friends have started a conservation foundation, EcoMinga, to try to save these orchid-rich forests. The hope is that by buying critical forest parcels, and by helping local landowners make money through ecotourism instead of agriculture, we might save some of the remarkable plant (and animal) diversity in the Andes. This foundation works in partnership with the World Land Trust and World Parks (www.worldparks.org) in the US and Britain, allowing people to make tax-deductible donations in the US which will be used to support EcoMinga's projects in Ecuador. Ecuador has almost 15% of the world's orchids, so conservation in Ecuador is globally important.

The goal of the Orchid Conservation Alliance is to protect orchids in the wild. It is in their native habitats that orchids will survive best. Until recently, no organization has focused on orchid habitat. Their specific goal for 2006 is to raise \$10,000 to purchase at least 100 hectares of undisturbed orchid habitat in the high Andes of Ecuador where Lou Jost has identified several appropriate parcels for purchase. The first of these is a very rich, low-elevation cloud forest near the town of Mera in the Upper Pastaza Watershed. This area was declared a "Gift to the Earth" by World Wildlife Fund and contains over 50 species of plants not found anywhere else in the world. Our donation to the Alliance will help fund this project.

For more information about EcoMinga and Lou's research



Photograph by Judith Rapacz

This *Aerangis citrata* was purchased at Oak Hill two years ago. This plant had three spikes with dozens of flowers last winter, which lasted over a month.

These two *Aerangis* are very nice miniatures that are easy to bloom. They like good drainage and to be kept moist.



Photograph by Judith Rapacz

This *Aerangis luteoalba* var. *rhodosticta*, had five flowers last year when it was purchased at Chicagoland's Windsong Orchids. This summer it bloomed again with over a dozen flowers.

see www.loujost.com and www.ecominga.net. Lou's email is loujost@yahoo.com.



On the topic of orchid conservation, several months ago OGG discussed joining the Orchid Conservation Coalition. The following is some information about the organization:

ORCHID CONSERVATION COALITION

The Orchid Conservation Coalition is a grassroots organization made up of people, orchid societies, and orchid businesses dedicated to raising awareness and money for orchid conservation. It is through networking that people and organizations concerned with orchid conservation can be the most effective. Their first program is 1% for Orchid Conservation. Through 1% for Orchid Conservation they want to create a network of orchid societies and businesses to raise money for in situ orchid conservation. The Orchid Conservation Coalition does not take donations or distribute money. The 1% for Orchid Conservation is only a trademark to be used by orchid societies and businesses that donate 1% or more of their net revenue each year to the in situ orchid conservation of their choice. Membership in the Orchid Conservation Coalition is by participation.

Wisconsin Orchid Society Show 2006



WISCONSIN ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW RESULTS

The Orchid Growers' Guild, Inc. (OGG) is a non-profit organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society. It is dedicated to the education of both OGG members and the public about orchids and their culture. OGG also promotes the conservation and appreciation of orchids. Meetings are held on the third Sunday of each month at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. See our website at orchidguild.org for more information.

Special, Best of the Vandaceous classes 56-59:	Wayne King (<i>Vanda tricolor var suavis</i>)
First Place Ribbons:	Sandy Delamater (<i>Vanda Rothschildiana 'Red' Gongora fulva</i>)
	Wayne King (<i>Vanda tricolor var suavis</i>)
Second Place Ribbons:	Wayne King (<i>Brassavola nodosa x Ctna Why Not</i>)
	Svetlana Kot (<i>Psychopsis Mendenhall 'Hildos'</i>)
Third Place Ribbons:	Sandy Delamater (<i>Gongora armoniaca</i>)
	Wayne King (<i>Brassavola nodosa x LC Blue Boy, Dtps Ruey Lih Beauty x Happy Smile, Phrag Schroederae</i>)

BOARD MEETING DATES

The OGG Board would like to remind members that their meetings are open and you are encouraged to attend. These meetings are held in the meeting room in the lower level of the Middleton Community Bank at 3207 W. Beltline Hwy, in Middleton. The next meeting is scheduled for October 23 at 6:30 p.m. Check with Judy Stevenson for any last minute changes.



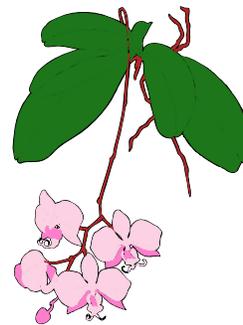
FROM SANDY DELAMATER:

I purchased this *Vanda Rothschildiana Red*, three years ago at the J & K fall open house. It was bare root when I purchased it. I brought it home, put it in a slatted wooden basket, put a hanger on it and prayed for three years that it would bloom. The three year wait was worth it. I was amazed that the plant not only had one spike

but two! There are 15 flowers total on both spikes, the flowers are large and beautiful! It is wonderful to look at everyday. I grew this in the south window all winter and hung it in a tree during the summer. It had somewhat diffused light in the summer, and I gave it the same fertilizer I give all my Orchids and I watered with rain water only.

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CROSS COUNTRY ORCHIDS

Close Out Sale
We are closing
our Orchid Business.

The sale is October 14 & 15, 2006
from 9am to 5pm each day. Plants
selling are Phals, Phrags, Vanda's
Brassia, Miltassia, Cym, Onc. and
Misc.

Also have
pots, stakes, hangers, trays, coconut,
Moss, rockwool, charcoal, and
driftwood.

Two used HID Lighting Systems.

John, Jerry and Arlene King

7223 Cross Country Rd

Verona, WI 53593

608-845-8093 e-

mail:queen@tds.net