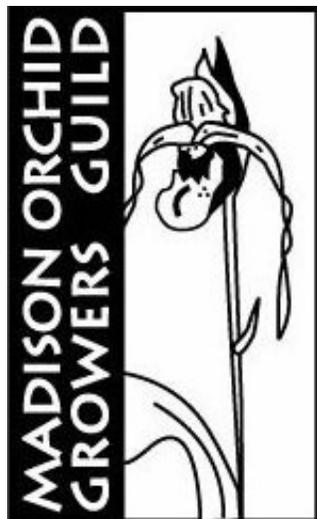


October 2007 *The Orchid Grower*



Orchid Growers' Guild

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 21ST "Miniature Orchid Gems"

Alex Challis of New World Orchids, Manchester MI will speak.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Our fall schedule has started with our September meeting at Olbrich Gardens. I received a lot of positive feedback from the members about the presentation, "The Role of Classification in Judging Orchid Quality" by Wayne King. For those of you who could not make it, there will be handbooks for you to pick up at the October meeting which reviews the points of his presentation. The silent auction of 33 orchid plants made our meeting lively. All the orchids were given as gifts to OGG because their original owners wanted them to have "good homes". These blooming-



OGG member Judy Williamson looking over orchids for auction

Meeting Dates

- October 21 - Atrium
- November 18 - Ackers
- December 16 - Meeting Room
- January 20, 2008 - Meeting Room
- February 17 - Atrium
- March 9 - Meeting Room
- March 22 - Orchid Sale with Pansy Sale at Olbrich
- April 20 - Meeting Room
- May 18 - Meeting Room
- June TBA
- September 7 - Atrium
- October 19 - Atrium
- December 14 - Meeting Room

Meetings start at 1:30 unless otherwise noted

Up-coming Events

- October 13-14, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show
- October 27-28, 2007, Blackhawk Orchid Society Show
- November 17-18, 2007, Fall 2007 Mid-America Orchid Congress
- January 23-27, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress
- February 2-3, 2008, Orchid Quest

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Angraecum, cattleyas, maxillaria, oncidiums to vandas and more besides. The auction collected a total of \$231.50 with Olbrich receiving 10% or \$23.15.

It is not too early to start thinking about Orchid Quest. In particular, please think about where

- March 27-29, 2008, Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress
- March 28-30, 2008, 33rd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show, Davenport, IA

Officers and Committees

President:

Judy Stevenson (2008)
judy_stevenson@SBCGlobal.net

Vice President:

Jill Hynum (2009)
jhynum@sbcglobal.net

Secretary:

Annette Minter (2009)
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Treasurer:

Irene Mackie(2008)
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Board:

Liz Barlow (2008)
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Svetlana Kot (2009)
grigkot@gmail.com

Rich Narf (2010)
znarfi@execpc.com

Away Shows:

Sandy Delamater (2007)
sldjnt@peoplepc.com

Hospitality:

Dawn Weckler (2008)
Jeri Gjertson (2008)

Librarian:

Liz Wood (2008)
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

we can advertise the event. Steve Thimling hopes to have it posted in the AAA magazine. MADISON magazine editors have agreed to post it in their publication. Forward your ideas to anyone on the board. Thanks, Judy Stevenson

A SUMMER SURPRISE – The Calypso bulbosa Orchid

Judy Stevenson

I try to cultivate healthy orchids at home while my husband who is a plant pathologist focuses on the diseases of plants at work. Much to my surprise, this summer he came back from his annual fishing trip in northern Saskatchewan on the Churchill River,



Calypso bulbosa, Photograph by Walt Stevenson

excited because he encountered a beautiful plant. He was almost as proud of this picture as he was about his fish. With the help of the internet, we found out that this is a Calypso orchid, also known as the **fairy slipper** or **Venus's slipper**. It is a small pink, purple, or red flowered (accented with white lower lip, darker purple spotting, and yellow beard) perennial member of

the orchid family (*Orchidaceae*), and is found in undisturbed northern forests. Apparently, it is very rare in Wisconsin. It is almost restricted to *Thuja bogs* in the northernmost part of the state where it grows on dry hummocks of organic material.

Two things make this orchid interesting. It is on the endangered list because it is easily disturbed and does not transplant well. Secondly, it has a deceptive pollination system. The bumblebees are deceived by the yellow bristles in their search for pollen. But alas, there is no reward of nectar or pollen from the Calypso.

Web sites for more complete information:

www.botany.wisc.edu/Orchids/Calypso.html
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Calypso_orchid

THE GIANT GRAMMATOPHYLLUM

An orchid of interest is the Giant *Grammatophyllum* which is written about in the August 2007 *ORCHIDS* journal, by Erich Michel, manager of Hoosier Orchid Company and an accredited

Liaisons:

Alliant: Elaine Malter (2007)
AOS: Jill Hynum (2007)
MAOC: Wayne King
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)

AOS judge. He has been at our OQ. The original importation of this orchid occurred almost 40 years ago when it came to the USA for the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), sponsored by Chicago's Hausermann's orchid nursery. This was the only one imported because of the high air freight bill secondary to its size. One of its divisions was sold to AOS Judge Everett Johnson of Kansas City, Missouri. In 1973, Judge Johnson returned the orchid to Hermann Pigors, a Hausermann's employee, when he opened his own Oak Hill Gardens nursery, in

Dundee, Il. Apparently this plant is huge with 9 ft. tall pseudo bulbs. This orchid first bloomed for Hermann in 1987. It was awarded a Certificate of Cultural Merit by AOS judges at the IOS show that year.

The third flowering of this orchid was in 1994. It was

then that Erich saw this amazing orchid and brought home a division for his own greenhouse. He had to move it to the Hoosier Orchid Company in 1999 because it outgrew his greenhouse.

In January 2007, it started growing

asparagus like stalks. All together eight stalks grew. The orchid was moved to Garfield Park Conservatory in Indianapolis. The "Queen of Orchidaceous Plants" nicknamed the "leopard

orchid" (so called because of its coloration), made horticultural history when the eight inflorescences bloomed hundreds of flowers. This has 15 foot long canes bearing 6-inch flowers evenly spaced toward the ends. Eric will present a lecture on this orchid at the 19th WOC in Miami, Florida in January 2008. – Judy Stevenson



THE SHOWY GRAMMATOPHYLL
(GRAMMATOPHYLLUM SPECIOSUM)

The Showy Grammatophyll
(*Grammatophyllum speciosum*) –
From 'Paxton's Flower Garden'

BLACKHAWK ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

The dates for this show are Saturday and Sunday, October 27 and 28. Plants must be at Acker's by closing on Thursday, October 25. Members must notify Sandy Delamater sldjnt@peoplepc.com by 7 pm on October 22 which plants you (may or may not) be submitting to the show. Members are encouraged to fill out their own entry tags. If a member has a question about a classification, contact Wayne King for guidance. The plants will be classed as indicated on the entry tag completed by the member.

Plants must be disease and pest-free. Each box of plants needs to be labeled #1, #2, etc. with a list of what orchids are in each box. Your plants can be picked up from Acker's the following Monday after noon.

Wisconsin Orchid Society Show Results, Sept 14-16, 2007

Set-up by Sandy Delamater

Take-down by Denise Baylis and Richard Narf

Display: First Place

First Place: Gary *Paphiopedilum*
Brendemuehl Fair Fred
Gary *Paphiopedilum*
Brendemuehl Top Knock
Wayne King *Brassavola nodosa*
Wayne King *Brassavola nodosa*
x Ctna Why Not
Svetlana Kot *Sophronitis cernua*

Second Place: Sandy *Epidendrum*
Delamater *difforme x sib*
Sandy *Spathoglottis*
Delamater *gracilis*
Wayne King *Phragmipedium*
Don Wimber

Third Place: None



Photograph by Rich Narf
Gary Brendemuehl's *Paphiopedilum* Top Knock



Ribbon Judging September 2007 Membership Meeting

First Place Jeff Baylis *Miltassia Shelob 'Tolkien'*
Wayne King *Phragmipedium* Don Wimber
Svetlana Kot *Cycnodes Wine Delight 'JEM'*
Sue Reed *Ornithocephalus inflexus*
Sue Reed *Paphiopedilum concolor*
Lorraine Snyder *Phragmipedium Twilight #2 x Grande 'Vista'*
Judy Stevenson (*Paphiopedilum* Supersuk 'Eureka' x Raisin Pie
'Hsinying') x sib
Judy Williamson BC Maikai

Second Place Sandy Delamater *Spathoglottis gracilis*
Svetlana Kot *Hwra Lava Burst 'Puanani'*
Steve Thimling *Colm Wildcat 'L'*
Steve Thimling *Epidendrum cochleatum*
Steve Thimling *Phal bellina*

Third Place Wayne King *Brassavola nodosa* x Ctna Why Not
Svetlana Kot *Sophronitis cernua*
? *Phragmipedium* Cardinale

SOME WINNERS AT WOS 2007



Brassavola nodosa Grown by Wayne King



Brassavola nodosa x Ctna Why Not Grown by Wayne King



Spathoglottis gracilis grown by Sandy Delamater



Photographs by Rich Narf
Sophronitis cernua grown by Svetlana Kot

You know you are addicted to orchids when

... you dream about looking through a catalog of orchids.

... you are examining some gorgeous orchids in a store trying to find the best looking one and people mistake you for working there and start asking questions!

SOME OF THE FIRST PLACE WINNERS AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING



Clock-wise from top left, A (*Paphiopedilum* Supersuk 'Eureka' x Raisin Pie 'Hsinying') x sib grown by Judy Stevenson; a *Phragmipedium* Twilight #2 x Grande 'Vista' grown by Lorraine Synder; a miniature *Ornithocephalus inflexus* grown by Sue Reed; a *Cycnodes* Wine Delight 'JEM' grown by Svetlana Kot; and a *Paphiopedilum concolor* grown by Sue Reed



Photographs by Denise Baylis



GHOST ORCHID



Polyrrhiza lindenii or Ghost Orchid grown by Oak Hill

There are fewer than 1000 ghost orchids left in the wild. That is why it was so amazing that a woman looking for owls spotted this endangered species high in a tree at Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary in Florida last July.

Ghost orchids are difficult to cultivate and are only found in Southwest Florida and Cuba. Even there they are not easy to locate. The spray of **nine** flowers she spotted was on a 400-500 year old Bald Cypress tree 150 feet away, perhaps 45-50 feet high on the trunk and can only be seen with binoculars and in good lighting. Although its age is estimated as decades old, it is possible that a cypress branch had obscured it in the past.

These epiphytic orchids are found on trees in hardwood hammocks. They are leafless with gray-green roots about 20 inches long. This growth habit resulted in the name because when it blooms, the flower appears to be floating in mid-air.

Typically there are one or two blooms per plant which makes this particular plant so unusual. These plants are infrequent bloomers with flowers not appearing for years between seasons. They are pollinated by the Giant Sphinx Moth.

The Ghost Orchid was first discovered in Cuba in 1844 by Jean Jules Linden, thus the scientific name *Polyrrhiza lindenii*. It was the subject of Susan Orlean's novel *The Orchid Thief*.

UP-COMING EVENTS

- October 13-14, 2007, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show, Glencoe, IL
- October 19-21, AOS Members Meeting, AOS Visitors Center and Botanical Garden, Delray Beach, FL www.aosfall2007.com
- November 17-18, 2007, Fall 2007 Mid-America Orchid Congress sponsored by Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, Kansas City Orchid Expo, Hilton Garden Inn, Independence, MO
- January 23-27, 2008, 19th World Orchid Congress will be held in Miami FL the theme for the show is "Orchids—Nature's Masterpiece™."
- February 2-3, 2008, Orchid Quest
- March 27-29, 2008, Central Ohio Orchid Society Spring Show in conjunction with Spring MAOC, Columbus, OH
- March 28-30, 2008, 33rd Illowa Orchid Society Spring Show, Putnam Museum and IMAX® Theatre, 1717 W. 12th Street, Davenport, IA palwumla@aol.com

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 2 at 7 p.m. They will meet at Judy Stevenson's residence. Check with Judy Stevenson for the agenda and any last minute changes.

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.