

December 2009 **The Orchid Grower**

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison



DECEMBER 20th HOLIDAY MEETING & POTLUCK! Ernie Gemeinhart on "Orchidaceous Adventures"

Can you believe that 2009 will soon be over? It doesn't seem possible that OGG will move into its 24th year Anniversary this next. And the year after that will be our "SILVER". We know this is a busy time of year for most everyone. We hope that you can chisel out time to come to our final meeting of this year. As always, judging member orchids will start about just before 1 PM.

The plan will be to start the potluck promptly at 1:30 PM. [Bring a dish to share, plates and utensils will be provided.] Afterwards we will be entertained by Ernie Gemeinhart of EnLightened Orchids. He is a popular speaker and this will be the 4th time he has spoken to us. His program will be fun and "enlightening". Ernie has excellent quality plants. Members desiring one of his orchids should send \$10.00 (made out to OGG) to our treasurer Audrey Lucier. He will bring additional orchids and have some supplies for sale. OGG members can contact Ernie directly if there's something from the web catalog [www.EnLightenedOrchids.com] you would like to pre-order. The highlight of the meeting will be the announcement of the Milo Gilbertson and Grower Awards with their cash rewards.

Ernie Gemeinhart at Ernie@EnLightenedOrchids.com, (630) 338-3132

NOVEMBER MEETING recap

The OGG annual meeting at Orchids Garden Centre & Nursery in one of their new additions was a great success. More than forty people were in attendance to hear Chuck Acker's presentation on "Common Orchid Diseases"



which was received with great interest. Almost twenty plants competed in Chuck's Challenge. Nicole Amass' - Sophrolaeliocattleya Aloha Apricot 'Waunakee', with its 5 buds won the \$50 gift certificate. Nicole had repotted the plant in a vented clay pot at the start of summer. She had it growing outside during the summer in bright shade. The Challenge plant for next year is an Oncidium Chaculatom 'Golden Pacific' mericlone. Chuck has changed the rules this time around. Whom ever coaxes the plant to bloom first will be the winner.



Meeting Dates

- December 20—Meeting Room
- January 17, **2010**- Meeting Room
- February 21-Meeting Room
- March 21-Meeting Room
- April 3— Orchid Sale
- April 18—Meeting Room
- May 16-Meeting Room
- June—Picnic TBA
- September 26-Meeting Room
- October 17-Meeting Room

Meetings start at 1:30 pm unless otherwise noted



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Common Orchid Diseases, Part I 2
- Next Meeting 1
- November Meeting Recap 1
- OGG June Ribbon Judging 7
- OGG November Ribbon Judging 6
- Orchids Texas-Style 4
- Up-Coming Events 7

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Chuck Acker gave a presentation on "Common Orchid Diseases/ Viruses and Plant Hygiene." This month will recap Common Bacteria and Fungi and Plant Hygiene while next month will cover Common Virus Affecting Orchids (and Plant Hygiene).

COMMON ORCHID DISEASES

By Chuck Acker

Common Bacteria Affecting Orchids

Erwinia — (Brown Rot or Soft Rot) Approximately 14 different types affect Orchids and all have similar looking symptoms. Symptoms are brown lesions secreting contagious liquid and producing an unpleasant odor. Advances quickly. In most cases, results in plant death.

Control — Remove affected portion (if possible) and spray with Phyton 27® (copper sulphate) and treat the cut area with a dusting of Cinnamon. If unable to remove the affected portion, un-pot and soak entire plant in a solution of Physan 20™ (1 Tbs/gal) for 10 minutes, repot in fresh mix.

Prevention — For densely populated collections and problematic plants, spray plants weekly with Physan 20™ (1 tsp/gal), or spray every 10-14 days with Phyton 27® at recommended strength.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

Pseudomonas — (Bacterial Brown Spot) Approximately 50 different types affect Orchids. Similar looking symptoms to Erwinia. Soft, water soaked lesions, black or brown, and advances very quickly. Pseudomonas causes Phalaenopsis Crown Rot.

Control — Remove affected portion (if possible) and spray with Phyton 27® (copper sulphate) and treat the cut area with a dusting of Cinnamon. If unable to remove the affected portion, un-pot and soak entire plant in a solution of Physan 20™ (1 Tbs/gal) for 10 minutes, repot in fresh mix.

Prevention — For densely populated collections and problematic plants, spray plants weekly with Physan 20™ (1 tsp/gal), or spray every 10-14 days with Phyton 27® at recommended strength.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

Common Fungi Affecting Orchids

Fusarium (Black Rot) Approximately 8 different types affect orchids. Most are root rots and leaf spotting types.

Control — Infected plants are rarely, if at all, curable. Discard badly infected plants to prevent spreading. Early cases can be saved by removing affected portions, un-pot and soak entire plant in Physan 20™ (1 Tbs/gal) for 10 minutes, repot in fresh mix.

(Continued from page 2)

Prevention — Water borne. Use Physan 20™ periodically in your irrigation water and also spray plants weekly (1 Tsp/gal). Avoid water transfer from plant to plant. Immediately remove infected leaves and treat cut area with cinnamon, wash hands promptly.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

Anthracnose Irregular shaped, brown sunken areas; areas of sharply defined healthy & infected tissue; spore pustules visible. Generally starts at base of the plant.

Control — Spray with Phyton 27® (copper sulphate) or Fung-onil (chlorothalonil.)

Prevention — Water borne. Use Physan 20™ periodically in your irrigation water and also spray plants weekly (1 tsp/gal). Avoid water transfer from plant to plant. Immediately remove infected leaves and treat cut area with cinnamon, wash hands promptly.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

Phytophthora & Pythium Although these are two different fungi by name, their life cycle, symptoms and control are similar. Both are also commonly called black rot, a name shared with Fusarium and are most prevalent in orchids having a rhizome. Early stages are black lesions on roots (going undetected at that point) and at basal portions of pseudobulbs. Untreated, it spreads through the rhizome from bulb to bulb resulting in the death of the plant. In advanced cases, a white fuzz (mycelium) can be seen under infected leaves and along pseudobulbs.

Control — Drench pot thoroughly with RootShield (a beneficial fungus trichoderma harianum) or, spray plant thoroughly with Phyton 27® (copper sulphate) or Protect (zinc & manganese).

Prevention — Water borne. Use Physan 20™ periodically in your irrigation water and also spray plants weekly (1 tsp/gal). Avoid water transfer from plant to plant. Immediately remove infected leaves and treat cut area with cinnamon, wash hands promptly.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

Botrytis Most common of all fungi, targeting mainly the flower. Seen as small brown spots on open flowers. Develops rapidly in damp, cool environment. Spreads quickly with air movement or other mechanical action. Older flowers most susceptible.

Control — Once spots are visible, there is no cure. You can only prevent the spread.

Prevention — Spray plants weekly with Physan 20™ (1 Tsp/ 3 Gal), or spray every 10-14 days with Phyton 27® at recommended strength.

Best Prevention — Practice good hygiene in your growing area.

NOTE REGARDING FUNGICIDE USE

Fungicides are not a curative and are best used periodically as a preventative. The only positive curative for fungal issues is to discard all infected material immediately upon positive diagnosis. Positive diagnosis can be made by submitting plant material to the University of Wisconsin Plant Pathology Lab, % Brian Hudelson, email (bdh@plantpath.wisc.edu). Diagnosis fee applies to each sample being tested.

Prevent Bacteria and Fungus by Practicing Good Hygiene!

- Water early in the day — avoid wet leaves at night
- Water each plant individually, do not share water
- Supply ample air movement among crowded plants



(Continued from page 3)

- Provide ample light, especially during the short days of winter
- Repot on a regular basis — rotten mix is often a culprit
- Work with plants on a fresh sheet of newspaper for each plant
- Remove debris from growing area; dead leaves, expired flowers, weeds — keep growing area clean
- Wash hands between handling plant material and their growing media
- Sanitize benches, wires, trays, etc with chlorine bleach solution (1 part bleach/3 parts water)
- Sterilize tools with flame between use on every plant
- Practice using the preventative applications of Phyton 27® and Physan 20™
- Avoid using old pots

HOUSTON ORCHID SOCIETY -- Orchids, Texas-Style

The Houston Orchid Society hosted the members of the American Orchid Society (AOS), South-West Regional Orchid Growers Association, International Phalaenopsis Alliance, Orchid Digest Corporation, Odontoglossum Alliance, and Slipper Orchid Alliance April 22 – 26, 2009 at the Hilton Hotel in Houston.

Michal Tibbs of the South Africa Orchid Society was the Key Note Speaker. He gave a wonderful slide presentation on “Orchids in Africa”. It was an incredible safari through many African countries, including Madagascar. Michal sold *Disa* seedlings in flasks - they are a cool growing orchid. Michal Tibbs has published many books on orchids and apparently is writing one on the vanilla orchid now (www.exoticplantcompany.co.za).



Paph. micranthum



Paph (Annette x armeniacum)

Another interesting lecture was by Roy Tokunaga from H&R Nursery in Waimanalo, Hawaii on “Flared Cattleyas: Creating New Exciting Colors”. Roy has been hybridizing *Dendrobium* and *Cattleya* Alliances for many years and his presentations included images of the parents he has used, and is using, in his hybridizing program and the resulting offspring - definitely some very interesting outcomes. Probably most of us who grow these alliances have plants from him (greenthumb808@alo.com – for catalogue).

The third lecture that I enjoyed was by Earl Bailey of ORCHID-babies on “Phragmipedium Hybridizing: The Search for Compact Phragmipedium.” Earl showed many images of Phrag hybrids. Particularly interesting was his use of images of the parents he has used, and is using, in his hybridizing program. A major goal is the production of compact Phrags, and this will be a real benefit for the increasing number of slipper lovers who have limited growing space. He also mentioned his hybridizing program producing plants that bloom twice a year (www.orchidbabies.com).

(Continued from page 4)

The Exhibit space in the Foyer - Atrium of the Hotel was relatively small with only three floor arrangements and about 20 plus Table Top arrangements.

Judith Rapacz

P.S. Jan and I drove from Florida to Houston and then north through Oklahoma and Tulsa. We stopped in Tulsa to have lunch and a short visit with former OGG member and officer Svetlana Kot and her husband.



Lc. Hwa Yuan 'Little Beauty'



Paph. (Leopard Spot x Denen)



Paph. Jungle Fever 'Green Fire' (received HCC) Phanatics



Paph (Suzie Del x Revelry) (received first)



Cattleya Summer Spots 'Carmela'

Photographs by Judith Rapacz

You know you are addicted to orchids when ...

... you drive 104 miles one way to attend the meeting of the only local Orchid Society, just to be near similarly obsession infected people. Then drive home in the middle of the night and go to work the next morning.

OGG RIBBON RESULTS FOR NOVEMBER 2009

First Place:

Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Steven Thimling
Steven Thimling
Sue Reed
Sue Reed
Sue Reed
Wayne King
Wayne King
Meg McLaughlin
Meg McLaughlin

Dennis Pfarrer
Audrey Lucier
Jeff Baylis

Psychopsis papilio (sp)
Psychopsis Mendenhall 'Hildos'
Bulbophyllum Dentiferum
Epidendrum cochleatum
Ornithocephalus inflexus
Lycaste Sunray 'Sue's Pride' AM/AOS
Paphiopedilum spicerianum
Ascda Blue Eyes
Cattleya Monona
Phal. Malibu Bistro
Phragmipedium Living Fire (P.
besseae x P. Sorcerer's Apprentice)
Sc. June Bug
Lc. Acker's Spotlight 'Pink Lady'
Brassavola Nodosa 'Mickey Mouse'



Ascda Blue Eyes grown by Wayne King

Second Place

Meg McLaughlin
Meg McLaughlin
Steven Thimling
Steven Thimling
Jody Thistle

Jody Thistle
Sue Reed
Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Judy Stevenson
Judy Stevenson
Dennis Pfarrer
Dennis Pfarrer
Jeff Baylis
Nicole Amass

Paph Sioux 'Winston Churchill Redoubtable' FCC/AOS x 'Big Malibu'
Blc. Liese Pigors x Lc. Drumbeat
Coelogyne fimbriata
Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'
Beallara Marfitch 'Howard's
Dream'
Vanda Sansai Blue
Pleurothallis seratolabium
Paph. Vejuarutianum (sp)
Blc. Hawaii Stars 'Pink Lace'
Stenochoryne vitellina x self
Lc. Bowri-Albida 'Pink Lady'
Pot. Kat Sky Song 'Black Rose'
Pot. Red Crab
Cattleya trianae
Paphiopedilum Pinocchio



Cattleya Monona grown by Wayne King

Third Place

Judy Williamson
Annette Minter

Bulbophyllum Lasiochilum
Vanda Pakchong Blue



Bulbophyllum Lasiochilum
grown by Judy Williamson



Paphiopedilum spicerianum
grown by Sue Reed

Photographs by
Rich Narf



Stenochoryne vitellina x self
grown by Judy Stevenson

JUNE OGG RIBBON JUDGING

First Place

Nicole Amass	P. Tying Shin Cupid x P. Taipei Yellowbird x P. Brother Love Tapestry
Sandy Delamater	Bc. Bill Worsley (<i>B. nodosa</i> x <i>C. aurantiaca</i>)
Sandy Delamater	Paph Lowii
Sandy Delamater	Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara
Wayne King	Dend. filiforme x uncatum
Audrey Lucier	<i>Aeranthes grandiose</i>
Audrey Lucier	<i>Encyclia tampenese</i>
Lorraine Snyder	Doritaenopsis Sogo Davis x Rose Valentine x Chain Xen Pearl

Second Place

Wayne King	Phal. Sogo Idea
Wayne King	Phrag. Chuck Acker
Wayne King	Miltoniopsis Rene Komoda 'Pacific Clouds'
Lorraine Snyder	Dgmra. Flying High 'Pacific Paradise'

Third Place

Audrey Lucier	P. Golden Peoker x P. Hausermann's Goldcup*
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Pot. Kat Sky Song Black Rose grown by Dennis Pfarrer

*(Chuck's Challenge plant from 2007)



Up-Coming Events

- **February 6-7, 2010.** Orchid Growers' Guild Orchid Quest, Exhibition Hall, Alliant Center, Madison, WI
- **February 20-21, 2010.** Chicago Suburban Orchid Show, Sponsored by the Batavia Orchid Society; Dupage County Fairground
- **March 13-14, 2010.** Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Holiday Inn Neenah Riverwalk, 123 E. Wisconsin Ave., Neenah. Contact: David Bluma, 1367 Eagle Feather Tr., Neenah, WI 54956, (920) 428-4595; davidbluma@aol.com
- **March 19-21, 2010.** Mid-American Orchid Congress Spring Meeting, held in conjunction with Greater Omaha Orchid Society's 23rd Annual Orchid Show, Omaha Marriott, Omaha NE
- **March 20-21, 2010.** Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Glencoe, IL