

# September 2011 *The Orchid Grower*

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison  
Website [orchidguild.org](http://orchidguild.org)



## NEXT MEETING is **CANCELLED** Message from the President

Hi All,

September is here! and, the orchid calendar has become crowded. We have OGG, Mid-America Orchid Congress (MAOC) Fall 2011 Conference in Milwaukee, WOS Show, and the Chicagoland Orchid Festival.

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### Meeting Dates

- September 18– *cancelled*
- October 16– Meeting Room
- November 20– Orchids Garden Centre & Nursery
- December 18– Meeting Room
- January 15– Meeting Room
- February 19– Meeting Room
- March 18– Meeting Room
- April 15– Meeting Room
- May 20– Meeting Room
- May 27– Field Trip to Kettle Moraine
- June Picnic– TBA

**Meetings start at 1:30 pm at Olbrich Gardens unless otherwise noted**

### Up-Coming Events:

- September 17 – 18, 2011, Wisconsin Orchid Society Show and MAOC
- September 23-25, 2011, Chicagoland Orchid Festival
- October 8-9, 2011, Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show
- February 4-5, 2012, Orchid Quest
- April 7, Spring Orchid Sale

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## ORCHID QUEST 2012 It is Just Around the Corner

Madison had one of the hottest summers on record for 2011. I hope that your orchids have been outside enjoying the warmth and humidity. In just the last few days we have noticed a cooling off which reminds us that school is starting and that Orchid Quest is just five months away. It is time to put **February 3 – 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012 on your calendar** for OGG's **25<sup>th</sup> Orchid Quest**. The OGG Board voted to hold the show at the Alliant Energy Center Exhibition Hall again next year. The show chairs will be Judy Stevenson and Heidi Maenner (nee Whetmore) this next year.

### What has been organized so far?

Heidi and I are happy to tell you that Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids has agreed to be our keynote speaker. Heidi heard him speak at an AOS meeting at Virginia Beach about a year ago. She will share some of her thoughts about Glen's presentation in the October OGG newsletter. We are

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**AOS:** Jill Hynum  
**MAOC:** Wayne King, Judith Rapacz  
**Orchid Digest:** Jill Hynum

## In Memoriam Anne W. Orcutt



*Anne W. Orcutt, age 85, passed away this past June 22 in South Bend, Ind. Anne was born in South Bend but lived most of her life in and around Madison until she returned to Indiana in 2009. She was a founding member at Folks (Friends of Lake Kegonsa) and was passionate about orchids and an active member of OGG.*

I knew Anne best from the many occasions when she and John Diehl teamed up to set up and take down Guild displays. They would often stop at my home to pick up my plants and those of other Guild members on their way to and from shows. I would learn of their joint ventures with a small car crammed with plants on brutally cold and snowy nights. Anne was a quick learner and, with advice from the late Mary Weiss, won an AOS show trophy for the Guild. I remember the spring when Anne sponsored a Guild picnic at her Lake Kegonsa home. Anne also was involved in making and selling orchid corsages to raise funds for the Guild until they lost favor to live plant sales. Dennis Pfarrer and I would visit Anne when she could not attend Guild meetings and, at her request, pick up and return her plants from Guild meetings and shows. —Wayne King



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looking for OGG members who want to play more active roles behind the scenes. Jobs include: sending out our correspondence, cutting book marks, delivering bookmarks to the libraries, and help with advertising. Please call either Heidi or myself if you would like to help.

It is time to start wearing your **ASK ME ABOUT ORCHIDS** pins.

Last year we learned that more people heard about Orchid Quest by word of mouth. With the present economic situation, it is going to be even more

important this year that we get the word out about our special 25<sup>th</sup> Orchid Show. Let's make Orchid Quest 2012 the best Orchid Show yet!

— Judy Stevenson

# Gene Smalley's Orchids Live On...



Photograph by Sue Reed  
*Paphiopedilum sanderianum*

## **JILL HYNUM on *Cypripedium reginae***

Photographs by Jill Hynum

In 2002, I bought a couple of pots of *Cypripedium reginae* from OGG member Joan Smalley. These plants were raised from seed by her late husband (and OGG member) Gene Smalley. Gene was a plant pathologist at the UW who caught the orchid bug later in life. One of the areas he became interested in was growing *Cypripedium reginae*s from seed. When Gene died in 2002, Joan had a refrigerator full of cyp seedlings. In the spring, Scott Weber and others helped her pot them up for sale.

The seedlings were 3 or 4 years old when I got them. I already had some other *Cyp reginae*s from other vendors (Carson Whitlow and Vermont Ladyslippers). I planted those cyps in the ground following some suggestions offered by the vendors. This involved digging large holes and adding bark and other mate-

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## **SUE REED on *Paphiopedilum sanderianum***

These plants were bought as a flask by Gene Smalley from Orchid Inn at Orchid Quest in 2002. Gene told Sam that we would buy one of Sam's most expensive flasks if Sam would speak at Orchid Quest. These plants were some of the seedlings from the flask that Gene bought.

This plastic shoe box with holes punched by Gene in the bottom is the original container these seedlings were planted in. At the early stages some seedlings died due to mealy bugs. Since then the plants have been under a bank of six fluorescent light bulbs. Lately three bulbs haven't been lit due to a bad ballast. The lights are on the same length of time year round with daily watering lightly from a hand pressure sprayer. Weekly fertilizing with Michigan State fertilizer using rain water. The plants are kept on the wet side and are not allowed to dry out. There is a small fan on the floor close to the plants that runs when the lights are on with the air flow going up from the

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Potted cyps

Although the potted cyps were in the same general area as the in-ground cyps, they bloomed at different times. The potted cyps bloomed first and the pouches were much lighter than usual. The in-ground cyps had much pinker pouches as you can see from the pictures. We had some 90 degree temperatures early on this year which may have influenced the coloring on the earlier blooming plants. The in-ground plants also had more growths which makes me think the potted cyps may need some more room.



Later blooming in-ground cyps

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rial to the soil. In one case, I put down some plastic in the bottom of the hole.

When I got the Smalley cyps, I decided to try growing them in pots sunk in the ground. I did this for a couple of reasons: 1. It seemed like an easier way to control the potting media than digging large holes and amending the soil in my yard, 2. I also wasn't sure where I was going to put them permanently and with pots, you can move them around. So I just took the pots I got from Joan and put them in the ground, pots and all. A few years later, I repotted them. I believe I used some of Scott Weber's mix for one pot and media I got from Raising Rarities for the other.

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floor and not directed at the plants. The plant cart is in the basement close to a small window which some small amount of direct sun light might reach part of the plants at certain times of the year. The temperature doesn't vary much year round, but it probably is warmer in the winter than in the summer when the air conditioning is running.

This is the second blooming for one of the plants in the box. I did not notice the one with the mostly unopened flowers until I removed the box from under the lights and broke off the terminal bud! Some of the petals are almost 12 inches long. The petals were touching other plants when they were growing which supposedly stops the petals from growing longer.

*Paphiopedilum sanderianum* was first discovered by Forstermann collecting for Sander & Sander in Borneo in 1885. It flowered after arrival in England and was introduced by Sander. It was not seen again until it was re-discovered in 1978. In Borneo it is found growing on cliffs of limestone where its long petals can dangle, in a substrate of moss and detritus with precipitation year round.

From Jill: If you would like to know some more about Gene Smalley, here are links to a couple of articles. <http://tinyurl.com/smalley-UW> and <http://tinyurl.com/smalley-Prince-Philip>

## OGG Ribbon Judging June 2011

### First Place

Sandy Delamater	<i>Paph hirsutissimum</i>
Jill Hynum	Phal Green Star
Sandy Delamater	Miltoniopsis Rene Komoda (Edwidge Sabourin x santanaei)
Bob Lasseter	Vanda Sansai Blue (Crimson Glory x coerulea)
Sandy Delamater	Bc Bill Worsley ( <i>B nodosa</i> x <i>C aurantiaca</i> )
Wayne King	Lc Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah' (C Tropic Glow x C intermedia)
Sandy Delamater	Onc Butterfly (papilio x sanderae)
Jill Hynum	<i>Cypripedium reginea alba</i>
Jill Hynum	<i>Cypripedium reginea</i>

### Second Place

Sandy Delamater	Zygo Moonlight (Zygo labiosum x Zygo Artur Elle)
Wayne King	Dtps Chian Xen Idol
Jill Hynum	Phal Haur Jin Diamond (Golden Peoker x Ching Her Buddha)
Jill Hynum	<i>Cypripedium reginea</i>



Vanda Sansai Blue grown by Bob Lasseter



Phal Haur Jin Diamond grown by Jill Hynum



*Cypripedium reginea alba* grown by Jill Hynum

## FINDING ORCHIDS ON A SUMMER VACATION

Judy Stevenson

My husband Walt has a tremendous sense of adventure. It is always interesting to see where the next trip will take us. The third week in June we went to Denver so that he could attend a conference. I got the opportunity to explore Denver while he worked.

The Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) caught my eye in the *Visitor's Guide*. I invited a cousin who lived in suburban Denver to be my guest because she had never been there. The Denver Gardens have a reciprocal relationship with Olbrich Botanical Society which allowed me two free passes for the day. The cost savings was a total of \$25.00 making the Olbrich Membership a good value. We were told that DBG is the fifth most often visited botanical garden in the United States.

The Denver Botanic Gardens is a 23-acre park in the middle of the city which has 45 different artistically designed themed gardens, more than 32,000 plants, and a tropical conservatory, a new state-of-the-art greenhouse complex (15,000 square ft. space home to Marnie's Pavilion) which houses the Gardens' tropical orchid and aquatic collection. Lastly, there were several special art exhibits illustrating American Indian cultural and botanical heritage featuring the artwork of American Modernist Allan Houser (Warm Springs Chiricahua Apache, 1914 – 1994) placed throughout the Gardens' native plant collections.

We spent the entire day viewing the different gardens that are made up of a wide diversity of plants from all over the world. I went crazy snapping pictures to remember all that I saw. I hope that you enjoy these pictures enough to want to go there yourself.

For more information Google:  
[www.botanicgardens.org/content/our-gardens-york-street](http://www.botanicgardens.org/content/our-gardens-york-street)

**OGG members: please share your experiences that bring you in contact with orchids.**



### AWARDS COMMITTEE

Lynn West has agreed to be in charge of judging the plants at the OGG meetings. She is looking for someone else who would be willing to tabulate the points earned from these orchids and the also from the points earned at away shows to make the "BEST of CLASS" awards given out at the December meeting. Please let Denise know if this is of interest to you. JS

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Since the first three are all on the same weekend something had to be done because of the number of OGG members attending MAOC. The OGG Board discussed: 1) The attendance at our normal meeting would be diminished. This would not be fair to a speaker. 2) We could not move the meeting since this was not anticipated in our scheduling with Olbrich. 3) We should encourage our members to attend the MAOC meeting. This will give first hand information on the business of MAOC. It will be a long time before it's this close to us again.

Sooooo this is the decision from the Board. The September meeting at Olbrich is cancelled - no September meeting! Please take advantage of having the MAOC so close by. There are three speakers - registration required: Dr. Leonard Averyanov - "New Orchid Discoveries in Vietnam"; Dr. Joe Meisel "Orchid Conservation in Ecuador - Habitat Protection, Education & Ecotourism"; and at the banquet Dr Leonid Averyanov "New Discoveries about Vietnamese Paphiopedilums". See: [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org) for location information, program and registration forms.

The Chicagoland Orchid Festival is September 23-25. See [www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com](http://www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com) for time and place.

The WOS show in Milwaukee: Don't forget to get your plants ready. See Sandy's email for general information.

And kudos to three of our members. I want to thank Bob and Lucy Lasseter for hosting the Annual OGG picnic at their lovely home. It was very attended and everyone had a good time. Also I wish to thank Judy Stevenson for spearheading the orchid hunting field trip to Door County [Ed. Note: more on that in October.]

See You at MAOC

Best - Rich Narf

## Up-Coming Events

- **September 17-18** — Fall MAOC Meeting in conjunction with the Wisconsin Orchid Society Show, Mitchell Park Domes, 524 S. Layton Blvd., Milwaukee, WI; Radisson Hotel West Milwaukee WI
- **September 23-25** — Chicagoland Orchid Festival, Oak Hill Gardens, 37W550 Binnie Road, Dundee, IL
- **October 15-16** — Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show, Glencoe, IL
- **January 28-29, 2012**—Winter Carnival Orchid Show, St. Paul MN
- **January 28-29**— Grand Rapids Orchid Society, MI
- **February 4-5**— Orchid Growers' Guild Orchid Quest
- **February 25-26** - Show for the Greater Lansing Orchid Society, Michigan State University, East Lansing MI
- **March 3-4**—NEWOS Orchid Show, Neenah, WI
- **March 10-11**— Illowa Orchid Society Show, Bettendorf, IA
- **April 28-29**— "Celebrate Orchids," Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Glencoe, IL
- **October 13-14**— Illinois Orchid Society Fall Mini-Show, Glencoe, IL
- **November 14-23** — 20th World Orchid Conference, Singapore
- **September, 11-16, 2012** \*Australian Orchid Conference 2012, Kings Park, Perth, Western Australia.  
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