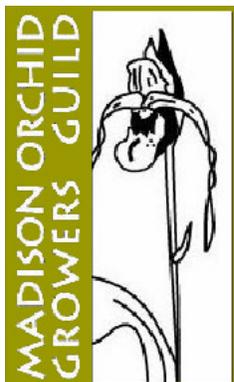


April 2016 The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison
Website orchidguild.org



Meeting Dates

- April 17, Meeting Room
- May 15, Meeting Room
- June Picnic TBA
- September 25, Meeting Room
- October 16, Meeting Room
- November 20, Meeting Room
- December 18, Meeting Room

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

Officers and Committees

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Nancy Thomas (2016)
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Carrie Weisman (2018)
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Next Meeting, April 17th at Olbrich

Speaker is Prof. Cameron, 'Around the World with Orchids'

Hello all orchid lovers,

People might think winter is not a good time to see many orchids in bloom, but don't tell that to orchid societies in the Midwest. We at OGG started the year off with Orchid Quest in January, then there were three more shows: NEWOS, Batavia and the Illinois Orchid Society at the Chicago Botanic Garden. The Chicago Botanic Garden has developed a month long orchid extravaganza in order to raise money for four new orchid greenhouses.

I thank all of our volunteers who donated their time energy, time and good will to set up our displays at the away shows. They are Nancy Thomas, away show chair, Judy Williamson, Lorraine Snyder, Denise Baylis, Keith Nelson, and Sue Reed. All members are welcome to volunteer to help at any future shows starting this September in Milwaukee.

We enjoyed an informative visit to Paradigm gardens for our March meeting and learned a great deal about lighting, ebb and flow systems, fertilizers and growing media from our host Dennis. It was also great to see new members there.

April brings our spring sale at Olbrich, Sat. April 2nd. Come and bring your friends.

Sunday April 17, is our regular meeting at Olbrich at 1:30 pm with ribbon judging at 1:00pm. Our speaker is Prof. Ken Cameron on 'Around the World with Orchids'.

Ken is on sabbatical from UW, but will join us before he leaves to travel.

See you soon and happy spring.

Lorraine

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MAOC: Keith Nelson
Orchid Digest: Open



Photographs by Sue Reed



From left to right: *Masd Machu Picchu* 'Crown Point' AM/AOS grown by Sue Reed; *Vuylstekeara Melissa Brianne* 'Dark'; and *Oda Taylor Barfield* 'This And That' grown by Judy Williamson.

March OGG Ribbon Judging

First place

Steven Thimling
Unknown

Judy Williamson
Steven Thimling
Wayne King
Sue Reed
Steven Thimling
Unknown

Steven Thimling

Unknown
Sue Reed

Second place

Steven Thimling
Steven Thimling
Sue Reed
Steven Thimling
Steven Thimling

Phrag Lutz Rollke

Vuylstekeara Melissa Brianne 'Dark' (*Miltonia* Anne Warne x *Oncidium* Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)

Oda Taylor Barfield 'This And That' (*Keighleyensis* x *Serendipity*)

Phal (Lioulin Goldfish x *Formosa Cranberry*)

Paph (Nike's Sunny x *Pinocchio* 'Bright Angel')

Paph urbanianum

Slc Aloha Apricot 'Waunakee' (*Little Bit* x *Psyche*)

Slc Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' AM/AOS (*Guarianthe aurantiaca* x *C Anzac*)

Cycnoches warsecwiczii 'Jumbo Mutation' x *Morm buccinator* v. *aurea* 'Golden Green'

Ascda Princess Mikasa 'Rosado' AM/AOS (*Royal Sapphire* x *coerulea*)

Masd Machu Picchu 'Crown Point' AM/AOS (*ayabacana* x *coccinea*)

Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' (*Jamie Sutton* x *Honolulu*)

Den laevifolium 'Red' x *Den laevifolium* 'Aureum'

Paph rothschildianum

Ctna Why Not (*Guarianthe aurantiaca* x *Broughtonia sanguinea*)

Cycnoches chlorochilon 'Green' x *chlorochilon* 'Yellow'

OGG Ribbon Judging Results Illinois Orchid Society 2016

Set-up and take-down, Lorraine Snyder, Keith Nelson, Denise Baylis
Exhibit First Place

Best of Class, First Place

Nancy Thomas *Den Green Flash 'Nancy's Fancy' AM/AOS (Andree Millar x convolutum)*

First Place

Susan Reed *Masd Machu Picchu 'Crown Point' AM/AOS (ayabacana x coccinea)*

Second Place

Jeff Baylis *Cattleya intermedia*

Third Place

Susan Reed *Paph Mystic Isle 'Angel White' (Ang-Thong (godefroyae) alba 'In Charm' x Niveumvar var 'Pathana' FCC/AOS) x Paph Niveum 'In Charm' BM/ TPS*

Susan Reed *Paph urbanianum*
Keith Nelson *Degarmoara Winter Wonderland 'White Fairy' (Bratonia Cartagena x Odm Gledhow)*



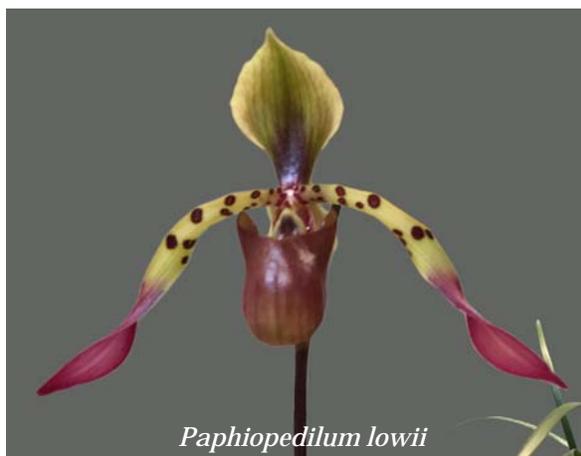
Chiloschista lunifera



Cymbidium Dorothy Stockstill



Paphiopedilum hybrid



Paphiopedilum lowii

From
the
IOS
Show
2016

When Should I Re-Pot My Orchids?

By Keith Nelson

All hobbyists will eventually need to start re-potting orchids. Initially it seems daunting, but some hobbyists like myself can't help wanting to fuss with the plants. I am always looking for a reason to re-pot or re-mount plants. After re-potting an orchid it can remain in the pot 2-5 years.

The main reasons to disturb the plant for re-potting are when the plant has out grown the pot, and when the media has decomposed to the point where the roots can no longer breathe. When roots are left in decomposed media they will die and rot. The plant will no longer be able to take up water and will eventually decline. Some plants like *Bulbophyllum* seem to continually be fighting to escape their pots and require re-potting to contain them. Orchid roots like to be crowded so pick a pot that is just big enough to contain the root system. Often a plant can be cleaned up and put back into the same pot.

In general the best time to re-pot is when new growth is seen, usually March, April and May. This is when plants are starting their growth spurt for the year. Re-potting at the beginning of this growth cycle gives the plant the maximum amount of time to establish new growth before the next bloom or re-potting cycle.

Avoid re-potting in the heat of summer when the plants may be dry and under stress. Avoid re-potting in the fall when the plants are growing more slowly when they will get established more slowly and many are getting ready for a winter rest period. If a plant is spiking or in bloom, wait until the plant is finished blooming if this is possible.

With sympodial orchids the new roots are usually easy to see and this growth indicates the beginning of this growth cycle. When you see the roots starting, it is best to re-pot when the roots are $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, Fig. 1. When the roots get longer than this, re-potting has a larger risk of injuring the roots.



MONOPODIAL ORCHIDS

Monopodial orchids grow upwards from a terminal or central growing point. This means that, once mature, these orchids will grow taller but not much wider. *Phalaenopsis* is a good example of a monopodial orchid. New leaves emerge from the axis [top] of this stem. Roots initiate and grow below the leaves. Flower spikes arise from the lower part of the stem.

SYMPODIAL ORCHIDS

The stem of a sympodial grows horizontally and is called a rhizome. From the rhizome, roots grow down and lateral shoots grow up. These shoots grow to a certain height, and stop. Sympodial orchids have a zig-zag branching pattern of rhizome growth, with two eyes or buds that may develop from each mature growth.

Setting these new roots at the top of the new medium allows the roots to naturally grow into the new medium.

If you have a sympodial plant that looks like it needs re-potting but cannot see the roots, another indication is the development of a new growth at the base of plant, Fig. 2. This indicates the plant is initiating a growth cycle.

Sympodial orchids like *Cattleyas* and *Oncidiums* should be placed in the new pot with the

OGG Ribbon Judging Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society Show - March 5-6, 2016

Set-up and take-down: Nancy Thomas, Judy Williamson

First Place

Susan Reed	<i>Paph Transvaal 'Merienda Lane' HCC/AOS (moquettianum x rothschildianum)</i>
Susan Reed	<i>Masd amplexa 'Tingo Maria'</i>
Nancy Thomas	<i>Den Green Flash 'Nancy's Fancy' AM/AOS (Andree Millar x convolutum)</i>
Nancy Thomas	<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia x sanguinea</i>

Second Place

Nancy Thomas	<i>Lc Fire Island 'Fiery' (Eva x Oro Bay)</i>
Judy Williamson	<i>Dendrochilum wenzelii</i>

Third Place

Nancy Thomas	<i>Paph sukhakulii 'Windsong's Buzz' x #3</i>
Judy Williamson	<i>Paph Greensleeves x Acker's Peak</i>
Judy Williamson	<i>Cymbidium Mimi 'Lucifer' (floribundum x Doris Aurea)</i>

(Continued from page 4)

old growth against the wall of the pot and the new growth toward the center of the pot.

Sympodials may initiate new root or leaf growth at other times of the year and they can be re-potted at that time. This is particularly true if you grow under lights. Plants under lights may initiate growth at any time of the year.

Phalaenopsis orchids grow continuously upward. The best time to re-pot a Phalaenopsis is after it has finished flowering. Cut the flower stem and re-pot into a pot just large enough to contain the root system. Phalaenopsis orchids are monopodial and should be centered in the new pot.

The mixed media typically sold at garden centers should be thoroughly mixed and wetted before potting. There are several opinions on when to water after re-potting. One favored technique is to water thoroughly right after re-potting and then let the plant sit for several weeks before watering again. Then begin watering with your standard regime. Mist the plant frequently during this



It took two people to deal with this pot-bound orchid [actually TWO pots] at the potting station at the IOS Show. Shown: Volunteers Lois and Nils Dusdieker from Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

rest period.

When using Orchidata bark, plant in dry bark then thoroughly water the plant. Re-water twice a week for the first three weeks and then return to your standard regime.

The Orchid Grower's Guild sponsors re-potting events at their monthly meetings. The American Orchid Society has several good videos on re-potting. If you would like to contact me with questions, I can be reached at nelsonridge@tds.net.

November 2015: Yunnan Province, China

Text and photographs by Patricia Bacchetti, Oakland CA

“It’s a cymbidium!” someone exclaimed as we hiked into the steep mountains of southwest China. Although it was a trip devoted to bird watching, there were several of us that were also horticulturally inclined and looking out for Yunnan’s botanical richness. During the 3 weeks that I spent in the only subtropical region of China last November, I observed plants native to the region that I cultivate in my orchid collection and garden in California. In addition, we saw over 300



Provinces of China

species of birds. Because the Tropic of Cancer runs through its middle, Yunnan’s mountainous terrain along the border with Myanmar and Thailand is the warmest part of China. Parts of it are in the rain shadow of the Himalayas, so there are dozens of microclimates that make it the home of many species in the horticultural trade. It’s not a region well-traveled by Westerners yet, though there is a history of horticultural expeditions going back almost 150 years.

Yunnan is famous for being the home of the camellia, the azalea, the rhododendron, the magnolia, the primrose, and several genera of orchids—Cymbidium, Dendrobium, Vanda,

and Thunbergia. The province boasts a plant list of over 13,000 species, and the center of diversity is in Lijiang and the Jade Dragon Snow Mountain. This lovely place still retains some of the character of the old Silk Road town that it was, and there is a long tradition of cultivation and horticultural exploration in the area. The Jade Dragon Pool in the center of town is a World Heritage Site travel destination, and the views of the western Himalayas from the park are spectacular. The English plant explorers and collectors Frank Kingdon Ward and Joseph Rock both had long associations with Lijiang. Rock stayed until the Japanese occupation of China in the 1930’s, when the area became the center of the Burma Road supply route for occupied China.



Cymbidium tracyanum
National Park Gaolingongshan

Several species of cymbidiums are native to the area, and we saw two of them—*C. tracyanum* and *C. sinensis*. Collected in the same expedition that brought *C. lowianum* back from Myanmar in the late 1800’s, *C. tracyanum* was first grown in England. Its beautiful large-flowered brown and yellow striped flowers are lightly fragrant, and it’s an early bloomer, traits it brings to its hybrids. The plant itself is large, with multiple spikes that arch out at 45 degrees from

(Continued on page 7)

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the center. The flowers are not long-lived, though hybridization has improved that trait. Some recognized hybrids are Pywackett, Monarch, and Doris. I grow a species plant outdoors and it blooms regularly in late January.

Cymbidium sinensis is one of the small fra-



Cymbidium sinensis

grant Chinese cymbidiums that grow in the province. It, like the other “Chinese” cymbidiums, has a small plant with pale fragrant flowers, and likes cooler temperatures, abun-



Though native to Mexico, poinsettias were commonly seen in villages and the roadsides. One of the native bamboos and the mountains of the Gaolingshan Range are in the background

dant water, and moderate light. Well-known hybrids include Peter Pan, Golden Elf, and Maureen Carter. We saw this species being sold at roadside stops, and the plants were probably wild-collected. The merchants assured us that we could carry them home. I was tempted, in spite of USDA importation regulations.

Though Yunnan isn't well-traveled by Westerners yet, there are horticultural tours that specialize in the area. It's a fascinating region to visit, and the experience was well worth the time and the distance.



Patricia Bacchetti

The Black Dragon Pool Lijiang



This *Cattleya Wild Fire* (*wittigiens* x *coccinea*) earned an AOS Award of Merit with 81 points at the Illinois Orchid Society Show in Glencoe IL

UP-COMING EVENTS

- **April 14-17** - 2016 American Orchid Society Spring Members' Meeting, hosted by The Western North Carolina Orchid Society as part of the 2016 Asheville Orchid Festival
- **August 1 - 4, 2016** - Native Orchid Conference, Benson, Arizona
- **November 8-12, 2017** -- 22nd World Orchid Conference, Guayaquil, Ecuador