

January 2017 **The Orchid Grower**

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison
Website orchidguild.org



FROM THE PRESIDENT, NEXT MEETING JANUARY 15th at OLBRICH

Happy New Year,

Wow! A new year with orchids! What more could we wish for? A successful and fun Orchid Quest, of course! We can add to our collections, see and learn about unusual orchids and gorgeous displays. It will take much good energy and work from all of us.

Unfortunately the weather did not cooperate and the Board decided that it was prudent to cancel the Holiday Party for the safety of our members. Thus 'Santa Liz' [perhaps in another form] will be distributing the Holiday orchids. If you wish to purchase one for \$10, just let me know in advance so that your orchid is available. Membership dues will remain \$18 for a single and \$24 with a partner until after the meeting when dues will go up. Let the Treasurer know if there have been changes in your contact information.

At the January meeting we will learn who won the growing awards for 2016 as well as final discussions on Orchid Quest. Ribbon judging will be at 1:00 p.m. Meet at 1:30 p.m.

See you there,

Lorraine Snyder



Holcoglossum mounted by Keith Nelson

Meeting Dates

- January 15, 2017, Olbrich

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

Up-Coming Events

- January 28-29, 2017 - Minnesota Orchid Show
- February 4-5, 2017 - Orchid Quest
- February 18-19, 2017 -- Batavia Orchid Society Show
- March 4-5 -- Northeast WI Orchid Society Show
- March 11-12 - Illinois Orchid Society Show

Officers and Committees

President:

Lorraine Snyder (2018)
lorraine.snyder127@gmail.com

Vice President:

Sue Reed (2017)
greed@chorus.net

Secretary:

Keith Nelson (2017)
nelsonridge@tds.net

Treasurer:

Denise Baylis (2018)
jrbaylis@tds.net

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eawood@wisc.edu

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Ribbon Judging:

Open

Web Master:

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Liaisons:

AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Keith Nelson
Orchid Digest: Open

ORCHID GROWERS POINTS SYSTEM

By Susan Reed

The yearly awards for exhibiting orchids and setting up the orchid exhibits are normally announced at the December meeting. Weather conditions forced cancellation of that meeting, therefore the presentations will occur at the January meeting. The detailed description of how points are earned can be found at the Orchid Growers Guild website (<http://www.orchidguild.org/>)

Points for exhibiting orchids are accrued by bringing plants to the monthly meetings for ribbon judging, and for sending orchid plants to our away shows and to Orchid Quest. At the monthly meetings points are earned for ribbons with first getting 4 points on down. For the away shows a point is received for each plant sent and more points are added depending on the ribbons awarded. Because of the stiff competition, the extra stress on the plant and the commitment from the grower, points are doubled for ribbons at away shows and at Orchid Quest.

Points are earned for setup of the exhibit based upon the ribbon the exhibit received, 4 points for first and with 12 points for doing the set up. Take down each person receives 6 points, since it is work and time to take down, but not the amount of planning, registration, collecting materials that are required for the setting up of the exhibit.

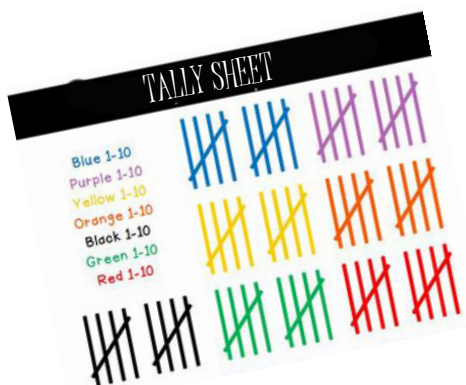
More points are awarded for Best of Class and for AOS awards to the individual grower; and if the exhibit receives extra awards extra points are accrued, 25 points for Best of Class and 50 Points for AOS award.

From December 2015- November 2016, 26 OGG members participated by bringing plants to meetings and/or to shows. The range of points was from 4 points to 183 points.

Exhibiting points were earned by 8 members with the point range from 18 points to 128 points.

An award is also given to the beginning grower with the most points from showing their orchids.

Thank you all for bringing in your plants to our monthly meeting. And thanks too to those of you who took the time to send your plants and/or to donate your weekends to setting up and taking down exhibits. Without your commitment to OGG we would not be able to produce our shows and to help out other societies by participating in their shows. A very big **THANK YOU!**

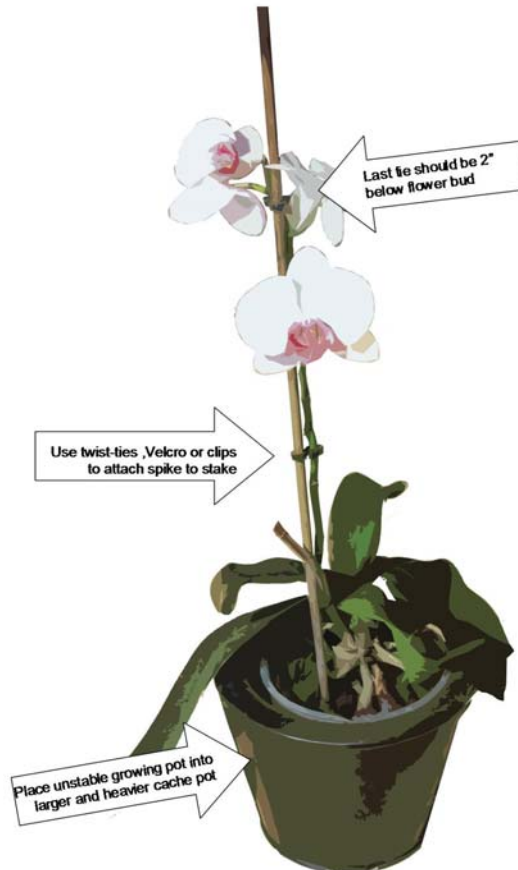


GETTING PLANTS READY FOR ORCHID QUEST AND OTHER SHOWS!

By Susan Reed

- It is time to start getting your plants ready for shows especially for Orchid Quest!
- One key is to start staking your spikes as soon as they are long enough to use a support stake. This is important to make sure that the presentation of the flowers is the best and that the spike won't break off.
- Keep the plant in the same orientation to keep the spike growing straight.
- Clean the leaves and cut off any brown leaves or tips of leaves. Lemon juice takes off the white water spots that can form on leaves.
- Check and spray for insects, clean with rubbing alcohol. Nobody wants your bugs.
- If the plant label is large for the plant and won't be easily hidden, make a new smaller tag to keep with the plant when exhibiting it.
- Just before the show, please label all pots with your name and put your name on your plant tag.
- For Orchid Quest please send a listing of all of your plants to Sue Reed (greed@chorus.net) by Tuesday, January 31.
- The registration is done on computer so I need your list to be sent within your email with the class for your plants' registration.
- Registration requires the complete name of your plant, the parents, if it is a hybrid, and the judging class.
- If trouble with plant registration, please use the resources found at the Mid-America Orchid Congress (<http://www.midamericanorchids.org/judging/>)
 - *Orchid Classification*: will tell you the class(es) for your orchid depending if it is a hybrid or a species.
 - *Intergeneric Cross Reference*: will help you identify the genera used to make your plants cross.
 - *MAOC Show Schedule*: is the document that lists all classes and is the basis for the Orchid Quest Show Book. But OQ has some minor class omissions.
- Use the Orchid Quest Show book for to find your class. Please read the beginning of the show book for it explains some of the classes with aids to help you decide upon the correct class for your plant.
- Google is a good resource to get information about your plant.
- If you are still totally flummoxed contact me.
- Label all materials that you bring for your

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- plant including the box, pot, etc.
- Remember that we will be working with close to 100 different plants, so please help us ID your plant.
- Make sure that your plant is stable in the pot. If not, use a larger pot for stability and/or use wine corks, etc. If the plant needs to be hung or set up on a pedestal, then please bring what is needed to display your plant properly.
- Make sure your plant is well watered, for we will not be watering the plants in the exhibit.
- All plants for the exhibit need to be at Olbrich Botanical Gardens by 11:30 AM on Friday, February 3.
- Plants need to be picked up at Olbrich at the end of the show after 3 PM on Sunday, February 5. If other arrangements have been made, let Sue know.
- Good luck with your plants and Thank you for sending your plants. We cannot have a show without an exhibit, so your plants are very important!



Dendrobium Little Pam (normanbyense x eximium)

OGG Orchid Pot Sales

- Small green square (2x2" h), 5 @ \$1.00
- Small Clear square (2x3" h), \$.50 / pot
- Medium Clear square (3½x4" h), \$.75 / pot
- Medium Clear Round (4x4" h), \$1.00 / pot
- Large Clear Round (6½x5" h), \$1.25 / pot
- 3" Clay pot \$.50 / pot

To order pots for delivery at the next OGG meeting, contact Sue Reed

greed@chorus.net

NAME TAGS

Need a new name tag for Orchid Quest? Carrie Weisman would be happy to make you a new one if you have lost yours. You can contact her at

carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov

You are addicted to orchids when...

... you drive through a blizzard to take advantage of a winter orchid sale [or you are an intrepid OGG member volunteering at Orchid Quest!]

OQ UPDATE from the Chair

Orchid Quest is fast approaching. Details are getting done. What do you need to know?

Orchid Quest is at Olbrich Botanical Gardens **Saturday, February 4** and **Sunday** February 5. **Friday**, February 3 is set-up as usual.

The large room past the conservatory entrance and on the left, will be for the vendors. All we have to do is set up the tables for them (no skirting). We will have 2 OGG tables to selling our orchids. We have some plants that people have been holding for this event but LOOK THROUGH YOUR PLANTS to see if you want to decrease the size of your stock and bring the plants to OQ to sell and benefit OGG. They do not have to be blooming, maybe provide a picture for customers to see (pix is not necessary to bring your plants, just a nice touch)

The Atrium (below our meeting area) is for the plant exhibits. There are some tables for table-top displays and some areas for free-standing exhibits. The tables will be skirted. But there will not be room for orchid artwork and corsages so we will leave that off our show book. We will have our usual 100' area so plan to BRING YOUR BLOOMING PLANTS to display here. We usually have near 100 plants to display, but to do that it really takes nearly every club member bringing several. Sue is in charge of the exhibit but needs help setting it up. Talk to her if you want to assist her.

The lobby area is for our tables including raffle, door prizes, pots, membership, donations & maybe even a plant check area. (Free admission & parking for all to OQ) This area cannot be set up until 5 pm on **Friday** because it is in use during the day so we need help after 5 to set this up. These tables will be skirted (so we can hide

stuff under the tables) This will need several people because we cannot start till late on **Friday**.

The hallway between the lobby and vendor area will be for the silent auction items. Does anyone have any shelves that we could borrow to use to display auction items? Since the space is limited in that area, we will have to display smart. Any other ideas? The auction items will be watched by a single card table near the area. That table will have to have someone at all times to assist people with bidding on auction items.

Unloading will be done in the Olbrich garage. We need the usual amount of people to help societies & vendors unload and cart the stuff to their locations.

FOOD – we can bring in food this year. Because we cannot expect any income from admission, we slashed the budget. We are asking the club members to provide food items. We have a “kitchen” area through a door in the vendor room that will be open to vendors and workers along with the kitchen off our usual upstairs meeting room. Just think HUGE potluck!

* On **Friday** we need snack items, lunch, drinks and maybe even dinner items. Set-up takes lots of energy!

* On **Saturday** – we will have judging as usual in the morning. We will need breakfast food for judges & clerks so sweets, egg dishes, juices, coffee etc.

* More on **Saturday** – We need a small lunch for 12-16 judges up in the meeting room. Then we need lunch & snacks in the vendor kitchen for the rest of us. So meat/cheese trays, bread, snacks, drinks etc.

* On **Sunday** – We will need snacks, lunch

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items, drinks etc.

Saturday - We will **need clerks** as usual. We cannot get into the building until 7 am so **breakfast (brought by members)** will be from 7—7:45 a.m. with judging starting about 7:45. We can close off the atrium until we are ready but I expect judging to be done by 10-10:30ish.

Saturday – After the judges are done upstairs – we need to re-set the room with chairs for speakers, between 2-2:30ish.

Tables to volunteer for

- There will be the OGG table in the lobby for all day **Saturday** (10-4) and all day on **Sunday** (10-3), several people, of course with shifts.
- There will be an OGG table in the vendor room: volunteers to sell plants at this table **Saturday** and **Sunday**.
- Auction table for **Saturday** (and **Sunday**)
- Someone to keep the food kitchen neat.

Clean-up Sunday – all hands on deck to help by 3 p.m.

Other ways to help – donate money for orchid awards \$50/award, donate money toward meals, sponsor Orchid Quest – more substantial donation.

What has been done?:

Paid ads are ordered in *Wisconsin State Journal*, *Isthmus* and Hometown papers: *The Star* –

Sun Prairie, *The Herald-Independent* (Cottage Grove/Monona), *The McFarland Thistle*, *The Courier* – Marshall/Waterloo, *Cambridge News / Deerfield Independent*, *Lake Mills Leader*, *The Waunakee Tribune*, *DeForest Times-Tribune*, *Lodi Enterprise/Poynette Press*, *Milton Courier*, *Hometown Shopper* (DeForest, Lodi, Poynette & Waunakee areas), *The Advertiser* (Sun Prairie area).

Posters and bookmarks are made & being copied. They will be distributed to all of the Libraries in the South-Central Library System and at the January OGG meeting.

- Ten vendors are committed. Societies are responding.
- Show book is being finished by Sue Reed.
- Carrie Weisman is in the process of ordering notebooks with orchids on them to bring in income.
- Judges gifts are being looked into.
- Plant registration is covered, Julie & Thom & more.
- Speakers are being asked, Hermann Pigors is confirmed for Saturday and Keith Nelson on repotting on Sunday.
- Signs will be made....
- Always more to come....

If you want to volunteer for ANYTHING above or donate toward this huge project... Go to Sign-up Genius or call Denise at 798-3602 or jrbaylis@tds.net. Keith Nelson is in charge of food.

UP-COMING EVENTS

- **January 28-29, 2017** - Winter Carnival in St Paul at Como Park - Minnesota Orchid Show
- **February 4-5, 2017**—Orchid Quest, Olbrich Gardens, Madison, WI
- **February 18-19, 2017** -- Batavia Orchid Society Show, DuPage County Fairgrounds IL
- **Last weekend of February** - NEW SHOW in Racine, WI hosted by the Wisconsin Orchid Society - Final details to follow
- **March 4-5** -- Northeast WI Orchid Society Show, Neenah WI
- **March 11-12** - Illinois Orchid Society Show, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe IL
- **November 8-12, 2017** -- 22nd World Orchid Conference, Guayaquil, Ecuador