

November  
2021

# The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison

[www.Orchidgrowersguild.org](http://www.Orchidgrowersguild.org)



## Meeting Dates

**Meetings on Zoom at 1 PM**

- November 21
- December 19

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

## Up-Coming Events

- 2022 February 5 & 6, Orchid Quest

## Officers and Committees

### President:

Susan Reed (2022)  
[Greed@chorus.net](mailto:Greed@chorus.net)

### Vice President:

Cynthia Wadsworth (2023)  
[cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)

### Secretary:

Lynn West (2023)  
[LynneWest15@yahoo.com](mailto:LynneWest15@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer:

Denise Baylis (2022)  
[jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net)

### Board:

Lisa Linde (2023)  
[CrazyCatPlantLady@gmail.com](mailto:CrazyCatPlantLady@gmail.com)

Nancy Thomas (2022)  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)

Carrie Weisman (2023)  
[cleocat@msn.com](mailto:cleocat@msn.com)

### Away Shows:

Nancy Thomas  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)

### Hospitality:

Volunteer

## NEXT MEETING November 21st "Orchid Conservation in the Upper Midwest: the Impact of Climate Change"

*Ken Cameron will present the program at our next meeting. Ken is a Professor Botany, the Director of Conservation Biology and Director of the Wisconsin State Herbarium. He along with his students have conducted significant research into orchids from Wisconsin and around the world. This current program with discuss how climate change, along with other factors related to human activity, is having a profound effect on the flora of North America, especially in the Upper Midwest.*

Climate change, along with other factors related to human activity, is having a profound effect on the flora of North America, especially in the Upper Midwest. Not all plant groups will be affected equally, however, and a number of studies have suggested that orchids may be especially vulnerable to extirpation in the region. Developing strategies

*(Continued on page 10)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

HI Orchid Growers,

We are so happy to see new faces at our October meeting. Welcome to all new members and visitors!

We are sorry if you missed Chuck Acker's great presentation at the October meeting. We will be having Chuck back to speak to us, we promise!

At our October meeting Gary got us started our new group plant project. In addition we had some nice blooming orchid plants remaining from our October Orchid sale to sell to members at very reasonable prices! We will have a few to sell at the November meeting also! So be prepared to take home a new orchid! Some of these may not be in bloom, but will be at reasonable prices.

So far we have participated in two shows this year with exhibits and plants earning many ribbons, and our first in person OGG meeting! We are slowly returning to more 'normal' times.

We still are practicing social distancing and wearing masks and having only food

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

EIOS – OGG Ribbon Judging	5
EIOS Photographs	6
Fall Fun Sale	7
Next Meeting	1
October Meeting Re-cap	2
October OGG Ribbon Judging	4
Orchid Quest Up-date	7
President's Message	1
Projects Up-date	3
Q&A with the Orchid Doctor	9
What's Blooming at Bolz	8

*(Continued on page 2)*

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**Librarian:**  
Open

**Membership:**  
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[carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov](mailto:carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov)

**Newsletter:**  
Denise Baylis  
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**Orchid Quest 2021:**  
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**Ribbon Judging:**  
Open

**Web Master:**  
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**Liaisons:**  
AOS: Nancy Thomas  
MAOC: Open

**REMINDER**  
OGG annual membership renewals are coming due December 31. The cost remains the same: \$10 for a student, \$20 for a single membership and \$25 for a household.

(Continued from page 1)  
or drink that is commercially packaged. If you wish, you may bring whole fruit, small bags of snacks and containers of personal sized drinks to share with members at our meeting. But I am sorry, no home made items.

We will try another hybrid meeting for our November meeting with speaker Ken Cameron. Hopefully there will be fewer bugs this time.

A group has been working on details for Orchid Quest. More are very welcome to help. Orchid Quest has in the past been our biggest fund raising opportunity! And it is our largest group activity with many opportunities to help educate the public about our passion for orchids and to meet other passionate orchid people!

We will have book marks at the meeting. Please pick up some to take to your favorite plant stores, to your local library and to share with family and friends. The bookmarks are advertising for the Guild and for Orchid Quest. Please use this chance to get the word out about our great show!

Our December meeting will be a zoom meeting with a speaker on the cute tea cup paphs! The speaker will be Deb Boersma the author of the "Tiny Slippers" article in the AOS October magazine. Deb is a student judge with the Great Lakes Judging Center (Howell, MI).

We will be having zoom meetings during the winter in anticipation of inclement weather. They also have the added advantage of making the meetings more accessible to those who live farther from Madison.

Welcome again to our new members and visitor!



Nancy Thomas'  
*Phragmipedium Rosa-lie Dixler (besseae x kaieteurum)*

Sue Reed, President

## OCTOBER MEETING RE-CAP

At last month's meeting, our first in-person meeting in 18 months, a lot happened. Gary distributed the plants for project #3, we admired the new bud on a third Paph project plant, Gary updated our plant projects and we had a visit from the Orchid Doctor, Chuck Acker who covered questions from members who had cultural, disease and insect issues with plants in their collection.



Photograph by Angel Johns  
Chuck Acker and Gary Lensmeyer

Some members brought plants as an example and others showed pictures. There were also questions on what is a good potting mix for

The Orchid Grower November 2021 page 2 of 10

Cymbidium, when to use high phosphorus fertilizer and who is available for a virus testing source. Chuck also covered topics such as, how to avoid the pH drop of Orchid bark as it ages and what products to use for that as well as, how to monitor the pH of the potting mix, water and fertilizer solutions. Also covered were the topics of when to cut expired flower stems and what is the significance, cause and

proper way to deal with leaf senescence on our plants.

**For the answers to some of the topics covered by Chuck, see page 9.**

# PROJECTS UPDATE - NOVEMBER 2021

## Paphiopedilum Project

It was about this time last year when participants received their *Paph. Phylis Prestia* (*Paph. Conco belatulum x thaianum*). Many of us are still waiting patiently for the first bloom on this challenge plant.

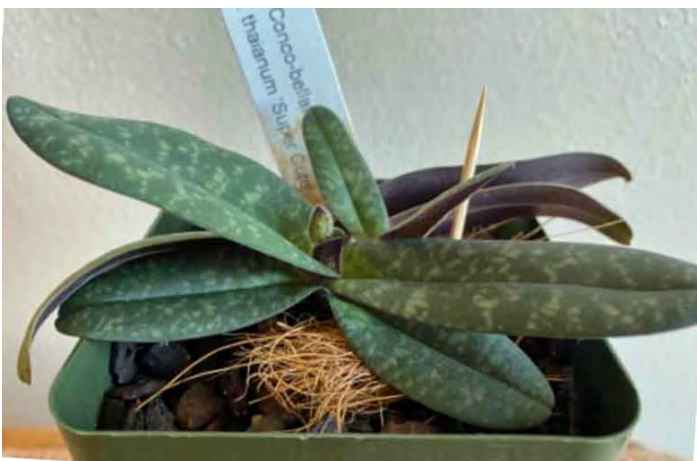
So far, three members have produced blooms in various stages of emergence. In a previous newsletter, I highlighted the success of Josh Carson being the first to bloom his plant using lights. Since then, Nancy Thomas and Judy Stevenson shared photos of their plants in tight bud or in stage where the bud is close to opening, respectively.

Nancy comments: "Here's a photo of the plan today. Yes, I've had it under a T12 grow-lux light but it also gets east and south window light from 10ft. or more."



The bud is in the early stage of emerging

Judy describes her growing conditions: "when we were in Arizona over the winter the plant got rain water weekly and a small amount of bloom booster.



The Orchid Grower November 2021 page 3 of 10

When we got back to Madison, I switched to Madison well water without chlorine, weekly. I repotted about two months ago and started giving it bloom booster weekly starting in Sept 2021. It has been under the T-5 lights the whole time I have had it, 12 hours a day."

So far, for those growers who grew plants that have initiated blooms, the use of grow lights appears to be one common factor contributing to their success. Recently, I moved my Paph from a bright area near a southwest window of our house to the basement and placed on a humidity tray positioned on the outer perimeter of LED lights. Within a week, the leaves developed a nice sheen and looked much healthier. I don't allow the potting media to dry out.

For those of you who are awaiting blooms, I encourage you to send photos when the big day arrives!

## Clowesia Project

A few weeks ago, 30 Guild members received their plant for the start of the Guild's 3rd project. Specifically:

1. Unlike the first project, where a catasetum hybrid was grown, this project focuses on another member of the Catsetinae alliance, a Clowesia hybrid.
2. Clowesia and its hybrids have a tendency to bloom while in dormancy and display increased longevity of its blooms when compared to other members of Catsetinae.
3. Culture of a Clowesia hybrid is identical to the process that I described for the catasetum hybrid of project #1. Past newsletters can be referenced for this information. However, I will be reiterating the process albeit with modifications based on recent findings of Fred Clarke, an expert in the field.
4. With the plant you just received, keep the moss slightly damp but don't fertilize. Place in bright light. The plant will be going into dormancy as the leaves turn yellow and fall. In general, the water should be withheld at leaf drop or by the latest, January and not applied at all during dormancy. The plant should remain in bright light during dormancy.

Questions can be directed to me.

Happy growing!

Gary Lensmeyer

Project Coordinator

[glmsnwi@gmail.com](mailto:glmsnwi@gmail.com)

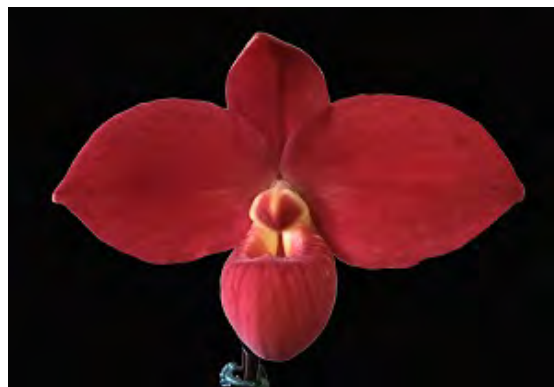
## OCTOBER 2021 OGG RIBBON JUDGING

### First Place

Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Silver Eagle 'Pink Frost' AM/AOS ( <i>schlimii</i> x <i>czerwiakowianum</i> )
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Living Fire ( <i>besseae</i> x Sorcerer's Apprentice)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Lutz Röllke x Barbara LeAnn
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Dendrobium</i> unknown hybrid
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Cape Sunset (Eric Young x <i>schlimii</i> )
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Barbara LeAnn 'Red' ( <i>besseae</i> x <i>fischeri</i> )
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Lysudamuloa</i> Red Jewel 'Sweet Baby' ( <i>Lysudamulia</i> Geyser x <i>Angulocaste</i> Red Jade)
Nancy Thomas	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Rosalie Dixler ( <i>besseae</i> x <i>kaieteurum</i> )
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phragmipedium</i> <i>besseae</i> 'Fox Valley Flame'
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Fritz Schomburg ( <i>kovachii</i> x <i>besseae</i> )
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Cahaba Moonrise ( <i>besseae</i> x Lutz Röllke)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Shin-Yi Heart 'Chou Raddish' x Chou-Yi Citron 'Chou - Yi Citron')
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Rising Son 'Red Barron' (Jason Fischer x Barbara LeAnn)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's spirit (Acker's Lovely x Hanne Popow)
<b>Second Place</b>	
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Pink Panther ( <i>fischerii</i> x <i>schlimii</i> )



Clockwise from left: Meg McLaughlin's *Phragmipedium* Cape Sunset (Eric Young x *schlimii*); Lorraine Snyder's *Phragmipedium* *besseae* 'Fox Valley Flame'; Lorraine Snyder's *Lysudamuloa* Red Jewel 'Sweet Baby' (*Lysudamulia* Geyser x *Angulocaste* Red Jade); and Chuck Acker's *Phragmipedium* Fritz Schomburg (*kovachii* x *besseae*)





**OGG RIBBON JUDGING  
NORTHEAST IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY  
SHOW, “Orchids are a Scream”**

OGG exhibit set up and taken down by Sue Reed and Nancy Thomas

OGG Exhibit earned First Place



**Best of Class**

Sue Reed *Phragmipedium caudatum* var *gigantic*

**First Place**

Sue Reed *Stenorrhynchos speciosum* ‘CH’  
 Sue Reed *Paphiopedilum barbigerum*  
 Sue Reed *Phragmipedium caudatum* var *gigantic*  
 Sue Reed *Phalaenopsis* Star April’s Coming  
 Lorraine Snyder *Lysudamuloa* Red Jewel ‘Sweet Baby’ (*Lysudamulia* Geysler x *Angulocaste* Red Jade)  
 Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Rising Son ‘Red Barron’ (Jason Fischer x Barbara LeAnn)  
 Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Silver Eagle ‘Pink Frost’ AM/AOS (*schlimii* x *czerwiako wianum*)  
 Terri Jozwiak *Oncidioda* (*Oncidium*) Chaculatium ‘Golden Pacific’ (*Oncidioda* Charlesworthii x *Oncidium maculatum*)

**Second Place**

Sue Reed *Potinara* (*Blc.*) (Maris Vision ‘SVO’ x Angel’s Fantasy ‘Solar Flare’ FCC/AOS)  
 Lorraine Snyder *Phragmipedium besseae* ‘Fox Valley Flame’  
 Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Gold Tower (Icho Tower x *besseae* v. *flavum*)  
 Meg McLaughlin *Phragmipedium* Pink Panther (*fischerii* x *schlimii* ‘Afton’)  
 Jeff Baylis *Guarianthe bowringiana*

**Third Place**

Sue Reed *Paphiopedilum* Lynleigh Koopowitz (*malipoense* x *delenatii* var Dunkle)  
 Sue Reed *SophrOLAELIACATTLEYA* (Lc.) (Katherine Clarkson ‘SVO’ HCC/AOS x Dendi’s Gem ‘SVO Best’)  
 Lorraine Snyder *Phalaenopsis* Ming Hsing Red Dancing Lady  
 Lorraine Snyder *Paphiopedilum* (Shin-Yi Heart ‘Chou Raddish’ x Chou-Yi Citron ‘Chou - Yi Citron’)  
 Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Barbara LeAnn ‘Red’ (*besseae* x *fischeri*)  
 Jeff Baylis *Oncidium* (*Oncidesa*) Gower Ramsey (Goldiana x Guinea Gold)  
 Terri Jozwiak Bulb Lovely Elizabeth (Elizabeth Ann x *rothschildianum*)

# EIOS EXHIBITS ...



Eastern Iowa Orchid Society show trophy won by ILLOWA



Spooktacular award for the best thematic exhibit went to Batavia



Grand "Screamer" Champion, runner-up best plant in the show went to Bc Hippodamia 'Hunabi'



Reserve Grand "Screamer" Champion, best plant in the show went to this Phalaenopsis

## AOS Awarded Plants

Photographs by Nancy Thomas



*Paphiopedilum* Liberty Taiwan AM/AOS (*micranthum* x *hangianum*) with 82 points



*Paphiopedilum* Memoria Rapee Sagarik AM/AOS (*sukhakulii* x *thaiantum*) with 81 points



*Paphiopedilum* Tawan (*thaiantum* x *fairrieanum*) with 85 points

## FALL FUN SALE Sunday October 10th at Olbrich Gardens

On Saturday, the day before our first fall orchid sale, Denise Baylis, Nancy Thomas and I travelled to Hausermann's Orchids in Illinois to select a variety of orchids. A special thank you to Nancy for driving so we could fit all the orchids in one vehicle. Andy Hausermann had selected many orchids for us in advance to make things easier. Then the three of us tried to find unusual orchids that might be of interest to potential customers in Madison.

Volunteers Chris Neuman, Nancy McMillen, Angel Johns, Kathy Johnson, Judy Williamson, Denise Baylis, Sue Reed, Lisa Linde, Brent McCoy and Nancy Thomas worked hard to set up, price and sell the orchids. Cynthia Wadsworth, Gary Lensmeyer and Jeff Baylis were orchid educators and answered many, many questions about orchids. It was good fun to talk to our customers about techniques for successful growing of the orchids they purchased. We invited them to become members and join OGG and return in February for Orchid Quest. It was even more fun to finally see Guild members in person. We enjoyed being together, and enthusiastically looked forward to resuming



Photograph by Angel Johns

Some of the volunteers, Sue Reed, Kathy Johnson, Lorraine Snyder, Nancy McMillen, Judy Williamson and Cynthia Wadsworth

in-person meetings.

We did not sell out, but took remaining orchids to the October OGG meeting for our members to purchase at a significant discount. Others were destined for door prizes and Orchid Quest. Happily we earned approximately \$800.00 for our guild, after all expenses. We would love to see photos of your orchids in their new home. Send photos to Denise, [jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net).

— Lorraine Snyder

## ORCHID QUEST UP-DATE

The Orchid Quest planning committee has met again and things are going along smoothly. We have over 15 volunteers already working on one part of the planning or another. We would love to have a few more. *The more we divide the load, the easier it is for all.* We need a Parking Lot Shuttle person (maybe two, one for each day). We need a Volunteer Coordinator who might keep a list of who is present and can move volunteers from one place to another as needed.

We need a couple of volunteers who would go to area businesses, prior to OQ, to get donations (Lisa Linde can direct you). Of course you can always help with set-up... plan to be available on **Friday**, February 4, 2022. We also will need workers on **Saturday** and **Sunday**, February 5

and 6, but we will put out a list at a later date. Thanks to all who volunteer to do a little because it all adds up and truly your work is appreciated.

Contact me if you are interested.

Terri Jozwiak

[lodijoz@charter.net](mailto:lodijoz@charter.net)

### YOU CAN HELP!

Plan to bring your extra plants to sell at Orchid Quest. Got a Phal that just will not bloom for you? Got a plant that needs dividing and don't want all the divisions? Want to make room for your new purchases at OQ? Repot them now. Divide them now. Fluff them now. Then bring your extra plants to OQ to sell at the OGG table. Orchids plants are suggested but any plant to sell is acceptable. All proceeds go to OGG.

Terri Jozwiak

# What's Blooming at Bolz . . .



*Angraecum* sp.

Olbrich Gardens recently held an Grand Opening Celebration to showcase the Frautschi Family Learning Center and new production greenhouses. Staff was on hand to answer questions about the three new greenhouses, one devoted to new production, one to tropical plants and the third to orchids



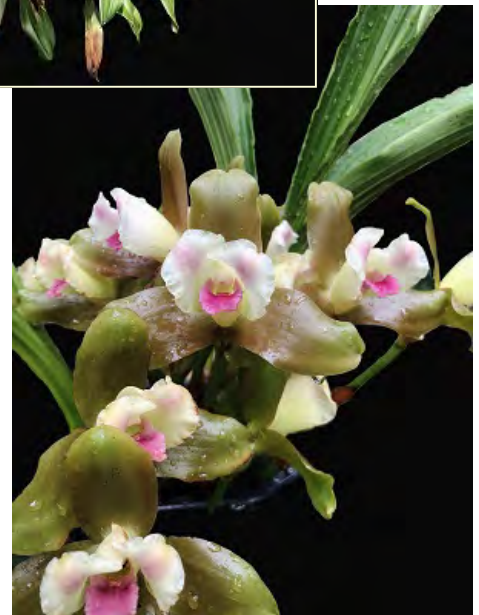
*Pholidota imbricata* is commonly known as the rattlesnake orchid



*Epigeneium nakaharae* (Now *Dendrobium nakaharae*) Miniature orchid indigenous to Taiwan



Left: *Bulbophyllum laxiflorum* Endemic to southeast Asia, easily grown under Phalaenopsis conditions, its umbels of up to 20 fragrant flowers are held right near the leaf tips. Having no particular flowering time, it has been known to flower any time from spring right through winter.



*Lycaste Panamanensis*





## Q & A WITH THE ORCHID DOCTOR

*At last month's meeting, Chuck Acker answered questions from members who had cultural, disease and insect issues with plants in their collection. Some members brought plants as an example and others had pictures.*

*Some questions were:*

**Q: What is a good potting mix for Cymbidium?**

A: Since Douglas Fir bark is difficult to obtain now days, the use of Orchiata bark mixed with perlite and course peat moss works great. Be sure to incorporate some dolomite lime or crushed oyster shell in the mix as well as a top dressing 2-3 times a year.

**Q: When to use high phosphorus fertilizer?**

A: For Orchids having pseudobulbs, which can store phosphorus, use a high phosphorus fertilizer once every 3 months. For monopodial types, use during spike development all the way up to puffy bud stage.

**Q: Who is available for a virus testing source?**

A: Since Critter Creek Lab has closed the only other option that he knew of is Agdia, Inc. 52642 County Road 1, Elkhart, IN 46514 [www.agdia.com](http://www.agdia.com) for more information.

**Q: How to avoid the pH drop of Orchiata bark as it ages.**

A: Use a fertilizer with added cal/mag elements

(such as MSU's formula or K-Lite from First Rays), top dress with fine crushed oyster shell 2-3 times a year, use a pH UP solution added to the water and fertilizer applications.

**Q: How to monitor the pH of the potting medium, water and fertilizer solutions.**

A: Measure pH using either a pH Meter or test strips/kits used for aquariums available from pet stores. For testing potting medium, pour a cup of (pH tested) water through the pot, catch it and test it again to see how far it dropped.

**Q: When is the best time to cut expired flower stems?**

A: Leave flower spikes to die back and turn brown before removing. This allows the plant to regain and reuse the elements/nutrients it put into those stems.

**Q: What is the significance, cause and proper way to deal with leaf senescence on our plants?**

A: Plants will shed their lower, inner or less efficient leaves in order to put forth nutrients from them into the new and more efficient growths. It is best, when possible, to allow leaves to turn completely brown before removing.

Chuck answered too many questions to be covered properly here.

*(Continued on page 10)*



Q: This *Habenaria medusae*'s flowers are nearly all doubled or tripled like Siamese twins/triplets. The first picture below shows a normal flower and the second shows a triplet. Most of the flowers in the multiples have all their structures as far as I can tell, most noticeably their spurs. I had this plant tested for CMV and ORSV at Critter Creek Laboratory a few years ago and it was negative. Any ideas on what's causing this? !  
Nancy Thomas

A: This is a morphologic variation that may show up in certain plants from time to time. Other plants may do variations, like a flower missing a part, or a mal-positioned petal in one flower. The plant may flower normally next time.

*"I'll certainly be looking for that! I didn't notice whether it has done this in the past because it repeatedly had folded, twisted "tendrils" that didn't open fully, due to lack of humidity. I misted it this year and the flowers opened completely so I was able to recognize their abnormal condition."*

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(Continued from page 9) ORCHID DOCTOR

Chuck also recommended us to use the web site of the St. Augustine Orchid Society, [staugor-orchidsociety.org](http://staugor-orchidsociety.org) for their comprehensive information and references including pictures of fungal, bacterial, viral, insect and other issues that plague our orchid plants.

Chuck reminded us that we should be cognizant of the change in light that our plants will receive as we bring them inside for the season. Low-Emissivity glass inhibits the transmission of in-

frared and ultraviolet solar energy. It keeps heat from coming indoors in summer and prevents heat from leaving through your windows in winter. Dirty windows and window screens will also affect the quality of the light your plants receive.

In an after meeting side-bar with Chuck, he mentioned how much he loves doing the "Open Topics" meeting format and looks forward to whenever the club wants to "Do it Again"!

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(Continued from page 1) CAMERON

for conserving our treasured native orchids is not a trivial task, and should ideally be based on data and scientific reasoning. This brings up the controversial question of which species or areas should be prioritized for protection as time runs out. Some biologists look to natural areas with large numbers of species and argue that species "richness" is most important. Whereas others argue that not all species are created equal, but might be unique members of a distinct evolutionary lineages worthy of greater conservation efforts. In this way "diversity" is valued more than richness (is one slipper orchid "worth" more than two pleurothalids?). Dr. Ken Cameron and botanists at the UW-Madison have been examining these questions within Wisconsin - the first and only state to have DNA from every species in its flora sequenced in order to reconstruct evolutionary relationships. These genetic results combined with geographic data from hundreds of thousands of herbarium specimens collected in Wisconsin over the past century have given us a glimpse into the past, a new way to look at the present, and predictions of what will likely happen in the future under different climate change scenarios. There is good news and bad news, but one thing is clear - the future does not look bright for our native orchids. Nevertheless, some areas of our state might hold the key to their survival.