

November
2022

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



NEXT MEETING, NOVEMBER 20th Terry Kennedy, "Winning Orchid Exhibits"

Terry lives in Stouffville, Ontario where winters are long and cold and snowy. A greenhouse full of thousands of orchids offers Terry and her husband Doug a little bit of the tropics. Together, they have exhibited in numerous shows from coast to coast in Canada as well as the USA, including the two World Orchid Conferences. Creating trophy winning displays is Terry's favorite part of any orchid show. Terry is a long-standing accredited judge with the American Orchid Society (AOS), Chair of the Toronto Judging Center, Currently she is also serving as secretary of the AOS. Sharing her passion for orchids with both novice and experienced growers is her way of spreading the addiction to orchids.

Meeting Dates

- November 20
- December 18

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

Up-Coming Events

- 2023 February 4-5, Orchid Quest, Olbrich Botanical Gardens
- February 18-19, Batavia Orchid Society Show
- March 3-4, Wisconsin Orchid Society Spring Show
- March 11-12, Illinois Orchid Society Show
- 2024, March 1-4, 23rd World Orchid Congress, Tainan, Taiwan

Officers and Committees

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Orchid Displays: Every orchid is beautiful. When a bunch of them are put together they make a nice display. However, to bring out the best in each individual plant and to combine them into terrific displays, it takes a little care. This presentation is about the little things that turn a mediocre display into a trophy winning one.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi OGG members,

It was great fun hosting Ross and his wife Julie at our home prior to our October meeting. By hosting (my first time) we save the Guild the hotel fees and extra meal charges that speakers would be requesting. It is also a wonderful opportunity to get to know the 'family' of orchid growers, for it does get to be like a family that is interested in orchids.

Our fall show season has ended, and now it is time to get ready for next year and for Orchid Quest! Thanks to Nancy for the arranging of our shows, and to Denise, Lorraine, Terri, Jim and Jeff for setting up and taking down our exhibits, and thanks to the members sending their orchid plants!

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Librarian:

Open

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Liaisons:

AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

Cynthia is busy arranging a nice line-up of speakers for this Guild year, which will include a number of hybrid meetings. With a long distance speaker, we can have the meetings no matter what the weather but we will be trying to have in-person meetings at Olbrich as much as possible.

Terri is conducting Orchid Quest planning meetings. Terri has also requested a person to organize the refreshments. The framework was set up by Kathy last year, so the groundwork has been done but it needs to be supervised by someone this year. There is assistance for taking on this role, so don't be bashful about coming forward!

Gary is busy working on our next plant project. And Nancy is busy organizing the library transfer.

We really missed Denise at the last meeting, so I am sorry for the lack of photos of Ross and Julie. We could use help with photography at our meetings for the newsletter! Cell phone cameras work great.

The board is actively working to make the Guild run smoothly, (The board meets monthly, on the first Tuesday evening of the month, and all are welcome to attend by Zoom.) The Guild is as only as successful as its active members. So thank you all for your time volunteering to help OGG be a successful organization!

I appreciate everyone's patience while we have our growing pains with technology. So thank you for your patience and let us know when there are issues. Brent is our main IT but we could also use another set of hands to help out some of the time.

Thank you all and hope to see you in November!

--- Sue

ORCHID QUEST 2023 UPDATE

Orchid Quest is Saturday and Sunday, February 4-5 with set-up on Friday, February 3. Our next OQ planning meeting will be Wednesday, November 9 at 7 PM via ZOOM. Look for an email from me in early November to give you the Zoom information.

We are still looking for someone to put the food plan in place, food items are planned, we just need someone to take charge. Let me know if you can do this. We have some other volunteer slots available. Let me know what you can do. Thanks to everyone for taking a part. It is sooo appreciated.

-- Terry Jozwiak



Lynn West purchased this Paph helenae at the last meeting

Re-Cap of October Meeting: Ross Hella on Breeding Miniature Paphiopedilums

Ross and Julie Hella are active members of the Minnesota Orchid Society which has about 200 members. The society is the second or third largest in the US. The Hellas also operate Deerwood Orchids, located in Deerwood Minnesota. They specialize in raising and breeding miniature Paphiopedilums.

Ross has been growing orchids since the 1980's. His interest in the hobby grew after attending a Minnesota Society plant sale at which he purchased his first Paphiopedilum. Inspired by the breeding program of Harold Koopowitz and others, Ross embarked on his own hybridizing program. It wasn't long before one of his plants received an award.

The goals of the Deerwood miniature Paph breeding program are to produce flowers with the standard complex Paph shape, produce small plants that will bloom in two-to-three-inch pot, and produce a specimen sized plant in a four-inch pot. Hybrids that are vigorous, easy to grow, and are floriferous are selected for use in future crosses. Ross noted that hybridizers have been producing mini Paphs for over 100 years. However, the size standard of having a leaf span of less than six inches is often not adhered to. Ross strives to meet this requirement

with his breeding program.

There are two approaches to creating hybrids with the desired characteristics of his breeding program. One method is to hybridize with existing complex hybrids. When breeders make multiple crosses to produce a complex hybrid, it is often the case that a few seedlings turn out to be very small or "pygmy." These pygmy Paphs are then used to produce new mini Paph complex hybrids. The other method is to start with select plants from naturally small Paph species. Complex hybrids are produced from scratch with these small species. Species that form clumps and have multiple flowers are most desirable. The most commonly used small species are *Paph charlesworthii*, *Paph barbigerum*, *Paph helenae*, *Paph henryanum*, and *Paph thaianum*.

The presentation was followed by a Q&A session and an opportunity to purchase mini Paphs and a few miscellaneous orchids that the Hellas brought to the meeting. The plants brought for purchase were all beautiful grown healthy plants. Since all *Paphiopedilums* are produced from seed, it will be exciting to see the genetic variability in the plants purchased at the meeting.

— Lynn West



Orchids.org
Paph charlesworthii crosses tended to be vigorous and variable



Paph barbigerum

Orchids.org



Orchids.org
This *Paph Garibaldi* hybrid goes back to the early 1900s with several named clones

SILENT AUCTION UP-DATE

By Judy Williamson

Orchid Quest 2023 is rapidly approaching and that means preparations for the show are in full swing. Carrie Wiesman and I are organizing the Silent Auction event for OQ 2023, and the auction will proceed the same way as in previous years. There will be two auctions, one on Saturday and one on Sunday. Auctions will conclude at 2:00 and 1:00, respectively.

We would like to invite all OGG members to participate in this fundraiser for the guild by donating items that are no longer needed or wanted. Items do not need to be of an orchid theme but should be clean and in good condition. Items can include art work, books, knick-knacks, plants, and anything else you think might pique interest in the general public. If you have items you would like to donate, please make arrangements with Carrie (Carrie.Wiesman@dwd.wi.gov; 608-242-0612)

or myself (judp2d@gmail.com; 608-577-5819) by email or texting to set up a meeting time. We would like to have all auction items by mid-January so we have time to photograph and create a bidding sheet for each item. The auction this year will follow the same general idea as in the past. Items will be displayed on a table with a bidding sheet that will list a minimum bid amount and any information the owner can provide about said item. If you have any information that you feel may pique the public's interest, please include that information with the item. However, don't feel like you have to provide additional information for an item. And don't forget – donated items are tax deductible, and we can provide you with a receipt for tax purposes. So, go through those closets or your basement and pick out items that no longer trip your trigger and donate them to a worthy cause – OGG!

REMINDER
OGG annual membership renewals are coming due December 31.

Errata:
October ribbon judging results will appear in the December newsletter



NOT DEAD YET

A Phaius is an orchid that is quite large for an orchid plant. While growing the leaves are about 18-24 inches long. The flower spikes come from the base of the plant and that makes the plant about 4-4 1/2 feet tall. Each flower spike holds 10-15 flowers. It is quite spectacular!

I had 60-100 thriving orchid plants, including two Phaius, in my winter greenhouse when, unknown to me, a fuse blew and the heat was off and the temperature dropped to 14 degrees. After fixing the problem, for the next six weeks the beautiful orchid plants faded from a healthy bright green to beige, tans and browns.



My two 12-inch Phaius pots were so tightly packed that there was little room for any media.

Prior to the freeze, my two 12-inch Phaius pots were full and crowded with green, strong pseudobulbs, so tightly packed that there was little room for any media. Now my award winning *Phaius tankervillea* went from luscious green leaves to black!

On a very bleak day in February, all my orchids met the garbage can, except the Phaius because the pots were so large, it would overflow a garbage can so I thought I would wait till warmer weather and throw them out into the woods in

our backyard. I cut off all the black leaves and just left the pots for later. I could tell the Phaius were dead, the exposed pseudobulbs were black and mushy.

During the next two months, I didn't water them or talk to them or move them. I just looked soulfully at them every time I went into the greenhouse. The only plants now left in my greenhouse were some non-orchids that had been in my house during the tragedy.



Then came a day in April, while pining for some orchids, I noticed a little growth in one of the two pots. A tiny little thumb of green stuck out of the massive pot of black rotting pseudobulbs. I didn't understand it. The pseudobulbs were black and mushy. Definitely dead. Where did this little growth come from? Within the next two weeks, three other growths came out of this pot and one started in the second pot.



(Continued from page 5)

Being curious about the health of my plants, I am quick to repot questionable plants. By looking at the roots a person can tell if there is a healthy plant or one just hanging on. My curiosity for this Phaius made me tackle the unpotting of my giant pots and to find out what was happening. I pulled a section out of the pot and on first observation, the roots looked dead and brown. Very lifeless. But something toward the middle of the pot was hard, not mushy. I dug some more to find out what.



I unburied what I thought was a lifeless and mushy pseudobulb and I found LIFE! A sprout was coming out of one of the blacken pseudobulbs. I tested the bulb and it was mushy but not all the way through. I clipped off the black mushy part and there was half a pseudobulb



that was white with life and the sprout!

So, I carefully went through the entire pot and each time I found a partial pseudobulb I found a little growth. Unbelievable. For each clump, I took off the old media and drastically cut the dead growth and roots and set them aside. I had unearthed 8-12 partial but alive pseudobulbs, most had already started growing a small sprout.

After cleaning out the pot, I planted them again without all the dead fragments.

My pot was filled thus: I put crushed aluminum cans in the bottom of the pot because the roots never extend that far, it makes the pot lighter, and I don't waste expensive media. As you can see, the media is mostly sphagnum moss but there is more in it because it is a terrestrial plant.

It took a couple of weeks for it to recover from the transplantation and then I had a pot of a lot of little growths!

Now as the fall is here the leaves are not quite as long as usual but there are a lot of them out of my miracle plants. Will it even bloom this year? Only time will tell.

— Terri Jozwiak



Is there a moral to this story?

EASTERN IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

ORCHID GROWER GUILD RESULTS

"16 awards for the OGG plants that went to EIOS. Congrats everyone. 451 entries, a new record for EIOS & 8 societies!"

Set-up by Terri Jozwiak, Jim Wasser and Jeff Metcalf; take-down by Terri Jozwiak

Exhibit

Second Place

Special Award: Spooktacular - The Best Thematic Exhibit in Show

First Place

Jeff Baylis

Meg McLaughlin

Sue Reed

Sue Reed

Sue Reed 2nd entry

Onc. Sharry Baby (Jamie Sutton x Honolulu)

Pot. Burana Beauty 'Burana' HCC/AOS (*Rhyncattleanthe Netrasiri Starbright* x *C. Netrasiri Beauty*)

Paph. Micheal Koopowitz (*phillipinense* 'Super Twister' x *sandera nium* 'Lady in Red')

Phrag. Red Sky (Demetra Don Walker HCC/AOS x Twilight Raising Rocket 4N AM/AOS)

Paph. Micheal Koopowitz (*phillipinense* 'Super Twister' x *sandera nium* 'Lady in Red')

Second Place

Lorraine Snyder

Terri Jozwiak

James Wasser

Phal. unknown #2

Milt. Kismet 'Kind Kai' (Bluntii x *candida*)

C. (Higher Multiplier x Jersey Summer)

Third Place

Lorraine Snyder

Meg McLaughlin

Meg McLaughlin

Sue Reed

Terri Jozwiak

James Wasser

Phrag. *schlimii*

Phal. unknown #3 (mini)

Darwinara Charm 'Blue Star' HCC/AOS x *Neofinetia falcata* 'Tamakongo'

Phrag. Karen Sue (Red Rocket 4N x *kovachii*)

Pths. stricta

Vanda Twinkle (*falcata* x *miniata*)

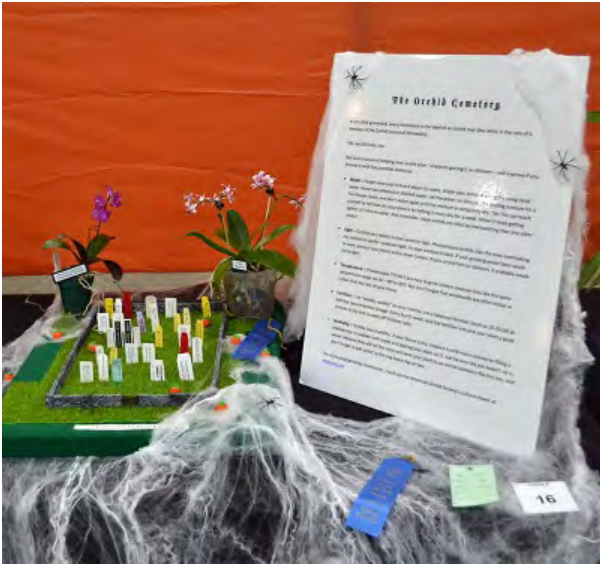


Orchid Growers Guild Exhibit



"Yes, I had a bulbophyllum that I draped over the top of the skull. The poor bulbo was limp after the initial transportation to EIOS but it looked great as a toupee."

A few of the EIOS Show Exhibits . . .



This graveyard exhibit we could all relate to!!



EIOS had a new vendor called Friday's Embroidery which set up an amazing orchid table, no real orchids just embroidery and beautiful work! I am hoping that I talked to them enough to convince them to come to our show but they seem very busy with shows!



EIOS exhibit with 85 stunning orchids. They received the People's choice award for the exhibit and a Silver Certificate



The IOS exhibit earned a second Silver Certificate and Show trophy



The Illowa exhibit had two plants that won AOS awards, one of them was this Ctsm.

Louise Clark, with 15 beautiful blooming flowers



Photographs by Terri Jozwiak



Keith Nelson's *Epidendrum nocturnum*



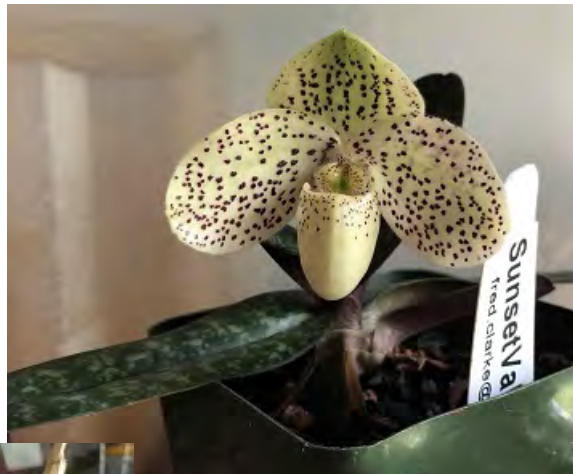
Nancy Thomas' *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Dal's Horizon x *Brassocattleya* Richard Mueller. These are 2 divisions of the same complex hybrid. On the right are one week old blooms and on the left are one month old blooms, pictured together so that you can see the peachy blush that they hold for a couple of weeks before they "ripen" to the rich "Cheeto" gold as they last for many weeks.



Nancy Thomas' *Catasetum* Corinne's Frilly Spots (*Catasetum* Frilly Doris x *Catasetum tigrinum*) Had one flower spike that opened in early October and a second spike still in bud now. My *catasetums* seem to be late in growing and blooming this year.



Nancy Thomas' *Cattlianthe* Chocolate Drop 'Volcano Queen' (*C. guttata* x *Gur. aurantiaca*) "I got this years ago in Hawaii as a seedling and this is the first time it's bloomed for me. The shiny, waxy, long-lasting flowers and lovely light fragrance make it worth the wait to me.



Ctsm Mem Dorothy Wells (*Dentigrianum* 'SCO Excellence' x Chuck Taylor 'SVO Sunshine')



Nancy Thomas' *Habenaria rhodocheila*

Paph (conco-bellatulum SVO x thaianum 'Super Cute')

The center above and two plants on the bottom are all project plants grown by Jeff Baylis that bloomed over the summer.



Paph (concolor 'Yellow Bird' x thaianum 'Perfecto')