

MAY  
2023

# The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers' Guild of Madi-  
www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



**WANTED**  
Items for Auction!  
Plants  
Supplies

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### Meeting Dates

- May 21
- June 24
- September 17
- October 15
- November 19
- December 17

Meetings start at 1:30 pm in the Meeting Room at Olbrich Gardens unless otherwise noted

### Up-Coming Events

- May 13, Spring Orchid Sale, Olbrich, Atrium
- 2024, March 1-4, 23rd World Orchid Congress, Tainan, Taiwan

### Officers and Committees

#### President:

Susan Reed (2024)  
[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 (2024)  
[jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net)

#### Board:

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

Nancy Thomas (2024)  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)

Carrie Weisman (2025)  
[cleocatz@msn.com](mailto:cleocatz@msn.com)

## NEXT MEETING May 21st Election of Officers and Members' Auction

The May meeting is designated annually to be the election of OGG officers and the annual May members' plant auction. See the President's message below about the election. Now that repotting season is here with spring, it is a good time to look over your orchid collection and supplies and decide what is redundant and bring it to this meeting to be auctioned to fellow members. We also hope to have additional orchids from the May orchid sale and perhaps some additional non-blooming phrags. Everyone enjoys looking at and learning from the fabulous blooming plants on the show table, so bring them for ribbon judging around 12:30. The meeting officially begins at 1:30 PM.

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT On OGG Elections

Hello OGG members,

Every May we hold our election of Board officers. There is a rotation of all board positions. Two officers are elected for two-year terms and one open board member position is voted on for a three-year term

The President and Treasurer positions are elected on the same cycle with one board position and the Secretary and Vice President posi-



*Potinara Sharon Forsythe 'Orange Red' (Joy Sokabe x Tadao Kozumi) at Bolz Conservatory*

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**Away Shows:**

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

**Hospitality:**

Volunteer

**Library Liaison:**

Sandra Gray  
[sandragray445@comcast.net](mailto:sandragray445@comcast.net)

**Membership:**

Carrie Weisman  
[carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov](mailto:carrie.wiesman@dwd.wi.gov)

**Newsletter:**

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

**Orchid Quest 2023:**

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

**Programs:**

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

**Ribbon Judging:**

Open

**Web Master:**

Richard Jozwiak  
[OGGweb@charter.net](mailto:OGGweb@charter.net)

**Liaisons:**

AOS: Nancy Thomas  
 MAOC: Lynn West

(Continued from page 1)

tions are on the same cycle with another open board position. Since the Board officers are for two year terms and the open board position are three year terms there is a cycling of the open board positions.

This May the Vice-President, and Secretary position are up for election and one open board position. Cynthia W. and Lynn W. have agreed to continue as Vice President and Secretary respectively. As well Lisa Linde has agreed to continue on as the open board member. Nominations are open from the floor if the person nominated is present and agrees to run. It would be helpful to know in advance if someone is interested in running for the current positions.

Next year we will be looking for a President and a Treasurer to fill those positions. If anyone is interested and would like to learn more about being on the board please contact any board member. The board and the organization benefits from new members on the board with fresh ideas and new energy! Please think about participating in the Guild. There are ways other than being on the board, so please don't hesitate to offer your time and talents!

Thank you,

— Sue Reed

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## OGG April Monthly Meeting Summary

The Guild's President, Sue Reed, was out of the country on an exciting four-week trip to New Zealand. The meeting was therefore led by Vice President Cynthia Wadsworth. To ensure that the Zoom portion of the meeting went off flawlessly, Cynthia enlisted the help of her friend Ronald Wroblewski. A giant thank you to Ron for handling the technical aspects of the meeting so the meeting organizers could focus on the first members' auction of plants curated by Chuck Acker. Chuck purchased the plants from a grower in Hawaii who has purchased many of Chuck's Phragmipedium crosses and then grew the plants on to blooming size. In addition to these plants, Terri Jozwiak brought a selection of plants from a recent trip to Hausermann Orchids for the auction. Based on the prices bid for the plants, it appears these were highly sought after plants by our members. It was a win-win with members being able to acquire plants that they were really interested in as well as an excellent fund-raising opportunity for the Guild. Thank you to Chuck and Terri for providing the plants. We hope to continue to have more events like this in the future.

After the auction, we had a Zoom presentation by Sandra Micucci on "Creating a Tropical Environment at Home." Sandra lives in Canada and grows in a climate similar to ours. She detailed a variety of techniques that she has tried to simulate the natural environment of the plants that she had the most interest in growing. Many of the plants that she likes to grow are on the challenging end of the spectrum. Although many orchid types available to our members will grow well in the home without too much extra fuss, the plants that Sandra focuses on probably would not thrive without the created environments. But Sandra points out that improving the environment for the orchids may also create an ideal environment for things a home grower doesn't want such as pests, mold, and water damage. Sandra responded to challenges by researching innovative technologies like grow tents and automated systems for providing humidity. She is interested in tapping into the knowledge of growers who have tried other solutions and what their experiences have been and sharing this information through orchid society networks.

— Lynn West

# MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT

## Access the Benefits of OGG Membership

Like most things in life, the more you put into it, the more you will get out of it. You already have been tantalized by at least one orchid so the rest is easy! Here are six tips for getting the most out of your OGG membership.

### 1. Participate in monthly meetings.

Guild meetings are a treasure not to be missed. Very little time is spent on business matters and announcements before getting to the heart of our passion: growing orchids! Here are some of the many opportunities you will find at our meetings.

- Members can show their blooming orchids for ribbon judging. Members get points for blue, red, and white ribbons awarded by the judges. Members also earn points for showing their blooming plants and helping with installation and take-down of our exhibits at home and away shows. Points earned are added up at the end of the year for recognition by the guild.
- There is often a wide variety of orchids shown, allowing members to identify and connect with other members who have similar interests and will share their successful growing techniques.
- A knowledgeable speaker will present information on a topic relevant to our hobby. The speaker may appear in person, or appear virtually on a large screen. Technology allows the guild to bring in speakers from anywhere in the world, and we do.
- Orchid plants from a variety of sources are regularly made available for purchase at meetings. There will be opportunities to purchase harder to find plants brought to you as part of our programs.
- Time is allocated for members to connect with others, for socializing, getting questions answered, sharing news, and making friends. This is valuable time, as members who know more are generous to help others improve their growing strategies for reliable blooms, access good sources for new plants, and improve the quality of our collections. We have among our members true experts in the field.
- On our meeting day the Schumacher Library at Olbrich, which is normally closed on Sundays, will be open an hour before the start of our meeting so that members can conveniently access the guild's collection of orchid books, which is housed at the library. Members have the privilege of checking out these books for a full month, until our next meeting, and

can even renew their books for an additional month. Take a look at the books on our shelf. You will certainly find a resource with beautiful photos and answers to some of your questions about growing orchids.

### 2. Volunteer for committees and projects.

Take a risk and volunteer when opportunities arise to help out with something. Even if you don't know a thing about it, volunteering is a chance to watch, listen, and learn. Helping out with special projects is also a great way to get to know people.

### 3. Show your blooming plants for AOS judging.

The major orchid shows have AOS (American Orchid Society) judging in which many of our members participate. AOS judging is a highly sophisticated discipline. It takes 12 years of training to qualify as an AOS judge. There is an art to preparing your plant to show its best, an art you can learn from guild members who will be willing to teach you. Everybody starts somewhere. You too may one day experience the thrill of an AOS awarded orchid!

### 4. Join in social events.

The guild does not have a lot of parties, but when we do, you'll want to be there if you can. Orchid nuts are fun to be around!

### 5. Share your strengths.

Everybody is good at something, and doesn't it feel good to use your natural talents towards a worthy goal? As each member contributes his or her own special abilities within the guild, not only does the guild benefit, but those talents actually become even stronger. As the guild gives to you, and you give back to the guild, everybody wins!

### 6. Find your mentor, become a mentor.

As you attend more meetings and get to know others in the guild, eventually you will naturally gravitate towards one or two experienced members with whom you have things in common. You will learn a great deal from them as they mentor you about the guild and the thrill and challenges of orchid growing. And before you know it, you will have new members coming to you for advice!

**You won't be good at everything. Nobody is.  
Find your niche and be happy.**

Check out our culture sheets [specific to Wisconsin](#) on our website.



## APRIL OGG RIBBON JUDGING

### First Place

Chuck Acker	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> KV Beauty (Salu Peoker x Chih Shang's Stripes)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Angel ( <i>besseae</i> x Acker's Lovely)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Blaze (Waunakee Wonder x <i>dalessandroi</i> )
Christiana Keeley	<i>Vanda lamellata</i> 'Okinawa'
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> (Rose Tris x Brother Passat)
Melissa Williams	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Magical Memory (Magical Contrasts x Memoria Jacob Jake Piloto)
Lynn West	<i>Oncidium spacelatum</i>
Lynn West	<i>Phragmipedium besseae</i> 'Big Wings'
Lynn West	<i>Potinara</i> Paradise Rose 'My Valentine' x <i>Slc.</i> Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids'
Jeff Baylis	<i>Maxillaria variabilis</i>

### Second Place

Chuck Acker	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Surf Song (Taipei Gold x King Shiang's Rose)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Ember (Evening Blaze x <i>kovachii</i> )
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Barbara LeAnn ( <i>besseae</i> x <i>fischeri</i> )
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Red Sky (Demetria x <i>besseae</i> )
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Doritaenopsis</i> Lih Jiang Girl
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Cattleya</i> Summer Spot 'Carmela' HCC/AOS x <i>B. nodosa</i>
Meg McLaughlin	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Petit Port x <i>longifolium</i>
Lynn West	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Mini Mark (Micro Nova x <i>phillippinesis</i> )
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Cattleya</i> Unknown Acker's cross
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Brassocattleya</i> Maikai 'Mayumi' ( <i>B. nodosa</i> x <i>Guarianthe bowringiana</i> )
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unregistered mini
unknown	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Younghome Sunkist

### Third Place

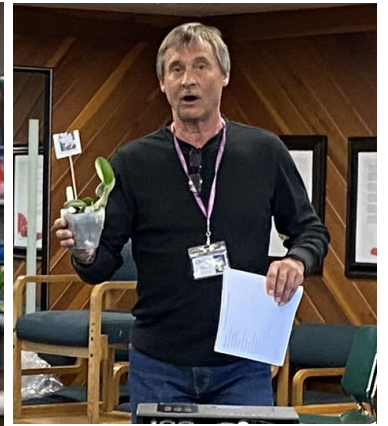
Chuck Acker	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Fangmei Baby Face (Surf Song x Jiuhbao Pink Lady)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Hanne Popow 'White' ( <i>besseae</i> v. <i>flavum</i> x <i>schlimii</i> )
Lynn West	<i>Phragmipedium pearcei</i>



Chuck Acker's *Phalaenopsis* Fangmei Baby Face (Surf Song x Jiuhbao Pink Lady)



Lynn West's *Potinara* Paradise Rose 'My Valentine' x *Slc.* Virginia Dickey 'Diamond Orchids'



There was a special event at the April meeting when Chuck arranged to purchase some of his very desirable phrag crosses as well as a selection of species orchids, all in bloom or bud from a source in Hawaii. In addition Terry had a selection of blooming orchids from Hausermanns for a total of about 40 plants.

Chuck [above right] acted as the very knowledgeable auctioneer. Terri Jozwiak and Lorraine Snyder [at left] kept the accounts while Lynn West and Denise Baylis ferried the plants. After subtracting for costs, the guild netted almost \$1300!

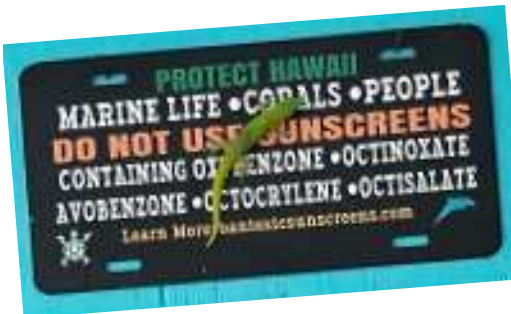


Melissa Williams' *Paphiopedilum* Magical Memory (Magical Contrasts x Memoria Jacob Jake Piloto)

Christiana Keeley's *Vanda lamellata* 'Okinawa'. She soaks the roots in water at least once a week and the glass display keeps the roots from drying out too quickly.



Chuck Acker's *Phalaenopsis* Surf Song (Taipei Gold x King Shiang's Rose)



Ubiquitous geckos, this one is the Gold dust day gecko introduced from Africa



*Phaius tankervilleae* was the first tropical orchid to flower in England



Bamboo orchids are pretty, but they are an invasive species on Hawaii that drives out natives



Five-star orchids are a common roadside weed in Central America

## My Hawai'ian Adventure

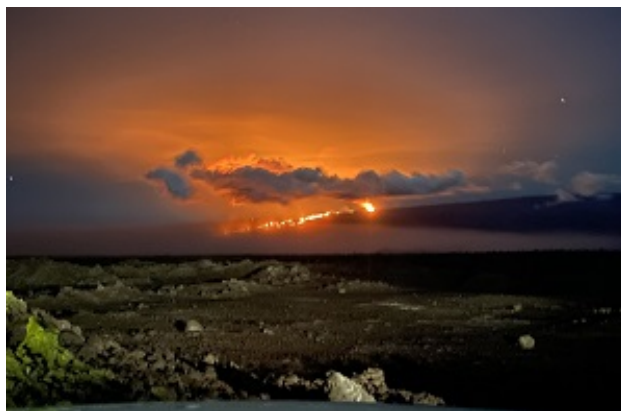
I love to travel. When we go to new places one of the things we most enjoy is searching for interesting plants and animals in “the wild,” not in botanical gardens or zoos. Thus, when our daughter was spending a year on the Big Island of Hawaii, we took the opportunity to visit. We were doomed to disappointment locating endemic orchids as they are rare and not found below the tree line on the Big Island, which in geological time is relatively young.

We were not totally disappointed as we were able to spot introduced orchids naturalizing, the bamboo orchid (*Arundina graminifolia*) introduced from Southeast Asia, in a field in Volcanoes National Park, but long past bloom but later found blooming quite happily along the roadside.

Although we were skunked on native orchids we did see the endemic and endangered nēnē, the Hawaiian goose, the introduced Java Sparrow from southeast Asia, the yellow-billed cardinal and saffron finch both from South America --- and Mauna Loa erupting!

Spotted along the road side were Five-star orchids (*Epidendrum radicans*) and at the end of a long hike on steep mountain slopes, *Phaius tankervilleae*.

— Denise Baylis



Mauna Loa as seen from the highway connecting Kona and Hilo



Nēnē, the world's rarest goose



Yellow-billed cardinals are actually in the tanager family



Saffron finch is in the tanager family



Endangered green sea turtle



Kalij pheasant from Himalayan foothills

# What's Blooming at Bolz . . .



*Gongora scaphephorus* epiphytic species from Colombia. The flowers look like birds in flight and smell delightful.



*Cyrtopodium andersonii*, popularly known as cow-horn orchids because of their cigar-shaped, fleshy pseudobulbs. This one is over five feet



*Bulbophyllum* species



*Bulbophyllum frostii* is a miniature creeping species from SE Asia.



*Encyclia cordigera*, long known as *Epidendrum atropurpureum*, ranges from Mexico, though Central America and Northern South America, and reportedly into Brazil.



*Vanda curvifolia* (formerly *Ascocentrum curvifolium*) is known for its breathtaking show of small tightly knit flowers.



*Maxillaria* species



Unidentified

# What's Blooming at Home . . .

Keith Nelson, "These are some of my orchids that managed to survive the move to Minnesota and now sit in south-facing windows."



*Dendrobium lindleyi* (formerly *D. aggregatum*)



*Paphiopedilum* Memoria Glenn Gardner (Shun-Fa Golden × *rothschildianum*)



*Laelia sincorana*



*Phragmipedium* Stairway to Heaven (*wallisii* × *humboldtii*)



*Catyclia* Middleburg × *Encyclia* bractescens



*Dendrobium aphyllum* (also called *D. pierardii*)