

September
2023

The Orchid Grower



Orchid Growers' Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org

NEXT MEETING, SEPTEMBER 17TH, "Chuck Acker to Answer your Orchid Growing Questions," Repotting

"The Orchid Doctor" is back for the September meeting "Orchid Doctor" is back. Chuck Acker will discuss issues you might have with your orchids. Chuck LOVES to answer your questions, no question is too trivial. You can email Chuck in advance of the meeting with your questions and/or you can bring the issue forward at the September meeting. You may contact Chuck at cacker@tds.net. Put OGG Orchid Question in the heading. Check with Chuck before bring in a sick plant. Time permitting, there will also be a repotting demonstration.

Meeting Dates

- 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

- September 16 - 17, Wisconsin Orchid Society "Fall in Love with Orchids", Mitchell Park Horticultural Conservatory, 524 S Layton Blvd, Milwaukee
- October 28 - 29, Eastern Iowa Orchid Society's 10th Anniversary Show and Sale "Orchids are a Scream", Elks Lodge Hall, 801 33rd Ave SW, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 2024, March 1-4, 23rd World Orchid Congress, Tainan, Taiwan

Officers and Committees

President:

Susan Reed (2024)
Greed@chorus.net

Vice President:

Cynthia Wadsworth (2025)
cynthia727672@gmail.com

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Lynn West (2025)
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Treasurer:

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jrbaylis@tds.net

Board:

Lisa Linde (2026)
CrazyCatPlantLady@gmail.com

Nancy Thomas (2024)
mikeandnancy@tds.net

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hi OGG members,

I hope you have had a good growing season! The summer goes way too quickly!!! Welcome back to a year planned to be jam-packed full of orchid information and opportunities to buy orchids.

The newsletter has a tentative outline of OGG activities to expect this coming year. We will kickoff with the return of the Orchid Doctor in September. Chuck will answer any questions that might have arisen over the summer. Plants may be brought in for consultation but with necessary isolation if pests are suspected.

During the previous year, OGG members worked diligently at Orchid Quest, the Spring Sale and our auctions. As a result the Board is finding ways to reward the membership for their hard work. Chuck Acker has been working hard to utilize his many orchid grower contacts to locate unique, well-grown orchids for us at very reasonable prices. The Board has voted to subsidize these prices for the benefit of paid OGG members.

Members will see the results with the up-coming return of the Orchid Challenge in October as well as at the Holiday Celebration but more on that in a later newsletter.

Dependent upon demand, we could have another spring auction wit

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Carrie Weisman (2025)
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Volunteer

Library Liaison:
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Membership:
Carrie Weisman
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Newsletter:
Denise Baylis
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Orchid Quest 2024:
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Programs:
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cynthia727672@gmail.com

Ribbon Judging:
Open

Web Master:
Richard Jozwiak
OGGweb@charter.net

Liaisons:
AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

The Fall Show Season is Almost Here!

With the advent of fall, come the fall orchid shows. OGG will be participating in two of our favorites:

- **Wisconsin Orchid Society's "Fall in Love with Orchids" 2023, September 16-17** at the Mitchell Park Conservatory (The Domes), 524 S Layton Blvd, Milwaukee, WI.
- **Eastern Iowa Orchid Society's "Orchids Are a Scream", October 28-29, 2023**, at the Elks Lodge Hall, 801 33rd Ave., Cedar Rapids, Iowa.

Lorraine Snyder will be our show leader for the Milwaukee show, along with Denise Baylis. If you'd like to help with set up on Friday, September 15 or take down on Sunday, September 17, please contact Lorraine. We're still looking for a show leader for the Eastern Iowa show, so let me know if you'd like to take the lead or participate in that Halloween-themed show—always a lot of fun with good cordial hosts (Nancy Thomas, mikeandnancy@tds.net, 608-523-3607).

If setting up a display isn't in the cards for you, you can still help us represent OGG well by sending your blooming beauties to both shows. Remember, by participating in other societies' shows, we reciprocate for their help in making our show, Orchid Quest, the spectacular event that it is. So, help us do a great job this year by sending at least one of your lovelies to a show!

OGG provides expense reimbursement to help enable any members who wish to participate in away shows by providing the means for them to do so. The OGG Board sets a maximum total amount that can be reimbursed for expenses per show, and the OGG Reimbursement Policy delineates the type of expenses that can be claimed (essentially,

lodging, travel allowance, incidentals, supplies). We are simplifying and revising our Policy this year to make it easier to accommodate the more varied circumstances that have come about as our membership and show participation have grown. The new Policy provides a show leader with more responsibility and more flexibility in determining the needs for transportation and personnel, as well as the reimbursement distribution based on participation. We hope you will find it easier for those of you who want to experience the excitement and enlightenment of away shows! The new Policy will be posted on the OGG website as it is finalized early this fall.





Susan Reed's *Paphiopedilum* Kolosand
(*kolopakingii* x *sanderianum*)



Photograph by Lorraine Snyder

OGG has finally completed the move to a single storage garage at Tuck A Way storage to keep props, orchid supplies, old records, etc.

As soon as a 10 x 10 unit became available we jumped on it. One hot and sunny Sunday Sue Reed, Lynn West, Denise Baylis and George Reed and his handy trailer completed the final move in just two hours.

(PRESIDENTS MESSAGE Continued from page 1)

plants that are left over from our April Olbrich Sale and plants augmented by Chuck. Again this is tentative and depends upon OGG members continued interest in an auction of plants from professional growers the month before our member auction. Our Member auction consists mostly of donated orchid materials and supplies as well of members plants.

Cynthia is busy firming up the out-of-area speakers. To have these nationally recognized orchid experts speaking to us at our own meeting is another incredible benefit. We also have our own local nationally recognized orchid experts speaking to our membership! Our December meeting will be special in many ways with more information on how to receive your own copy of The Orchid Muse for \$10! By purchasing 10 copies of the book, the Wisconsin author will not charge us a speaker's fee! (The Orchid Muse sells for \$35- \$22 plus shipping online) (Great

Christmas gifts!) <https://www.orchidmuse.com/>

The OGG orchid book collection now resides in the Olbrich Library which provides a more convenient venue for members as well as the public. As another OGG member benefit, the Olbrich Library is open especially for us for an hour before our Sunday meeting!

I am so excited to experience this upcoming OGG calendar! I hope you are also!

Again if you would like to be a more active participant in OGG please let us know! We are actively looking for at least two board positions, so please don't be shy! You can attend a Board meeting via Zoom to find out what is involved, simply contact me to make arrangements.

Thank you all,

— Sue

June OGG Ribbon Judging

Everyone's a winner!

Susan Reed	<i>Lycaste dowiana</i>
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Masdevallia aquanias</i>
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Hajime Ono (Martin Orenstein x Pearl Ono)
Ken Cameron	<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> Jitsugekkou
Ken Cameron	<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> Ononokamachi
Ken Cameron	<i>Neofinetia falcata</i> Rain-No-Hikori
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Oncidium</i> Wild Willie 'Bingo' (<i>reichenheimii</i> x Wildwood)
Susan Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Kolosand (<i>kolopakingii</i> x <i>sanderianum</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Paphiopedilum maudiae</i> 'Los Osos' x <i>fairrieatum</i> '1-02'
Susan Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Tiny Leopard (Little By Little x Mary's Little Leopard)
Gerry King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Liu's Pale Micholitz 'KF #1' (Culiacan x <i>micholitz</i>)
Sandra Gray	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Devil Fire (Grande x <i>warscewiczianum</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phragmipedium</i> QF Tower (Nicholle Tower x <i>wallisii</i>)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Stairway to Heaven (<i>popowii</i> x <i>wallisii</i>)
Cynthia Wadsworth	<i>Tolumnia oncidium</i> (Equitant <i>Oncidium</i>)



Sandra Gray's *Phalaenopsis* Unknown hybrid



Terri Jozwiak's *Phragmipedium* Devil Fire (Grande x *warscewiczianum*)



Susan Reed's *Paphiopedilum* Tiny Leopard (Little By Little x Mary's Little Leopard)



Jeff Metcalf's *Masdevallia aquanias*



Gerry King's *Phalaenopsis* Liu's Pale Micholitz 'KF #1' (Culiacan x *micholitz*)

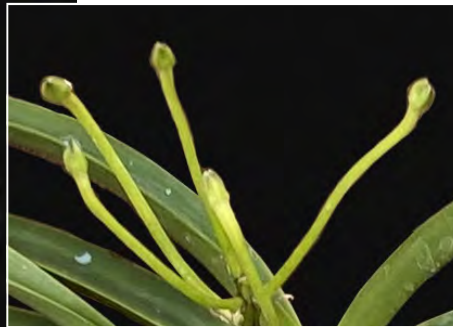


Ken Cameron's *Neofinetia falcata* Jit-sugekkou



Ken Cameron's *Neofinetia falcata* Rain-No-Hikori
羅因の光

This variety is known for strong yellow stripes in the foliage, along with some red pigment along some of the margins (usually the lower leaves). Sometimes, it can send out growths with no variegation as well. If grown well the yellow is quite bold! (Orchid Web)



Ken Cameron's *Neofinetia falcata*
Ononokamachi 小野小町

'Ononokomachi' is the name of a famous beautiful Japanese female poet who lived from 825 to 900AD. This variety is rare in that it can only be produced via hand division, or clone as there is no pollen or

stigma for fertilization. The unique characteristic of this plant is that it produces flower spikes with ovaries and buds which never blossom. (Orchid Web)



Susan Reed's *Lycaste dowiana*

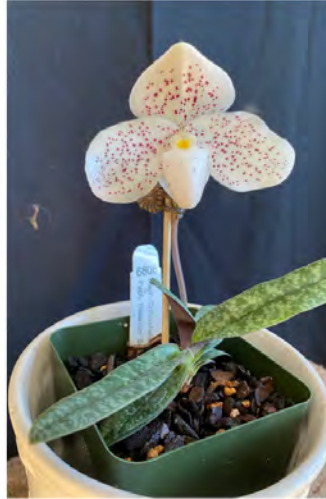


Jeff Metcalf's *Miltoniopsis* Hajime Ono
(Martin Orenstein x Pearl Ono)

How I Grow My Little White Paph

I obtained this *Paphiopedilum* Conco-bellatulum 'SVO' AM/AOS x *Paphiopedilum thaianum* 'Super Cute' when I paid \$10 to participate in Gary Lensmeyer's educational challenge. In mid-2020 Gary Lensmeyer obtained a group of orchids from Fred Clarke at Sunset Valley Orchids. Gary informed members on how to grow them and then encouraged and challenged Guild members to grow and bloom them.

I grow all my Paphs in an unobstructed east facing window where it gets morning sun until about 11 o'clock (depending on the time of year). I water it once a week with RO water mixed with well water (4:1 ratio) and a generous 1/4 teaspoon of MSU RO fertilizer per gallon. The temperature is maintained at normal house temperature ranging from 65-75 degrees during the day (sometimes a bit more because I don't like air conditioning) and 57-67 (or whatever night time temperatures fall to). I sprinkle with



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1/4 teaspoon of finely crushed oyster shell 2-3 times per year and repot only when the orchid bark has disintegrated or it outgrows the pot. Thanks to Gary I have enjoyed raising and blooming yet another great orchid, all because I am a member of the OGG.

— Meg McLaughlin

Chuck's Orchid Challenge Returns!

We are happy to announce the return of "Chuck's Orchid Challenge" for 2023!

As some of you may recall years ago, Chuck would provide orchid plants of the same variety, produced at Orchids by the Ackers for members to raise for approximately one year. After one year, the plants were judged for certain criteria and the winner was awarded a Gift Certificate to Orchids by the Ackers.

For this new-era challenge, Chuck has secured a quantity of *Oncidium* Jiaho Queen from one of his Hawaiian grower friends. You may remember this spring when Jerry King brought his plant of *Oncidium* Jiaho Queen to the May 2023 meeting and we were all amazed by the intense yellow and black flower color combination!

This variety is an intermediate grower, very compact in stature, requires bright indirect



Oncidium Jiaho Queen

light, will do well under lights and will be approximately one year from blooming. The flower spikes remain compact and bear flow-

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ers that are very sizable for this little plant! This variety has been seen on-line selling for over \$35 and are now mostly sold out due to their popularity.

Members who are interested in participating in “Chuck’s Orchid Challenge” would pay only \$10 per plant (cash or check) at the September or October meeting. The plants will be handed out to those who paid by the October meeting. At that time Chuck will provide the criteria of judging and divulge the winning prize that will be awarded when the plants are judged the following year at the October 2024 meeting.

The participation in “Chuck’s Orchid Challenge” is voluntary and a plant may be purchased without participating in the challenge.

How can you resist this little yellow and black flowered beauty in the month of October?

— Chuck Acker

At the September and October meetings OGG Treasurer Denise Baylis will be taking orders and collecting money, \$10 cash or check, for the challenge plant. Chuck expects to have 50 plants on hand which is not enough for every member. Therefore, plants will be limited to one per household and members can be put on a waiting list first-come-first-served if there

are any unclaimed. For those of you who cannot attend meetings in person and would like to participate in the challenge, simply send your \$10 payment to the OGG Treasurer and contact Chuck at cacker@tds.net to make arrangements to collect your plant.

Attention orchid growers as well as tropical freshwater fish lovers: The Watson’s (Dave and Tristan) have invited OGG members to attend an open house at the 6528 N. State Rd. 213, Evansville, WI 53536 (phone 698-445-6660) on a yet to be determined weekend in October. Dave will have some crosses of Odontoglossum seedlings for sale then and now has some Sweet Sugar Oncidiums for sale. Tristan has the fish shop open on weekends, so if you can go now for the Oncidiums. Check out their Face Book page.




Tristan's Tropical Fish LLC

SCHEDULE FOR OGG MEETINGS 2023-2024 [Subject to Change]

September

- Our Kick-Off Meeting
- Chuck Acker will introduce a new “Orchid Challenge”
- Chuck Acker will be answering your questions

October

- **Speaker to be reconfirmed [pest management]**
- Orchid Challenge plants distributed

November

- **Speaker to be reconfirmed**

December

- Erica Hannickel, will be talking about her book The Orchid Muse.
- Annual Awards
- Holiday Celebration

January

- OQ announcements, assignments, etc.
- OGG member panel will answer questions

February

- Public seminar in collaboration with the Olbrich library staff.
- Chuck Acker on *Phragmipedium kovachii*

March, Member Appreciation Month

- Welcome of new members
- Report on Orchid Quest
- An extended discussion of plants brought to the meeting
- Repotting event

April

- Auction event
- **Speaker to be reconfirmed**

May

- Election of board
- Annual Members’ Auction

June

- Annual picnic

What's Blooming at Sue Reed's Home...



Paph charlesworthii



Paph (Grey's 'Sandstone' x Mystic Isle 'Hsinying')



Cym. Golden Elf Sundust' (*ensifolium* x Enid Haupt)



Phrag Red Rocket (Demetria 'Mem Con Walker' HCC/AOS x Twilight 'Rising Rocket' 4N AM/AOS)



Paph (Doll's Kobold 'FV' x Little by Little 'War Eagle' HCC/AOS), first bloom seedling from Ross



Paph Faire-Maud *fairrieanum* x *Maudiae*)

Just as I wonder
whether it's going to die,
the orchid blossoms
and I can't explain why it
moves my heart, why such pleasure
comes from one small bud
on a long spindly stem, one
blood red gold flower
opening at mid-summer,
tiny, perfect in its hour.

-- Sam Hamill



Paph Feng Chun (*henryanum* x *purpuratum*)

What's Blooming at Lori O'Neill's Home . . .



White Phalaenopsis, adopted from a co-worker in 2010



Yellow Phalaenopsis, adopted from a friend in 2007



Lc. Acker's Madison x Slc. Golden Wax
Purchased at Acker's in 2004



Pink Phalaenopsis, Y. Boy



Pink and White Phalaenopsis.
Was a gift last year



Paphiopedilum, was adopted from a co-worker in 2014



White Phalaenopsis, was a gift in 2019
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Vanda Sansai Blue 'Ackers Pride'
FCC/AOS. Purchased at Acker's in 2002



Phalaenopsis (Taisuco Kaaladian 'From Blanchi' x Three Rivers 'Big Markie'), obtained in 2005

What's Blooming Elsewhere . . .



Nancy Thomas' *Bratonia/Miltassia* Kauai's Choice (*Brs. arcuigera* x *Brat. Aztec*). "The vertical height (upper "tendrill" tip to lower "tendrill" tip) of this Brassia hybrid is 11-12 inches"



Judy Stevenson's *Phragmipedium Giganteum* (*caudatum* x Grande 'Vista' 4n)



Jeff Baylis' *Sophrolaeliocattleya* Circle Doll (Circle of Life x Yellow Doll). This orchid is from Klehm, Denise purchased it at Woodman's West. Jeff grows it in a south window under supplemental lights, moved outside in spring until it initiated buds



Judy Stevenson's *Phragmipedium* Acker's Angel (*besseae* 'Rocket Town' x Acker's Lovely 'Essence')



Jeff Metcalf's *Oncidium* Wild Willie 'Bingo' (*reichenheimii* x Wildwood)



Ken Cameron's *Paphiopedilum maudiae* 'Los Osos' x *fairrieanum* '1-02'



Dragon's Mouth, *Arethusa bulbosa*. "We found several Dragon's Mouth orchids in full bloom, and others just emerging, during our annual trip to the Hayward area in May. Lorraine had been there two days prior and there were none, so we had a little orchid luck to compensate us for running the gauntlet of mosquitoes to get to our prize." — Nancy Thomas



Pink ladyslipper, *Cypripedium acaule*. "Despite the dry spring this year, pink ladyslippers were blooming in moist habitat near Hayward in May."



Jeff Metcalf's *Phragmipedium* QF Tower (*Nicholle* Tower x *wallisii*)



Corallorhiza striata found along the trail at Toft Point Natural Area



Cypripedium calceolus at the Ridge's.

Lorraine Snyder, Judy Stevenson and I made our annual visit to Door County in search of blooming orchids the second week of June. This year the orchids at Ephraim County Park were almost done blooming while the orchids at the entrance to Peninsula State Park were going strong. We found at least one *Cypripedium* in bloom at every park we visited. Toft Point Natural Area also had coral root orchids as did the Ridges. Years ago we used to see swaths of yellow ladyslippers in the ditch along Ridge Road but now that the area has become developed they are mowed by the property owners. We expect to find *Cypripedium* and coralroots in at least one location but we always hope to find a different orchid.

— Denise Baylis



Terri Jozwiak's *Phragmipedium* Stairway to Heaven (*popowii* x *wallisii*)

Annual Picnic

This year's annual OGG picnic was a luau hosted by Ken Cameron and Brian Thompson. The event took place during a serious spell of drought coupled with temperatures pushing 90. However the picnic venue was in a country setting on the Sugar River. Ken tried to keep the lawn relatively green in anticipation of this event but it was still a bit 'crunchy' in places. The huge trees provided much appreciated shade and there was a cooling breeze and with drought conditions, few annoying flying insects.

Ken and Brian have converted their home into an Adirondack-inspired hunting lodge. When they are home they feel as though they are back in a mountain cabin. Guests were treated to a view of Ken's summer growing system for his large collection of "Samurai" orchids. The components for the set-up are from Japan and the efficient system hangs in the shade from branches of one of their numerous trees. Ken also has a collection of bonsai as well as another of carnivorous plants!

They have a small floating dock on the river and several kayaks and canoes but no one opted to test the lazy river.

There was excellent attendance of members and their families who were greeted with their very own lei. Guests enjoyed Brian's Hawaiian pulled pork and huli huli chicken grilled by Jeff Baylis. There was an Hawaiian punch brought by Jeff Metcalf and Jim Wasser which provided

its own punch! There was also a delicious selection of salads and desserts.

A lovely time was had by all! **Thank you Ken and Brian!**



Cynthia Wadsworth with her *Tolumnia oncidium* (Equitant *Oncidium*)



Sue Reed checking out some of the orchids brought for ribbon judging



Summer growing system for a large collection of "Samurai" orchids

