

January  
2026

# The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

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

Happy New Years



## NEXT MEETING JANUARY 18, 2026 It's time to get ready for ORCHID QUEST

Orchid Quest is just three weeks away and it takes a lot of planning to pull off the largest orchid show and sale in the Midwest. Learn how you can help and how to get your plants ready for judging.

## President's Message

Wow! What a great way to celebrate the Guild's 40th Anniversary, end 2025 and start 2026! It was fun to see everybody enjoying the food, the plants and each other! The horse trading corral wasn't very busy so everybody must have been happy with what Santa Chuck brought them. I'm sure looking forward to seeing all of those plant presents in bloom in the Guild exhibit at Orchid Quest in 6 weeks!

As we turn our attention to 2026, I'd like to thank all of you who have already signed up to volunteer for Orchid Quest.

Many hands make light work and putting on a party of this magnitude is a lot of work. It's also a lot of fun. As I said at the party, when I first joined the Guild in 1999 (or was it '98...), I soon learned that the set up on Friday was as much fun and educational as the event itself!

For members who may not know, I take off my President's hat and put on my Volunteer Coordinator hat for the month of January. Terri Jozwiak has been the Show Chair of Orchid Quest for eleventy years. Many members help her by taking the lead on various aspects and subcommittees. Not that much of the "behind the scenes" work (contacting AOS judges, vendors, speakers, other orchid societies, etc) we are at the part where members (and their sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, partners, etc) step

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

December Ribbon Judging	8
Farewell To Dendrochilum	9-10
Holiday And Anniversary Party	4-7
– Awards	5
– Points	6
Next Meeting	1
Orchid Quest Updates	11-14
President's Message	1
Remembering Steven Thimling	3
What's Blooming At Home . . .	2, 3, 6

### Meeting Dates

- January 18th
- February 15th
- March 15th
- April 19th

All in-person and Zoom Meetings start at 1:00pm in the Learning Center at Olbrich Gardens unless otherwise noted

### Up-Coming Events

1. January 24-25, 2026, Orchid Society of Minnesota's "Winter Carnival Orchid Show", Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Dr. St Paul MN
2. February 7-8, 2026, Orchid Quest, Monona Terrace
3. March 7-8, Illinois Orchid Society Show
4. March 21-22, Batavia Orchid Show
5. June 11-15, Native Orchid Conference, Green Bay
6. September 12-13, Wisconsin Orchid Society

### Officers and Committees

#### President:

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#### Vice President:

Chuck Acker (2027)  
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Lynn West (2027)  
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(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

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**Past President (non-voting)**  
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Nancy Thomas  
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Travis Wilson

**Membership:**

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**Liaisons:**

**AOS:** Nancy Thomas  
**MAOC:** Lynn West

(Continued from page 1)

in and step up. Anything you can do and any times you can help are appreciated more than you can imagine.

The January meeting will be “putting the sprinkles on the cupcake” that is Orchid Quest. The Volunteer Sign up Sheets will be available for you to peruse and sign up for. There are jobs for every skill set and energy level. Terri will be giving us final instructions about arriving, parking, food availability, etc. The sub-committees will be updating us on what they still need.

One other thing that is extremely helpful is to start now to get your plants ready for exhibiting. Revisit the information in previous newsletters, emails or the OGG website regarding the steps for getting your plants ready for their debut. If you have ANY questions, don’t hesitate to reach out to Sue Reed, Ken Cameron, Chuck Acker or any other member who can help guide you through the process if you have never done this before.

See you in a few weeks!

— Meg Graham

**JANUARY 18, 2026  
MEETING SCHEDULE**  
Schedule is Approximate as Follows:

- 12:00 pm Doors Open for Setup
- 12:30 Socializing During Plant Judging
- 1:00 Meeting Begins; General Announcements
- 1:15 Show & Tell Table ???
- 1:45 pm Break
- 2:00 Discussion about Orchid Quest 2026
- 3:15 pm Closing Thoughts & Door Prizes
- 3:30 pm Meeting Ends

## What's Blooming at Home . . .



Check out Sue Reed’s little *Pleurothallis scur-rula*, bought at the October meeting from New World Orchids. It seems to like her biOrb and cool sunporch. It is a cloud forest orchid from Peru which means it likes cool temperatures. Sue’s sunporch in the winter is in the 50’s F at night and only in the 60’s during the day. The biOrb has its own light source but it does receive some indirect sun light. So cute!



“This bloom of my *Pleurothallis scur-rula* seems slightly different from two previous blooms! Is this a Christmas Angel? . . . I have given it more water so maybe that is why the bloom is larger with ‘wings!’” Sue Reed

Flower size is typically one centimeter



## Remembering Steven J. Thimling

Steven J. Thimling, age 74, passed away peacefully in his sleep at home on December 16, 2025. He grew up in Holland Indiana. He graduated from Holland High School and Purdue University. He worked for Dames & Moore before coming to Wisconsin in 1978 where he met his wife, Kathy Alt. Steve worked for the Gordon Flesch Company as a service technician for 35 years before retiring in 2019.



Steve had varied interests including orchids. He was a member of Orchid Growers Guild for many years. In 2010 he was awarded an AOS Certificate for his many years of service: serving for eight years as treasurer plus two years on the Board. Steve grew and bloomed miniature orchids in his orchidarium. He shared some of these blooming plants at Orchid Guild meetings so that members saw new and unusual plants.

In 2014 Steve was diagnosed with prostate cancer. This led his wife Kathy and him to search for new interests and they discovered their love for music. They became the best friends with others who shared their interest.

Steve is survived by his wife Kathy Alt Thimling and son Kyle M. Thimling.

*"I'm one of Steve's friends from the Orchid Growers Guild for the past 15 years. He was dear man and I'll miss him badly. He was a registrar for our annual orchid show for many years and his diligence and strict standards for data and record-keeping were well appreciated. He taught me the ropes for recording our judging results, when I first started, leading by example. Every year he spent all three days at Orchid Quest tirelessly manning the registration computer to assure accurate records were reported out. But in "down" moments I'd see him browsing among the displays to find the beautiful miniatures, sharing pictures of them and seeking out their vendors, like the avid orchid-grower that he was. Steve was always a pleasure to be around and will be missed."*

— Nancy Thomas

## What's Blooming at Home . . .

The Bamboo Orchid, *Arundina graminifolia*, is the sole species in the monotypic genus *Arundina*. On a visit to a botanical garden in Hawaii a few years ago, I purchased a piece of rhizome the size of my thumb pre-packaged with a CITES permit. I took it home, and potted it up. After a few years, it has finally matured into a large enough plant to bloom this year on several canes. It is a sequential bloomer, with 9 or 10 blooms produced so far. The flower is showy, and each lasts 5-7 days. In Hawaii it is classed as an invasive pest species imported from southeast Asia as an ornamental. It is now common in roadside ditches and open areas in the wet side of the Big Island.

— Jeff Baylis



# Holiday and 40th Anniversary Celebration

I'm glad people seemed to have had a good time. It does sound like people want to do it again. I can NOT take full credit for throwing that party! Chuck put in sooo much time, effort and energy in finding all those plants (99!) and keeping them alive and growing and out of freezing weather. He was happy that he didn't have to take any home. Ken was/IS an immense help with so much of the technology- from putting together the slide show and troubleshooting stuff. It takes a village to celebrate! It was fun and I think everyone enjoyed themselves- if they didn't it's their own fault!

I did talk to Courtney (the hostess/bartender/jack of all trades) at Rex's as well. She said if we wanted to do it again next year that she would put us in two rooms. (When we started planning we thought it would only be about 50-60 people. There were 75!! And we ate a lot.)

Thanks again for everything YOU ALL do to help make the Orchid Growers Guild such a vibrant community.

— Meg Graham



Party plants, all 99 of them!



Our fabulous party planners: Chuck Acker, Meg Graham and Ken Cameron



The holiday celebration this year happened to coincide with the 40th anniversary of the initial signing of our Nonstock Articles of Incorporation by Stanley Grand along with two initial Board of Directors, Charles Acker and Wayne King, December 27, 1985.

More on our past 40 years will follow in future newsletters



Wayne King with his son Andre King, flanked by Jeff Baylis, Terri Jozwiak, Steven Liu and Meg Graham



## Holiday and 40th Anniversary Celebration - Annual Awards



Novice Grower Award went to Christina Keeley

### And the Winners Are...

Each year the Orchid Growers Guild recognizes members who have contributed much energy and effort into making the organization strong and viable. The various awards go to the people that accrue the most points from December to November with the winner announced at the Holiday celebration in December.

Points are earned by members when they bring blooming orchids to the monthly meetings. Points are 4, 3, 2 respectively for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbon judging. These points are doubled when the member sends blooming plants to "Away Shows" such as Wisconsin Orchid Society's show in Milwaukee or the Illinois Orchid Society's meeting at the Chicago Botanic Gardens so points are 8, 6, and 4 for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place ribbons. Members earn additional points for the total number of plants sent to each show. There are 25 additional bonus points for Best of Class or a Special Award and 50 additional points if your plant wins an AOS or Best



Exhibitor of the Year Award and the Milo Gilbertson Award went to Ken Cameron

Plant in the Show award at these public shows.

In addition to the Grower Points there are Exhibitor of the Year points earned for setting up and taking down the exhibits at the away shows as well as additional points for award-winning displays.

### The 2025 awards:

Exhibitor of the Year Award went to Ken Cameron. Ken, Chuck, Sue Reed, Dan Schmidt and Lynn West did the set-up and take-down for Orchid Quest winning a First Place, Best of Class, and two AOS awards for a total point accumulation of 145 points. And that was just the start of it! The Batavia Orchid Society team of Ken, Brian Thompson, Jeff Metcalf and Jim Wasser once again won a First Place, and Best of Class and an AOS award. The third show that Ken helped set up was Eastern Iowa Orchid Society's show where the team won Second Place but also

*(Continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

received the award for the Most Spooktacular. All in all, Ken earned 345 Exhibitor Points and gave the Orchid Growers Guild great recognition among the orchid societies of the Upper Midwest. Ken was not the only person who set up exhibits at the Away Shows. Jeff Metcalf, Lorraine Snyder, Denise Baylis and Steven Liu did the Illinois Orchid Society Exhibit at the Chicago Botanic Garden and Lorraine and Denise also did the Wisconsin Orchid Society show at the Mitchell Domes in Milwaukee.

The Novice Grower Award goes to the person with 3 years or less experience growing orchids. This year's winner is Christina Keeley. Christina accrued a total of 41 points. Other New Growers that brought plants for monthly ribbon judging, sent plants to away shows or brought them to Orchid Quest are Justin Endo, Ellen Karlson, Mary Kraft-Lee, Benjamin Miranda and Alice Peterson.

This year's Milo Gilbertson Award, given to a member with more than three years of growing experience, went to Ken Cameron. He accrued 555 points which was only 9 more points than

the next runner up. He sent plants to all of the away shows and Orchid Quest and brought many plants to each of our monthly meetings. Ken definitely set the bar for showing plants!

Other Grower Points	
Chuck Acker	546
Jeff Metcalf	394
Meg Graham	215
Gerald King	186
Lynn West	166
Terri Jozwiak	146
Lorraine Snyder	118

Other Exhibitor Points	
Jeff Metcalf	174
Jim Wasser	174
Sue Reed	145
Dan Schmidt	145
Lynn West	145



This year the Holiday Party orchid selection process allowed you to go "the horse corral" if you were not satisfied with your pick. But you had to hope that someone would release you by choosing your orchid and let you get another pick. People must have been happy this year with their picks because Sue Reed waited in the horse corral a looong time before Jim Wasser decided that he liked her cattleya giving her a happy face at last!

## What's Blooming at Home . . .



Nancy Thomas' *Fredclarkeara* After Dark 'SVO' FCC/AOS



# Holiday and 40th Anniversary Celebration - Continued



Our Christmas Elf (AKA Meg Graham) explaining the rules of Christmas plant selection



Selecting a plant requires intense concentration



Santa with Lisa Linde and her selection



Gina La Liberte is holding what looks like a "Phrag in a bag" with Santa



Santa with Justin Endo with an *Oncidium Twinkle*



Lori Getter and Santa with her Nobile *Dendrobium*



Benji Miranda



Santa with Nancy Morris is holding a blooming Paph



Steven Liu



# December Holiday Party Ribbon Judging

Ribbon judges Chuck Acker and Ken Cameron judged everyone to be a winner!

Lori Getter	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> NOID
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Paphiopedilum spicerianum</i>
Rachel Miller	<i>Cattleya cernua</i>
Steven Liu	<i>Sophranitis</i> Brazil
Ken Cameron	<i>Coelogyne glumaceum</i>
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Cymbidium</i> NOID
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Brassidium</i> Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC/AOS ( <i>Oncidium cariniferum</i> x <i>Brassia arcuigera</i> )
Gerald King	<i>Brassocattleya</i> (Gulf Shore's Beauty 'Green Dean' HCC/AOS x Richard Mueller '4N')
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Lc</i> Mari's Magic 'Yellow Eyes' (Mari's Song x Tokyo Magic)
Steven Liu	<i>Lc</i> Purple Cascade 'Fragrant Beauty' (Interglossa x Tokyo Magic)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Miltonidium</i> Melissa Brianne 'Dark' (Milt. Anne Warne x <i>Onc.</i> Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)
Lisa Linde	<i>Mormoides</i> (Nitty-Gritty 'SVO II' x Jumbo Bacia 'SVO Dark Red')
Jason Berry	<i>Oncidium</i> Twinkle Fantasy ( <i>cheirophorum</i> x <i>sotoanum</i> )
Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> (SWR Wild Champagne x SWR Gigan Cherry)
Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Mituo Joanie (Mituo Special Princess x Fintje Bear)
Steven Liu	<i>Rhyncattleanthe</i> Nell Hammer ( <i>Rlc.</i> Haaydyai Delight x <i>Cattlianthe</i> Varut Startrack)
Ken Cameron	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Hausermann's Holiday 'Christmas' AM/AOS (James Hausermann x Lisa Irene)
Steven Liu	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> (Waianae King 'Kosaki' x Waianae King 'Orchid Heights')
Ken Cameron	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Heaven's Gate 'Crystelle' FCC/AOS (Leonard Smith x Carolina Splendor)
Chris Neumann	<i>Slc</i> (Love Fresh 'Select' x Angel's Fantasy 'Solar Flare' FCC/AOS)



Steven Liu's *Rhyncattleanthe* Nell Hammer (*Rlc.* Haaydyai Delight x *Cattlianthe* Varut Startrack)



Steven Liu's *Lc* Purple Cascade 'Fragrant Beauty' (Interglossa x Tokyo Magic)



Terri Jozwiak's *Lc* Mari's Magic 'Yellow'

*Lc* Mari's Magic and *Lc* Purple Cascade are examples of "splash petal" orchids. A "splash petal" refers to a striking pattern in orchids like *Cattleya*, *Dendrobium*, *Cymbidium*, *Phalaenopsis* where contrasting colors, often white or yellow, "splash" or streak onto the edges of the petals, creating a unique, painterly, or feathered look, a desirable trait prized by collectors for its dramatic beauty and varied patterns. The 'splashing' from the flower's lip onto its petal is referred to as *peloria*



Terri Jozwiak with her *Brassidium* Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC/AOS (*Oncidium cariniferum* x *Brassia arcuigera*)



# Farewell to *Dendrochilum* and Days of Auld Lang Syne

On December 31 we said goodbye to another year and also to the orchid genus *Dendrochilum*. As Ken mentioned at our last meeting, all species of “chain orchids” have now been reclassified under the name *Coelogyne* primarily because of new DNA evidence. Superficially, these two genera of orchids appear strikingly different - are the botanists blind?! Species of *Coelogyne* usually produce just a few large flowers that either droop downward or are held upright on long stalks. Species of *Dendrochilum*, in contrast, usually produce many small fragrant flowers that hang down like a necklace or chain. However, those stereotyped descriptions are based on only a few of the species that are common in cultivation, and size alone is rarely a good reason to classify one group of organisms differently from another. When we consider the full range of diversity shared between these two genera we find many intermediate forms. In fact, there are more than 200 named species of *Coelogyne* and possibly 300 species of *Dendrochilum*, but the line between them is rather fuzzy when you look carefully at their flower structure. Furthermore, when DNA analyses were performed to determine the genetic relationships among the species it was discovered that some *Dendrochilums* are more closely related to some *Coelogyne*s than they are to other *Dendrochilums* and vice versa. The different species are mixed up on the same family tree. A third genus, *Pholidota*, which shares various features with its cousins, is also part of the mix. How to resolve this predicament? Well, rather than create dozens of new generic names to clean up the mess, taxonomists have proposed the simplest and most conservative solution . . . to lump all three genera together under one name. But which one? Fortunately, the “International Code for Botanical Nomenclature” has rules that must be followed in situa-



*Coelogyne glumaceum* with Close-ups (below)



tions like this. The genus *Dendrochilum* was first published by the German-Dutch botanist Carl Ludwig Blume in 1825, the same year that the genus *Pholidota* was formally published. By comparison, the genus *Coelogyne* was first established and published by the English botanist John Lindley in 1821. Since that name predates the others (albeit by only four years) it has pri-

(Continued on page 10)

“Growing an orchid is a little like eating peanuts.  
You can hardly ever stop with one.”

— Stanley Grand, October 27, 1987

(Continued from page 9)

ority and must be used.

Regardless of what you call them, these SE Asian orchids are beautiful and have a place in everyone's collection. Many of us grow *Coelogyne cristata*, which can become an impressive specimen with proper care. Have you seen the giant hanging baskets of this species at Olbrich Botanical Garden? Another popular species is *C. pandurata* which produces bizarre green flowers with a jet black lip. You need a lot of space to grow that one! If you are looking for something a bit more compact, perhaps consider *C. flaccida*. Several Guild members have divisions of that species which has been cultivated in the UW-Madison Botany Greenhouse collection for decades. Another great option is *C. wenzelii*, which comes in red and yellow forms. I got mine from New World Orchids at Orchid Quest last year and it's already flowered twice! Similar to it is *C. glumaceum*, which looks like a pure white bottle brush grass, wheat, or barley. Indeed, the name is derived from a Latin botanical epithet meaning "glumaceous," which refers to being covered in or resembling glumes. What are glumes you ask? The A.I. Wizard says . . . "glumes are specialized, husk-like bracts



*Coelogyne flaccida*

(modified leaves) found at the base of the spikelet (flower cluster) of grasses, sedges, and some orchids. They are typically dry and papery, like chaff or husks." Makes sense to me! If you got a chance to sniff it at our holiday party you know why it's called the "hay-scented orchid" (although Ted described it as smelling like Lake Mendota in July).

I'm going to miss the old name *Dendrochilum* (meaning tree lips [don't ask]), but I'll confess that I've always enjoyed saying *Coelogyne* (generally pronounced see-LODGE-uh-nee but sometimes as see-loh-GYE-nee. The name originates from Greek, with koilos meaning "hollow" and gyne meaning "pistil" in reference to the shape of the orchid's female reproduce structure). In any event, time moves on and we do our best to keep up . . . Should old acquaintance be forgot | And never brought to mind? | We'll drink a cup of kindness yet | For the sake of auld lang syne.

— Text and photos by Ken Cameron



*Coelogyne wenzelii*



# Orchid Quest Up-dates

## FROM THE CHAIR

Orchid Quest is coming soon! February 7-8 with set-up on Friday, February 6. Many, many plans are in place and many hands have already been working. Do you want to know details about when to show up, how to drop off your plants, Saturday plans, Sunday plans, speakers, vendors or other questions on Orchid Quest? All will be detailed at the January OGG meeting, on January 18. It is very exciting now to be able to talk to everyone about the plans and details. If you cannot figure out who to contact with your question, and no question is too dumb, contact me .

Terri Jozwiak  
Orchid Quest Chairperson  
608-592-7906  
lodijoz@charter.net

## There are still things to do to get ready for OQ

**YOUR Orchids:** Stake them now if they are sprouting a bloom and treat them for bugs.

**Sponsorship:** For only \$25.00 you can sponsor an orchid award! Think of an award for the best Phal that YOU sponsored! Sign up with Nancy Thomas [mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net). See accompanying article.

**Sign-up to volunteer your time:** Figure out what time you can volunteer on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Sign up with Meg Graham – [megmcl6@gmail.com](mailto:megmcl6@gmail.com).

**Auction/Raffle:** Do you have items that can be donated??? They can be raffled off or put in the auction to make the auction more fun. See accompanying article.

**Posters & Bookmarks:** If you have taken any posters and bookmarks, NOW is the time to take them to you local tavern or neighborhood store to put them in use. More will be available at the next meeting.

**Clerking:** We need 30+ people at 6:30 AM on Saturday to help clerk. That is half of our membership. We MUST have YOU for this very interesting activity. No experience necessary so your

partner can volunteer too. Sign up with Meg Graham – [megmcl6@gmail.com](mailto:megmcl6@gmail.com).

Pre-check out our vendors – Some have discounts and nearly all will take preorders, and bring your plants to the show to avoid shipping charges [and potential bad weather!]

- Anything Orchids
- Dr. Bill's Orchids
- Ecuagenera (pre-orders through Jan 20)
- Friday's Embroidery
- Green Road Pottery
- Klehmgro Orchids
- Orchid Growers Guild of Madison
- Orchids Limited
- Magic Oasis Orchid Club
- Maneki Hill Orchids (taking pre-orders)
- Mythical Plants
- Natt's Orchids
- New World Orchids
- Sunprarie Orchids
- Ten Shin Gardens (pre-orders 25 days prior to show date)

All the websites for the above vendors can be found on OUR website <https://orchidgrowersguild.org/orchidquest>

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO MAKE OQ '25 AMAZING!

Our guests want to see orchids...**not stand in line!** A fast and seamless entry will be a great first impression of Orchid Quest's fabulous orchid show at Monona Terrace. We need quite a few people to give an hour or two at the ticket sales table so that all of our volunteers will have time to enjoy OQ. If you are able to step in and help, text or call me, Lisa Bane (414-416-6578). I will send you the link that will provide step by step instructions that everyone should review in advance. I will offer additional support Friday or early Saturday at Monona if you have further questions.

Thanks for helping out,  
Lisa Bane

# Orchid Quest Up-dates ~ Continued

## SOFT Team Has Been Hard at Work!

During our delightful Christmas celebration, more completed products were brought in. My bin is getting full and I know many of you, as well as our OQ guests, will want to buy the beautiful and creative pieces made by our team of talented volunteers. More fabric went off to the workshop and we will plan our pricing between Christmas and the new year. I believe these beautiful handmade items will bring a good return to the guild. The plan is to set fair, but strong prices for these unique orchid-themed items to support all that our club does for the love of orchids. A huge thank you to the team for the many hours and efforts in this new endeavor!

Lisa Bane, coordinator  
The Team:



- Judy Geissler
- Carmen Golde
- Diane Hoefer
- RayEtta Jones
- Ellen Karlson
- Alice Peterson
- Judy Stevenson
- Liz Wood

## NEEDED: Sunday Admission Table Manager

I need someone to assist me in the management of the admission table activities and needs on Sunday as I will head back home to Milwaukee after closing on Saturday. The assistant would not have to spend the whole day at the tables, but should:

- Be reachable if any back-up is needed
- Make sure our volunteers are on hand
- Get help from our leaders if complications arise
- Make sure the cash boxes and safe get directly into our Treasurer, Ken Cameron's hands
- Put all of the equipment and supplies back into the admission bins at closing time Sunday afternoon.

I am happy to walk you through any questions you may have.

Thank you! Lisa Bane

text or call 414-416-6578 or email me at [lisa-bane@gmail.com](mailto:lisa-bane@gmail.com)

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## HELLO ORCHID SOCIETY MEMBERS!!! PLEASE ASSIST US!

Lori, Dennis, and I are new to Silent Auction for Orchid Quest 2026. As we look to the future, we are trying to create a strong committee with participation from several additional members. We all know life happens so the more individuals that can participate will make this committee functionally stronger. Stronger, we will ensure that for years to come we will have a smooth yearly transition of volunteers to ensure continued success of our silent auction.

Our goal is to collect 150-160 items to complete the two- day auction. We appreciate your willingness to donate items. Small items can be brought to OGG Meetings. Please include the following information with your donated items:

- Member name
- Item name/description
- Approximate purchase price of item

- Recommended starting bid price

If the item is large, please hold on to the item until closer to Orchid Quest and take a picture of the item(s) and forward it to Judy. We would like all items to be collected by the January OGG Meeting pending other arrangements for larger items.

Please consider participating with your expertise and creativity! Any type of participation is welcome, as many hands improve the process!!! We will need volunteers on Friday to help set up our display of auction items. Saturday and Sunday we will need volunteers to take bids [this is a sit-down position]. At the end of each day we need extra volunteers to identify winners, take payment and wrap items. Please reach out to me if you are interested.

Judy Geissler: [judyann8078@gmail.com](mailto:judyann8078@gmail.com)  
Lori and Dennis Hornung:  
[hornman@wi-net.com](mailto:hornman@wi-net.com)



# Orchid Quest Up-dates ~ Continued

## Best of Class Award Sponsorships

Each year we ask members for your support to help defray costs for Orchid Quest by sponsoring one of the Best of Class or other Special Awards given at the show. You can also memorialize or honor a loved one or friend by dedicating your sponsorship to them.

Choice of awards is on a first-come first-served basis and they are going fast! If you're interested in reserving an award, contact me to add your name to the list. Your last chance to sign up for any unclaimed awards will be at our January meeting.

Sponsorship donations are \$25 and can be paid using the donation option on our website (at this abbreviated link: <https://tinyurl.com/payOrchidGuild> or at our full website address: <https://orchidgrowersguild.org/join%2Frenew%2Fdonate%2Fpay> ). Or you can pay in person to Ken at our meetings. If using the website, be sure to write the purpose of the donation in the Comments section. Thanks for helping to make Orchid Quest flourish!

Nancy Thomas,  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)  
608-523-3607, cell 608-576-0609)

## YOUR OWN EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITY!

Just a reminder that you are invited to set up your own display containing plants, educational material, orchid-related art categories like painting, photography, crafts and collectibles.

We need to hear from you within the next week if you are interested so that we can plan our exhibit layout. Contact Nancy Thomas ([mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net), 608-675-0609).



Judy Williamson setting up her exhibit at OQ 2012

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## SHOWING YOUR ORCHID!

It is not too early to think about which plants you might be entering at Orchid Quest!. Clean all plants and stake all spikes! Look over the plants and cut off all dead foliage and old spikes. Presentation and foliage as well as the flowers are very important for the your plant to be seen in its best advantage. Look for bugs and treat by cleaning the leaves etc. and keep at it for several weeks to make sure your plant is bug free for displaying. Plants are removed from the exhibit if any bugs are present.

More information will be coming in an email on specifics and please ask any questions at anytime and at the January meeting.

Below is some more specifics which will again be emailed closer to the show. The registration

of the orchids is based upon the MAOC show book. Check out the Mid-America Orchid Congress website for information on registration intergeneric, species latest names and classes and great growing information (<https://midamericanorchids.org/tools-and-documents>). When the OQ show book is finished, it will be up on the Orchid Growers website: (<https://orchidgrowersguild.org/orchidquest>). For 2026 all of the classes listed in the MAOC show book will be in OQ show book. So a chance to show off your personal talents on original photography, painting, etc as well as your collections of orchid related items. You can easily do a small exhibit with these items or do one highlighting your own plants. (Any awards earned in your own exhibit do not count toward the yearly OGG exhibitor or grower awards.)

# Orchid Quest Up-dates ~ Continued

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW TO SHOW YOUR ORCHID

For all of you entering orchid plants in the OQ exhibit the following information must be sent to the people doing the orchid plant registration for OQ. For Orchid Quest the information must go to Ken Cameron ([kmcameron@wisc.edu](mailto:kmcameron@wisc.edu)) and to Lynn West ([LynneWest15@yahoo.com](mailto:LynneWest15@yahoo.com)) by February 2. No additions after February 2, but we MUST know about any deletions as soon as possible.

What we need from you by Monday, February 2 is:

- The COMPLETE Orchid name copied off the orchid's name tag
- If it is a species the last part of the name will be lower case.
- If it is a hybrid it should be all in Capital letters and any awards listed (i.e. AM/AOS)
- If it is a named hybrid, please include the parental names used in the cross
- If the parentage is not listed on the tag,

please research by Googling the name to find the parentage. This is important

- If you still cannot find it ask Chuck or Ken for assistance.
  - With 100 plants in the exhibit, the registration people do not have hours to research your crosses, so please make every effort to find the parentage.
  - The parentage helps the judges evaluate your plant correctly
  - If an unknown orchid please list it as such, using flower for the correct class
- Please include the correct CLASS for your orchid plant. Remember only you are responsible for the correct class entry of your plants. Come to the meeting on Sunday, January 18 with questions on how to class your orchid. Remember some classes depend upon size and/or color of the flower which only YOU know. Thank you for sending your orchid plants!

— Sue Reed

### 2026 Orchid Growers Guild Membership Renewal

**Individual: \$25 | Household (1+1): \$40 | Student: \$15**

It's time to pay your annual dues! OGG membership runs by calendar year, but if you joined after September 2025 you will continue to be in good standing through the end of 2026. If you are unsure of your status please contact our Secretary, Lynn West. There are several ways to pay:

1. Zelle (preferred). Most banks allow you to transfer funds directly from your personal checking to the Guild without fees. Log in to your bank / credit union account and select "Send Money with Zelle" (you may have to set this up for the first time). Then, simply direct your payment to: [OGGTreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:OGGTreasurer@yahoo.com)
2. Online via the OGG Website. Secure online payments using all major credit cards are accepted on the Guild's website under "Membership." The following tiny url or QR code will take you there directly: <https://tinyurl.com/payOrchidGuild>
3. Check. Bring a personal check made out to "OGG" to one of our monthly meetings for the Treasurer (Ken). If you prefer to mail your check, please send it to Madison Orchid Growers Guild, P.O. Box 5432, Madison, WI 53705
4. Credit Card in person using Square at one of our monthly meetings.
5. Cash (least preferred). Our Treasurer (Ken) will accept cash at one of our monthly meetings. Exact change is greatly appreciated.

