

JUNE
2026

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



Meeting Dates

- **June 28th Picnic**—see p. 2

Up-Coming Events

- June 11-15, Native Orchid Conference, Green Bay
- September 12-13, Wisconsin Orchid Society Show
- February 6-7, 2027 Orchid Quest and Mid-America Orchid Congress

Officers and Committees

President:

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Theodore Ceplina (2028)
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Steven Liu (2029)
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Congratulations to our continuing and new OGG Board Members!

Meredyth Graham was re-elected as President, Ken Cameron was re-elected as Treasurer, and Steven Liu was elected as a Board Director at Large.



Ken Cameron, Meredyth Graham, and Steven Liu

President's Message

What a great way to end our Guild meeting season with *Bulbophyllum* expert, Bill Thoms! Did anybody else stop by WAFL-HOUSE on their way home from the May Meeting? Or did you go home and improve the Air flow, Fertilizing regimen or perhaps Lighting? Bill sure had some good mnemonic devices to help us remember to WATER MORE LONGER!

I would like to once again, thank Lisa Linde for her service on the OGG Board of Directors. Congratulations to Steven Liu as he starts his three-year term on the board. Steven will be hitting the ground running because he has already volunteered to host the Summer Picnic. Our group has grown to the point that he thought it might be a good idea to rent a shelter at a local park which allows us to have our potluck, show and tell and silent auction. We look forward to hearing more of Steven's good ideas!

Just because we don't have formal meetings at Olbrich over the summer, doesn't mean that we don't think about them! We have an opportunity to show our orchids at the Wisconsin State Fair in early August. There will be a few members attending the Mid America Orchid Congress in Dayton in order to gather infor-

mation that will help the Guild host them at Orchid Quest in February. Keep your eye on future newsletters for more information on these upcoming events.

And remember- "ANYTHING I CAN DO, YOU CAN DO BETTER!"

See you at the picnic!
Meredyth Graham

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AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

HELP WANTED!

OGG urgently needs an Away Show Chair! Duties include recruiting a Show Captain for each away show, coordinating with hosting Orchid Societies to reserve our place in the show, reviewing expense reports, and tracking participation points. You don't even have to be in Wisconsin to be the Away Show Chair—all duties can be done remotely. Nancy Thomas will train you! **Contact Meg Graham or any other OGG Board member if you are interested.**

SAVE THE DATE! OGG 2026 Summer Picnic Sunday, June 28 at Token Creek County Park—Shelter #5

Watch for more details via email closer to June 28.

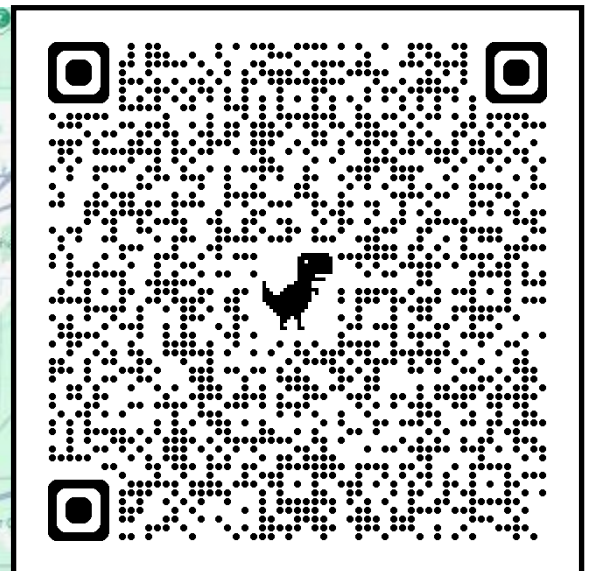
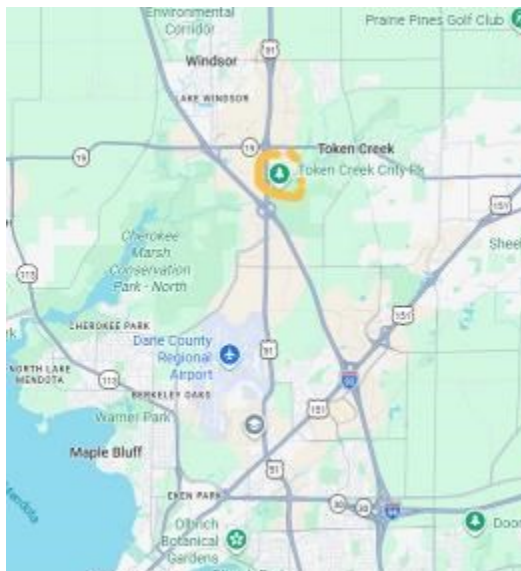
Setup begins at 11 AM.

Shelter #5 has room for 80 people. Look for the Spongebob balloon.

Picnic items to bring: lawn chairs, dish to pass, beverage (BYOB alcohol is OK).

Orchid items to bring: orchids and growing supplies for show & tell and silent auction, other plants and supplies for giveaways.

The park is conveniently located at the intersection of I-90 + Hwy 51 and features a dog park, horse trails, and disc golf. See <https://www.danecountyparks.com/park/TokenCreek> for more details. Permits are required for the dog park and horse trails.



Scan the QR code on the right to get driving directions in Google Maps.

OGG Mother's Day Sale

Emily Sneed

As most of you are aware, the Guild held its annual Mother's Day Sale on Saturday, May 9th. I was honored to be involved in the planning and volunteer process, and am happy to share that the sale was a success! Of the over 140 plants offered, only a few remained when we closed shop around 1pm, and we had a wonderful team of volunteers that made it all possible.

As a new Guild member, I am grateful for all of the veteran and fellow newbies that have been so warm and welcoming. As a curious novice, I joined the Guild last September to learn more about growing a wider variety of orchids. After attending many monthly meetings, I knew I wanted to become more involved in some way—So when Lorraine Snyder stood up and asked for volunteers to learn how to plan the annual Mother's Day Sale, I eagerly signed up for the opportunity. Thankfully I was not alone in my interest, and Joan Dziewior also volunteered to help. We met with Lorraine to learn the

ropes. The day before the sale, the three of us piled in Joan's van and made our way to Hausermann's. It was my first time there, and as soon as we walked in, I was like a kid in a candy shop. The expanse of greenhouses and orchid diversity was a sight to behold! We perused the aisles, selecting a variety of blooming plants for the sale. The car ride back to Madison was a treat for the nostrils!



Customer and Lynn West—photo Lori Getter

On Saturday morning, I arrived with a car full of orchids to find a dozen or so volunteers ready to lend a hand. We set up tables, priced plants, and I think we even sold a handful of orchids before the doors opened to the public...

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photo Lori Getter

OGG Mother's Day Sale (continued)

Emily Sneed

At 10am, families flooded in. I observed so many of our volunteers enthusiastically interacting with customers— answering questions, educating them on orchid care, and inviting them to join an OGG meeting. There were smiles all around, and I think many mothers went home with a beautiful plant.

It was an honor to work with Lorraine and Joan on this year's sale, and I look forward to co-planning next year's event. Thank you to Chuck for providing the *Phragmipediums* and *Paphiopedilums*, and many thanks to the volunteers who helped set up, take down, and ensure that the event went without a hitch!



Laelia purpurata var. *cinderosa* x self—photo Lori Getter




Damon Smith and customers —photo Lori Getter



A new orchid for Ken Cameron —photo Denise Baylis

May OGG Ribbon Judging Results

First Place

Terri Jozwiak	<i>Blc</i> (William Farrell 'Native Son' x Kaboom 'SVO')	 <p>Steven Fauska's <i>Masdevallia</i> Pat Akehurst 'Golden Zebra' AM/AOS</p>
Ken Cameron	<i>Bletilla striata</i>	
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Bulbophyllum picturatum</i>	
Steven Liu	<i>Cattleya</i> Irene Finney 'Spring's Best'	
Ken Cameron	<i>Cattleya</i> Jewel Box 'Scheherazade' (<i>C. aurantiaca</i> x <i>Slc. Anzac</i>)	
Steven Liu	<i>Cattleya schilleriana</i> 4N	
Ken Cameron	<i>Cymbidium faberi</i> 'JinAoSu'	
Susan Reed	<i>Dendrobium ceraula</i> 'Ricardo'	
Steven Fauska	<i>Dendrobium</i> Spotted Poni (Roy Tokunaga x Little Atro)	
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Lycaste cruenta</i>	
Alfonso Doucette	<i>Masdevallia ampullacea</i>	
Steven Fauska	<i>Masdevallia</i> Pat Akehurst 'Golden Zebra' AM/AOS (<i>Heathii</i> x <i>yungasensis</i>)	
Chris Neumann	<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i> 'Yamada' AM/AOS	
Ken Cameron	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Milton Brown (Hajime Ono x Edie Brown)	
Amy Holt	<i>Odontocidium</i> Catatante 'Pacific Sun Spots' (<i>Onc. Sphacetante</i> x <i>Odcdm. Wild catt</i>)	
Ken Cameron	<i>Oncidium</i> Chaculatum (<i>Charlesworthii</i> (1910) x <i>maculatum</i>)	
Alex Lopez	<i>Paphiopedilum delenatii</i> ('4-08B' x 'Vini')	
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Penn Valley (Inca x <i>mastersianum</i>)	
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Paphiopedilum rothschildianum</i> ('Fine Five' x 'Atticus' AM/AOS)	
David Nevin	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Tempting Phillip (Temptation x <i>philippenense fma albiflorum</i>)	
Steven Fauska	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> MS Golden Smile (Golden Butterfly x <i>equestris</i>)	
Melissa Williams	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Taisuco Jasper 'KV509' (Sogo Metal x <i>pulcherima</i>)	
??	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> x <i>Singuliflora</i> [natural hybrid of <i>bellina</i> and <i>sumatrana</i>]	
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phragmipedium</i> (Mini Grande x <i>kovachii</i>)	
Susan Reed	<i>Phragmipedium caudatum</i> var. <i>giganteum</i>	
Melissa Williams	<i>Phragmipedium caudatum</i> x sib	

May OGG Ribbon Judging Results

First Place (continued)

Ken Cameron	<i>Psychopsis</i> Mendenhall 'Hildos'
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Rhynchobrossoleya</i> Copper Queen 'H&R' (<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Toshie Aoki x <i>Brassocattleya</i> Richard Mueller)
Steven Liu	<i>Tolumnia guianensis</i>
Steven Liu	<i>Tolumnia</i> Jairak Firm 'Sweet Pink' (Rainbow x Plush)

Second Place

Terri Jozwiak	<i>Brassidium</i> Kenneth Bivin 'Santa Barbara' HCC/AOS (<i>Oncidium cariniferum</i> x <i>Brassia arcuigera</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Brassocattleya</i> Aka's Angel (<i>B nodosa</i> x <i>Blc</i> Hawaiian Wedding Song)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Bulbophyllum habrotinum</i> x sib
Lori Getter	<i>Dendrobium</i> Latouria Mini Snowflake (<i>aberrans</i> x <i>johnsoniae</i>)
Steven Liu	<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i>
Steven Fauska	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Bert Field 'Eileen' AM/AOS (Mullato Queen x Woodlands)
Steven Fauska	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> Golden Snows 'White Light' (Frosty Meadow x <i>roezlii</i>)
Damon Smith	<i>Neofenetia</i>
Steven Fauska	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Blake Parker McKinney '1-90' x Hampshire White Oak '11-13')
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Danielle Comeaux '4-22' x Yang Ji 'Soaring Hampshire' HCC/AOS)
Chris Neumann	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Petula Aflame 'But For A Break' x Hawaiian Treasure 'Red Abounds')
Susan Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Kolosand (<i>kolopakingii</i> x <i>sanderianum</i>)
Steven Fauska	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Tempting Philip (Temptation x <i>philippinense</i>)
Chris Neumann	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> 'Star Golden Candy'
Chris Neumann	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> NOID
Lisa Bane	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> NOID
Steven Fauska	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> NOID
Cynthia Wadsworth	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Classic (Twilight x <i>kovachii</i>)
Dan Schmidt	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Fancy (<i>lindleyanum</i> x <i>andreettae</i>)
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Ainsworthii (<i>longifolium</i> x <i>Sedenii</i>)
Jeff Baylis	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Mantinii (Conchiferum x <i>longifolium</i>)
Steven Fauska	<i>Vanda</i> (=Neofinetia) <i>falcata</i>

May OGG Ribbon Judging Results

Third Place

Lisa Bane	<i>Cattleya maxima</i> 'Barbara'
Sean Stake	<i>Gastrochilus japonicus</i>
Steven Fauska	<i>Iwanagara</i> Apple Blossom (pink) (<i>Dial.</i> Snowflake x <i>Blc.</i> Orange Nuggett)
Steven Fauska	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> NOID
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Oncostele</i> Hilo Firecracker 'Lucky Strike' (<i>Oncostele</i> Catatante x Aloha Sparks)
Steven Fauska	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Joanne's Wine '9-3' x Macabre Pleasure 'Hampshire' HCC/AOS)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Delrosi (<i>delenatti</i> x <i>rothschildianum</i>)
Chris Neumann	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Shin-Yi Edward (<i>rothschildianum</i> x Prince Edward of York)
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Chi-Yueh Kaleidoscope (Golden Taipei x Lioulin Pretty Lip)
Jeff Baylis	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Fancy (<i>lindleyanum</i> x <i>andreettae</i>)
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Elizabeth March (<i>Sedenii</i> x <i>besseae</i>)

Miscellaneous – not rated

Benji Miranda	<i>Cattleya purpurata</i>
Steven Liu	<i>Cattleya trianae</i> <i>coerulea</i>
Steven Liu	<i>Dendrobium</i> Royal Chip (Micro Chip x Roy Tokunaga)
Susan Reed	<i>Dendrobium unicum</i>
Alex Lopez	<i>Maxillaria tenuifolia</i> 'Yamada' AM/AOS (yellow)
Benji Miranda	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Yu Pin Dream Girl (Brother Success x Yu Pin Lady)

Gary Lensmeyer's *Phalaenopsis* Chi-Yueh Kaleidoscope
(Golden Taipei x Lioulin Pretty Lip)





Terri Jozwiak's *Bulbophyllum picturatum*



Cynthia Wadsworth's *Phragmipedium Acker's Classic* at home... and below is the giant single flower she brought to Show and Tell.



Left—
Melissa Williams' *Phragmipedium caudatum* x sib



Ken Cameron's *Bletilla striata*



Last month we inadvertently omitted this photo of Ecuagenera's new hybrid, *Phragmipedium* Ken Cameron. Photo courtesy of Ecuagenera



Left -

Jeff Metcalf's *Rhynchobrassoleya* Copper Queen 'H&R' (*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Toshie Aoki x *Brassocattleya* Richard Mueller)

The Witch's Jewel

by Ken Cameron

At our last meeting I talked a little bit about *Cattleya purpurata* var. *Werkhauserii*, which a member had brought for show and tell. We sold two of them at the Mother's Day sale earlier in the month and I snatched one up. This particular variety is one of the most beautiful and unique of all orchids and has an equally fabulous, if not scandalous, history.

Cattleya (Laelia) purpurata comes in dozens of different colors and patterns, from white to rose to purple to the peculiar shade called "cor ardósia," which translates to lead gray or slate-colored. Is the lip purple, blue, black, gray, ash? All of the above! This is the color form that we recognize as variety *Werkhauseri*, also known as the "Witch's Jewel," and is one of the most iconic in orchid culture, marked by rarity and secrecy.

The story goes that two plants with this odd slate gray color were discovered around 1904 by Karl Werkhäuser near either Porto Alegre or Osório, Brazil. One of them had exceptional form and came to be known as 'Superba', the other had the same color but poorer form.

After Karl died in 1914, the unique plants went to his children. His daughter ended up with the big 'Superba' plant, which was almost never seen and which was secured, it is said, behind a door with seven locks. She kept the plant completely hidden for nearly 50 years, refusing to sell or share it, which turned it into a legendary and inaccessible treasure. Because of her fierce secretiveness, frustrated orchid growers began asking each other, "Have you seen the Witch's Jewel?"

It was not until 1949 (other sources say 1954) that she was persuaded to sell a 5-bulb division of this 'Superba' specimen to a group of Brazili-



Detail of Ken Cameron's *Cattleya purpurata* var. *Werkhauserii*

an collectors for a very large sum of money that was never disclosed. It became better known later as variety *Werkhauserii*.

Fortunately for us, from the 1980s onward, meristem cloning and seed propagation has made the variety more accessible and today numerous clones and hybrids exist. The clone that we purchased from Hausermann's last month is 'Blue Sky' but I know that some other Guild members grow the 'striata' clone. One of the most popular has a salmon-pink colored lip. This is *Cattleya purpurata* var. *carnea*, the name referring to the color of raw meat.

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The Witch's Jewel

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So, how do you grow these magnificent orchids? First or all make sure you have plenty of space! Otherwise, according to Arthur A. Chadwich, "*Laelia [Cattleya] purpurata* has the same cultural requirements as the other large-flowered *Cattleya* species. It benefits from lots of sun and moving air and a temperature between 58–60 F (14.5–15.5 C) at night and 80–85 F (26.5–29.5 C) during the day.

"It usually begins sending up new growths in late summer and early autumn in the United States. These growths will be completed by mid-January or early February and buds will begin to form in the sheath after a short rest period. The plants will flower from late May into June, depending on the clone.

"Give *L. purpurata* a few weeks' rest after it flowers by minimizing the watering, but do not let the pseudobulbs shrivel too much. Once the plant begins to grow, it requires lots of water, particularly as the growth elongates beyond 6 inches (15 cm). *Laelia purpurata* can develop some really large pseudobulbs, often exceeding 20 inches (50 cm) from the base of the pseudobulb to the tip of the leaf, if grown well."



Ken Cameron's *Cattleya purpurata* var. *Werkhauserii*





Steven Fauska's *Phalaenopsis* MS Golden Smile
(Golden Butterfly x *equestris*)



Steven Liu's *Cattleya schilleriana* 4N

The Huntington and Orchid Digest

present

Speakers Day 2026, Saturday, June 20, 2026

10:00 am to 7:30 pm

Hybrid event: In-person and Virtual

at The Huntington

1151 Oxford Rd, San Marino, CA 91108

Registration includes:

Four Speakers, Vendors, Book Sales, On-Site
Silent Auction, Happy Hour, Dinner, Recording

Members through 6/12/26:

\$99.00: In-person registration, recording

Virtual \$40.00: lectures, recording

Nonmembers: \$125.00: In-person registration,
recording

Virtual \$55.00: lectures, recording

Non-members: Join now and take advantage of
the member rate for the coming year on all Or-
chid Digest Events, plus the journal!



Jack Zhu: "Beyond the
Bloom: Variegation and
Culture of
Cymbidiums, including
Cymbidium lancifolium"



Nicholas Rust:
"Terrestrial Orchids"



Jason Downing is the
Director of Research at the
Fairchild Tropical Botanic
Garden in Coral Gables



Daniel Geiger:
"Fascination of the
Overlooked Miniature:
Oberonia"



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