

November
2025

The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org



Meeting Dates

- November 16
- December 21, venue TBA

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

Up-Coming Events

- November 1-2, Eastern Iowa' Orchid Society's Show, "Orchids Are a Scream 2025", Radisson Hotel Conference Center, 1200 Collins Rd, Cedar Rapids IA
- February 7-8, 2026, Orchid Quest, Monona Terrace
- March 7-8, Illinois Orchid Society Show
- March 21-22, Batavia Orchid Show
- June 11-15, Native Orchid Conference, Green Bay

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Next Meeting, November 16th

Growing Award-Winning Paphiopedilums

Our speaker will be Arnie Klehm from Klehmgro Nurseries out of greater Chicago, IL. Arnie was gifted his first orchid when he was 19 years old from his father. He hasn't stopped since. From American Orchid Society judge, award-winning Paphiopedilum breeder, and a lifelong career in greenhouse operations.



Klehm and plants are synonymous. Their family grown, award-winning plants can be found at Chicagoland Farmer's Markets, six Woodman's grocery stores, Orchid Shows, direct customer sales, and pop-ups. Situated on 15 beautiful acres in the lush growing area of Hampshire IL, **KLEHMGRO** features one expansive greenhouse, hoop houses, and a peony field.

President's Message

President's Message November 2025 It was so nice to have Kristin Uthus come all the way from Michigan to share her knowledge and passion for growing Masdevallias and Draculas! How many miniature orchids did you add to your collection? I know there are some members that have a lot of experience in growing these types of orchids. Perhaps there will be a future "mini-meeting" of members that would like to get even more tips and tricks for growing them.

I have been going over some of the preliminary results from the survey that many of you filled out. One of the main things that stuck out to me was that of the 43 surveys returned, 32 (74%!) were filled out by people who have been a member of the Orchid Growers Guild for less than 5 years with 25 (58%) being a member for less than 2 years. I would like to thank those new members for finding us and bringing their energy and enthusiasm to the Guild! I look forward to working with you as we grow more than orchids. I also look forward to you

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AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

Old photos of Orchid Quest when it was at West Towne or even the Alliant Center and/or photographs of members from long ago are needed. Please send copies to Ken Cameron.

kmcameron@wisc.edu

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finding your own niche if/when you choose to volunteer at Orchid Quest!

Another thing that jumped out at me was that Cattleyas and Paphiopedilums were the orchid alliance that people wanted to learn more about. It just so happens that our November speaker will be Arnie Klehm from Klehm Growers in Hampshire, Illinois. Arnie has been growing orchids since he was 19 years old. You may recognize him as an AOS judge that some of you may have clerked for at Orchid Quest. He specializes in Paphiopedilum hybrids and has so many AOS awards that he has lost track of how many. He will not be offering presales but he will be bringing plants to the meeting for sale.

As the year draws to a close, I'd like to remind you that you can sign up for the Holiday/Anniversary Celebration at Rex's Innkeeper in Waunakee through the website. It's been 15 years since we've had a group celebration of this magnitude. You pay \$10 and get a family style meal. Santa Chuck will also be making an appearance. For those of you unfamiliar with this event, Santa and his elves at the North of Hawaii work hard to find orchids in the \$30-\$75 range. Some of the plants are hidden in gift bags, some are not. You will be given a random Holiday Number Card and the plants will also be chosen randomly.

It remains to be seen if there will be stealing or horse-trading. At any rate, members pay only \$10 for the chance to get in on the fun and take home one of these green beauties. What a great way to say Happy Holidays!

— Meredyth Graham

PROGRAMMING TIMELINE	
Schedule is Approximate as Follows:	
•	12:00 pm Doors Open for Setup
•	12:30 Socializing During Plant Judging
•	1:00 Meeting Begins; Announcements
•	1:15 Show & Tell Table
•	1:45 pm Break
•	2:00 Guest Speaker Arnold Klehm, In-Person
•	3:00 pm Plant Sales
•	3:15 pm Closing Thoughts & Door Prizes
•	3:30 pm Meeting Ends



Orchid Quest Up-date

Orchid Quest is February 7-8 with set-up on Friday, February 6. Plans are going well. Vendors are signing up, ribbons are purchased, advertising is being ordered, silent auction is being organized, orchid societies are being contacted, judges are planning to come. And it is just the start of November. Amazing plans. Amazing volunteers.

"Team Red" is meeting at Perkins, 2630 Damon Rd, Madison (off Fish Hatchery) on Tuesday, November 11 at 5:30 pm.

Team Red is with Terri Jozwiak and includes:

- Admission Table - Lisa B
- Computer Program - Christina K, Julie U.
- Friday Dinner - Sean S
- Graphics - Denise
- Head Clerk - Liz B, Rachel M (not needed at this meeting)
- Judges Contact - Terri
- Kids Area - Terri
- Layout - Terri
- OGG Exhibit - Ken C, Sue R (not needed at this meeting)
- OGG Sales Table - Sean S
- Photographer - Amy H, Jacqui Z (not needed at this meeting)
- Promotional items - Kristin R
- Sewing Committee - Lisa B
- Show Book - Sue R, Denise, Ken (not needed at this meeting)
- Silent Auction - Lori H, Judy G
- Silent Auction/Raffle businesses procurement - Lisa L.
- Sponsor Procurement - Evan B
- Vendor Coordinator - Lorraine, Steve L
- Volunteer Coordinator - Meg G

Orchid Quest Up-date: SOFT

The SOFT (Sewing Orchid Fabric Team) has been hard at work. We have eight people creating a variety of products to sell at OQ '26, from coasters to bowl cozies and several types of bags to hold your phone and essentials, cosmetics, or even to keep your orchid labels in. If you have suggestions of possible items you think would sell, send them along to me, Lisa 414-416-6578, and we'll see if one of the team can take on the challenge. We are thinking useful items and not such big items so we have enough to make our mark in this new endeavor. Thanks to Judy Geisler, Carmen Golde, Diane Hoefer, RayEtta Jones, Ellen Karlson, Alice Peterson and Liz Wood for joining me in the sewing orchid fabric quest.

— Lisa Bane



"Team Blue" is meeting at Lorraine's place 109 Green Lake Pass, Madison on Tuesday, November 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Team Blue is with Sandra Gray and includes:

- Awards - Nancy T
- Catering - Sandra
- Donation Coordinator - Lisa L
- Email Blast - Damon
- Gift Coordinator - Jill H
- MC for speaker - unknown
- Advertising - Ken, Brian, Cynthia
- Membership Table - Lynn W, Cynthia, Sandra, Jan M
- Plant Check - Steve F
- Raffle - Carrie & Judy W
- Society Coordinator - Nancy T
- Speaker Program - Ted C
- Truck Rental - Damon

Thank you to everyone who is working on a committee already. Don't worry, there still is plenty to volunteer for if you haven't got a spot yet. Many jobs are just on Saturday and Sunday of Orchid Quest.

— Terri Jozwiak

OCTOBER OGG RIBBON JUDGING

Another great showing with 55 plants brought to the meeting by 20 plus members!

First Place

Sandra Gray	<i>Brassocattleya Rustic Spots</i> (<i>Brassocattleya</i> Richard Mueller × <i>Cattleya</i> Landate)
Meg Graham	<i>Brassocattleya</i> Walter August (<i>Cattleya</i> Summer Spot ‘Carmela’ HCC/AOS × <i>Brassavola nodosa</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Brassolaelia</i> Yellow Bird (Bl. Richard Mueller × <i>Brassavola nodosa</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Cattleya labiata</i> var <i>coerulea</i>
Patricia Jones	<i>Cattleya pumila</i>
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Degarmoara</i> Shibumi ‘Purple Rain’ [= <i>Wilhelmara</i>] (<i>Rhynchonia</i> Honolulu Rain × <i>Bratonia</i> Charles M. Fitch)
Rachel Miller	<i>Dendrobium</i> Enobi Purple ‘Splash’ AM/AOS (Enobi Komachi × Laguna Princess)
Keeley & Berry	<i>Dendrobium farmeri</i> pink × sib
Ken Cameron	<i>Habenaria</i> Jiaho Yellow Bird (<i>rhodocheila</i> × <i>medusa</i>)
Travis Wilson	<i>Leptotes bohnkiana</i> ‘DO’
Lynn West	<i>Oncidium</i> Heaven Scent ‘Redolence’ (Ruffles × Sharry Baby)
Mary Kraft-Lee	<i>Oncostelopsis</i> Fran’s Jewels ‘Rudy’ (<i>Oncostele</i> Jacks Alive × <i>Oncidopsis</i> Francine)
David Gobeill	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Macabre Charisma × Hawaiian Illusion)
Meg Graham	<i>Paphiopedilum bellatulum</i>
Ken Cameron	<i>Paphiopedilum helenae</i>
Patricia Jones	<i>Paphiopedilum helenae</i>
David Nevin	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Katano Kolopadai (<i>kolopakingii</i> album × <i>dianthus</i> alba)
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Macabre Pride (Macabre Pops ‘Dominant Gene’ × Enchantingly Wood ‘Elegance’)
No Name	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Prim-n-Proper (<i>glanduliferum</i> × <i>primulinum</i>)
David Nevin	<i>Pectabenaria</i> Ambrosia (<i>Habenaria</i> Erich’s Pink Thing × <i>Pecteilis hawkesiana</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica</i>
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium besseae</i> ‘Peruvian Sunset’ species
Sandra Gray	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber Flavacolor
Melissa Williams	<i>Rhynchonia</i> Pacific Paranoia ‘Otherside of Cool’ [= <i>Odontonia</i>] (<i>Rhynchostele bictoniensis</i> × <i>Miltonia</i> Honolulu)
Melissa Williams	<i>Rhynchostylis coelestis</i> ‘Blue’
David Nevin	<i>Slc</i> Sacramento Jewel ‘SVO’ × <i>Potinara</i> Loretta Rehmann ‘SVO’
Ken Cameron	<i>Spiranthes bightensis</i> ‘Chadds Ford’
Melissa Williams	<i>Vanda</i> Pine Rivers × Fuchs Sunset
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Vuylstekeara</i> Melissa Brianne ‘Dark’ (<i>Miltonia</i> Anne Warne × <i>Oncidium</i> Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)
Ken Cameron	<i>Wilhelmara</i> Pinot Princess ‘Scary’ (<i>Rhynchostele bictoniensis</i> × <i>Bratonia</i> Kauai’s Choice)

Second Place

Jeff Metcalf	<i>Brassocattleya</i> Nakornpathome Silver (Bc. Binosa × <i>Brassavola nodosa</i>)
Amy Holt	<i>Catasetum</i> (<i>sanguineum</i> ‘Xlnt Shape’ × <i>albo-virens</i> ‘SVO’)

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Sandra Gray	<i>Cattleya</i> Cariad's Mini-Quinee 'Angel Kiss' (Mini Purple × <i>intermedia</i>)
Melissa Williams	<i>Cattlianthe</i> Mary Elizabeth Bohn 'Royal Flare' AM/AOS (Blue Boy × <i>Guarianthe bowringiana</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Dendrobium victoria-reginae</i>
Travis Wilson	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Egret's Fantasy (Jeweled Moon 'Slipper Zone Tall Stuff
HCC/AOS × Jewel Green	'Withdrawn')
Ken Cameron	<i>Paphiopedilum venustum</i> var. album
Melissa Williams	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Miro Red Dragon (KS Red Zebra × Zheng Min Tyrannosaurus)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Meredyth 'Chucks Muse' Pricilla's Pirouette × <i>kovachii</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber 'Stella' AM/AOS (Eric Young × <i>besseae</i>)
Patricia Jones	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Fliquet (Leslie Garay × Mem Dick Clements)
Patricia Jones	<i>Phragmipedium</i> NOID
Chris Neumann	<i>Phragmipedium pearcei</i> 'Fox Valley' HCC/AOS × <i>fischeri</i> 'Purple Puff'
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Pink Panther (<i>schlimii</i> × <i>fischeri</i>)
Sandra Gray	<i>Prosthechea mariae</i>
Jeff Baylis	<i>Psychopsis</i> Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS (Butterfly × <i>papillio</i>)
Lynn West	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Lana Farrell (Rlc. William Farrell × <i>Cattleya</i> Lana Coryell)
Travis Wilson	<i>Tsubotaara</i> Melinda Marie 'Blue Sapphire' (<i>Pabanisia</i> Eva's Blue Amazon × <i>Zygonisia</i> Cynosure)

Third Place

Steven Liu	<i>Brassavola nodosa</i> × <i>Cattleya</i> Lulu
Meg Graham	<i>Dendrobium</i> NOID
Steven Fauska	<i>Oncidium</i> Lovely Penguin (Lovely Morning × Strawberry)
Sandra Gray	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (Barbi's Delight × <i>godefroyae</i>)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Dick Meade (Ouens Oak × Acoma for Dinner)
Steven Fauska	<i>Phalaenopsis pulcherrima</i> ('Arlington' × 'Supaporn')
Steven Fauska	<i>Prosthechea cochleata</i> ('Pepe' × 'Jules & Elaine' AM/AOS)



Melissa Williams' *Vanda* Pine Rivers
× Fuchs Sunset



Meredyth Graham's *Paphiopedilum*
bellatulum



Sandra Gray's *Phragmipedium*
Don Wimber Flavacolor

Opportunity awaits . . .

The club purchased this flat of *Phalaenopsis* Meen Estrella (*Phal. cornu cervi* x *Phal. Tetraspis*) from Carter and Holmes orchids. The club will be selling these large plants for \$10.00 each bare-rooted at the November meeting. If you have never tried growing novelty *Phalaenopsis* here is your chance because they are not like your standard *Phalaenopsis* which produce long flower spikes. These stay short and compact, great for windowsill or growing under lights. If you are interested in one or two plants, I will set up by the raffle table so please bring a small bag to transport your orchid home in. And if you are new to orchid growing, here is your chance to learn how to plant a bare rooted plant. These are very lush foliage, blooming size plants ready for 4-inch pots. This is a sequential flow-



ering cross so do not cut spikes each year. Easy to grow and flower next summer

—Gerald King



These are photographs are of some first bloomed seedlings plants from last year. Being they are seedlings, each one is different.



Rachel Miller's *Dendrobium* Enobi
Purple 'Splash' AM/AOS (Enobi
Komachi x Laguna Princess)



David Nevin's *Pectabenaria* Ambrosia
(*Habenaria* Erich's Pink Thing x
Pecteilis hawkesiana)



Christine Keeley & Jason Berry's
Dendrobium farmeri pink x sib

Chat With Chuck #2

The second installment of 'Chat with Chuck' is in the books! Tuesday October 21st at 6 PM Ellen Karlson, Alex Lopez, Mary Kinsley, Travis Wilson and Lori Hornung arrived at my house in Waunakee for an intimate evening of sharing orchid knowledge and conversation.

Everyone brought something ranging from fertilizers to water samples and potting materials. And of course, plants from their collection that they had questions or concerns about. The questions, comments and conversations were flowing and we shared knowledge between each of us for the next two hours. Not only did the participants learn from me but also from ideas shared between each other!

I enjoyed this meeting very much!! I am looking forward to setting up another 'Chat with Chuck' event



Photograph by M. Graham

From right of Chuck: Ellen Karlson, Lori Hornung, Alex Lopez, Mary Kinsley and Travis Wilson

on Tuesday November 18th for five members to partake in. There will be a sign-up sheet at the November meeting for this event. See you all then!

Happy Growing!— Chuck Acker

The chat with Chuck was informative and enjoyable. Each member brought a problem orchid and Chuck diagnosed it and discussed a treatment plan. It became a great discussion among the group. You learned a lot about different types of orchids. It was nice to meet new members so when you attend meetings there is a familiar face.

— Lori Hornung

October OGG Meeting Summary

Another very large crowd was in attendance to hear our in-person speaker, Dr. Kristen Uthus of New World Orchids. Kristen provided the following summary of her talk.

Kristen talked about Masdevallias and Draculas, two genera that many people are afraid to grow. She explained that while the temperature requirements scare a lot of people, most orchid growers are well within the temperature range for *all* orchids, including the cool growers. In addition, potting and watering suggestions were discussed noting that these genera belong to the Pleurothallid Alliance which means that they like to be grown wetter than most orchids. Kristen suggested that nervous growers could start with one of the Masdevallia hybrids as they are very hardy and resilient.

New World Orchids will be a vendor at Orchid Quest 2026. If you missed out on the opportunity to purchase plants from Kristen you'll have another chance next February. Kristen pointed

out that orchid hobbyists generally fall into one of two camps when buying orchids: form-person or flower-person. You are a form-person if you would buy an orchid without knowing what the flowers look like and would readily buy Masdevallias and Draculas. There are however, Masdevallias that a flower-person would like. With the cultural information provided for Midwest growers and plants that appeal to both form and flower people, it's possible to successfully add unique orchids to your collection. Kristen recommended checking out Andy's Orchids web site <https://andysorchids.com/> and Orchid Species website <https://www.orchidspecies.com/> for cultural requirements. Keep in mind that natural habitat ranges does not equal tolerance ranges. Many plants can tolerate wider ranges than they experience in their natural habitat.



— Lynn West



Travis Wilson's *Leptotes bohnkiana* 'DO'



Melissa Williams' *Rhynchostylis coelestis* 'Blue'

Chuck's Orchid Challenge 2025 Awarded!

Another incredible turnout for the October meeting! The enthusiasm among our members to learn more about orchids is increasing each month.

We witnessed the slides for winner of the 'First to Bloom' challenge plant (and what a challenge it was) of the *Prosthechea mariae* and congratulated Terri Jozwiak as the 1st place winner! She was awarded a \$50 check in which I am confident she will spend buying more orchids!

Second runner up was Liz Wood and was also awarded in this criterion. I wanted to award her for the fact that we discovered at last year's November water test meeting that she was using softened water for her orchid plants. Changing her water to a non-softened source made a world of difference, not only for her challenge plant but for her entire collection. A true testament to knowing your water source! She was awarded a \$40 check!

For the judging of 'Most Robust' plant I summoned two members from the group Jerry King and Lori Getter, to give me their unbiased opinion. It just so happened that they both picked Terri's plant as most robust grown! Terri was not in the running for this as we state in the rules you can only win in one of the criteria. So, we went on to the next plant and low and behold they chose Liz Wood's plant! Liz was also not eligible for the same reason. Thirdly, they picked Ellen Karlson's plant and she was

awarded a \$30 check for 'Most Robust' plant! Congratulations Terri, Liz and Ellen!

The 2026 Challenge Plants of *Psychopsis* Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS were passed out at the end of the meeting. I am looking forward to seeing much better results at judging next



The plant circled in blue is Terri's "first to bloom," the red is Liz's second to bloom and the yellow is Ellen's "most robust".

year. You may have noticed there is a letter A or a letter B on the back of your label. At a future meeting I will be talking about why these two letter designations will be important to the judging of this challenge, so stay tuned!

Happy growing everyone!

— Chuck Acker

A Scouting Mission for Future Expeditions (and Other Notes for Away Teams)

I attended Orchid Odyssey at the Chicago Botanic Gardens hosted by the Illinois Orchid Society on October 11th and 12th. I had two missions, first, sell orchids as I went down primarily as a vendor and second, to scope out the show to see if we would want to add it back into our away show schedule. My understanding is we used to send a team with orchids to display but interest waned as did the popularity of the show and it was dropped from the schedule. I sold quite a few orchids and got a second place ribbon for my educational display on *Phragmipedium humboldtii*.

There were many great displays and some awesome vendors. The IOS display was right next to my booth



and was absolutely stunning. I got to watch them put it together while we were both setting up Friday evening. I believe they won best exhibit and had many blue ribbon plants. Also next to me on the other side was an educational display by the IOS president on her *Perestera elata* orchids that bloomed for the first time for her. They are extremely tall, stunning orchids. Check out the pictures! Next to that were the most perfect orchids you will ever see, they are always in bloom and always look great. They were also made of clay but many people would stop and ask because they looked so realistic. As with any orchid show there were so many amazing plants from the miniatures to the giants, not to mention it was at the Chicago Botanic Garden, just a few nice things to look at there too.

Now our club is growing in attendance (and hopefully in orchids!) so perhaps it is time to revisit expanding our travel schedule. I have had one member



express interest in helping lead this team but he would need another teammate to make this expedition viable and more is better. Plus they would need orchids from the members. For this I challenge each of you to think about how you could send an orchid to a show. If you are worried about your plant, come talk to the experts in the club who send their plants to shows. Find out what you need to do it. Maybe

you need help getting that orchid to bloom again.

Maybe you are not sure how to protect it on the journey or make it look its best for the judges. Come to Orchid Quest to see how amazing our displays can be. If we could send half the number of plants to any away show that we have at Orchid Quest, we would compete with any club for



the top spot. Tell us what prevents you from sending an orchid to an away show. If we have a common theme that is hindering the membership perhaps we can schedule some education on that topic. If every member just had one orchid for each away show our displays would be glorious!

— Text and photos by Sean Stake

Orchid Oddities: *Oeceoclades monophylla*

The genus *Oeceoclades* (pronounced EE-see-oh-CLAY-dees) is native to Africa and Madagascar and some smaller nearby islands. Collectively they are sometimes referred to as the snake or snakeskin orchids because of the patterns on their leaves. However, the rattlesnake orchid usually refers to *Goodyera* species including a couple native to Wisconsin. So, let's stick to scientific names on this one, besides, *Oeceoclades* rolls right off the tongue doesn't it?

On that note, the taxonomy is not clear on this orchid. Depending on who you listen to it could be grouped with *Oeceoclades maculata*, which some taxonomists have placed back in the genus *Eulophia*. From what I have seen it is a different species, I am not a taxonomist but I am a biologist. The leaves on plants labeled *maculata* stay green, *monophylla* turn copper or bronze, the pseudobulbs are different shapes as are the leaves. *Monophylla* also has a more prominent tiger striping on the leaves. As far as the genera *Eulophia* vs. *Oeceoclades*, I can see differences between them but I am not versed in taxonomy to know if those differences rise to the level of splitting genera. Typically the orchid is still sold as *Oeceoclades monophylla* so the growers seem to think it's different.

Oeceoclades monophylla is an odd orchid in-



I keep my *Oeceoclades monophylla* with my cacti and succulents!



My *Oeceoclades monophylla*, note the leaf

deed. If you keep cacti or succulents, you have some idea how to keep these orchids. They are terrestrial orchids that live primarily in deciduous forests where there are distinct dry seasons and are prone to drought. Not habitats usually associated with orchids. They grow in warm to hot conditions and can tolerate some direct sun but do well with medium direct light and bright indirect light. The most important thing is to keep them in a well draining medium as they do not like to stay wet. This orchid must dry out between waterings, err on the side of watering less with this plant. While it is not closely related to the jewel orchids of the subtribe *Goodyerinae*, it is often associated with them because of its striking foliage and small, less impressive flowers. It has patterned copper leaves that are produced with each new pseudobulb. The leaves are tough and leathery lasting a long time.

It produces a few thick roots with each new growth to capture and help store water. The roots pass water and nutrients to round, robust pseudobulbs that get the plant through drought conditions.

Producing 5-15 small pink flowers per stalk rising well above the plant, *O. monophylla* flowers infrequently. *Oeceoclades* has been crossed with *Cymbidiums*.

If you are a chronic under-waterer, this may be the plant for you, especially if you like unique foliage. I hope to get mine to flower in the future to bring in for show and tell but I may enter it in the foliage class at Orchid Quest anyway.

— Text and photos by Sean Stake

Fungus Gnats in Your Home?

Every winter, I always have problems with fungus gnats. They show up after I bring my plants back inside and when I decorate my home with poinsettias and other holiday plants. These tiny flies reproduce quickly and thrive on wet soil and orchid bark. It doesn't take long before they are climbing on or flying around all my plants.

Fortunately, fungus gnats are more of a nuisance than anything. Over the years, I've tried various insecticides, yellow sticky flags and other home remedies to try to get rid of them. As a pet owner, I avoid using insecticides indoors. I worry my curious cats will get into the plants and possibly get sick. I've always thought the yellow sticky flags looked ugly and never caught that many gnats. The home remedy of placing dishes with apple cider vinegar and dish soap around my house made more of a mess than was a success at catching fungus gnats.

A few years ago, I discovered a plug-in that



Results after plugged in for a week. The device runs 24 hours a day and at night it also becomes a night light while still catching pesky fungus gnats.

looks like a nightlight but safely traps fungus gnats and other small, flying insects. The plug-in attracts them with a UV light, and they end up getting stuck on a glue trap that faces towards the outlet. No more looking at dead bugs and the glue card can easily be thrown out and replaced when full. I have one in every room that I have plants, and they have made a huge difference. No more gnats flying around my



Larger models can be placed anywhere. This card was full after one month. The device had been placed on the floor near a cart that holds assorted orchids and house plants

home. I'm amazed after just a few weeks, how full the glue cards are with dead fungus gnats.

For rooms or small greenhouses that have several plants and/or a fungus gnat infestation, there are larger devices available. Some companies are selling devices the size of a soda can. They run on electricity and have a long cord so they can be placed on bookshelves, countertops, plant stands and other locations. These devices also have a small fan near the UV light and a glue card to help attract and trap them.

Several local and online businesses sell these types of indoor plug-in devices and additional sticky glue traps. The small, plug-in trap is available in stores for under \$15. The larger shelf models cost around \$25. The glue traps are usually sold in bundles and come in various sizes.

— Lori Getter



Chris Neumann's *Phragmipedium pearcei* 'Fox Valley' HCC/AOS × *fischeri* 'Purple Puff'



**The wife of OGG founding member
Wayne King**

Hattie Loraine King
October 11, 1941 – October 19, 2025



COTTAGE GROVE —
Hattie Loraine King, age 84, of Cottage Grove, passed away on Sunday, October 19, 2025, at Meriter Hospital.

A memorial service will be held at **FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**, 203 Wisconsin Ave., Madison, at 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 1, 2025, with the Rev. Ran Yoo presiding. A luncheon and a celebration of her life will follow at the church. Burial will take place at Highland Memory Gardens at 11 a.m. on Monday, November 3, 2025.

For more information and online condolences, please visit www.gundersonfh.com.

Gunderson East
Funeral & Cremation Care
5203 Monona Drive
(608) 223-5429



Orchid Conservation Alliance Orchids in the Wild Ecotours Registration now open!

**Orchids and Fauna of Zimbabwe
February 3-20, 2026**

**Orchids of Rhodes:
World Orchid Conference (WOC)
Pretour! March 17-24, 2026**

**Orchids and Spring Flowers of the
Gargano Peninsula
April 13-20, 2026**

**Orchids of the Rio Negro.
May 22-June 2, 2026**

**Orchids of Northern Yunnan
June 15-28, 2026**

We have additional tours in the planning stages. Once we have final itinerary and pricing we will post on the upcoming tours page of the OCA website:

<https://orchidconservationalliance.org/ecotours/>

For your future planning:

- Orchids of Colombia (late July/early August 2026)
- Pre-International Orchid Symposium (Kathmandu, Nepal) tour to Chitwan National Park, Nepal (Nov 14-17, 2026).
- Post-International Orchid Symposium (Kathmandu, Nepal) conference tour to Panchese Orchid Reserve, Nepal (Nov 21-24, 2026)