

JUNE  
2024

# The Orchid Grower



Orchid Growers Guild of

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

**NEXT MEETING JUNE 23rd**

**ANNUAL OGG PICNIC**

5546 Huntingwood Way

Waunakee

SEE PAGE 8 FOR DETAILS



## Meeting Dates

- June 23, Picnic, Westport
- September 15

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

## Up-Coming Events

- September 20-22, Chicagoland Orchid Fest
- February 1-2, 2025 OQ
- February 15-16 Batavia show
- March 1-2 Milaeger's Show
- March 8-9 Illinois show

## Officers and Committees

### President:

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi OGG members,

We had everything from orchids to clivias to rain barrels and humidity trays!

The speaker, Nickolas Rust, removed the mystery of growing Habenarias! He also showed some of the great hybrids now available and some of the inter-generic hybrids using Habenarias. I am glad that Nicholas then sent us a fresh listing of what was available on his website with a discount. He had also done a zoom meeting with the Minnesota Orchid Society the day before our meeting! So he is a popular speaker as well as very thorough in his presentation.

An update on Orchid Quest 2025. Olbrich has given us their blessing for our move to Monona Terrace. We will continue to have our monthly meetings and Spring sale at Olbrich. Monona Terrace is excited to have Orchid Quest at their venue. A win-win situation for everyone concerned.

June 23 is our picnic at Meg's home with more information in the newsletter. We will be having orchid show-and-tell plus judging at this informal meeting. If you missed the silent auction meeting, or if you discover something you had forgotten to bring, you are welcome to bring your item(s) to the June picnic for another silent auction.

Hopefully we will have great weather for this occasion! We have had enough of these strong storms!

Thanks again for your participation and see you at the picnic!

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— Sue Reed

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**Liaisons:**

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

## May Meeting Re-Cap

The very successful 2023-2024 Orchid show and meeting season came to a close on May 19<sup>th</sup>. At this last meeting of the year the members voted on a slate of candidates for the open Board of Directors positions. Sue Reed renewed as OGG president and Nancy Thomas renewed as OGG Member at Large. New to the Board of Directors is Ken Cameron, who will take over the position of Treasurer for Denise Baylis.

Even though most orchids are at the end of their blooming cycle, we once again had beautiful table plants for ribbon judging. The meeting agenda didn't allow for a detailed discussion of individual table plants, but the quality of the plants was undeniable.

A silent auction of members' orchids, house plants, and miscellaneous supplies was ongoing from the start of the meeting until after the speaker's talk. Members brought in an incredible number of plants and supplies. All but two orchids were sold to members. Thanks to everyone who bid on plants and to those who organized and ran the event.

The speaker was Nick Rust, owner, and founder of Rusty Exotics Orchids. He has only been hybridizing orchids since 2018, focusing on *Habenaria* but had a large number of crosses to analyze during the talk. His talk provided a basic overview of the breeding traits of the species used in the hybrids. The colors and shape of the blooms are spectacular and unique. If you are interested in adding *Habenaria* to your collection but aren't quite sure if you can meet their needs, then check out the cultural document available on his website. This is not a one or two paragraph culture summary. The cultural guide is 13 pages and includes many color photos to add clarity to the text. Nick provided a discount code to OGG members interested in purchasing plants. Thank you Nick for the discount and for providing the updated list of available plants.

— Lynn West



We were able to meet in the classrooms which greatly facilitated the silent auction, ribbon judging and our Zoom meeting.

The counter below the windows at the rear was able to accommodate most of the plants.

# OGG May Ribbon Judging

## First Place

Dan Schmidt	<i>Cattleya Hamana Egret</i> ( <i>dubiosa</i> 'Scullys' HCC/AOS x <i>walkeriana</i> 'the Chairman' AM/AOS)
Rachel Miller	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i> ('Pink Giant' x 'Orange Delight')
Rachel Miller	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i> ('Rojo' x 'Chris' red)
Meredyth Graham	<i>Gomesa Jiaho Queen</i> 'Jiaho' FCC/AOS ( <i>Mulatta's Dancing</i> x <i>varicose</i> )
Amy Holt	<i>Howeara Lava Burst</i> 'Puanani' ( <i>Hwra. Mini-Primi</i> x <i>Rdza. secunda</i> )
Meredyth Graham	<i>Iwanagaara Apple Blossom</i> 'Mendenhall' ( <i>Dial. Snowflake</i> x <i>Blc. Orange Nugget</i> )
Sue Reed	<i>Masdevallia pinocchio</i>
Lynn West	<i>Paph Phyllis Prestia</i> ( <i>conco-bellathum</i> x <i>thaiantum</i> )
Meredyth Graham	<i>Pcv. Key Lime Stars</i> 'Kaima Bay' ( <i>Ctyh. Lime Sherbet</i> x <i>Brassavola nodosa</i> )
Christina Keeley	<i>Phal speciosa</i> 'Purple Mountain'
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phal</i> unregistered hybrid (speckled with purple)
Dan Schmidt	<i>Phrag</i> ( <i>lindleyanum</i> x <i>andreettae</i> )
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phrag</i> <i>Cardinale</i> ( <i>schlimii</i> x <i>Sedenii</i> )
Chuck Acker	<i>Phrag</i> <i>Mem Ann Stuckey</i> ( <i>pearcei</i> x <i>Silver Eagle</i> )
Meredyth Graham	<i>Phrag</i> <i>Stairway To Heaven</i> ( <i>humboldti</i> x <i>wallisi</i> 'Gary Dickey')
Ken Cameron	<i>Porrovalia Ecuagenera</i> ( <i>Porroglossum Muscosum</i> x <i>Masdevallia norops</i> )
Amy Holt	<i>Encyclia tampensis</i>

## Second Place

Jeff Metcalf	<i>Angraecum pseudofilicornu</i> x self
Cynthia Wadsworth	<i>Ascocentrum ampullaceum</i>
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Bletia florida</i>
Rachel Miller	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i> red/yellow x sib
Sandra Gray	<i>Dendrobium tetragonum</i> var. <i>Album</i> x sib
Sue Reed	<i>Paph</i> <i>Tiny Leopard</i> ( <i>Little By Little</i> x <i>Mary's Little Leopard</i> )
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phal</i> <i>Lianher Red Diamond</i> 'LH1051-4' ( <i>Lianher Super Red</i> x <i>Charm Sun Big Red Robe</i> )
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phal</i> unregistered hybrid
Dan Schmidt	<i>Phal</i> unregistered hybrid
Sue Reed	<i>Phrag</i> unknown
Christina Keeley	<i>Vanda</i> <i>Siriporn Pink</i> 'Tony' ( <i>East More</i> x <i>Fuchs Delight</i> )
Rachel Miller	<i>Den cuthbertsonii</i> ('Chris' Red x 'Red Delicious')
Amy Holt	<i>Renanthera</i> ( <i>Red Flame</i> x <i>monachica</i> ) x self
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phal</i> unregistered hybrid MINI

## Third Place

Amy Holt	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> <i>Rene Komoda</i> x <i>roezlii v. xantina</i>
	<i>Oncidium</i> intergeneric unknown





# OGG May Ribbon Judging



Ken Cameron's *Porrovallia*  
*Ecuagenera* (*Porroglossum Muscosum* x *Masdevallia norops*)



Cynthia Wadsworth 's  
*Ascocentrum ampullaceum*



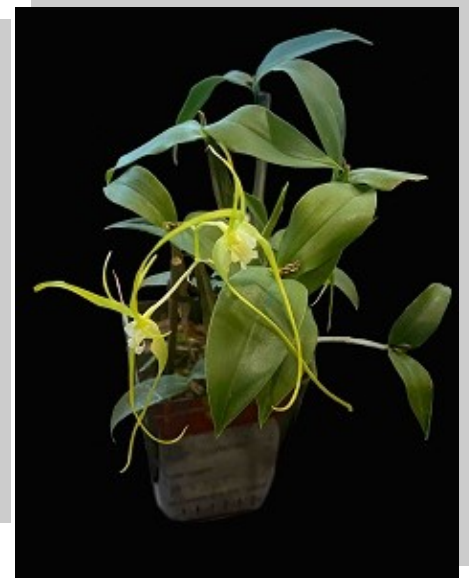
Jeff Metcalf's *Phal* Lianher Red  
Diamond 'LH1051-4' (Lianher Super Red x Charm Sun Big Red Robe)



Lynn West's *Paph* Phyllis Prestia  
(*conco-bellatum* x *thaianum*)  
PROJECT PLANT



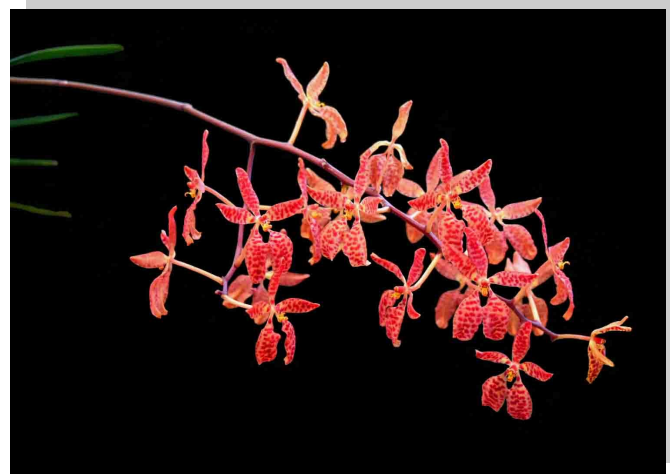
Meredyth Graham's *Gomesa*  
Jiaho Queen 'Jiaho' FCC/AOS  
(*Mulatta's Dancing* x *varicose*)  
CHALLENGE PLANT



Sandra Gray's *Dendrobium*  
*tetragonum* var. *Album* x *sib*



Dan Schmidt's *Phrag* (*lindleyanum* x *andreettae*)  
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Amy Holt's *Renanthera* (*Red Flame* x  
*monachica*) x *self*

# *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*: One Member's Obsession



*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*  
(‘Chris’ Red x ‘Red Delicious’)



*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*  
(‘Pink Giant’ x ‘Orange Delight’)



*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*  
red/yellow x sib



*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*  
(‘Rojo’ x ‘Chris’ red)

I am obsessed with our *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii*'s or, as we call them at home, "The Babies" and hope one day to have a *D. cuthbertsonii* forest! I haven't had these cuthbertsoniis very long. My daughter bought her plant at Orchid Quest 2024. I bought two of mine from Golden Gate Orchids and another from an individual sale. Even though I haven't had them an entire growing season, they are developing new growths and buds in their current growing conditions, and I am exploring ways to grow them outside. I am looking forward to stretching my skills to find how to keep these cool-loving plants that like to be wet-all-the-time- but-not-too-wet happy as my house goes through its seasonal changes.

The fact that their flowers are bigger than the plants and are very long lasting really adds to the appeal of my growing area, and I wasn't aware until recently that they come in so many colors. Also, I find it so appealing to have a tiny, flowering plant in a 1.25" pot - like something that belongs in a doll's house.

It is also rewarding to grow a plant some consider fussy. Two years ago, I bought a *Sophranitis coccinea* at Orchid Quest. Standing in line to buy the plant, the customer behind me said I shouldn't get it, because they are difficult to grow, but I always wanted one and bought it anyway. That plant never looked back even with some neglect while I was traveling and even rewarded me with flowers this year.

My daughter grows the first one we got and does it all wrong by what information is out there on them. She waters hers with well water. It lived in an east-facing window until the sun got too hot the beginning of May. Now it lives under a combo of LED and T5 grow lights over a humidity tray. The light can best be described as "intermediate," where paphs and phals do well. This plant has never had a bad day and has developed many new growths and flowers since she acquired it. It is potted in sphagnum moss and gets 1/2 strength MSU fertilizer in distilled water weekly and Kelpak added every 2-3 weeks.

When I got my first one, it was living in a 1.25" pot filled with sphagnum moss. My plan was to put it next to her plant in the east-facing window. After 3 days, I realized it didn't like that as it developed several red leaves. I immediately moved it under the lights over the humidity tray, and slowly it rebounded. I water it twice weekly with distilled water, spray it with fine mist distilled water mid-day every day, and follow the same feeding schedule as my daughter's plant. This is new territory for me: plants that like to be wet all the time but not too wet. The mounted specimens are a lot more straightforward. They get watered every day with distilled water and misted mid-day. They also have the same feeding schedule. Any morning there are no rain storms, I round them all up to set out on the porch to experience the cool temperature and early morning sun for a few hours. I never risk letting the moss in the pots get old and stale. If it becomes discolored, I replace it.



# What's Blooming at Olbrich



*Acineta beyrodtiana*



*Ceologyne pandurata*



*Cattleya purpurata*



*Wilsonara* Tan Treasure 'Brown Sugar'

Although the Bolz Conservatory is temporarily closed, Olbrich continues to display some of their blooming orchids in the lobby for everyone to enjoy.



*Rhyncattleanthe* One Love 'High Top'

## Another Successful Spring Sale!

Many, many, thank yous to our Orchid Growers Guild volunteers who made the Spring sale a fantastic success. We had a total of 160 amazing orchids, most from Chuck Acker's collection and his contacts in Hawaii. Denise and Lorraine found everything from mounted species, miniatures, gorgeous Cattleyas and a huge Grammatophyllum at Orchids by Hausermann in Illinois. These were rounded off with plant donations from Sue Reed and Ted Ceplina.

Thanks to Terri Jozwiak for being a cashier as well as a great remaining plant keeper/sitter. Volunteers set up tables, arranged and priced orchids, packaged sales, brought their smiles,

enthusiasm and orchid expertise to make the hours pass quickly. The few plants that were unsold were made available at the next guild meeting.

Thank you to volunteers Carrie Weisman, Chuck Acker, Damon Smith, Denise Baylis, Jeri Nelson, Judy Stevenson, Kathleen Johnson, Lisa Bane, Lisa Linde, Liz Barlow, Lorraine Snyder, Lynn West, Meredyth Graham, Rachel Miller, Sandra Gray, Sean Stake, Steven Thimling, Susan Reed, Terri Jozwiak, and Wanda Buckingham.

—Lorraine Snyder



Sue Reed assisting patrons



Terri and Denise hard at work!



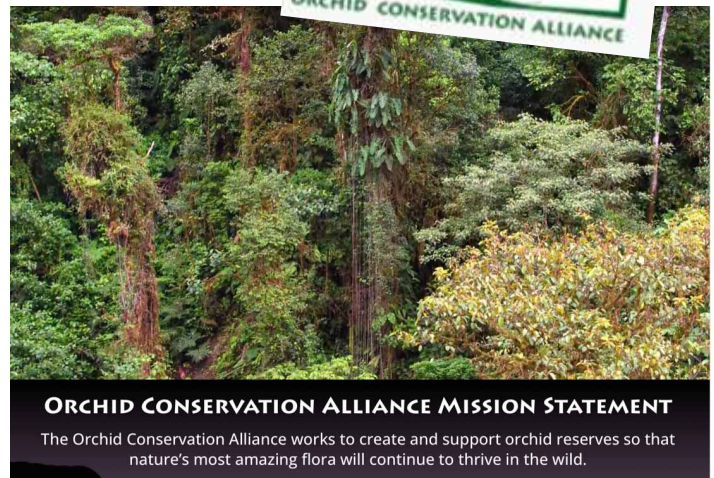
Volunteers Sean Stake and Damon Smith

## Conservation Donation

As part of our Mission Statement, OGG supports orchid conservation and we have supported a variety of organizations in the past. This year the board has authorized the donation to go to the Orchid Conservation Alliance. This organization forms partnerships with local organizations and foundations for the preservation of biodiverse, orchid-rich habitat in South America and they are open to supporting creation of orchid preserves elsewhere in the world. They also fund raise by sponsoring educational eco-tours around the world.

This year our donation was targeted at the Salvamontes Reserve, Colombia. The reserves of Corporación Salvamontes include all three known sites of *Dracula lemurella* and many other endemic orchids of the region.

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Check out the OCA website!

<https://orchidconservationalliance.org>



**YOU ARE INVITED**

# OGG Summer Pot Luck Picnic!

Sunday, June 23  
Noon to 4ish  
Hosted by Meg/Meredyth Graham  
5546 Huntingwood Way  
Waunakee  
608-206-7646



I'll have Brats and Burgers. Please bring your favorite dish to pass, beverage(s), a chair, good weather and a smile!

My house is on a dead-end in the north-east corner of the 70's subdivision of Mary Lake, Westport/Waunakee. There is a wooded area in the backyard and a cornfield to the east.

Getting here could be a challenge due to construction on County M between Bishop's Bay and Hwy 113. There are signs on the roads to my house that say "Local Traffic Only" but you need to drive past them to get here. I don't know if they will still be there in a month. I would say that the easiest way to get here is to take Kennedy Road west off of 113 and turn right at every chance you get (that isn't a driveway). It will literally take you directly to my house.

— Meredyth Graham

