

January  
2025

# The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

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



## Meeting Dates

- February 16
- March 16
- April 27
- May 18
- June Picnic TBA

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

## Up-Coming Events

- February 1-2, 2025 OQ
- March 1-2 "Orchids for Everyone", Milaeger's Show
- March 8-9 Illinois Show, Chicago Botanic Garden, Glencoe IL
- March 22-23 Batavia Show, Cantigny Park, Wheaton IL
- May 10, Spring Orchid Sale

## Officers and Committees

### President:

Susan Reed (2026)  
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### Vice President:

Cynthia Wadsworth (2025)  
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### Secretary:

Lynn West (2025)  
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### Treasurer:

Ken Cameron (2026)  
[kmcameron@wisc.edu](mailto:kmcameron@wisc.edu)

## NEXT MEETING, February 16th

### Prof. Ken Cameron on "Vanilla: A Cook's Favorite Orchid"

Dr. Cameron has traveled the world studying *Vanilla* and was recently featured as a keynote speaker at the World Vanilla Congress on the island of La Reunion. He will take us on a journey of exploration as we learn more about the natural source of the world's most popular flavor and fragrance.



## President's Message

Hi OGG members!

Orchid Quest time!

I thank all of you for doing everything that you could to help to make Orchid Quest 2025 a successful orchid show for us in the new venue! It is really exciting to put on the show in such a spectacular venue! Thank you for all of your efforts!

Orchid Quest is the major endeavor that helps to fuel our programs for twelve months! The membership dues don't cover the costs of the challenge plants and holiday plants.

Besides those expenditures we have routine operating expenses such as Zoom, website, insurance, PO Box rental, door prizes, permits, etc. In addition all of our invited speakers come at market price. The Guild membership's efforts earn funds for the Guild by helping with the Mother's Day orchid sale and being generous bidders in Chuck's Fantastic Orchid Auction, our silent auctions as well as making donations to sponsor the awards at Orchid Quest.

Thank you members for helping our organization stay strong.

This year Orchid Quest was helped out by energetic members who solic-

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**Board:**

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**Web Master:**

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**Liaisons:**

AOS: Nancy Thomas  
MAOC: Lynn West

**PROGRAMMING TIMELINE**

- 12:30 Socializing and ribbon judging
- 1:00 Meeting begins: Announcements
- 1:15 Show & Tell
- 2:00 Break
- 2:15 Guest Speaker
- 3:15 Door Prizes
- 3:30 Meeting adjourned

**LAST CALL!**

**2025 Orchid Growers Guild Membership Dues**

Individual: \$25 Household: \$30 Student: \$15

OGG membership runs by calendar year. If you joined after September 2024 you will continue to be in good standing through 2025. Multiple ways to pay have been developed. See below:

**Zelle (preferred).** Most banks allow you to transfer funds directly from your personal checking to the Guild without fees. Simply 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 send a payment to [OGGTreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:OGGTreasurer@yahoo.com). In the notes field please write your name and indicate that this is for 2025 dues.

**Credit Card or Apple Pay.** Secure online payments using all major credit cards are accepted at <https://square.link/u/nnCFDcAm>

**Check.** Bring a personal check made out to "Orchid Growers Guild" 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

**Cash (least preferred).** Our Treasurer (Ken) will accept cash at one of our monthly meetings. Exact change is greatly appreciated.

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ited donations to help fund OQ. With these donations, we have a much better opportunity to have some revenue from Orchid Quest to carry on the programs that you have become accustomed.

Because this is our first time at Monona Terrace, we will probably have high expenses. These expenses will be reviewed and critiqued to determine what changes could be made for the future. Every year is different, especially the first learning year. We are hopeful that our revenue will allow us to have more in-person speakers in the future (which means transportation and housing expenses on top of the speakers' fees). Be prepared for some changes for next year.

Thank you again for your hard work and I hope you all had a great if not exhausting time at Orchid Quest!

The public is especially invited to the February 16 meeting at Olbrich. Our member Dr. Ken Cameron will speak about the famous vanilla orchid!

See you at OQ and at our February meeting! Stay well!

— Sue



Wanda Buckingham's *Ianclarkara*  
Cheyenne Marie 'Lemoncello'

Photograph by Amy Holt



## January Ribbon Judging Heroines

A special thanks to the two brave women who withstood the extreme cold temperature of the Sunday January 19th OGG meeting. If it wasn't for Wanda Buckingham and Rachel Miller we wouldn't have had a single plant for our Show and Tell/Judging event. To the best of my knowledge, this would have been a first in a very long time. Kudos to you both! Even though we did not have enough time to discuss the plants, it was still very nice for all of us to see them.

Rachel has been consistent with bringing her very well grown specimens of *Den. cuthbertsonii* and her other miniatures to our meetings for several months now. These very small plants make them good candidates to travel nestled in an air tight Tupperware container for safe travel against the extreme cold. Not only do these tiny plants travel safely in the Tupperware, they also arrive in style! Wanda brought in her well grown *Den. Angel Moon* which is a nobile type *Dendrobium* typically blooming with their fragrant flowers this time of year. She also brought her recent acquisition of *Ianclarkara* Cheyenne Marie 'Lemoncello' which she obtained at the Santa Chuck party in December. Thank you both and we all look forward to seeing more plants from each of your collections in the future.



Wanda Buckingham's  
*Dendrobium Nobile Angel Moon 'Love Letter'*

## January OGG Ribbon Judging

— Happy growing!  
Chuck

### First Place

Wanda Buckingham  
Rachel Miller  
Rachel Miller  
Rachel Miller  
Rachel Miller

*Dendrobium Nobile Angel Moon 'Love Letter'*  
*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* ('Rojo' x 'Chris' Red')  
*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* red/yellow x sib  
*Dendrobium Aussie's Hi-Lo (cuthbertsonii x laevifolium)*  
*Cattleya coccinea*

### Second Place

Wanda Buckingham

*Ianclarkara* Cheyenne Marie 'Lemoncello'



Clock-wise from top left: Rachel Miller's *Cattleya coccinea*,  
*Dendrobium Aussie's Hi-Lo (cuthbertsonii x laevifolium)*,  
*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* ('Rojo' x 'Chris' Red') and *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* red/yellow x sib

Photographs by Amy Holt

# What's Blooming at Ken's House . . .



*Porroglossum muscosum*



*Brassanthe Maikai 'Mayumi'*



*Pleurothallis maduroi*



*Cynodes Taiwan Gold 'Orange'*



*Paphiopedilum Lauren Klehm 'Johnny' x Inca '1-17'*



*Hawkinsara Sadie Rainn*  
(*Cattlianthe Acker's Madison*  
x *Hawkinsara Donovan Bennett*)



*Cattleya Bob Betts 'White Lightning'*



# WEBSITE UPDATES

by Ken Cameron

Our Guild's website ([orchidgrowersguild.org](http://orchidgrowersguild.org)) underwent a major update last month. If you haven't looked at it in a while please do. There is a wealth of information for the public and for our members. The site is organized into six major sections, described below:

**HOME** – this is an introductory welcome page, including a link to Join and to our Facebook and Instagram pages.

**ORCHIDQUEST** – Here you will find all things Orchid Quest, including downloads for members, exhibitors, and vendors.

**MEETINGS** - Streamlined announcements with details of all upcoming monthly meetings for the current season are organized here.

**MEMBERSHIP** - Consolidated info for current and prospective members is gathered together here. Under this header you will

find a “**Join/Renew/Donate**” tab. This includes mechanisms for accepting credit cards either for annual membership dues or to make a secure donation / payment in any dollar amount. A second tab provides information about our “**Away Shows**”. We also provide an archives of older “**Newsletters**” from 2002-2022 and more recent ones from 2023-present. Finally, members will find a tab labeled “**Governance**” which lists our current cabinet of officers, committee assignments, Guild bylaws, and other policies.

**GROWING ORCHIDS** – This is your library of valuable information related to orchid cultivation, including links to the AOS' culture sheets, our own Wisconsin specific culture sheets, and a variety of miscellaneous articles and links organized by topic.

**EXTERNAL LINKS** – Regional orchid society websites and other organizations of interest are listed here.

## Orchid Plant Parentage Websites

Hi Everyone,

As requested by some members at the January meeting, here are the web sites that I find very helpful in researching orchid plant parentage, accepted names and other pertinent information regarding lineage of hybrids.

The most recent site to come on-line and replacing the once popular site of orchidwiz is now orchidex. This site is very beneficial and can be found at <https://orchidex.org/>

Another very good source for researching accepted species and hybrids is orchids.org. You do not need to become a member of this site however, it does allow you more access and other benefits such as selling and buying plants from other members. This site can be reached at <https://orchids.org/>

Lastly, the site from the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) is also very useful for researching

## YOU ARE INVITED

I just want to send out an invitation to attend a special Wisconsin Orchid Society meeting on **February 9th**. We are convening at the Mitchell Park Conservatory 'The Domes' at one o'clock for a social hour and plant judging before we get an exclusive look behind the scenes hosted by the horticultural Staff. Please spread the word. Any OGG standing member is invited and will be allowed entry free of charge.

Sincerely,  
John Paul Stuckert

hybrid names, date of registration and the hybridizer who made the hybrid. This site can be reached at <https://apps.rhs.org.uk/horticulturaldatabase/orchidregister/orchidregister.asp>

Happy growing and showing!  
— Chuck

# Orchid Quest Publicity

Cynthia, Ken, and his husband Brian have been extremely active in getting the word out about Orchid Quest 2025 and our expansion to Monona Terrace. Below is a summary of their activities over the past few months. If you have any experience in advertising and would like to help next year please let them know.

1. Radio ads and a live interview with Chuck on WPR's Garden Talk
2. Hold the Date bookmarks distributed around Madison
3. Posters throughout the area
4. Targeted ads from News 3 Now/Channel 3000 on their Facebook page (278K followers!)
5. 15 second television ad running on Channel 3 and its affiliates during the two weeks leading up to Orchid Quest (especially during the final week)
6. Two large street banners (18' x 3') have been hung on the pedestrian bridges over Park Street and University Avenue (inbound) for two weeks before Orchid Quest.
7. Activity on the Orchid Quest Facebook page (598 followers) and the Guild Facebook page (1.4K followers) has increased with new posts almost every day leading up to the event.
8. Invitations for a Friday afternoon preview have been sent to >30 of Madison's most influential movers and shakers, including the Governor and Mayor, who has accepted!
9. Listing in the AOS' Orchids magazine.
10. Finally, we are listed in at least five different local online calendar of events:
  - Wisconsin State Journal: <https://madison.com/events>
  - [Isthmus.com](https://www.isthmus.com) Calendar of Events
  - Monona Terrace Events Calendar:



One of two large street banners. This one hung on the pedestrian bridge over University Avenue (inbound)

<https://www.mononaterrace.com/events/>

- VisitMadison: see <https://www.visitmadison.com>
- 608Today: see <https://608today.6amcity.com>



*Dendrobium* Thanes Blue (Bota Blue x Thai Jewel) in Bolz Conservatory

# WINNING PHOTO

Congratulations to our Guild Treasurer, Ken Cameron! Each year the International *Neofinetia* Facebook group holds a competition in which its 7,500 members from around the world vote on their favorite photographs of *Neofinetia falcata* cultivars and hybrids. The top 12 winners have their photos assembled into a calendar, with the first place photograph on the cover. Ken took top honors this year for his photo of *Neofinetia falcata* 'Unkai' and will receive a valuable handmade pot from one of Japan's top artisans as his prize.

Unkai 雲海 is a highly collectible fuukiran noted for its unusual flowers that are white with a faint pink blush, and with petals and sepals that are particularly long, pointing upward rather than in the standard open-faced orienta-

tion. It was first registered in Japan in 1991 and its name translates to "sea of clouds". Although these orchids flower in summer, Ken will have a display of rare samurai orchids and antique 19<sup>th</sup> century pottery at Orchid Quest. Be sure to check it out.

