

THE ORCHID GROWERS' GUILD MEMBERSHIP HANDBOOK



The Orchid Growers' Guild, Inc. (OGG) is a non-profit, 501(c)(3), organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society. It is dedicated to the education of both OGG members and the public about orchids and their culture. OGG also promotes the conservation and appreciation of orchids. Meetings are usually held on the third Sunday of each month at Olbrich Botanical Gardens. See our website at orchidguild.org for more information.

The Orchid Growers' Guild
Tax exempt under Code section 501(c)(3)
Box 5432, Madison, WI 53705

OGG's Mission is to Have FUN by...

Forming friendships by working together in harmony as an organization. Finding pleasure in being with others who share an excitement for the awe and beauty of orchids (native & tropical).

Understanding more about the world's largest flowering family, the orchid. This would include learning their growing cultures, propagation and preservation through formal and informal education that enhances each of our growing abilities.

Nurturing the plant and the world of orchids by supporting local and worldwide environmental conservation projects. Nourishing the human spirit and reflect the ideals of AOS and MAOC.

Table of Contents

Introduction	4
History of Orchid Growers' Guild	6
American Orchid Society	10
Mid-American Orchid Congress (MAOC)	12
Selection Delegate to MAOC	14
Policy Manual	
Ribbon Judging, Explanation	16
Awards	21
Award Categories	21
Exhibit Award	21
Entry Schedule	18
Reimbursement Policy	27
Membership Dues	28
Sales and Auctions	28
Getting your plants Ready to Show	26

Introduction

Dear Member,

Welcome to the Orchid Growers Guild! In November 2010, we celebrated 25 years as a non-profit corporation. Orchid Growers Guild is made up of a diversity of members from all walks of life (growers, breeders, fanciers – amateur and professional alike). That is part of what makes our group so interesting. We strive to make each meeting interesting and educational for all levels of orchid growers, from new growers to experts.

This is an active club. Our **membership meetings** are once a month from September through June. Generally these meetings are on the third Sunday of each month at 1:00 p.m. at Olbrich Gardens with the exception of our June meeting which is held at a member's residence. However, check your newsletter for the time and location because sometimes there are scheduling conflicts with Olbrich.

At each meeting, we have an **educational program** geared towards helping you to become an even better grower and to appreciate your orchids even more. Some of our presenters are also vendors who may bring along some plants for sale. At the end of the meeting, we give a **door prize**, usually a plant from to one lucky member.

At most meetings, we have **ribbon judging**. All members, especially beginners, are encouraged to bring their blooming orchids (healthy, disease and insect free) to the guild meetings for judging. We group the orchids by broad categories and give first, second and third place ribbons in most categories. You get to see how your plants stack up against other members' plants as well as to see what others are growing. (See the chapter on Ribbon Judging for more details.)

Membership Dues

Revised 12/03

The membership year runs January through December of each year. After June 30 of each year new members will pay 50% of the rates listed below.

Individual	\$18
Household (2 voting members).....	\$24
Student (full time)	\$9
Business.....	\$24

Renewal after the first of the year incur an additional \$2 fee. Anyone who terminates their membership may request a prorated refund of their annual dues from the Board in writing. The reason and effective date for the termination of membership must be included in the written request. The Board will weigh each case on its own merits and may issue a refund.

Sales and Auctions

Revised 9/00

Members selling plants at Guild events will have the proceeds divided as follows:

Seller	75%
Guild.....	25%

All items including plants, sold at Guild auctions shall have the proceeds divided as follows:

Seller	50%
Guild.....	50%

If the event is held at Olbrich Botanical Gardens, 10% of the sale price must be paid to Olbrich, the remainder is divided per the above schedules. Olbrich will receive 100% on any plants they provide. Members shall receive a 10% discount from the non-member price on all items sold by the Guild. This does not apply to items already discounted.

We also give our members an opportunity to send their plants on the road. The Guild is invited to shows held by other orchid societies near to us. These **away shows** include: Wisconsin Orchid Society, Illinois Orchid Society, Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society (NEWOS) and Batavia Orchid Society. They are judged by official American Orchid Society (AOS) judges. It's a chance to compete at a higher level and perhaps win ribbons and awards.

On the fifth weekend of every new year, we host **ORCHID QUEST (OQ)**, our **annual show**. For many years, our show was held at the Alliant Energy Center in Exhibition Hall. In 2015, we will be switching to the Marriott Convention Center.

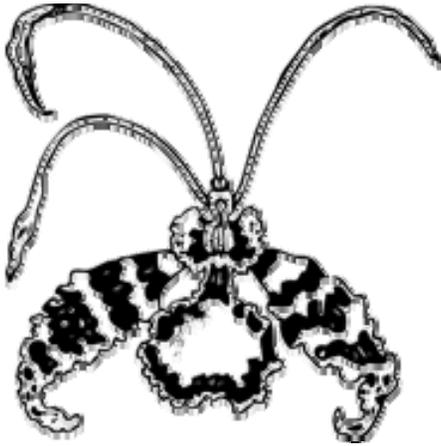
More than twenty vendors, each with a sales table and exhibit, participate in OQ. Other orchid societies and some individuals also bring exhibits for display and competition. OQ is one of the largest and finest orchid shows in the upper Midwest. The guild has its own large exhibit filled with plants brought in by our members.

We have an annual **growing contest** for our members. Points are accumulated for a year running from December to November. They are earned based on ribbons and awards given at our monthly meetings, away shows and Orchid Quest. We also have an **exhibit contest** where we give points for set-up and take down of the Guild's exhibit at away shows and Orchid Quest. Points are also given for awards won by our exhibit. Beginners can partner up with a more experienced exhibiter and learn how it's done. Winners are announced at our holiday party in December.

In the spring, we hold an **orchid plant sale** at Olbrich Gardens. This is a fund raiser for us but also gives us the chance to interact with the public and encourage new growers.

Of course we have to set aside some time for partying. In June, we normally have a **picnic** at a member's home. The date varies based on the host's availability. In December, we have a **holiday potluck**. (Some years, Santa even makes a visit.) We usually have ribbon judging and a short business meeting.

With all this activity, the guild needs to have the active participation and help from all members. It is your knowledge, gifts and strengths that make OGG possible. Working together we succeed in providing a quality program.



Complete entry tag.

What is an entry tag and how many do you need? One entry tag for each plant you submit for judging. Here is a sample: Fill in Class #. Leave Tag #, Owner # and Exhibit # blank. These will be filled in by the person taking the plants to the show. "Name" indicates the name of the plant (not your name) followed by the parentage, if a hybrid. If the plant is a species, write "species" in the space for cross. MAOC defines "hybrid" as a cross made with the genus listed, unless preceded by the word "intergeneric," in which case, two or more different genera are used in the cross. Don't pull your tags apart or put them on your plants. Put them with your lists in your box(s). Tags are usually available at the monthly meetings.

Your list.

It needs to include your name, class number for each plant and the plants full name. Email me the list just as soon as you can. If you need to make corrections, let me know as soon as you can. I use this email list to make up plant labels. It's easier to throw a label away than to have to make it the night before.

Put two printed copies of the list in/on your box(s) with your entry tags.

Take your orchids to the pick-up point.

Drop your plants at Orchid Garden Center (formerly Ackers) by noon on the Wednesday before the show. Your orchids will generally be returned to Orchid Garden Center by Noon the Monday after the show.

OGG Reimbursement for Away Show Expenses

The Board of Directors establishes reimbursement policies and amounts for Away Shows. The current reimbursement policy (and expense form) is posted on the OGG website at <http://www.orchidguild.org/index.html>.

Getting Your Plants Ready to Be Judged at Shows

Select the plants you want to send.

You want to look for the ones with good size, shape, and color. Usually the more flowers on the plant, the better. You don't want to send flowers that are past their prime, look dry, or have brown/black spots. Make sure none of your orchids are infested with insects or show signs of fungal, bacterial, or viral infection. They can't be shown with these conditions.

Get them ready.

Wipe the leaves with a damp cloth to remove dust and water spots. Remove any dead leaves, stems, and take out unnecessary plant supports, etc. Stake them well for travel. Put your name on the pot or slab in a non-conspicuous spot. Place in a box with a sturdy bottom. Cover the box well for the weather. Mark your box(s) with your name. Be sure there is a plant identification label in the pot or securely attached to the slab/pot/plant. The plant label should identify the genus (e.g., Paphiopedilum, Phalaenopsis, Cattleya) and the species or hybrid. PRINT CLEARLY and use upper and lower case as appropriate. Correct labeling avoids confusion classification.

Figure out what class they should be in.

The class is determined by the Mid-American Orchid Congress (MAOC) Show Schedule. This schedule is required to be in all show books. In addition, there are the MAOC Orchid Classification List and the MAOC Orchid Intergeneric Makeup Listing available at their website under show documents. It is generally best to place your plant in the lowest number class that applies. That way, if it is incorrect, the judges may move it to the correct one. If you aren't sure, you can put a note on your plant list and the person taking the orchids to the show will do their best to get your plant entered in the correct class.

Class #	Tag #
Owner #	Exhibit #
Name	
Cross	
x	
Award	
1 2 3 J.C. Spec.	

A Brief History of the Orchid Grower's Guild

The Orchid Grower's Guild was established when an increasing number of Madison area orchidists grew tired of having to travel to Milwaukee to attend Wisconsin Orchid Society meetings. They decided the time was right for a Madison-based club.

The Madison Orchid Growers' Guild was incorporated in 1985 as a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) educational corporation. The Guild was formally approved by the Mid-America Orchid Congress (MAOC) in April 1987. The Guild sponsored its first orchid show at the West Towne Mall in the winter of 1987.

After ten years, we moved from West Towne Mall to what is now the Exhibition Hall at the Alliant Energy Center. Many in the club felt it was a risky move, given the increased costs of holding an event at the Alliant Center. Others believed we didn't have much choice given that the West Towne Mall had become less hospitable to having short-term shows. Alliant was willing to work with us the first few years and agreed to share the risk. Many years later, our show is still at Alliant and is a highly regarded show. In 2014, we decided to change our location for the 2015 show. This decision was largely driven by the ever increasing cost of parking at the Alliant Center.

In 2010, we had the opportunity to recognize many of our charter members. Orchids Garden Center was willing to play host and we had a catered luncheon. You can see some of the names of the charter members in the first row of the Historical Roster on the next page.

Regardless of age, occupation, educational background and orchid growing experience, we all share a passion for the orchids we grow in greenhouses, under lights or on the window sill. We strive to help the beginner, as well as provide programs of interest to the veteran grower.

Year	President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Newsletter Editor	SHOWS: OQ / Away
1986; 10/85- 12-87	Stanley Grand	Chuck Acker	Wayne King	Charles Peckham	Stanley Grand	OQ-Chuck Acker & Katherine Dodge 6/29/86 at West Town
1987	Stanley Grand	Mohammad M. Fayyaz	Kathleen Dodge	Charles Peckham	Stanley Grand	
1988; 1/88-12- 89	Wayne King	Mohammad M. Fayyaz	Kathleen Dodge	Harry Miller	Wayne King	Kathleen Moore 1/28-29 WT. John Diehl - Away Shows
1989	Wayne King	Carl Fosmark	Barbara Best	Harry Miller	Wayne King	Anne Orcutt and John Diehl 1/28-29 WT. John Diehl - AS
1990; 1/90- 12/91	Charles Peckham	Carl Fosmark	Barbara Best	Harry Miller	Ying-Da Lee & Murray Cornwell 1-4/90. Then Kathleen Dodge	John Diehl, John & Arlene King 1/26-28 WT. John Diehl - AS
1991	Charles Peckham	Kay Moore	Ruth Duncan	Gweneth Lynch	Wayne King	John & Arlene King / Ashia Saini. 1/25-27 WT. Milo Gilbertson - AS
1992; 1/92- 12/93	Arlene King	Kay Moore	Ruth Duncan	Gweneth Lynch	Wayne King	Charles Peckham & Marge Liss. 1/25-26 WT. Anne Orcutt - AS
1993	Arlene King	Richard Shackelford	Kirk Zentner	Gweneth Lynch	Wayne King	Cindy Ketchbaw & Marge Liss. 1/23-24 WT. Anne Orcutt - AS
1994; 1/94- 12/95	John Diehl	Richard Shackelford	Kirk Zentner	Susan West	Kirk Zentner	Kathy Johnson & Eugene Wohler 1/22-23 WT. Mini Show 10/15-16 Olbrich Anne Orcutt - AS
1995	John Diehl	Kirk Zentner	Dennis Pfarrer	Susan West	Kirk Zentner	Kirk Zentner & Kathleen Johnson 1/21-22 WT. Mini Show 10/21-22 Olbrich Anne Orcutt - AS

Exhibiting

This applies to people who set up/take down an away show or the Orchid Quest exhibit. Up to 4 people actively participating at an event can accrue points.

POINTS

Set up – 12 points per person

1st place ribbon – 4 points per person doing setup

2nd place ribbon – 3 points per person doing setup

3rd place ribbon – 2 point per person doing setup

Best of class award – 25 points per person doing setup

AOS award (or equivalent) – 50 points per person doing setup

Tear Down – 6 points per person

1 point per plant for the person sending the plant to the away show or Orchid Quest.

Time Period for Accumulating Points

The points will accrue from December through November. This allows us to announce the winners at the holiday party.

Awards for Most Points

\$30 gift certificate for best grower (i.e., most points) + Milo Gilbertson certificate

\$25 gift certificate for best grower in whichever class did not receive the Gilbertson certificate

\$25 gift certificate for person with the most exhibit points

in flower and related artistic endeavors. Growing points are awarded for plants displayed in OGG exhibits or during ribbon judging at OGG meetings. Exhibit points are awarded for participating in the setting up or taking down of an OGG exhibit.

If you have an orchid which has received special recognition in a setting other than an OGG exhibit or meeting (such as the AOS judging center), please let us know. Although it won't be eligible for our points program, we would love to share your success with the rest of our members. Including a photo with your announcement would be great.

Orchid Growing

LEVELS

Levels are determined by years growing orchids.

Beginner's Class Less than 3 years
 Experienced Class 3 years or more

POINTS

1st place ribbon – 4 points at OGG mtgs, 8 points at AOS judged shows

2nd place ribbon – 3 points at OGG mtgs, 6 points at AOS judged shows

3rd place ribbon – 2 points at OGG mtgs, 4 points at AOS judged shows

Best of class award – N/A at OGG mtgs, 25 points at AOS judged shows

AOS award (or equivalent) – N/A at OGG mtgs, 50 points at AOS judged shows

1996; 1/96- 5/98	Kathleen Johnson	Carmen Golde	Dennis Pfarrer	Sue Reed	Tony Arment	Kirk Zentner. 1/20-21 WT. Mini Show Kathy Johnson. 10/5-6 Olbrich
1996; 1/96- 5/98	Kathleen Johnson	Carmen Golde	Dennis Pfarrer	Sue Reed	Tony Arment	Kirk Zentner 1/20-21 WT. Mini Show Kathy Johnson. 10/5-6 Olbrich
1997 to 5/98	Kathleen Johnson	Carmen Golde	Dennis Pfarrer	Sue Reed	Kathleen Johnson	Carmen Golde & Paul Parks 2/1-2 Expo. Ctr. Kathleen Johnson till May then Wayne King - AS
1998	Wayne King	Judy Williamson	Dennis Pfarrer	Steve Thimling	Kathleen Johnson till 9/98 then Arlene King	Carmen Golde. 2/6-8 Expo. Ctr.
1999	Wayne King	Judy Williamson	Dennis Pfarrer	Steve Thimling	Arlene King	Jennifer Fernandez 2/6-7 Expo. Ctr. Sue Reed & Kathy Johnson - AS
2000	Wayne King	Jerry King	Jill Hynum	Steve Thimling	Arlene King	John Diehl 2/4-6 Expo. Ctr. Aslynn Rohlf - AS
2001; 6/00- 5/02	Dennis Pfarrer	Jerry King	Jill Hynum	Steve Thimling	Arlene King	Jerry King 2/2-4 Expo. Ctr. AS - vacant
2002	Dennis Pfarrer	Jerry King	Traci Grosenick	Steve Thimling	Arlene King	Doug Dowling 2/2-3 Expo. Ctr. Wayne King - AS
2003; 6/02- 5/04	Douglas Dowling	Jerry King	Traci Grosenick	Steve Thimling	Doug Dowling	Cleo Kiergaard. 2/1-3 Expo. Ctr. Cleo - AS
2004	Douglas Dowling	Elaine Malter	Meg McLaughlin	Steve Thimling	Doug Dowling	Liz Barlow Expo. Ctr. Cleo - AS
2005	Vacant	Elaine Malter	Meg McLaughlin	Steve Thimling	Brook Johnson	Elaine Malter Expo. Ctr. As - empty until 3/03 - W. King
2006	Elaine Malter	Sarah Lundey	Meg McLaughlin	Don Fago	Brook Johnson	Elaine Malter 2/4-5 Expo. Ctr. Sandy Delamater - AS

MILO GILBERTSON AWARD WINNERS

2007; 6/06- 5/08	Judy Stevenson	Sarah Lundey	Meg McLaughlin	Don Fago To 3/24	Denise Baylis	Elaine Malter 2/3-4 Expo. Ctr. Sandy Delamater - AS
2008	Judy Stevenson	Jill Hynum	Annette Minter	Irene Mackie	Denise Baylis	Elaine Malter 2/2-3 Expo. Ctr. Judith Rapacz - AS
2009	Richard Narf	Jill Hynum	Annette Minter	Irene Mackie	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson & Judith Rapacz Expo. Ctr. Judith Rapacz – AS
2010	Richard Narf	Jill Hynum	Annette Minter/ Lorraine Synder	Audrey Lucier	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson & Judith Rapacz Expo. Ctr. Judith Rapacz-AS
2011	Richard Narf	Jill Hynum	Lorraine Synder	Terri Jozwiak	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson
2012	Richard Narf	Jill Hynum	Lynn West	Terri Jozwiak	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson
2013	Lorraine Snyder	Jill Hynum	Lynn West	Terri Jozwiak	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson
2014	Lorraine Snyder	Jill Hynum	Lynn West	Keith Nelson	Denise Baylis	Judy Stevenson

Information compiled by Judy Stevenson and Wayne King with updates by Jill Hynum

The American Orchid Society (AOS)

Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden | 10901 Old Cutler Road | Coral Gables, FL 33156e-mail, TheAOS@aos.org Tel: 305-740-2010, Fax 305-740-2011

AOS is a non-profit scientific and horticultural organization established to extend the knowledge, production, use and appreciation of orchids. It is currently made up of nearly 30,000 + people worldwide.

The American Orchid Society was born in 1921. AOS is a non-

1992	Wayne King (50 pts)
1993	Susan West
1994	Dennis Pfarrer
1995	No Award
1996	No Award
1997	Sue Reed
1998	Sue Reed
1999	Dennis Pfarrer (155 pts)
2000	Dennis Pfarrer
2001	Sue Reed (212 pts)
2002	Wayne King (351 pts)
2003	Sue Reed
2004	Wayne King
2005	Sandy Delamater
2006	Sandy Delamater
2007	Sandy Delamater
2008	Sandy Delamater
2009	Sandy Delamater
2010	Sandy Delamater
2011	Sandy Delamater
2012	Sandy Delamater
2013	Sue Reed

OGG Points System

Overview

It is the policy of the Orchid Growers Guild (OGG) to promote and reward participation in Guild activities and excellence in orchid growing and to do so by providing special recognition as these activities relate to the growing and showing of orchid plants

to retain possession of the display award. Any display pictures shall be surrendered to the person in charge of the Guild scrapbook. The annual award for "Guild Exhibitor of the Year" shall be based upon the most number of points accumulated during the December through November period.

Guild Grower of the Year -- Milo Gilbertson Award

The Milo Gilbertson award was established by a vote of the Board of Directors in September, 1991 to honor Milo who died September 5, 1991 at the age of 87. Milo was not only the oldest member of the Guild prior to his death, but a Charter member. He was known as the foremost amateur orchid grower in Dane County and won numerous awards at various orchid shows in the area.

At the time of his death, Milo had been growing orchids for over 30 years. He was a consummate Cattleya and Cymbidium grower but could grow and flower a wide range of orchids to perfection including such difficult types as miltonias and equitant oncidiums. Up until his death, he was undertaking new challenges such as better ways to grow seedlings under lights. Initially, the award was established for "Outstanding Orchid Growing". In recent years, the Board has added award categories to recognize different degrees of experience and expanded awards to include exhibits.

See the OGG Points Policy for a description of how points are awarded.



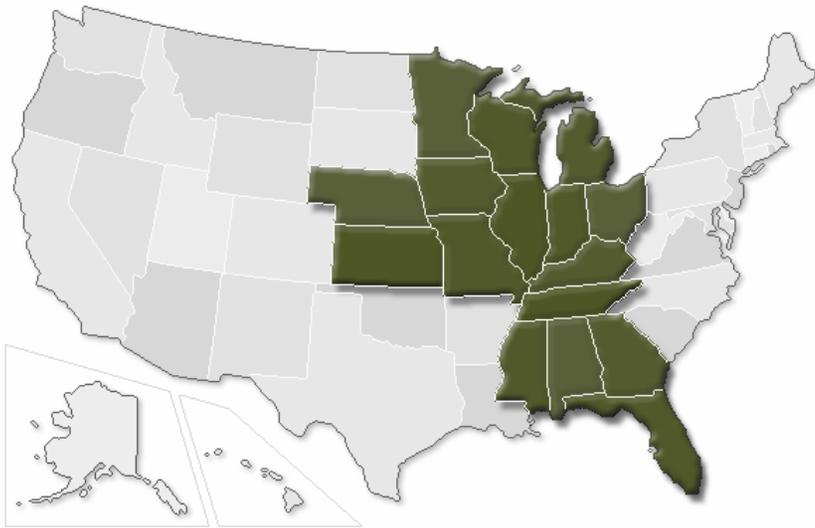
profit organization made up of members from all walks of life (growers, breeders, and fanciers - amateur and professional alike.) Throughout its history the AOS in keeping with its vision and mission, has strived to bring members timely and state-of-the-art orchid information; support basic and applied research in orchids; set standards for AOS judging and certification; establish and maintain regional judging centers; and monitor and support conservation efforts both in North America as well as throughout the World. In 1951, AOS established a Research Committee to assist and stimulate research (funded grants and fellowships) on orchids.

In the world of flowers, orchids are the undisputed champions. No plant family in the world is more diverse than the orchid. The orchid family is the largest plant family occupying almost all possible environments. With today's propagation methods and current hybridizing trends, there are more selections to choose from than ever before.

Orchid Growers Guild has been a member of AOS since it was formed in 1985. For the current rate of \$60/year we receive: the monthly *Orchids* magazine, information on how to grow orchids, culture sheets, links to affiliated societies and upcoming events. Members who independently join AOS, receive:

- Their own copy of the *Orchids* magazine
- Discounted admission to select gardens and arboreta throughout the USA
- Access to members-only areas of the AOS Web site (www.aos.org)
- Contact with the AOS's experienced orchid-growing staff and volunteers staff and volunteers for advice
- AOS Orchid Source Directory, packed with orchid supply information (domestic and overseas)

The Mid-American Orchid Congress (MAOC)



The Mid-America Orchid Congress (MAOC) is an affiliation of about 60 local orchid societies located from the Florida panhandle in the south to southern Ontario, Canada in the north and Ohio to Oklahoma going east and west respectively. MAOC recently celebrated its 55 year anniversary. All active Wisconsin orchid societies are members. Each society has a representative to the Congress who is to represent their society at semi-annual meetings of the Congress. Occasionally, the Congress meets jointly with the American Orchid Society (AOS) Board of Trustees. MAOC orchid societies may apply for admission and the Congress votes at one of its meetings to entertain membership. The Guild has been a member for most of its history.

The Congress elects officers and has a number of committees, some for the internal workings of the Congress and others, such as the Awards Committee, Affiliated Societies Committee, Publications Committee, Show Schedule Committee, Education Com-

OGG Awards and Recognition

It is the policy of the Guild to promote and reward participation in Guild activities and excellence in orchid growing and to do so by providing special recognition as these activities relate to the growing and showing of orchid plants in flower and related artistic endeavors. As such, the Guild establishes special awards in three distinct areas: 1) Excellence in growing, 2) participation and excellence in all activities which make possible the presentation of orchid exhibits on the Guild's behalf and 3) Recognition of individual initiative and creativity in the presentation of displays on the part of individual members at Guild sponsored events.

Any Guild member is eligible for awards as outlined in this section, in accordance with the OGG Points Policy. These awards shall be provided at the December meeting of the Guild, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

The Guild newsletter publishes a record of plant and exhibit awards as soon as practicable after this is known. The purpose of such publication is to enable Guild members to correct any errors of record prior to the distribution of awards and to be aware of their standing prior to the distribution of awards. Award points are earned December through November of each year.

Guild Exhibitor of the Year

The purpose of the **Guild Exhibitor of the Year Award** is to recognize Guild participation in orchid shows. Guild members involved in setting up a Guild display will earn points according to the OGG Points Policy. Activities not counted are any which are counted toward the Grower Award and any involved in arranging for participation in the show.

The person coordinating the Guild display setup shall be entitled

AOS Judging

The American Orchid Society (AOS) has accredited judges that administer their judging system. In order to be considered an AOS-judged show, you need to apply for the proper credentials from AOS.

AOS judging is a separate event from ribbon judging. Ribbon judging evaluates the plants in a show compared to other similar plants in the same show. AOS judging considers plants more broadly based on what has been seen at other shows over time. There are a number of different types of AOS awards based on flower quality, distinctive characteristics worthy of recognition and more. For a complete list of AOS awards, go to the AOS website (<http://www.aos.org>) and click on judging and then AOS awards.

After ribbon judging is complete, the participating AOS judges pull plants they think are possibilities for an AOS award. These plants are taken to a separate area and reviewed by the AOS judges. They may measure each blossom and count each spike and flower. They review previous awards given for that type of orchid. If the decision is made to make an AOS award, a certificate is written up and the results posted for review nation-wide. There is a fee to receive an AOS award and the award isn't officially recognized unless the owner pays that fee.

mittee, and Conservation Committee provide valuable services on behalf of the orchid growing community. News and information about the Congress appears at their website: <http://midamericanorchids.org/>

The MAOC Show Schedule is the schedule the Guild uses for plant and exhibit judging at Orchid Quest. That schedule is periodically revised by MAOC as its Show Committee reviews the results of judging at AOS judged shows. At each Congress, there is a morning breakfast attended by representatives of member societies to exchange information on a particular topic. The Conservation Committee receives an allocation of funds from MAOC to fund specific orchid conservation projects. Most funding for the MAOC comes from the semiannual Saturday night auction of donated items. Each society that belongs pays dues to help support the important work of MAOC.

MAOC semiannual meetings are sponsored by one or more member societies. The Guild has co-sponsored one meeting with the Wisconsin Orchid Society and provided some financial assistance to help with the cost of this meeting. Subsequently the financial assistance was repaid. Fees charged to attend the MAOC meetings are used to offset costs incurred by host societies for meeting rooms and other costs.

Having been the Guild's representative for many years in the past I was actively involved on the Guild's behalf in attending meetings around the Midwest and serving on the MAOC Conservation Committee. I feel that this membership and presence helps to give the Guild VISIBILITY in fulfilling its mission as noted in its By-Laws.

— Wayne King (April 23, 2007)

Selecting a MAOC Representative

Choose your Mid-America Orchid Congress Representative through formal action, i.e., board action, formal request at a meeting, search committee, etc. Ideally, the Representative will meet these criteria:

- Be a member in good standing of your society and a frequent attendee of society meetings.
- Be willing to serve as MAOC Representative on a term that is longer than the term of your society president to ensure continuity of the relationship between your society & MAOC.
- Be willing to be replaced when no longer interested in filling the role or no longer effective.

The role of the MAOC Representative is to act as the primary liaison between your society and the Mid-America Orchid Congress.

DUTIES OF THE REPRESENTATIVE ARE:

- Notify the Mid-America Orchid, Congress Treasurer & Secretary of your appointment, including your name, address, phone number, e-mail, name of society, regular meeting place and date of meetings.
- Attend most Mid-America Orchid Congress meetings and be an ambassador and educator in keeping your society aware of information and services available from MAOC. Share information on meeting action and committee reports at society meetings or in your newsletter.
- Ensure *The Mid-American*, the Congress' official newsletter, is distributed to your society members and encourage contribution of articles to the Mid-American, including the annual essay contest.
- Share information with your society regarding the dates and

5. Cymbidium Alliance Includes:

Cymbidium species.
Cymbidium hybrids, Standard.
Cymbidium hybrids, Miniature.
Cymbidium allied genera species, hybrids and intergenerics, other than above.

6. Dendrobium Includes:

Dendrobium species and hybrids.
Dendrobium allied genera species, hybrids and intergenerics, other than above.

7. Miscellaneous Genera Includes:

Masdevallia species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Dracula species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above.
Pleurothallis species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above.
Bulbophyllum and allied genera species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Lycaste species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Maxillaria species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above.
Zygopetalum and allied genera species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above.
Catasetum, Cynoches, Mormodes and allied genera species, hybrids and intergenerics.

Generally only one ribbon of each level will be awarded in each alliance. However, the number of ribbons awarded for each alliance will not exceed three 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place ribbons, depending on the number and quality of entries each month. It is possible that some months, no ribbons will be awarded.

Judges will primarily be judging according to the flower's attributes. (However, in some cases, they may consider the general condition of the plant.) The attributes they will be looking at include:

Size, shape (looking for roundness and balance)
Number (Is it single or multifloral?)
Color (Is it clear, deep, unusual?). Uneven color is a negative attribute.
Other negative flower qualities are dry, old-looking blooms and brown/black spots.

On the basis of these features, compared to other plants of the same species or hybrids, plants may or may not be given a 1st place, 2nd place, or 3rd place award.

Suggested Groupings for OGG Ribbon Judging

1. Cattleya Alliance Includes:

Cattleya species.
Cattleya hybrids and intergenerics (other than below).
Encyclia species and hybrids.
Epidendrum species and hybrids.
Epidendrum and Encyclia intergenerics.
Brassavola species (including Rhyncholaelia), hybrids and intergenerics, excluding Cattleya.
Broughtonia species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Laelia species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above but excluding Cattleya.
Sophronitis species, hybrids and intergeneric other than above but excluding Cattleya.

2. Cypripedium Alliance Includes:

Paphiopedilum species and hybrids
Phragmipedium species and hybrids.
Phragmipedium besseae hybrids.

3. Vanda and Phalaenopsis Alliance Includes:

Aerangis species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Aerides species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Angraecum species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Ascocentrum, species and hybrids.
Ascocenda.
Rhynchostylis species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Renanthera species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Vanda species, hybrids and intergenerics other than above.
Phalaenopsis and Doritis species.
Phalaenopsis hybrids and Doritaenopsis.

4. Oncidium Alliance Includes:

Brassia species, hybrids and intergenerics.
Miltonia/Miltoniopsis species and hybrids.
Miltonia/Miltoniopsis intergenerics other than above.
Oncidium species and hybrids except Equitants.
Oncidium Equitant species and hybrids.
Odontoglossum species. (Including Osmoglossum, Otoglossum, Rossioglossum, Symphyglossum, Systeloglossum, Ticoglossum).
Odontoglossum hybrids and intergenerics other than above.

locations of future MidAmerica Orchid Congress meetings and shows. Encourage participation by your members.

- Share the success of your society with other MAOC Representatives at Mid-America Orchid Congress Affiliated Societies Breakfasts when possible.
- Respond to requests from MAOC for information or assistance. Surveys from the Affiliated Societies Committee are especially important to help determine needed changes as are requests from the Show Schedule Committee regarding plant classification or other show issues.
- Ensure an orderly transfer to your successor. Be sure that person has the materials you have collected and pass on the lessons you have learned. Be sure the MAOC Secretary and Treasurer are notified of the contact information for your successor.



Ribbon Judging

New OGG members often find the judging process rather mysterious. We hope the following articles help to clear up some of the mystery.

At AOS-Judged Shows

In ribbon judging, a judging team is assigned to a particular class of plants. While there are no set criteria for judging plants in a specific class, judges generally consider flower count, flower size, flower color, condition of the plant, presentation of the flowers, etc. Each judge in the three judge panel applies their own criteria and ranks the top three plants into a first, second, and third. Notes may be kept by each judge as well. In some instances, a judge may rank two plants equally. Then, the judges meet as a team and the chief judge of that team polls the individual judges for their nominations for first, second, and third place. Often, all three judges will agree on the plants, and the order, but not always.

The head judge, who is also an accredited AOS judge, will resolve differences between judges in a number of ways. One is a discussion of why the judges differ and why they chose the way they did. The team could decide that two plants of equal quality both deserve a first, second, or third place ribbon. This is the exception. Usually, there is only one ribbon of each type awarded to a class of plants. Most plants in a show are not awarded ribbons.

The initial ribbon judging into first, second and third place is then followed by "Best of Class" judging in which the best plant in a group of classes is selected. This is usually done by comparing all plants in the group that have been awarded first place ribbons and going through a judging process similar to the initial one.

A further judging can occur to select plants for special awards.

This might be the "Best Plant of the Show", "The Most Fragrant Plant", etc. This round of judging may, or may not, be based upon the previous rounds of judging.

Ribbons for exhibits are also by exhibit class. If, let's say, there are three society displays with maximum of 25 square feet, there may be a first, second, and third place awarded, in which case, each society may get one of those ribbons. I have not heard of two societies each getting a first, second, or third place ribbon but that is possible. It is not uncommon for judges to simply not award a display.

Written by Wayne King

At OGG Meetings

OGG members are strongly encouraged to bring their orchid plants in bloom to the monthly meetings for judging. **However, do not bring plants that have insects or show signs of fungal, bacterial, or viral infection. Such plants will be segregated to protect the plants of other participants, will not be judged and will not receive participation points. Check your plants over carefully.**

Plants will be arranged by the usual judging alliances listed below. The listings are not all inclusive. Each alliance listed has the main members of that alliance listed below it. This will help you in placing your plants on the table. Be sure to note whether or not your plant has been under lights/window OR in a greenhouse.