

MAY
2024



Meeting Dates

- May 19
- 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

- May 11, Spring Orchid Sale, Evjue Commons
- February 1-2, 2025 OQ
- February 15-16 Batavia show
- March 1-2 Milaeger's Show
- March 8-9 Illinois show

Officers and Committees

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The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org

NEXT MEETING May 19th: Silent Auction & Nicholas Rust on "Habenaria: A basic overview . . ."

Our May speaker is Nicholas Rust. He will be presenting, "Habenaria: A basic overview of the breeding traits of the species." This talk is about Habenaria hybrids and how they are made! It begins with a quick summary of the genus' history and where hybridization began. Next comes a big dive into hybrids with an emphasis on how individual species created hybrids. This makes up the bulk of the talk and he has loads of pictures, both species and hybrids. **Lastly we'll finish up with a thorough**



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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

HI OGG members!

Thank you so much for attending our April meeting and making it a huge success! Chuck's selection of premier orchid plants and his organization of the auction was fantastic!. Your purchases will greatly improve your member benefits, such as the challenge plants, door prizes, speakers with more in-house speakers. Due to member-help with the auctions etc, we have been able to purchase a new Guild computer, projector, printer and to have a varied array of invited speakers at about every meeting. Your support has made us financially stable! Thank you!

Your next chance to buy plants will be at our **May 11** Spring Orchid Sale at Olbrich. Whether or not you have the ability to help with the orchid sale, you can stop by and buy. Chuck has some selected plants to sell, there will be some more of the Miltoniopsis and a variety from Hausermann Orchids for you to select from.

On **May 19** we will be having our annual members' orchid auction. Members are asked to bring in their extra orchid supplies and surplus plants for the Guild to sell. Typically the plants will be easily affordable for beginners on up.

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Liaisons:

AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

MAY PROGRAMMING NOTES • Times are approximate

12:00 PM - Doors open

12:30 PM - Ribbon Judging set up

1:00 PM - Hybrid Zoom meeting begins - business, followed by election of board members:

- Informal viewing of member plants brought in for silent auction. Talk with the previous plant owner. Bids placed.
- Ribbon Judging Review.

~2:00 PM - Speaker, Nicholas Rust – “Habenaria: A basic overview of the breeding traits of the species.”

~3:00 PM - Collect & Pay for Plants, Happy Spring!

4:00 PM - Meeting ends

NEXT MEETING (Continued from page 1)

discussion on Habenaria culture, placing a large emphasis on the “big-bad dormancy,” which won’t seem big or bad after we finish.

Note: Nicholas Rust had a nice article in the [February 2024 AOS Bulletin](#).

Purchasing Opportunity: A discount code to purchase will be provided for guild members after the talk. A group can purchase at a discount too and to save with a single shipment. Since this is the May meeting, someone will need to be selected from the purchasing group to organize the group purchase, place the order with Nicholas and receive the shipment. \

Silent Auction: There will be a member auction of plants, mostly a silent auction. Please send Lynn West the following information by Wednesday, May 15: 1) Name of Plant, 2) Your name, 3) Minimum Bid, 4) Temp Range, C (cool), I (intermediate) and W (WARM) and 5) Light Level, L (low), M (medium), H (high). If you can provide your own or an internet picture of the flower that would be great. You can e-mail Lynn West at lynnewest15@yahoo.com.

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (Continued from page 1)

To have things run smoothly we are asking all members who have items to donate to the Guild’s sale, to fill out a form for each item. The forms will be emailed to you. Please fill out the plant name, plant information and a starting bid price plus a picture of the flower. The form is a pdf, so you can print it and fill it out at home. If you have the ability to fill out the PDF form on your computer, and don’t have a printer, please email the filled out form information to Lynne (LynneWest15@yahoo.com) by **May 15**. All plants and items need a form for organization of the sales.

May is also our Annual Election of Officers. Up for election are President, Treasurer and a Board position: Sue Reed for President, Ken Cameron for Treasurer, and Nancy Thomas for the Board position. Nominations will be accepted from the floor.

After the break we will be having a speaker on Habenaria. (More information in the newsletter).

We are a growing organization with a growing number of orchid followers who attend our meetings and show. Recently we have had some growing pains and need to be flexible and to adjust to the challenges. We cannot stay stagnant if we want a vibrant and interesting organization. Changes are necessary with any growing/vibrant organization and I hope all of you do welcome the changes as they occur. The Board’s agenda is to provide the best for the organization and the members. The Board does detailed research before making decisions on major issues brought to the members. The Board does listen to thoughtful constructive input.

Thank you for being OGG members! See you in May!

Summary April Monthly Meeting

Submitted by Lynn West

The April 2024 monthly members' meeting was highly anticipated because members would have the opportunity to bid on another curated collection of orchids arranged by Chuck Acker. These auctions are not only an opportunity for members to purchase some rare plants from growers that were vetted by Chuck, but they are also fund-raising opportunities for the Guild. The Guild is very appreciative of the enthusiasm and generosity of the bidders.

The auction was followed by Zoom presentation by Ray Bark [Barkalow], founder of First Rays, a business devoted to supporting the hobby orchid grower and commercial growers. A detailed bio describing his evolution from a Ceramic Engineering student to an orchid addict through a series of coincidences and chance encounters with elite orchid growers was provided by Ray and is available on the OGG webpage. The topic of Ray's talk was orchid nutrition.

Ray also shares his knowledge on orchid growing in free articles available on his website. If you want to review the information covered dur-

ing his talk or explore other topics not covered, please check out the link provided below.

Ray provided three bottles of Kelpac to the Guild which were awarded to three lucky members as door prizes. Kelpac is a growth stimulant and is reported to be very effective for root growth. Ray also provided a 10% discount to OGG members who ordered products from his website by April 25, 2024. Thank you, Ray!

[First Rays website page on orchid nutrition](#):

Note: there are many articles available under each of these headings!

- Feeding and Fertilizers
- Fertilizer Additives
- Measurement, Handling and Application
- A Regime for Growing Excellent Plants
- "Optimal Growth" Customer Feedback
- The Benefit of the "First Rays Regime"

Mystery Plant

At the April OGG meeting Wanda Buckingham brought in a cymbidium to show Chuck that she had purchased at Ackers years ago but had since lost the tag. Chuck thought that it looked like *Cym. Alexanderi* but couldn't tell for sure. Jeff Baylis happened to have an *Alexanderi* in bloom at home that he had gotten from Chuck. Chuck compared the photo of the one at the meeting with the one belonging to Jeff. He decided that it appeared to be an *Alexandrei* BUT it would be impossible to confirm without doing a DNA analysis.

Chuck recalled, "the *Alexanderi* that we had for cut flowers had the label reading *Alexanderi* 'Westinbirt' hybrid. In all the years of growing that cultivar we were never able to really figure out what exactly the name was. The plant came from Dr. Schubert's collection and was such a



prolific blooming variety that we cloned it through Hausermann's lab. It was a main staple for yellow/green cuts back then. There were about 200 adult plants in nothing less than 8" clay pots, some were in 12" pots. What a great time those years were."

OGG April Ribbon Judging

First Place

Jeff Metcalf	<i>Angraecum didieri</i> x self
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Cattleya skinnerii</i> v. alba 'Debbie' x Virginalis
Rachel Miller	<i>Dendrobium cuthbertsonii</i> ('Chris' Red' x Red Delicious')
Lynn West	<i>Dendrobium lindleyi</i> (aggregatum)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Epidendrum</i> (Comet Valley x Rose Valley)
Ken Cameron	<i>Gomesa Jiaho Queen</i> 'Jiaho' FCC/AOS (Mulatta's Dancing x varicose)
Jeff Baylis	<i>Guarianthe aurantiaca</i>
Lynn West	<i>Mexipedium xerophyticum</i>
Sue Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (leucochilum x thaianum)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Jogjae 'Yappianum' (glacophyllum x glanduliferum)
Nancy Thomas	<i>Paphiopedilum lowii</i>
Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Mituo Violet Dragon (Mituo Purple Dragon Blue x violacea f. indigo)
Dan Schmidt	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid
Steven Thimling	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid
Steven Thimling	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid
Ken Cameron	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Giganteum
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Ackers Angel (Acker's Lovely x besseae)
Nancy Thomas	<i>Phragmipedium caudatum</i>

Second Place

Gerald King	<i>Bracidostele</i> (Bnfd.) Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' (Summit x Gilded Urchin)
Sue Reed	<i>Calanthe rosea</i> (rubens)
Patricia Jones	<i>Cattleya</i> Claradiana (intermedia 'Blue' x lueddemanniana)
Ken Cameron	<i>Cymbidium</i> Pipeta 'Magenta' ACC/AOS (Spartan Queen x pumilum)
Ken Cameron	<i>Cymbidium</i> Showgirl 'Linda Cristal' (Sweetheart x Alexanderi)
Jim Wasser	<i>Gomesa Jiaho Queen</i> 'Jiaho' FCC/AOS (Mulatta's Dancing x varicose)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Iwanagara</i> Appleblossom 'Carmela' (Dial. Snowflake x Blc. Orange Nuggett)
Dan Schmidt	<i>Lc</i> Indigo Dawn 'Indigo Valentine' x <i>C. mossiae</i> f. <i>coerulea</i> '4n'
Sue Reed	<i>Lepanthes regularis</i>
Sue Reed	<i>Oncidium calochilum</i>
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Oncostele</i> Hilo Firecracker 'Lucky Strike' (Catatante x Aloha Sparks)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Barbilight (Barbi Playmate x Nulight)
Jim Wasser	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hsinying Alien x sib
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Diane Dahlquist (<i>sukhakulii</i> x Red Brier)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> C-146
Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Mituo Diamond Canary (Diamond Beauty x Yungho Gelb Canary)
Sean Stake	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid #2
Sandra Gray	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber (<i>besseae</i> x Eric Young)
Rachel Miller	<i>Tolumnia</i> Jairak Firm 'Fine Point' (Rainbow x Plush)

Third Place

Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo Yukidian (Yukimai x Taisuco Kochdian)
Sean Stake	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid #1
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid white
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid white
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid white
Rachel Miller	<i>Tolumnia</i> Jairak Firm 'Spotty' (Rainbow x Plush)

JUNE PICNIC

Meredyth Graham will be hosting the OGG picnic this year at her home in Westport/Waunakee. The date will be **Sunday, June 23rd**. More details to follow in June.



OGG April Ribbon Judging



Jeff Metcalf's *Angraecum didieri* x self



Gerald King's *Bracidostele* (Bnfd.) Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' (Summit x Gilded Urchin)



Sue Reed's *Calanthe rosea* (rubens)



Jeff Metcalf's *Iwanagara* Appleblossom 'Carmela' (Dial. Snowflake x Blc. Orange Nuggett)



Jeff Metcalf's *Cattleya skinerii* v. alba 'Debbie' x Virginalis



Patricia Jones' *Cattleya Claradiana* (intermedia 'Blue' x lueddemanniana)



Lynn West's *Dendrobium lindleyi* (aggregatum)



Dan Schmidt's *Lc Indigo Dawn* 'Indigo Valentine' x *C. mossiae* f. coerulea '4n'



Rachel Miller's *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* ('Chris' Red' x Red Delicious)

OGG April Ribbon Judging



Lorraine Snyder's *Paphiopedilum* Barbilight
(Barbi Playmate x Nulight)



Lorraine Snyder's *Paphiopedilum*
Diane Dahlquist (*sukhakulii* x Red
Brier)



Jim Wasser's *Paphiopedilum*
Hsinying Alien x sib



Nancy Thomas' *Paphiopedilum*
lowii



Lorraine Snyder's *Paphiopedilum* Jogjae
'Yappianum' (*glacophyllum* x *glanduliferum*)



Sue Reed's *Paphiopedilum*
(*leucochilum* x *thaianum*)

Lynn West's
*Mexipedium xero-
phyticum*.
*Mexipedium xero-
phyticum* (Mexican
Slipper Orchid) is a
monotypic genus con-
sisting of only one
species. These are
very rare plants in
nature with only 7
plants being found
originally.



OGG April Ribbon Judging



Sandra Gray's *Phragmipedium* Don Wimber
(besseae x Eric Young)



Jeff Metcalf's *Phragmipedium* Ackers Angel
(Acker's Lovely x besseae)



Nancy Thomas' *Phragmipedium* caudatum



Gerald King's *Phalaenopsis* Mituo Violet Dragon (Mituo Purple Dragon Blue x violacea f. indigo)



Gary Lensmeyer's *Oncostele* Hilo Firecracker
'Lucky Strike' (*Catatante* x Aloha Sparks)



Jeff Metcalf's *Epidendrum*
(Comet Valley x Rose Valley)



Rachel Miller's *Tolumnia* Jairak Firm 'Fine Point' (Rainbow x Plush)



Rachel Miller's *Tolumnia* Jairak Firm 'Spotty' (Rainbow x Plush)



Sue Reed's *Oncidium calochilum* is a very rare miniature rat tail *Oncidium*. The flowers are about 1/2 inch in size. Native to the Dominican Republic.



CHUCK'S ORCHID CHALLENGE CHECK IN

As you may recall, The April Newsletter contained a reminder of the 3-tier challenge of the *Gomesa Jiaho* Queen 'Jia

Ho' FCC/AOS.

The initial challenge was being the first member who gets their plant to flower and proves that by sending a photo of them holding their plant in flower in an email to cacker@tds.net.



At the April meeting Ken Cameron and Jim Wasser both showed their blooming plants! The first to send a photos of themselves with the plant was Ken Cameron [on April 20] thus he is the winner of the first challenge.

The plants competing in the second and third tiers should be brought to the September meeting to be judged by a panel of your peers, along with



Photo by Sue Reed
Chuck and Ken Cameron with *Gomesa Jiaho*
Queen 'Jia Ho' FCC/AOS.

Chuck. Each participant can only win in one category. Judging and prizes for this challenge will be at the OGG monthly meeting on September 15th, 2024. Check in with Chuck if you are experiencing issues with the plant or have any questions regarding this challenge. Good Luck!

WEB DEVELOPMENT

If you have not been to our website recently, please visit orchidgrowersguild.org. Thanks to the generosity and dedication of Jason Berry we are a long way into developing a new website. The new look is modern and our excellent technical information has been carried over. We are planning a *Members Only Portal* where you will need the club's annual code to log in to limit personal information out in the internet. Think of what you might like to say about yourself. Something along the lines of: "My Orchid Profile."

1. I grow a lot of, for example, Phragmidediums or miniatures
2. I would like to learn how to grow Catesetums.
3. I am a window sill grower.
4. I grow in a chamber.

5. I grow under lights or I supplement with lights.

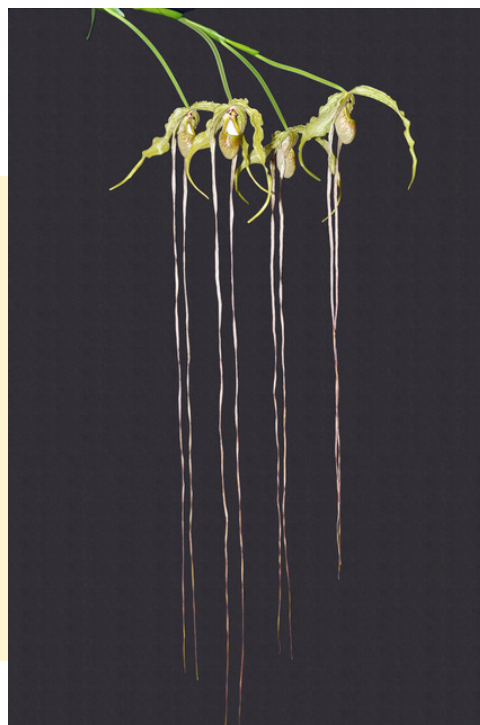
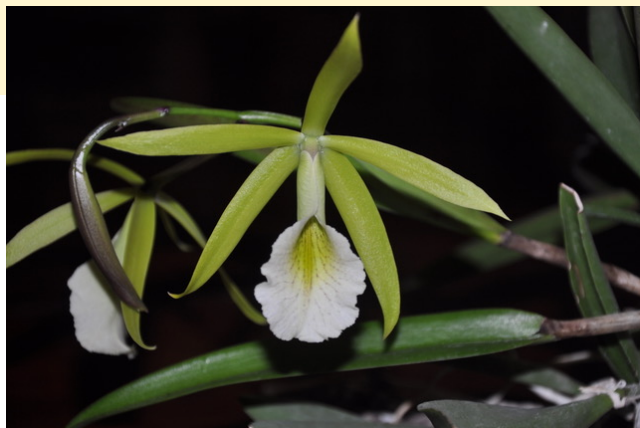
Then consider what photos you would like to have represent your collection that you would love to talk about with other members. Stay tuned for all of this and more.

Thank you Jason.

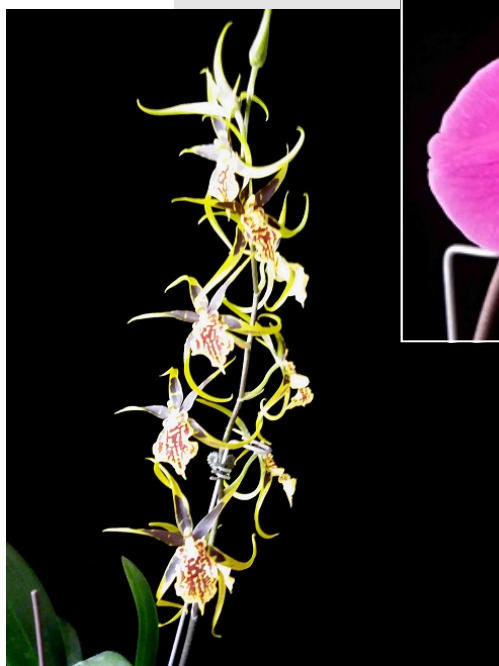
Jason has done all of this while working full time. If you have ideas please contact Sue Reed at reed1963@icloud.com or Cynthia Wadsworth at cynthia727672@gmail.com rather than Jason.

Cynthia Wadsworth
Web Development Board Liaison

What's Blooming at Home



Clockwise from top left: *Ancistrochilus rothschildianus* (African species); *Phragmipedium* Stairway to Heaven (*popowii* x *wallisii*) from Orchids Ltd., with petals 31" long; and *Procatavola* (*Cattleya* Lime Sherbert x *Brassavola nodosa*) from Keith Nelson



Banfieldara Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' (*Brasidostele*) (*Brassostele* Summit x *Brasidium* Gilded Urchin) from Lori O'Neill as well as a selection of unknown *Phalaenopsis* hybrids

