

December
2025



The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

www.Orchidgrowersguild.org

Next Meeting, December 21st

HOLIDAY PARTY

Arrive around noon at Rex's Innkeeper
301 North Century Avenue

Waunakee, WI. 53597

Website: <https://rexsinnkeeper.com>



All Guild members are invited to a special luncheon to celebrate the holiday season and our 40 year anniversary! You will be treated to an assortment of hors d'oeuvres followed by a hot buffet meal, and dessert.

Rumor has it that Santa Chuck and his elves will have a big bag of orchids for the good girls and boys - if Ken doesn't behave himself, he may end up with another *Dendrobium*!

Meeting Dates

- 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

- January 24-25, 2026, Orchid Society of Minnesota's "Winter Carnival Orchid Show", Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, 1225 Estabrook Dr. St Paul MN
- 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
- September 12-13, Wisconsin Orchid Society

Officers and Committees

President:
Meredith Graham (2026)
megmcL6@gmail.com

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Treasurer:
Ken Cameron (2026)
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Past President (non-voting)
Susan Reed
greed@tds.net

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President's Message

It was great that Arnie Klehm took time away from his breeding and growing of award-winning orchids to venture north to give us tips and hints on "What He Does" to grow better Paphiopedilums. It was interesting to learn that even commercial growers modify, invent and improvise the same way that so many of us hobby growers have learned to do. I found that although he grows on a macroscale, the modifications and adjustments to things such as water, lighting, temperature, fertilizer and pest management are all things I find myself doing. Anybody else add a pressure washer to their repertoire of pest management? These are the kinds of things I look forward to learning about from the knowledge base of so many Guild members!

Last week, the Membership Committee met to revise the Household Membership Dues. The Board approved their recommendation. The increase to \$40 per household (two people living at the same address) will go into effect January 1, 2026. Anybody who renews at the current rate of \$30 per household before December 31, 2025 will be considered a member in good standing. There is no increase in any other rates. All membership renew-

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PROGRAMMING TIMELINE

Tentative Timeline for Holiday Party

- 11:45-12:00 Arrive, socialize
- 12:30 Meeting announcements
- 12:45 for Show and Tell
- 1:15 Buffet Style Meal
- 2:30 Start Santa Chuck

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AOS: Nancy Thomas
MAOC: Lynn West

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als are due in January. If possible our Treasurer would like for all of us to consider using the OGG website to pay for membership renewal as well as any other payments such as Santa Chuck, Anniversary Dinner, Award Sponsorship, etc.

There sure was a lot going on at the November meeting! So many things to sign in and sign up for! Those Orchid Quest sign-up opportunities will be at the December and January meetings as well. There will be Show and Tell at the December meeting but please consider the weather when you decide to bring any blooming orchids. The Milo Gilbertson and other awards will be announced at our December Holiday/Anniversary Celebration at Rex's Innkeeper in Waunakee. The last time we had a celebration of this magnitude was when we celebrated our 25th anniversary at Orchids Garden Center (formerly Orchids by the Ackers) in 2010. Hopefully, you all have been good so that Santa Chuck will be able to make an appearance! What a great way to say Happy Holidays!

— Meg Graham

SANTA CHUCK HOLIDAY PLANT EVENT

If you happened to miss out on reserving a Holiday plant for the December meeting, you will have a chance to partake! You can either make your payment via the OGG web site at <https://orchidgrowersguild.org/join%2Fnew%2Fdonate%2Fpay> and leave a note that your payment is for the Christmas plant or, pay the day of the meeting. Santa Chuck has arranged to have some extra plants available just in case you missed out on reserving one at a prior meeting. Plant reservation is \$10 and you will receive a plant valued to \$35 or more! Don't miss out on the fun! The event process is as follows:

As you arrive, you will be given a random number by Santa Chuck. You will see dozens of plants; some will be wrapped and some not wrapped. NO PEEKING IN THE WRAPPINGS! Member numbers will be called by Santa's Elf using the random number generator. When your number is called, you get to select your plant from Santa's lot.

If you choose a wrapped plant and upon un-wrapping it and you do not want to keep for some reason you can go to the 'Horse Corral' to offer a trade. While in the 'Horse Corral' the next member number is called. That member has the choice to take your plant or choose from Santa's lot.

If your plant is taken by another member, you then choose another plant from Santa's lot. CHOOSE WISELY as you will not be able to enter the 'Horse Corral' twice! When all the member numbers have been called, the game is over . . . Or is it???

At the end of the event, members that are interested in exchanging their plant can enter the 'Horse Corral' for a Member - To - Member horse trading event!

All remaining plants will be available for sale to members at \$35 each, payable to the OGG Treasurer.

I look forward to another fun-filled Santa Chuck Holiday Meeting!!

— Chuck Acker



MEMBER SURVEY RESULTS:

Fun With Numbers- Part 1

Thank you to all who filled out and returned the survey at our October meeting. I've finally had time to summarize and analyze the results of the survey so here is a short summary. There were 48 surveys filled out and returned. The majority were from people who have been members for fewer than five years! According to the survey the majority of us read the newsletter and use the OGG website! Thank you!

There was strong interest in Chuck's April Fundraising Auction so you can expect to see (and participate!) in the auction in the near future. The topics that received the highest interest were Orchid Morphology and Care, Lights and Lighting, Pest Control and Fertilizer (in that order). 60% of us are interested in "Learning about New Orchid Species." Over 50% of the respondents listed "Identifying Common or Native Species" and "Understanding Orchid Taxonomy" as something they are interested in.

The orchid alliance with the highest interest level was Cattleyas (23 people had that as #1) followed by Paphiopedilums (17) and Phragmipediums (15) but when all 1st, 2nd and 3rd place choices were combined all the alliances came out fairly evenly. Vandas (34), Phalaenopsis (32), Cattleya (35), Dendrobium (36), Paphiopedilum (33), Phragmipedium (34), Oncidium (34), Miniatures (32), Other (1 each).



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

I don't think it will come as a surprise that Virtual (Zoom) did not rank in anybody's 1st or 2nd choice. There was a strong preference for Live Demonstrations (75%) and In-Person Speakers (78%). Hands-on Learning Opportunities came in at 36% while Field Trips/Road Trips came in at 17%.

Learning about Potting Media and Repotting, Lighting, Fertilizing as well as Water came in as the majority of people ranking highest in their interest level. Judging and Pollination received rather low interest levels.

The three Favorite Activities were In-Person Speakers, Challenge Plant and Holiday Mystery Plant/Santa Chuck. But the April Curated Auction, Silent Auctions and Summer Picnic also received high accolades. As for renting bus transportation and attending other orchid nurseries or shows, the majority of members responded with "it depends."

Next month I will include the results of the "Essays" and information about specific speakers and comments.

— Meg Graham



David Nevin's Slc. Hybrid (Slc. Angel's Fantasy 'Solar Flare' FCC/AOS x Slc. Angel Eyes 'SVO' AM/AOS)



Jim Wasser, Jeff Metcalf, Brian Thompson and Ken Cameron EIOS set-up team



EASTERN IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY RIBBON JUDGING

Over the Halloween weekend 13 Guild members sent >70 flowering plants with 5 in two classes, to Cedar Rapids, Iowa for the annual "Orchids Are a Scream" show hosted by the Eastern Iowa Orchid Society. Our exhibit, designed by Ken Cameron with assistance from his husband Brian and our members Jim Wasser and Jeff Metcalf, featured a ghoulish tree monster covered in Spanish moss, *Dendrobium* orchids, and woody vines that ramified throughout the display. The skeleton of an illegal poacher, holding his copy of "The Orchid Thief" in hand, appears to have been foiled by the tree monster, proving that Nature always wins. Guild members brought home 1 Best of Class, 10 First Place, 12 Second Place, and 11 Third place ribbons. Our exhibit took the show's "Spooktacular Award" for the best thematic display - congratulations! And thank you to everyone who participated!

OGG Exhibit earned second place in its class

First place and BOC

David Nevin

Paphiopedilum Katano Kolopadai (*kolopakingii album* × *dianthum alba*)

First place

Ken Cameron

Alcra. Hilo Ablaze 'Hilo Gold' HCC/AOS (*Mtssa Olmec* × *Onc Mantinii*)

Ken Cameron

Paphiopedilum Faire-Maud (*Maudiae 'Los Osos'* × *fairrieanum '1-02'*)

Ken Cameron

Phaleanopsis heiroglyphica

Jeff Metcalf

Miltonidium Melissa Brianne 'Dark' (*Milt. Anne Warne* × *Onc. Mrs. Rudolf Pabst*)

Chuck Acker

Phragmipedium Bel Royal (Mem. Dick Clements × Sorcerer's Apprentice)

Lynn West

Phragmipedium pearcei

Lorraine Snyder

Phragmipedium Acker's Royalty (Twilight#4 4N × *fischeri*)

David Nevin

Phragmipedium Claude Marcoux (3N) (Hanne Popow 'Pretty in Pink' HCC/AOS × Sunset Glow (4N) 'Kelly Creek')

Brook Johnson

Paphiopedilum Philip's Song (Hsinying Anita 'Slipper Zone Tall & Dark' AM/AOS × *philippinense v. roebelinii* 'JEM' AM/AOS)

Second Place

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Ken Cameron	<i>Phaleanopsis schilleriana</i>
Ken Cameron	<i>Anoectichilus formosanus</i>
Sue Reed	<i>Dryadella hirtzi</i>
Meg Graham	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Paul Eugene Conroy (<i>wallisii</i> × <i>longifolium</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Karen Sue (Red Rocket × <i>kovachii</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber (Eric Young × <i>besseae</i>)
Gerry King	<i>Phaleanopsis</i> Germaine Vincent × sib ('M619' × 'Blue')
Lynn West	<i>Cattlianthe</i> Joyce Marie Rose (C. Angel Eyes 'SVO' AM/AOS × <i>Ctt.</i> Orchidglade 'SVO' HCC/AOS)
Lynn West	<i>Oncidium</i> Heaven Scent 'Redolence' (Ruffles × Sharry Baby)
Lynn West	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> In-Charm Grace (In-Charm White 'Chao Chou' BM/TPS × <i>niveum f. album</i> 'Sogo')
Steven Liu	<i>Renanstylis</i> Bangkok Beauty (<i>Renanstylis</i> Azimah × <i>Renanthera</i> Bangkok Flame)

Third Place

Ken Cameron	<i>Habenaria</i> Jiaho Yellow Bird (<i>rhodocheila</i> × <i>medusa</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Galactic Glow (Loud Nine × Higher Multiplier)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Phaleanopsis</i> Lianher Red Diamond 'LH1051-4' (Lianher Super Red × Charm Sun Big Red Robe)
Meg Graham	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Bonsall (<i>manzurii</i> × <i>fischeri</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Classic (Twilight × <i>kovachii</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> 'Peruvian Sunset'
Lynn West	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Lana Farrell (Rlc. William Farrell 'Native Son' × C. Lana Coryell 'Pink')
Steven Liu	<i>Wuttiphanara</i> Manoonya (<i>Rhynvandopsis</i> Dixie Delight × <i>Perreiraara</i> Bangkok Sunset)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Royalty (Twilight#4 4N × <i>fischeri</i>)
Brook Johnson	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> <i>villosum</i>
Brook Johnson	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Hawaiian Spring (Hawaiian Illusion × Spring Fever)



Sue Reed's *Dryadella hirtzi*



Chuck Acker's *Phragmipedium* Acker's Classic (Twilight × *kovachii*)

Orchid growing is not a matter of life or death, it's much more important than that.

Orchid Oddities – Jingle Bell Orchid (*Dendrophylax porrectus*)

Happy Holidays! I have been saving this one. You didn't think I'd find a holiday themed orchid.

Most of us have heard of the ghost orchid (*Dendrophylax lindenii*), the jingle bell orchid is a congener (member of the same genus). Like the ghost orchid, the jingle bell orchid has no leaves and photosynthesizes through its roots. It is a smaller plant with roots that are usually less than 1mm in diameter, ghost orchid roots are 3-5 mm. It is also a shorter plant with smaller flowers.

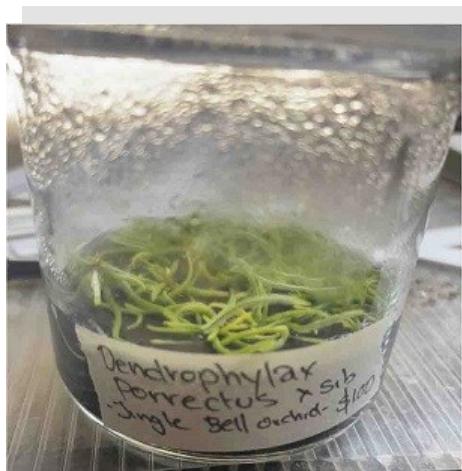
The flowers are yellow and only about 1/8" in diameter. When they dry, the seed pods will turn red and rattle or jingle in the breeze, hence the jingle bell orchid moniker.

It is often found on branches in the wild, frequently on cedar trees. It can be found in Florida, several islands in the Caribbean, Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador.

I obtained a flask of these when Robert-Jan Quene came to speak to the OGG earlier this year. They looked like a bunch of green spiders in the flask. Because they are leafless, they need to be grown mounted. Initially they looked great and I thought one started to spike for me but unfortunately I lost them all shortly thereafter.

They are a challenging species to keep as they need high humidity but they need airflow. The airflow can't be directly on them or too much. I had some that appeared to get waterlogged where there wasn't enough airflow and some that appeared to dry out. I also lost a couple to a latent fungus that sprouted from the mounts that I used. These were all in the same covered terrarium. I may try again in the future but these are definitely the most challenging orchid I have tried to keep so far.

— Sean Stake



Jingle Bell Orchid Flask



Mounted Jingle Bell Orchid



Jingle Bell Orchid in nature

OGG NOVEMBER RIBBON JUDGING

“Judging Extravaganza”

Once again, we set a record for attendance at the November OGG meeting! And, there was a record number of beautifully grown orchid plants in their full glory on display for our monthly ribbon judging. I counted 70 plants brought by the 83 members attending. Not only was there a great number of plants but the quality and diversity really struck me. To see our members grow such a wide variety of orchid plants to the caliber of Sunday’s exhibit is a true testament to the talent and diversity of our incredible members. As a founding and long-time member of the club for 40 years, I could not be prouder of you all! I want to give a special thanks to Leslie Heyden and her niece and nephew for attending from Green Bay with the magnificent specimen of *Cattlianthe* Acker’s Madison ‘Kyle’ (*Ctt. Portia* x *C. Madison Green*.) This clone has a special place in my heart as it was developed by my father Walter and registered as a new hybrid in 1985, the same year the OGG was formed! Thank you everyone for making the OGG a thriving orchid club here in Madison!

Happy Growing!

Chuck Acker

First Place

Jeff Metcalf	<i>Brassocattleya</i> Katie’s Star (<i>Brassavola nodosa</i> x <i>Cattleya alaorii</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Cattleya labiata</i> ‘Tipo’ x self
Lynn West	<i>Cattleya</i> mini purple (NOID)
Rachel Miller	<i>Cattleya</i> Pink Pearl ‘Matt’ (<i>alaorii</i> x <i>wittigiana</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Cattleya</i> Princess (<i>leuddemanniana</i> x <i>trianae</i>)
Leslie Heyden-Geurts	<i>Cattlianthe</i> Acker’s Madison ‘Kyle’ (<i>Cattlianthe Portia</i> x <i>Cattleya Madison Green</i>)
Lynn West	<i>Cattlianthe</i> Joyce Marie Rose (<i>Cattleya Angel Eyes</i> x <i>Cattlianthe Orchidglade</i>)
Unknown	<i>Catasetum pileatum</i> (‘SVO Independence’ x ‘Dinner Plate’)
Lynn West	<i>Dendrobium</i> Angel Baby (Snow Baby x Snow Angel)
Jeff Baylis	<i>Epidendrum nocturnum</i>
Ken Cameron	<i>Gombrassiltonia</i> [= <i>Aliceara</i>] Hilo Ablaze ‘Hilo Gold’ HCC/AOS (<i>Bratonia Olmec</i> x <i>Gomesa Mantini</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Miltonia moreliana</i> ‘Royalty’ AM/AOS x self
Unknown	<i>Miltoniopsis</i> NOID
Dan Schmidt	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Formosa Lady (Susan Booth ‘Red’ x <i>sanderianum</i> ‘Sam Tsui’)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Karen Sue (Red Rocket x <i>kovachii</i>)
Patricia Jones	<i>Pleione maculata</i>
Christina Keeley	<i>Vanda lamellata</i> ‘Okinawa’
Jeff Baylis	<i>Warczewiczella amazonica</i> x sib

Second Place

Ken Cameron	<i>Aliceara</i> Snowblind ‘Sweet Spots’ (<i>Oncidium Black Diamond</i> x <i>Aliceara Tropic Splendor</i>)
Steven Liu	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> [= <i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i>] Robin Henry ‘Sweet Scent’ x <i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> [= <i>Potinara</i>] Memoria Harriet George
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Bulbophyllum sanguineopunctatum</i>
Sue Reed	<i>Dendrobium</i> Ecuagenera Vibes (Hsinying Paradise x <i>cuthbertsonii</i>)
Christina Keeley	<i>Dendrobium perpaulum</i>
Sue Reed	<i>Dryadella hirtzii</i>
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Gaeleandra leptocerus</i>
Steven Fauska	<i>Leomesezia</i> [= <i>Howeara</i>] Lava Burst ‘Pacific Sunrise’ (<i>Leomesezia Mini-Primi</i> x <i>Rodriguezia lanceolata</i>)
Jeff Metcalf	<i>Miltassia</i> Charles M Fitch ‘Izumi’ (<i>Brassia verrucose</i> x <i>Miltonia moreliana</i>)
Lynn West	<i>Mormodes</i> Danielle Anastasia Gallagher (<i>andreettae</i> x <i>badia</i>)
Ken Cameron	<i>Oncidopsis</i> Celtic Sun ‘Maya’ (<i>Oncidium Golden Rialto</i> x <i>Miltoniopsis Zorro</i>)
Sue Reed	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> (conco-bellatum ‘SVO’ AM/AOS x <i>thaianum</i> ‘Super Cute’)
Ken Cameron	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Faire-Maude (<i>fairrieanum</i> x <i>Maudiae</i>)
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> NOID

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Meg Graham	<i>Phrag</i> Paul Eugene Conroy (<i>longifolium</i> 'Waunakee' × <i>wallisii</i>)
Dan Schmidt	<i>Phragmipedium</i> (Anthony Omeis × Asuko Fischer)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Royalty (Twilight #4N × <i>fischeri</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Elegant Rose (Magdalene Rose × <i>kovachii</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Graeme Jones (Barbara LeAnn × <i>kovachii</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Rouge Bouillon (Mem Dick Clements × <i>dalessandroi</i>)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Ruby Cascade (Andean Fire 'Daddy Mac' × <i>wallisii</i> 'Tower Grove')
Ken Cameron	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Yelva Myhre (Rosalie Dixler × <i>kovachii</i>)
Christina Keeley	<i>Pleurothallis</i> <i>allenii</i>
Leslie Heyden-Geurts	<i>Procatavola</i> Key Lime Stars (<i>Cattleychea</i> Lime Sherbert × <i>Brassavola nodosa</i>)
Steven Liu	<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Hawaii Island Mint (<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Hsinying Catherine × <i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Pratum Green)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Melinda Rose Funke 'Ernie' (<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Afternoon Delight × <i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Salmon Splendor)
Steven Liu	<i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> warscewiczii semi alba × Hawaiian Wedding Song 'Virgin'
Rachel Miller	<i>Vanda falcata</i> ('Magenta Queen' × 'Purple Angel')
Gary Lensmeyer	<i>Zygotetalum</i> <i>mackayi</i>
Third place	
Jeff Baylis	<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i> NOID
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Catasetum</i> (<i>sanguineum</i> 'Excellent Shape' × <i>albo-virens</i> 'SVO')
Ken Cameron	<i>Galeopetalum</i> Starburst (<i>Galeottia fimbriata</i> × <i>Zygopetalum</i> Jumpin Jack)
Lorraine Snyder	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> ('Amanda Invasion' × <i>Memoria</i> Kevin Hipkins)
Lynn West	<i>Paphiopedilum</i> Michael Koopowitz (<i>philippinense</i> × <i>sanderianum</i>)
Gerald King	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Miki Mok Choi 'Bear Queen' '774' (Mok Choi Yew × LD's Bear Queen)
Alice Peterson	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> NOID
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Classic (Twilight × <i>kovachii</i>)
Patricia Jones	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Don Wimber (Eric Young × <i>besseae</i>)
Chuck Acker	<i>Phragmipedium</i> Jerry Lee Fischer (<i>besseae</i> × Incan Treasure)
Ken Cameron	<i>Psychopsis</i> Mendenhall 'Hildos' FCC/AOS
Lynn West	<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Volcano Blue 'Volcano Queen' (<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Lois McNeil × <i>Cattlianthe</i> Blue Boy)
Lynn West	<i>Rhyncholealiocattleya</i> Naomi's Delight (<i>Cattleya</i> Katherine Clarkson × <i>Rhyncholealiocattleya</i> Sun Spots)
Steven Liu	<i>Slc</i> Angel Sparks (Angel Eyes 'SVO' AM/AOS × Candy Sparks 'Gold Sparks')
Wanda Buckingham	<i>Slc</i> Angel Sparks (Angel Eyes 'SVO' AM/AOS × Candy Sparks 'Gold Sparks')
Un-Judged	
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Aerangis</i> Pionier (<i>mystacidii</i> × <i>kotschyana</i>)
Unknown	<i>Bracidostele</i> Gilded Tower 'Mystic Maze' (<i>Brassostele</i> Summit × <i>Brassidium</i> Gilded Urchin)
Terri Jozwiak	<i>Bulbophyllum</i> <i>longiflorum</i>
Steven Fauska	<i>Cattleya</i> <i>harrisoniana</i> 'Volcano Queen'
Steven Fauska	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> <i>pulcherrima</i>
Lynn West	<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Melinda Rose Funke 'Ernie' (<i>Rhyncatleanthe</i> Afternoon Delight × <i>Rhyncholaeliocattleya</i> Salmon Splendor)

A REMINDER: Perhaps you are a new member or a member who has just begun to bring orchids for Ribbon Judging, the form that you fill out at the meeting for judging must stay to be collected. These slips documents are used to calculate points for awards at the end of the year, so do not miss out!



Gary Lensmeyer "This *Zygopetalum mackayi* is extremely fragrant with long-lasting blooms that perfume a good part of the house."



Gary Lensmeyer's Paph NOID



Dan Schmidt's *Paphiopedilum Formosa Lady* (Susan Booth 'Red' × *sanderianum* 'Sam Tsui')



Lynn West's *Mormodes Danielle* Anastasia Gallagher (*andreettae* × *badia*)



Terri Jozwiak's *Bulbophyllum longiflorum*



Ken Cameron's *Oncidopsis Celtic Sun 'Maya'* (*Oncidium Golden Rialto* x *Miltoniopsis Zorro*)

Historic Orchid Hybrid Has Ties To Orchid Growers Guild



One inflorescent on Leslie Heyden-Geurts' *Cattlianthe Acker's Madison 'Kyle'* (*Cattlianthe Portia* × *Cattleya Madison Green*)

Those of us that attended the November OGG meeting were dazzled with an outstanding representation of a classic and historical orchid hybrid. The specimen size plant of *Cattlianthe Acker's Madison 'Kyle'* (Ctt. Portia x C. Madison Green) was created by my father Walter Acker, at Orchids by the Ackers and registered with the Royal Horticultural Society in 1985. The same year the OGG was formed!

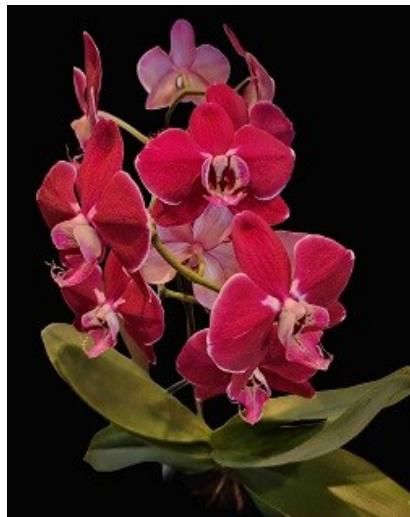
Green Bay grower Leslie Heyden brought the plant to the meeting. It was in full bloom with large clusters of flowers atop each mature pseudobulb of the prior season's growth. Typical of this plant, the clusters of 15-20 flowers is one of the characteristics that my father Walter was hybridizing to achieve in the *Cattleya* genus. Leslie's plant was superbly grown, with flawless bi-foliate leaves spread out at the top of thick robust pseudobulbs. The

plant was large and so vigorous, it had outgrown the 10" pot with rhizomes breaching the perimeter of the pot. When I sked Leslie if she was going to divide it now, she said, "No, I'm going to up-pot it to grow a larger specimen!"

Wow! I cannot wait to see this plant in another year or so as it may need its own zip code! Leslie has a long-time relationship with orchids. Her late mother Lorraine Heyden, a prestigious AOS (American Orchid Society) judge, frequented Orchid Quest and many other orchid shows in our area for over 20 years. Orchids by the Acker's has quite a few AOS award certificates with Lorraine's signature on them.

Thank you Leslie, along with her niece and nephew for attending our meeting and bringing your amazing plant, all the way from Green Bay!

— Chuck Acker



Alice Peterson's *Phalaenopsis*



Catasetum pileatum ('SVO Independence' × 'Dinner Plate')



Jeff Baylis' *Epidendrum nocturnum*

Orchid Quest Up-dates

FROM THE CHAIR



Orchid Quest is February 7-8, 2026 with the set-up on **Friday**, February 6.

I just counted, we have nearly 40 people ALREADY working on Orchid Quest. Isn't that amazing? It is wonderful to get the ideas from all these sources. Our production of Orchid Quest, billed as the "Largest Orchid Show in the Midwest" certainly has the volunteers to make it The Best Show in the Midwest.

The advertising committee is hot to trot and finishing up putting OQ on all the calendars and other media. The sewing committee is creating lovely orchid related materials. The registration committee has a handle on the new computer program. The new Silent Auction team is in full swing collecting items. And a tour of Monona Terrace and the rooms we have reserved is being scheduled.

We have our vendors finalized, thank you Loraine Snyder.

- Anything Orchids
- Dr. Bill's Orchids
- Ecuagenera Orchids
- Friday's Embroidery
- Green Road Pottery
- KlehmGro Orchids
- Magic Oasis Club
- Manecki Hill Orchids
- Mythical Plants - Sean Stake
- Natt's Orchids
- New World Orchids
- Orchids Limited - Jason Fischer
- Sunprarie Orchids
- Ten Shin Gardens

Thank you one and all for your help now and on OQ weekend. If you volunteer to work for 2 hours at OQ or lots of hours before/during or after that weekend, THANK YOU.

Terri Jozwiak
Orchid Quest Chairperson

Best of Class Award Sponsorships

Each year we ask members for your support to help defray costs for Orchid Quest by sponsoring one of the Best of Class or other Special Awards given at the show. Your sponsorship is recognized in a certificate that accompanies the ribbon (flashy purple, orange or pink rosettes!) and trophy placed in the display with the winner. You can also memorialize or honor a loved one or friend by dedicating your sponsorship to them (see the certificate examples attached).

Choice of awards is on a first-come first-served basis and they are going fast! If you're interested in reserving an award, contact me to add your name to the list. You can also sign up for any unclaimed awards at our December and January meetings.

Sponsorship donations are \$25 and can be paid using the donation option on our website (at this abbreviated link: <https://tinyurl.com/payOrchidGuild> or at our full website address: <https://orchidgrowersguild.org/join%2Fnew%2Fdonate%2Fpay>). Or you can pay in person to Ken at our meetings. If using the website, be sure to write the purpose of the donation in the Comments section. Thanks for helping to make Orchid Quest flourish!

Nancy Thomas,
mikeandnancy@tds.net
608-523-3607, cell 608-576-0609



YOUR OWN EXHIBIT OPPORTUNITY!

Have you ever thought you'd like to try entering your own exhibit at Orchid Quest? Last year you may have seen table displays by Ken and Sue. Well, this year we've allocated more space for exhibits and are inviting you, our members, to set up your own display containing plants, educational material, or this year we're adding orchid-related art categories like painting, photography, crafts and collectibles.

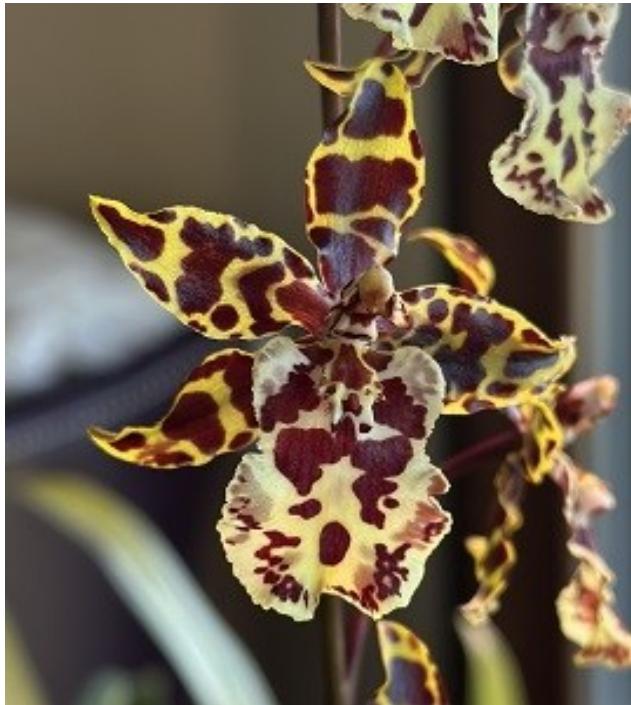
Check your email for our message that will include the list of MAOC classes, and a registration form that we'll want you to submit, preferably by our December meeting, December 21, so that we can plan our exhibit layout. If you have questions or just want to get an idea what this might entail, feel free to contact Nancy Thomas (mikeandnancy@tds.net, 608-675-0609).



Ken Cameron's Fuukiran Exhibit



Growing Draculas by Sue Reed



I just recently purchased this *Oncidium* Trident (Eximium x King Albert) from our OGG member, Dave Watson (Tristan's Tropical Fish). A few years ago this cross would have been called an *Odontoglossum* hybrid with an *Oncidium* as one of the parents. The *Oncidium* parent gives warmth tolerance to this cross. Typically *Odontoglossums* prefer cool growing conditions. If you are interested in checking out Dave's orchids (seedlings and blooming size) email Dave (Davidwatsondvm@gmail.com) for a special orchid tour.

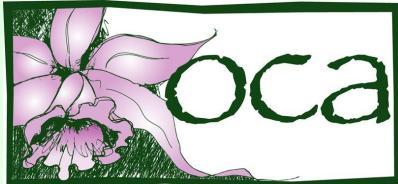
-- Sue Reed



Jim Wasser with Jeff's *Cattleya Princess (leuddemanniana x trianae)* and *Cattleya labiata 'Tipto' x self*

Sue Reed's *Dendrobium Ecuagenera Vibes* (*Hsinying Paradise x cuthbertsonii*)





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 web-
site:

<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)



ORCHIDS
FOR PEACE

Let's Explore COLOMBIA'S BIODIVERSITY March 7—21, 2026 Registration now open!

Step off the beaten path and into Colombia's magical Coffee Region, home to over 4,300 orchid species, wild cloud forests, and volcanic mountain sanctuaries. This is more than a tour—it's a scientific and conservation-focused adventure, led by one of Colombia's orchid researchers

- EXCLUSIVE ACCESS Private tours of world-renowned collections, including the legendary Colomborquídeas—often called the "Disneyland of Orchids"
- DIVERSE LANDSCAPES From misty cloud forests at 10,000 feet to lush coffee valleys—each ecosystem reveals different orchid treasures
- INTIMATE EXPERIENCE Maximum 15 travelers ensures personal attention, flexibility, and authentic connections with local experts
- WORRY-FREE ADVENTURE All-inclusive experience with medical insurance, expert local guides, and comfortable accommodations throughout
- CONSERVATION IMPACT Your participation directly supports orchid conservation and local community development through Orchids for Peace

Conservation commitment Every dollar of profit from this tour supports the Orchids for Peace Foundation's vital conservation work, protecting endangered orchid species and empowering local communities in Colombia. Your adventure creates lasting positive impact.

Book your exclusive adventure. Only 15 spots available
Ready to explore Colombia's orchid paradise?
Email: contact@orchidsforpeace.org
Website: www.orchidsforpeace.org
Phone: 941 600 8746

FOUND ITEM!

Found water bottle on floor under chair next to Arnie's Sales table at the November meeting. Is it yours? Sue Reed will bring it to the December meeting to be claimed.

24thWOC



Germany 2026

24th World Orchid Conference
26-29 March 2026 Dresden