

MARCH  
2024



#### Meeting Dates

- March 17, commons
- April 21
- May 19
- June TBA
- 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

- March 1-4 - 23rd World Orchid Congress, Tainan, Taiwan
- March 2 - 3 — Wisconsin Orchid Society's "Orchids for Everyone", Milaeger's Garden Center, 4838 Douglas Ave, Racine, WI 53402
- March 9-10 — Illinois Orchid Society Spring Show, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Road, Glencoe IL 60022
- April 5 - 7 - Apopka International Spring Orchid Festival - AOS Member's Meeting, Krull-Smith, 2800 W Ponkan Rd, Apopka, FL 32712.
- May 11, Spring Orchid Sale, Evjue Commons

#### Officers and Committees

##### President:

Susan Reed (2024)  
[Greed@chorus.net](mailto:Greed@chorus.net)

##### Vice President:

Cynthia Wadsworth (2025)  
[cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)

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# The Orchid Grower

Orchid Growers Guild of Madison

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

## NEXT MEETING MARCH 17 Member Appreciation, Commons

The next OGG meeting will be held in the Commons. Annual Awards will be announced by Meredyth Graham who will say a few words about the Milo Gilbertson Award. OQ 2024 will be wrapped up and there will be a potting demonstration for new members. Be sure to bring your blooming orchids to share with other members.

Schedule on page 2.



Rth Momilani Rainbow (C. Mari's Song  
x Rth. Orange Nuggett)

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hi all!

Thanks to all of you that were able to volunteer at Orchid Quest and who were able to attend our super February meeting! Attendance was great and we acquired a few more members. Chuck gave a very interesting and informative talk on the history, growing and hybridization of *kovachii*. Plus Chuck had some fantastic hybrids to sell with the Guild reaping the profit! The sale went very well with every plant claimed!!!

Our March meeting will again be in the Commons, the same room that our February meeting was held! Olbrich hadn't rented it and did not have plans for the use of the Commons on **March 17!** Lucky us! March is our Member Appreciation meeting with the announcement of the winners of the growers' and the orchid show set up awards. (Details concerning the points system can be found on our website <https://orchidgrowersguild.org/membership>)

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**Secretary:**

Lynn West (2025)  
[LynneWest15@yahoo.com](mailto:LynneWest15@yahoo.com)

**Treasurer:**

Denise Baylis (2024)  
[jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net)

**Board:**

Lisa Linde (2026)  
[CrazyCatPlantLady@gmail.com](mailto:CrazyCatPlantLady@gmail.com)

Nancy Thomas (2024)  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)

Carrie Wiesman (2025)  
[cleocatz@msn.com](mailto:cleocatz@msn.com)

**Away Shows:**

Nancy Thomas  
[mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)

**Hospitality:**

Jeff Metcalf  
[jametcalc61@yahoo.com](mailto:jametcalc61@yahoo.com)  
Jim Wasser  
[jwasser70@gmail.com](mailto:jwasser70@gmail.com)

**Library Liaison:**

Sandra Gray  
[sandragray445@comcast.net](mailto:sandragray445@comcast.net)

**Membership:**

Lynn West  
[LynneWest15@yahoo.com](mailto:LynneWest15@yahoo.com)  
Cynthia Wadsworth  
[cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)  
Sandra Gray  
[sandragray445@comcast.net](mailto:sandragray445@comcast.net)

**Newsletter:**

Denise Baylis  
[jrbaylis@tds.net](mailto:jrbaylis@tds.net)

**Orchid Quest 2024:**

Terri Jozwiak  
[lodijoz@charter.net](mailto:lodijoz@charter.net)

**Programs:**

Cynthia Wadsworth  
[cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)

**Ribbon Judging:**

Ken Cameron  
Chuck Acker

**Social Media:**

Ken Cameron

**Web Master:**

Jason Berry  
[oggwebsite@yahoo.com](mailto:oggwebsite@yahoo.com)

**Liaisons:**

AOS: Nancy Thomas  
MAOC: Lynn West

## MARCH PROGRAMMING NOTES

- Noon: Doors unlocked
- 12:30—1 PM: Ribbon Judging begins
- 1 PM: Hybrid Zoom meeting begins
- Welcome and general announcements
- Review of shown plants
- Annual Member awards and point system explanation
- Break
- 2:35 PM: Terri with OQ highlights
- 3:15 PM: Repotting for New members\*

\*Repotting is for New Members that attended Terri's repotting workshop at Orchid Quest, joined since OQ 2024 and bring the post card with them

(Continued from page 1)

We will discuss our very successful Orchid Quest! Terri will give some overviews as well as others who took major roles in the smooth workings of Orchid Quest 2024!

We are very lucky to have a member willing to take on our Website!! Now with a committee to help him, Jason has been working hard to determine what would be useful for the Guild's website. Please send your comments or suggestions to me ([Greed@chorus.net](mailto:Greed@chorus.net)) or Cynthia ([cynthia727672@gmail.com](mailto:cynthia727672@gmail.com)). DO NOT bother Jason.

We will have plant judging at the March meeting and have another great discussion on the plants lead by Ken and Chuck.

We are still looking for volunteers for the Illinois Orchid Society Orchid Show on March 8 set up or take down on March 10. The same people do not have to do both parts for the Madison plant transportation. I can do the plant labels and registration, so that part will be done before **March 7**. Jeff Wasser and Jim Metcalf will be in charge of the set up. Please contact Nancy ([mikeandnancy@tds.net](mailto:mikeandnancy@tds.net)) for details.

The Illinois Society Orchid show is a great show to visit and with your Olbrich Botanical Gardens membership your parking and admission is free. (Also for set up and take down your parking should be free.) The Botanical Gardens is having an Orchid show of its own which has an admission.

Hope to see everyone on March 17!

Stay well and enjoy our days of warm sunny weather!



Rth Paradise Rose 'My Valentine'

# ORCHID GROWERS GUILD RESULTS, ORCHID QUEST 2024

## AOS AWARDS

### **AOS Show Trophy - Best Exhibit**

Orchid Grower's Guild, Exhibit

### **AOS Award of Merit**

Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Acker's Meredyth (Priscilla's Pirouette x *kovachii*)

Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Jordan's Peach Tango (Acker's Sunbeam x *d'alessandroi*)

### **AOS Highly Commended Certificate**

Gerald King *Phalaenopsis* SWR Viola 'M908' 2 (Sogo Relax x *violacea* 'Indigo')

### **Best of Class**

Ken Cameron *Eria stricta*

Chuck Acker *Phalaenopsis* Fangmei Q Hot (Tai lin Red Angle x Dou-dii Golden Princess)

### **OGG Award Favorite Overlooked Orchid**

Jeff Metcalf *Cymbidium* Showgirl 'Malibu' (Sweet Heart x Alexanderi)

### **Pulled for AOS Judging**

Ken Cameron *Eria stricta*

Chuck Acker *Phalaenopsis* Fangmei Q Hot (Tai lin Red Angle x Dou-dii Golden Princess)

Ken Cameron *Miltonidium* (*Vuylstekeara*) Melissa Brianne 'Dark' (*Milt* Anne Warne x *Onc.* Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)

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### **First Place**

Gerald King *Phalaenopsis* SWR Viola 'M908' 2 (Sogo Relax x *violacea* 'Indigo')

Ken Cameron *Eria stricta*

Gary Lensmeyer *Cynodes* Jumbo Puff (*Cyc. warscewiczii* x *Morm. badia*)

Meg McLaughlin *Paphiopedilum* Meredyth Ellen (*hainanense* x *wolterianum*)

Jeff Baylis *Phragmipedium* besseae 'Cow Hollow II' FCC/AOS

Liz Wood *Phalaenopsis*, hybrid unknown

Jeff Baylis *Oncidium* (*Trichocentrum*) *splendidum*

Jeff Metcalf *Dendrobium* *kingianum*

Jeff Metcalf *Cymbidium* Point Conception 'Sunset Nativity' (*seidenfadenii* x Trigo Royale)

Jeff Metcalf *Cattleya* Horance 'Maxima' ( *trianae* x *Woltersiana*)

Christina Keeley *Vanda* Nopporn Gold (Pete Balasky x Charles Good fellow)

Chuck Acker *Phragmipedium* Fritz Schomburg (*kovachii* x *besseae v flavum*)

Chuck Acker *Phalaenopsis* Unknown Hybrid B

Chuck Acker *Phalaenopsis* Fangmei Q Hot (Tai lin Red Angle x Dou-dii Golden Princess)

Lynn West *Phalaenopsis* No ID #1 white

Ken Cameron *Miltonidium* (*Vuylstekeara*) Melissa Brianne 'Dark' (*Milt* Anne Warne x *Onc.* Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)

Ken Cameron *Phalaenopsis* I-Hsin Sesame (Ching Her Buddha x Leopard Prince)

### **Second Place**

OGG Exhibit

Gerald King *Phragmipedium* Devil Fire (Gande 'Vista' 4N x *warscewiczianum*)

Meg McLaughlin *Brassavola* *nodosa*

Christina Keeley *Phalaenopsis* Unknown Hybrid

Jeff Baylis *Coelogyne* Jannie Banks 'Snow White' HCC/AOS/OSNSW (*mooreana* x *flaccida*)

Terri Jozwiak *Maxillaria* *shunkeana*

Jeff Metcalf *Dendrobium* *glomeratum*

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Jeff Metcalf     | <i>Brassocattleya</i> Playa Los Cocos ( <i>Bc</i> Maikai x <i>C violacea</i> )                                  |
| Jim Wasser       | <i>Bratonia</i> ( <i>Mitassia</i> ) C.M. Fitch 'Izumi' ( <i>Brassia verrucosa</i> x <i>Miltonia moreliana</i> ) |
| Christina Keeley | <i>Vanda lamellata</i> 'Okinawa'  |
| Susan Reed       | <i>Oncidium</i> Bonnie Nuit ( <i>spacelatum</i> x Eric Young)   |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium sargentianum</i> 'Statehouse'  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> KV Beauty (Salu Peoker x Chih Shang's Stripes)  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Sogo Yukidian 'V3' (Yakima x Taisuco Kochdian)  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown Hybrid A  |
| Nancy Thomas     | <i>Paphiopedilum delenatii</i>  |

### Third Place

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Sean Stake       | <i>Zygonisia</i> Snow Bird 'Kaila' ( <i>Aganisia cyanea</i> x <i>Zygopetalum</i> Jumpin Jack)                  |
| Gerald King      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Mituo speciosa 'Blue Starfish' (LD's Bear King x <i>speciosa</i> 'Blue')                   |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Paphiopedilum</i> Acker's White Cap (Yerba Buena x Acker's Pinnacle)  |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown Pink hybrid  |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> (Rose Tris x Brother Passat 'B580') x self   |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Miltoniopsis</i> Sun Glow 'Amazing' ( <i>roezli</i> x Pink Lady)  |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Cape Sunset (Eric Young x <i>schlimii</i> )   |
| Jeff Baylis      | <i>Encyclia tampensis</i>  |
| Jeff Metcalf     | <i>Brassolealiocattleya</i> Mari's Glory 'H & R' (C Mari's Song x <i>Bc</i> . Morning Glory)                   |
| Christina Keeley | <i>Vanda Siriporn</i> Pink 'Tony' (East more x Fuchs Delight)  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Meredyth (Priscilla's Pirouette x <i>kovachii</i> )                               |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Jordan's Peach Tango (Acker's Sunbeam x <i>dalessandroi</i> )                             |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Mantinii ( <i>Conchiferum</i> x <i>longifolium</i> )                                      |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Peruflora's Spirit (Eric Young x <i>kovachii</i> )  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phragmipedium</i> Acker's Starlight 'Waunakee' AM/AOS (Twilight x <i>besseae</i> )                          |
| Lynn West        | <i>Oncidium</i> Heaven Scent 'Redolence' (Ruffles x Sharpy Baby)   |
| Lynn West        | <i>Dendrobium</i> Manhattan, Unknown ID  |
| Lynn West        | <i>Paphiopedilum</i> In Charm Grace #1 ( <i>niveum forma album</i> 'Sogo' x In-Charm White 'Chao Chou' BM/TPS) |
| Lynn West        | <i>Cattlianthe</i> Busy Bev 'Blue Jewel' ( <i>Cattleya</i> Dinard x <i>Cattlianthe</i> Purple Secret)          |



*Paphiopedilum* unregistered hybrid (Londonlight x Hellas) pulled for judging



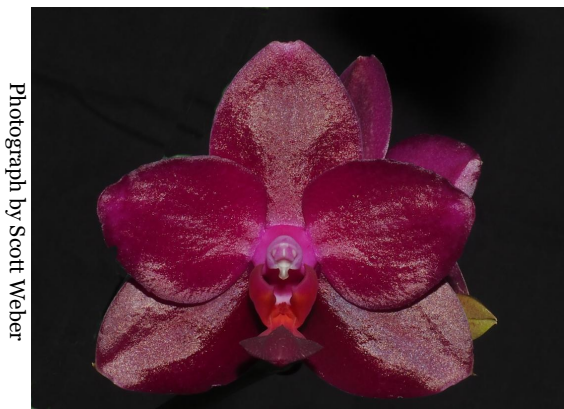
# AOS Judging



*Chiloschista parishii*, CCM  
Walter Crawford

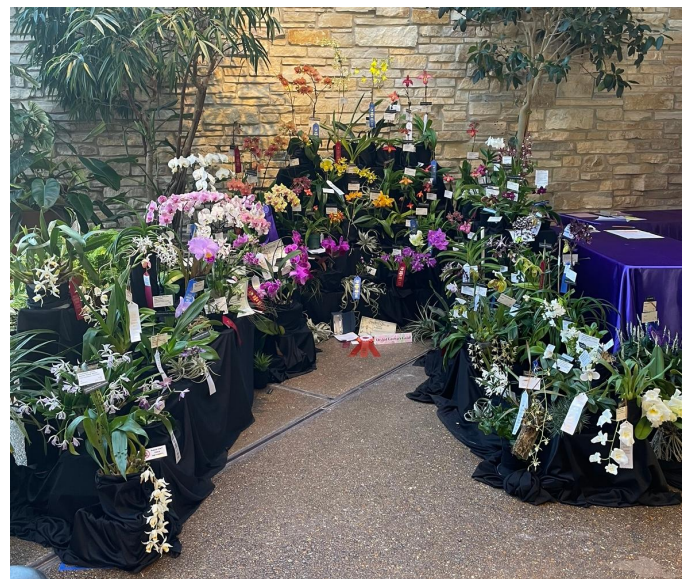


From left, unidentified judge, Larry Sexton, Nils Dusdeiker and Jeff Metcalf judging Walter Crawford's *Chiloschista parishii*, right



Photograph by Scott Weber

Gerry King's *Phalaenopsis* SWR Viola 'M908' 2 (Sogo Relax x violacea 'Indigo') was awarded an HCC



Orchid Growers Guild Exhibit earned an AOS Award



Photograph by Scott Weber

Phrag Acker's Meredyth, 'Chuck's Muse' earned an AM  
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Photograph by Amy Holt

Rth Shinfong Little Sun 'Young-Min Golden Boy', Nile Dusdieker's CCM



Photograph by Scott Weber

Phrag Jordan's Peach Tango 'Acker's Sunray' earned an AM





Photograph by Sue Reed, Bio sphere



Ken Cameron's exhibit of Samurai orchids



Miltoniopsis (Silver 'Copper Splash' x Bertha Baker 'Florentine') 7.48



*Paph Supersuk 'Eureka' AM/AOS x Paph Rasin Pie 17.2*



*Bulbophyllum longiflorum* 7.63

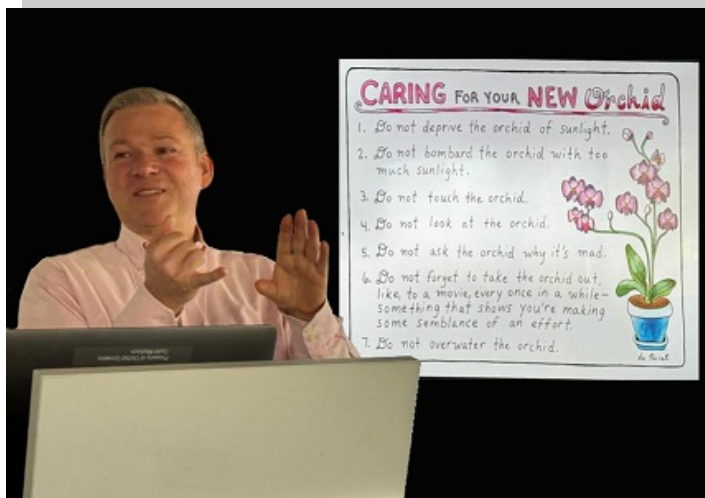


7.56





# Activities



Ken Cameron giving his presentation



Chuck Acker responding to questions from his audience



Some of the attractive baskets for the raffle created by Terri



The OGG table was moved to the lobby



Kid's Corner staffed by a local Girl Scout Troop



Vendor from Ecuagenera



## February 2024 OGG Ribbon Judging

### First Place

|                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown hybrid   |
| Ken Cameron      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> I-Hsin Sesame (Ching Her Buddha × Leopard Prince)                                  |
| Ken Cameron      | <i>Vuyl.</i> Melissa Brianne 'Dark' ( <i>Milt.</i> Anne Warne × <i>Onc.</i> Mrs. Rudolf Pabst)         |
| Melissa Williams | <i>Cym</i> Dorthy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruits' (Phar Lap × Miss Muffet)                               |
| Ken Cameron      | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown complex hybrid   |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phrag</i> Peruflora's Spirit ( <i>kovachii</i> × Eric Young)  |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phrag</i> Magdalen Rose (Eric Young × Beauport)   |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phrag</i> China Dragon 'Windy Hill III' AM/AOS (Grande × <i>besseae</i> )                           |
| Chuck Acker      | <i>Phrag fischeri</i>  |
| Gary Lensmeyer   | <i>Mo</i> B-C Elvira ( <i>Cl.</i> Rebecca Northen 'Hill Top' × <i>Morm</i> Nitty-Gritty 'Gold Bronze') |
| Meg McLaughlin   | <i>Phrag</i> Rosalie Dixler ( <i>besseae</i> × <i>kaieteum</i> )                                       |

### Second Place

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Cynthia Wadsworth | <i>Gomesa (Oncidium)</i> Jiaho Queen 'Jia Ho'    |
| Chuck Acker       | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> unknown hybrid               |
| Ken Cameron       | <i>Vanda falcate</i> 'Koto × Shutenno'           |
| Jeff Baylis       | <i>Tolumnia</i> Jairak Flyer 'Coco Drop'         |
| Jason Berry       | <i>Aliceara</i> Pacific Nova 'Okika'             |
| Sue Reed          | <i>Dendrobium ceraula (gonzalesii)</i> 'Ricardo' |
| Chuck Acker       | <i>Phrag d'alessandroi</i>                       |
| Jeff Baylis       | <i>Maxillaria variabilis</i>                     |
| Sue Reed          | <i>Restrepiella ophiocephala</i>                 |
| Meg McLaughlin    | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown pink                 |

### Third Place

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Meg McLaughlin | <i>Phalaenopsis</i> Unknown pink                                      |
| Ken Cameron    | <i>Paph</i> (King Charles × <i>Vercruysse</i> 'Kelsey Leigh' HCC/AOS) |
| Chuck Acker    | <i>Phrag</i> Dominianum ( <i>caricinum</i> × <i>caudatum</i> )        |
| Patricia Jones | <i>Phrag besseae</i>  |
| Meg McLaughlin | <i>Miltoniopsis</i> Sunblow 'Amazing' (Pink Lady x <i>roezlii</i> )   |

Photographs by Amy Holt





## Summary February Monthly Meeting

In February each year, the Orchid Growers Guild (OGG) opens the monthly meeting to the public. While the meeting is still held at Olbrich, it is held in the much larger Commons room to accommodate the large crowd that includes both OGG members and non-members. Many of the non-members learn about the February public meeting while attending Orchid Quest and through other PR campaign efforts. This year the speaker was Chuck Acker who is a member of OGG and is a well-known *Phragmipedium* breeder and expert general orchid grower.

Chuck's talk focused on the recent controversial discovery of *Phragmipedium kovachii* and the incredible hybrids created using this species. Many of these wonderful hybrids can be attributed to Chuck's breeding program. Creation of hybrids using the 20 or so species in the genus *Phragmipedium* between 1870 and 1990 was only 55. With the discoveries of *P. besseae* and *P. kovachii* the number of *Phragmipedium* hybrids have increased dramatically. Chuck reviewed many of the first, second and third generation hybrids. My favorite was the P. Sam Crothers that looks just like a mini *kovachii*.

Chuck and Jerry Fischer traveled to Peru in 2005 and were the first two growers in the US to legally import flaked seedlings. In 2009 at the Orchid Quest Show, one of Chuck's *kovachii*

plants was in peak bloom for the Saturday morning judging and received the best in show award. How cool is that that the most important species found in the last 100 years was shown maybe for the first time at Orchid Quest!

After the talk, Chuck had a selection of *kovachii* hybrids available for attendees to purchase. The hybrids should be easier to grow than the species. Here are Chuck's growing recommendations:

- Temperature range 55 F – 82 F.
- Ample bright indirect light (try various microclimates in your home that make the plant happy).
- Use water with a pH of about 6.5 and about 20 ppm (*P. Kovachii* and *P. fischerii* benefit from adjusting water pH to 7.5-8, the hybrids are not as picky about the pH).
- Keep roots moist, never allow roots to completely dry out.
- Fertilize regularly and add Ca/Mg.
- Keep roots cool.
- Use a loose and airy medium, do not firm in. Add crushed oyster shell or limestone to the medium if using RO water. The tap water in the Madison area generally has too high of a mineral content. Use RO, distilled or rain-water if possible.

— Lynn West



Ken Cameron discussing orchids at the OGG February Meeting

## 2024 OGG at Batavia Results

Transportation: Lorraine Snyder, Denise Baylis, Nancy Thomas

Set-up/Take-down: Jim Wasser and Jeff Metcalf

### AOS Award of Merit

Chuck Acker *Phrag. Fritz Schomburg (kovachii x besseae v. flavum)*

### Best of Class

Jeff Metcalf *Onc. John Miller 'Kimberlyn Helen' #2 (Tribbles x Burning Bed)*

Chuck Acker *Phal. Fangmei A Hot (Tai Lin Red Angel x Dou-dii Golden Princess)*

### First Place

OGG Exhibit

Lynn West *Mexipedium xerophyticum*

Jeff Baylis *Oncidium (Trichocentrum) splendidum*

Meg McLaughlin *Paph Meredyth Ellen (hainanense x wolterianum)*

Meg McLaughlin *Phal Rose Tris x Brother Passat 'B580'*

Chuck Acker *Phal. Surf Song 'Salmon Splendor' (Taipei Gold x King Shiang's Rose)*

Chuck Acker *Phal. Fangmei A Hot (Tai Lin Red Angel x Dou-dii Golden Princess)*

Chuck Acker *Phrag. Fritz Schomburg (kovachii x besseae v. flavum)*

Chuck Acker *Phrag. d'alessandroi*

Jeff Metcalf *Cym. Point Conception 'Sunset Nativity' (seidenfadenii x Trigo Royale)*

Jeff Metcalf *Bc. Playa Los Cocos (Bc. Maikai x C. violacea)*

Jeff Metcalf *C. Horace 'Maxima' ( trianae x Woltersiana)*

Jeff Metcalf *Blc. Mari's Glory 'H & R' (Cattleya Mari's Song x Brassocattleya Morning Glory)*

Jeff Metcalf *Onc. John Miller 'Kimberlyn Helen' #2 (Tribbles x Burning Bed)*

Nancy Thomas *Clo. Amazing Grace (Clowesia Grace Dunn 'Live Oak' HCC/AOS x Catasetum Orchidglade 'Davie Ranches' AM/AOS)*

### Second Place

Lynn West *Oncidium Heaven Scent 'Redolence' (Ruffles x Sharry Baby)*

Susan Reed *Lycaste lasioglossa*

Meg McLaughlin *Phrag Fritz Schomburg flava color (kovachii x besseae v. flavum)*

Meg McLaughlin *Paph Hsinying Delight 'Meg's Shock' HCC/AOS (spicerianum #2 x Stone Lovely)*

Chuck Acker *Phal. KV Beauty (Salu Peoker x Chih Shang's Stripes)*

### Third Place

Lorraine Snyder *Phrag Don Wimber (yellow) #1 (Eric Young 4N Mont Millsis AM/RHS x besseae)*

Meg McLaughlin *Phrag Peruflora's Angel (richteri x kovachii)*

Jim Wasser *Mtssa. C.M. Fitch 'Izumi'*



Photograph by Nancy Thomas  
OGG Exhibit at Batavia



Chuck Acker's *Phrag. Fritz Schomburg (kovachii x besseae v. flavum)* earned an Award of Merit and Jeff Metcalf's *Onc. John Miller 'Kimberlyn Helen' #2 (Tribbles x Burning Bed)* earned an AOS award last week at the Chicago Judging Center



# News About the Guild's Book Collection

As many of our members are aware, in late 2022 an agreement was made between our guild and Olbrich Gardens, resulting in the guild's collection of orchid books to be housed and cared for at the Schumacher library. The library is a small room directly next to the conservatory. In early 2023 our collection was transferred to the library where the books were all cleaned and covered with archival plastic by library volunteers. They look terrific. Check-out privileges were reserved for OGG members only, and special arrangements were made for the library to be open during guild meeting times for members to pick up and return books. Unfortunately, some months ago the Library no longer had volunteers to staff the library for our meetings, and that convenience no longer exists.

Olbrich now has other plans for the library space. The space will become a Guest Resource Center where people will be able to sit and read

but not remove resources from the room.

Olbrich would like the guild's book collection to continue to be housed in the Guest Resource Center, and has a plan for guild members to continue to be able to access and check out our books. Under the plan, on OGG meeting days the Olbrich staff will move our entire collection to a book cart and place the cart in our meeting room. Members will have access to the collection before, during, and after meetings and OGG will be responsible for how members check out and return our books.

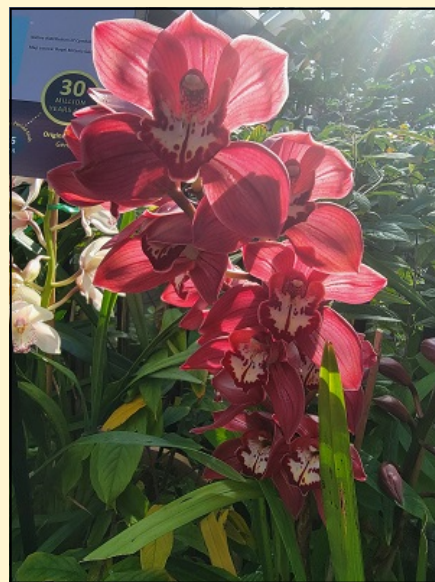
This change is several months away and the details are all up for discussion. There will have to be a new Partnership Agreement between Olbrich and OGG governing the guild's collection and, at this point, everything is up for negotiation.

— Sandra Gray, Library Liaison

## Orchid Escape at Bolz • • • The Rise of the Angiosperms



Photographs by Sarah Lind



Guests were invited to explore the fossil record and imagine life on earth over 70 million years ago during the Cretaceous Period. Cycads and ferns loomed large overhead, where verdant landscapes met warm, shallow seas brimming with marine life. Dinosaurs still lorded over earth, air, and water.

## Follow-Up by OQ Volunteer Coordinator

Congratulations and thank you to all the volunteers for Orchid Quest 2024! It was an overwhelming success thanks to the help from so many members of the Orchid Growers Guild! On Friday there were at least 25 members hustling to put plastic up in the headhouse; setting up lots(!) of tables and chairs in the Atrium, the three Classrooms and Evjue Commons; unloading thousands of plants, display material, helping vendors move plants and supplies to the proper rooms; providing food and beverages to everybody as well as organizing and entering the registration for thousands of plants. In addition, fifteen members brought over one hundred plants that were then put into yet another award-winning display in the Atrium.

On Saturday it was all hands on deck! At least twenty five members were up before sunrise to begin clerking for the AOS judges as well as recording the winning orchids and getting the ribbons on the plants. Following the clerking duties, members fanned out throughout Olbrich to make sure the Guild Table, Plant Check, Atrium and Silent Auction were all staffed and ready to welcome the public.

The great speaker line-up consisted of our own local talent and featured a variety of topics from General Orchid Anatomy, Open Question and Answer Sessions as well as Repotting demonstrations and Panel Discussions.

On Sunday, the volunteers were back at it! In addition to filling in all of the volunteer positions until 3 pm, there was the additional chore of breaking down the show and returning Olbrich Gardens to its original state. That meant breaking down all those tables and stacking the chairs in all three classrooms, the Elvhue Commons, the Lobby and the Atrium. It meant making sure the vendors were able to get the supplies loaded up (I don't think they had very many plants left!). It meant taking down signs, folding table cloths, sweeping all the rooms as well as loading and returning all items to the Guild locker. Oh- and did I mention packing up members' own award-winning plants from the

exhibit!

As the Volunteer Coordinator there were a number of things that stood out to me. There were forty-six Guild members that volunteered their time, energy and expertise. There were eight new members that volunteered at Orchid Quest for the first time. Finally- there was lots of help with cleanup on Sunday! We were done and out of there by 5 pm! (I'm not sure that could be done if it was cold and/or snowy)

Here is the list of all the people that made Orchid Quest 2024 possible! (I have the 2024 Sign Up sheet and you can consider yourself already signed up for 2025 Orchid Quest!)

\*New member/1st time working OQ!

\*\*New or returning member that vended and/or had display

\*\*\*New rock band!

|  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Alice Peterson*  | Jim Wasser                         |
| Amy Holt*  | Judy Williamson                    |
| Anne Redford*  | Julie Ulland                       |
| Brent McCoy  | Kathleen Johnson                   |
| Brock Wojtelawicz (& the Portage County Master Gardeners)*** | Ken Cameron**                      |
| Brook Johnson**  | Lisa Bane*                         |
| Carrie Wiesman   | Lisa Linde                         |
| Chris Neuman   | Liz Barlow                         |
| Christine Keeley*  | Liz Wood                           |
| Chuck Acker  | Lorraine Snyder                    |
| Cynthia Wadsworth  | Lynn West                          |
| Damon Smith  | Melissa Williams                   |
| Dan Schmidt*   | Meredyth (Meg) Graham (McLaughlin) |
| Dave Watson**  | Nancy Thomas                       |
| Denise Baylis  | Rich Jozwiak                       |
| Evan Eifler  | Russ Mackie                        |
| Gary Lensmeyer   | Sandra Gray                        |
| George Reed  | Scott Elliott**                    |
| Gerald King  | Scott Weber                        |
| Irene Mackie   | Steve Fauska*                      |
| Jason Berry  | Steve Thimling                     |
| Jeff Baylis  | Steven King*                       |
| Jeff Metcalf   | Sue Hill**                         |
| Jeremy Briggs  | Sue Reed**                         |
| Jill Hynum   | Terri Jozwiak                      |
|  | Todd Williams                      |



# HISTORY OF THE ORCHID GROWERS GUILD

The inception of the Orchid Growers Guild began in the mid 1980's when the only orchid society near Madison was in Milwaukee. Local Madison orchid enthusiasts commuted to attend the Wisconsin Orchid Society's monthly meetings in Milwaukee. During one of those commutes in April 1985, Wayne King, Stan Grand and Milo Gilbertson discussed the possibility of forming a local orchid society. Stan offered to get the ball rolling. With assistance from Olbrich Botanical Gardens, Stan sent a letter to their membership to determine the amount of interest in forming an orchid group based in Madison.

Over the summer of 1985, a meeting with a select group of people was held at the Memorial Union on the UW Campus. It was at this meeting that Stan Grand, Wayne King, Milo Gilbertson, Mo Fayyaz, John Moses, Charlie Peckham and Chuck Acker tossed around the ideas for the name, time of month for meetings and other logistics needed to form a group. Shortly thereafter The Orchid Growers' Guild was official and the board was established.

Stan Grand was the first president, Chuck Acker the first vice president, George Allez and John Moses were the acting program committee. By

the first regular meeting in November 1985 at the Memorial Union, bylaws were in place and efforts were well under way to obtain the "Charter of Incorporation" with the State and affiliation with the American Orchid Society. Officers and Board Members were elected and committee chairs appointed. In December 1987 Stan finished his term as president and moved away and Wayne King became president.

Student AOS judges and members of the WOS, LeRoy Peterson and Les Mischke, discussed ideas for programs and criteria for judging. The first judging of members' plants occurred in January 1986. The first publication of those results was in February 1986. The first AOS judged Orchid Growers Guild show was held the last weekend of January 1988 at West Towne Mall.

The Orchid Growers Guild lives on today, stronger than ever thanks to the incredibly enthusiastic, dedicated and passionate members that have all played important roles throughout the past 39 wonderful orchid growing years!

— submitted by Chuck Acker

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*The Illinois Orchid Society Show at the Chicago Botanic Garden takes place March 9-10. Get ready to show off your beautiful blooms in our exhibit!*

## QUICK NOTE FROM OQ CO-CHAIR

We have had another very successful Orchid Quest with the largest attendance ever. We beat our previous totals for both Saturday and Sunday. Saturday there were 3573 visitors and Sunday there were 2036 for a total of 5609 visitors. Nothing like warm weather and beautiful Orchids to bring people out!

Our previous record was in 2017, our first year at Olbrich, with an attendance of 4600. Our programs and events which represent the club to the general public were all well attended. So a special thank you to Ken Cameron, Chuck Acker, Terri Jozwiak, Gary Lensmeyer, Jim Wasser and Lorraine Snyder who together made this possible.

—Cynthia Wadsworth