

May 2006

The Orchid Grower



Orchid Growers' Guild

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Nominating committee presented nominations for open positions for Guild officers at the meeting of the Board. These are as follows:

President: Judy Stevenson

Treasurer: Don Fago

Board (2): Liz Barlow and Svetlana Kot

The election will be held during our May meeting.

Meeting Dates

- May 21– Olbrich Gardens
- Picnic, June 10 - Lodi

Officers and Committees

President:

Elaine Malter (2006)
608-238-5871

egadzicki@charter.net

Vice President:

Sarah Lunday (2007)
608-698-8033

sarahlunday@charter.net

Secretary:-

Meg McLaughlin (2007)
608-592-5331

lodi4ever@charter.net

Treasurer:

Don Fago (2006)
608-882-4917

Donfago@jvl.net

Board:

Judy Stevenson (2008)
608-231-3163

judy_stevenson@SBCGlobal.net

Liz Wood (2006)

608-238-2919

ewood@biochem.wisc.edu

Sandy Delamater (2007)

608-835-8118

sldjn@aol.com

Away Shows:

Sandy Delamater (2007)

Hospitality:

Dawn Weckler (2005)
920-563-3192

Jeri Gjertson (2005)
920-563-7442

April Meeting Notes

Thanks to Russ (and Irene) Mackie for the wonderful presentation on the use of digital cameras and the great photographs he brought in. Now we can all speak a digital language. How many megapixels do you have?

RESULTS OF ORCHID SALE

The Guild held its Annual Orchid sale on April 15 at Olbrich Gardens in conjunction with their annual pansy sale. We had 125 blooming orchid plants from Acker's Orchids to sell. The previous day, Elaine Malter, Meg McLaughlin, Sue Reed, Lorraine Snyder and Judy Stevenson transported the plants in to showroom, arranged and priced the plants, many with hand-made bows and/or in ornamental baskets. Many thanks to them and the following volunteers who assisted on sale day: Denise and Jeff Baylis, Joanne Bernardi, Don Fago, Jerilyn Gjertson, Meg McLaughlin, Sue Reed, Lorraine Snyder, Judy Stevenson, Dawn Weckler and Liz Wood. Any omissions are unintentional.

Both Friday and Saturday were well organized and staffed with good workers and went smoothly.

Unfortunately the orchids did not sell especially well because the majority of the people there had come for the

pansy sale. Next year we need to spend more time and energy advertising the sale. Fortunately, Beth Swanson, Special Events Coordinator allowed our remaining orchids to be sold by Olbrich volunteers through Easter Sunday. When Judy and Don met with her the following Monday morning there were still 19 plants remaining. Judy recommends that next year we reduce the number of plants for sale to 100. In addition, she recommends that the Guild do a better job of promoting the sale via flyers posted in local businesses and announcement in local media.

Judy has written Beth Swanson to thank her for her assistance. She also wrote Patti Jorenby, Program Assistant for Facility Rentals to discuss the times posted in their brochures and newsletter for next year, i.e. could the sale start as soon as 9 am with an earlier end time.

Orchids for Sale

There will be a SALE of about 15 unsold orchids from our Olbrich sale at our May meeting. They will be available on a first come first serve basis. We hope to get a large turnout for this as well as the election of officers.

Librarian:

Liz Wood (2006)
608-238-2919
ewood@biochem.wisc.edu

Membership:

Board of Directors

Newsletter:

Brook Johnson
Denise Baylis
jrbaylis@tds.net

Orchid Quest:

Board of Directors

Programs:

Board of Directors

Ribbon Judging:

Wayne King

Web Master:

Brook Johnson
608-819-0267
bbj@tinamouppottery.com

Liaisons:

Alliant: Steven Thimling (2006)
AOS: Jill Hynum (2005)
MAOC: Don Fago (2006)
Orchid Digest: To be filled (2006)

Submit your photos to be included in the newsletter. Every month we want to include a gallery of photos to enjoy. Email your photos to Brook (orchids@tinamouppottery.com) and Denise (jrbaylis@tds.net)



PURCHASE OF LAPTOP COMPUTERS FOR THE GUILD

We live in a wired world. The Guild has a web site and most of our members receive the newsletter via email but the Guild doesn't own a computer. Board members who use computers either use their own personal computer or access one at work. Don Fago has suggested that the Guild purchase at least one laptop computer, and preferably two.

Don is currently Treasurer and he depends on computerized records (including Quicken software) which he keeps on his personal computer. He feels that access to a computer is essential to the position of Treasurer and the transfer to a new Treasurer of all our records would be made much easier and more accurate if they are kept on one computer. He suggests that a second laptop could be used to maintain a historical account of OGG records including Bylaws, newsletters, and manuals for positions as well as Wildcatt software. Members may not be familiar with Wildcatt (see accompanying story) but OGG owns a copy of the computer program that could be placed on both computers for members to use and help in registering plants at Orchid Quest (OQ) and other shows.

Those of you who worked registration at the 2006 Orchid Quest may have noticed how difficult it is to process all of the necessary data on one (borrowed) computer. There are more than 600 plants to be registered. In addition there are issues with the limited number of members familiar with the computer program used for registration. Don suggests that the Guild needs to decide if it will continue to use computers for registration or return to the old paper system. If we decide to go with computers, we need to decide what program we will use. Our present Access database is on Elaine's computer; we need to obtain new software (Access or Excel) for the new computer and then find someone to write the code to adapt it to our OQ registration. Then members must be trained at least a few months in advance of next year's OQ, preferably during the fall so that there is a pool of experienced members available.

We also realized the value of having people pre-register their plants before Friday check in. This would save an enormous amount of time and it can be done using a CD or 3.5" disk. Plant information can be emailed to us via a form created in Word or Excel prior to the show. This information could then be electronically transferred into our Orchid Quest "database". This of course assumes that we have decided not to go back to the paper method of registering the plants.

Don has tentatively budgeted \$1500 for two laptop computers and software, not including a printer. This would come to \$300 per year over a period of 5 years which should be a minimum lifespan of the laptops.

Liz Wood and Liz Barlow also volunteered to investigate the use of Excel as an alternative to Access and the old paper method. If anyone else is proficient in Excel and would like to provide some input, please contact Liz Barlow.

WIRED WORLD

The Board approved the purchase of a laptop at the May Board Meeting. First the Board appointed a committee to include Don Fago, Jeff Baylis, and Rich Narf. They will submit three different vendor options with various packages/features to the Board hopefully at a meeting to be held right after our monthly meeting on the 21st. We hope to have enough information to make a decision on what to purchase at that point. The Board felt that the purchase of a laptop was justified regardless of the pending OQ '07 registration decision. It will serve as a repository for the guild finances and other pertinent documents (Bylaws, Newsletters, Orchid Quest, Wildcatt, etc). It will allow us to pass along information to new officers

WHAT IS WILDCATT YOU ASK?

From the Wildcatt website: The list of registered orchid hybrids maintained by the



Photograph by Don Fago

This unknown Cattleya is a miniature. The bloom is approximately 2 1/2 inches across.

Royal Horticultural Society has grown to more than 100,000 total entries. There have been well over 50,000 awards granted to orchid species and hybrids in the last 27 years since the Awards Quarterly magazine was first published, with more than 1500 new awards being added each year. Sifting through these publications to find information about particular hybrids can be time consuming.

With the Wildcatt Orchids database you simply type in the first few letters of the hybrid or species you are interested in and its information is immediately displayed. Further specialized parts of Wildcatt allow you to quickly generate genealogies back to species, create progeny lists for any number of generations, find out if a cross has been registered, and more. Any of the lists, graphs or trees that can be generated can also be printed for presentations. Progeny and tree lists can also be printed to a text file.

Wildcatt can also simplify the registration process when our Guild hosts a show. The "quick search" feature lets you quickly look up the name of any registered cross or find the parents of any registered hybrid. Updates are available every six months, allowing Wildcatt to stay current.

JUNE PICNIC

The June picnic is at noon on the 10th which is a Saturday at Meg McLaughlin's house in Lodi. She will email directions to members.



Judging Results of March 18, 2006 Membership Meeting



Photograph by Don Fago

Don purchased this cattleya for his wife for Mother's Day about six or seven years ago. It eventually seduced him into growing orchids today

First Place:

Jeff Baylis
Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Don Fago
Wayne King
Svetlana Kot
Meg McLaughlin
Dennis Pfarrer
Dennis Pfarrer
Dennis Pfarrer
Liz Wood

Encyclia tampense
Cattleya Chicago Today
Phal Sogo Idea
Spathoglottis gracillus
Phrag Cape Sunset
Paph Vanguard
Psychopsis Mendenhall 'Hildos'
Cymbidium (yellow)
Ascocentrum Sagarik Gold
Lc Fire Dance 'Patricia~
Phal Little Emperor 'M'
Den Comet King 'Akatsuki'

Second Place:

Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Don Fago
Wayne King
Wayne King
Wayne King
Svetlana Kot
Meg McLaughlin
Meg McLaughlin
Meg McLaughlin
Anne Orcutt

Milt Raspberry Swir'Raindrop' x Pearl Ono 'Illiwai'
Paph Lady Luck
Aerides rubescens
Cattleya aurantiaca
Phal amabilis
Baldan' s Kaleidoscope
Masd Maui Jewel
Bc Morning Glory
Den. Comet King 'Akatsuki'
Paph moquettianum
Rhynchoaelia digbyana



Third Place:

Sandy Delamater
Sandy Delamater
Don Fago
Meg McLaughlin

Cyclopogon lindleyanum
Paph delenatii
Den Comet King 'Akatsuki'
Cattkya intermedia 'Orlata' x 'aquinhi'



Photograph and Commentary by Elaine Malter

This is *Jumellea comorensis*. I purchased it as a young plant (it's a miniature anyway) at Orchid Quest 2004 from Hoosier Orchids. This is the first flower - it opened up in April and is still blooming. I grew it on my kitchen window sill that faces east. It has a beautiful fragrance only in the morning - that along with the morning sun starts my day out quite nicely. I watered it every few days and provided fertilizer occasionally

Meg McLaughlin
Anne Orcutt
Dennis Pfarrer

Phal Malibu Bistro 'Floriculture'
Phal Lemon Candy
Milt Hagime Ono x Pearl Ono

Judging Results of April 9, 2006 Membership Meeting

First Place:

Don Fago
Jill Hynum
Jill Hynum
Jill Hynum
Wayne King
Wayne King
Richard Narf
Sue Reed

Dtps Sogo Circus
Phrag besseae flavum
Phrag April Fool 'Fool's Gold' x *fischeri*
Sedirea japonica
Dendrochilum filiforme x uncatum
Phrag Chuck Acker
Paph liemianum
Chiloschista lunifera

Second Place

Jill Hynum
Wayne King
Svetlana Kot
Irene Mackie
Irene Mackie
Richard Narf

Dtps Purple Velvet
Phrag Don Wimber
Ascocentrum miniatum
Den Andra Millar
Epl. Green Hornet
Paph primulinum

Third Place:

Wayne King
Richard Narf

Phal Brother Sally Taylor
Paph Black Velvet x Lemforde Surprise