

May 2008 The Orchid Grower

Madison Orchid Growers' Guild



NEXT MEETING IS MAY 18

Our May speaker is Michael Oosten. He has a degree in Biology & Art from UW-Whitewater. His real specialty is growing water iris which he has been doing since 1973. He has been growing orchids since 1985.

He will speak about growing Oncidiums and will try to answer any orchid growing questions folks may have. He will also present a photo session on a couple of different techniques for flower photography. Interested members should bring their cameras.

He will also bring orchids for sale and will offer discounts to members.

Check out his website at www.rivergategardens.com

Meeting Dates

May 18 - Meeting Room
 June - June 14
 September 7 - Atrium
 October 19 - Atrium
 December 14 - Meeting Room
 January 18—Meeting Room
 February 15—Meeting Room
 March 15—Meeting Room
 April 19— Atrium
 May 17—Meeting Room
 June 14—Picnic at Baylis Residence at 12 p.m.

Meetings start at 1:30 unless otherwise noted

Up-coming Events

- July 27—Central Iowa Orchid Society Speakers Day
- September 5-7, Fall MAOC, Mason OH
- January 31—February 1, Orchid Quest
- April 11, 2009 –Spring Orchid Sale
- August 2 Oakhill Gardens

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last fall when I signed up for the 19th World Orchid Conference and Show, I had no idea how outstanding it would be. I was only to attend the first three days, but I was like a sponge soaking up as much as I could learn. You have heard from or seen pictures from the other OGG members (Sandy Delamater, Jill Hynum, Judith and Jan Rapacz and Sue Reed). I

would like to take a moment to share the contents of the opening keynote speech *Orchids in a changing Climate* given by Phillip J. Cribb, curator of Kew Gardens in London England. He made me realize how fortunate I was to be living in the 21st century in regard to my ability to have orchids in my own home.

First, Cribb identified landmarks of orchidology, here are ten:

1. Orchids were first named by the Ancient Greeks and Romans.
2. Orchids were recognized as a selective and special group of plants.
3. Late in the late 17thc and into the 18thc, tropical orchids were introduced to Europe by early explorers. However, these orchids were for the eyes and pleasure of royalty or aristocratic patrons, because only they could afford to finance the explorative voyages, build glass-houses and hire care for these *exotic* wonders of the New World.

Officers and Committees

President:

Judy Stevenson (2008)
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Board of Directors

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Ribbon Judging:

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Liaisons:

Alliant: Elaine Malter (2007)
AOS: Jill Hynum (2007)
MAOC: Wayne King
Judith Rapacz
Orchid Digest: Jill Hynum (2007)

Submit your photos to be included in the newsletter.

4. The father of botany, Carl Linnaeus (1707-1778), developed a system of classification of all species including orchids, which consisted of two terms (genus and species names).
5. A big improvement in the cultivation of orchids in greenhouses was the change from dry to moist heat.
6. John Doming (1856) was credited for raising and flowering the first artificial hybrid.
7. Charles Darwin (1862) elucidated the orchid flower mechanism for pollination.
8. Raising orchids moved beyond royalty and the very wealthy.
9. Discovery of the orchid mycorrhizal symbiotic relationship by Noel Bernard.
10. In 1922, the first orchid was raised symbiotically.

New landmarks have made the future of growing orchids very bright. One example is the cloning of orchids. This made it possible for more people to afford orchids, orchids were more widely available, and orchids were more interesting. Thus you and I have the luxury of orchids in our homes. Look forward to reading about the other new landmarks as well as the other WOC presentations from the 19th WOC Proceedings which we ordered and are still awaiting.

In 2003, Kew Gardens was put on the UNESCO World Heritage Site. Want information about Kew Gardens? Google Kew Gardens. The site from wikipedia.org is excellent.

For the largest orchid literature data base worldwide go to orchid.unibas.ch

—Judy Stevenson

Report on MAOC March 14-16, 2008 Troy, Michigan

The MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS (<http://midamericanorchids.org/>) was held in conjunction with the Michigan Orchid Society Palm Sunday Orchid Show. While the show was held at the MSU Management & Education Center, the MAOC meetings were at the Hilton Hotel.

I arrived Friday afternoon and helped with registration, while the Executive Committee held its meeting. There were only 20 societies registered. After the conclusion of the meeting I joined the “Associated Societies Committee” meeting with Doris Asher and Roberta Ginavan, chaired by Mary Beth Mansour from the Ohio Orchid Society. The discussion focused around choosing a subject for the fall MAOC Breakfast



Part of the blue ribbon-winning Michigan Orchid Society Exhibit

Every month we want to include a gallery of photos to enjoy. Email your photos to Svetlana (grigkot@gmail.com) and Denise (irbaylis@tds.net)



Saginaw Valley Orchid Society Exhibit above; New Vision Orchids on the right

of Affiliated Societies. Looking over the past years subjects we decided on

“Compensating Speakers” commercial

vs. academic and courtesy extended to speakers (if anyone of you have questions regarding this subject, please e-mail them to me).



Saturday morning started with AOS judging of the Exhibits, however I did not participate with clerking because I was asked to audit the MAOC finances for 2007. The lecture series included talks by Don Farrelly on “Basics of Orchid Growing”; Erich Michel (sponsored by MAOC) on “Conservation of Terrestrial Orchid species by Asymbiotic Propagation”. Erich showed pictures of their laboratory work, particularly how they test seed capsule maturation time of different orchid species – important research to maintain seeds of rare species for future propagation. The 3rd lecture by Russ Vernon, (sponsored by



Paphiopedilum malipoense (green top center) and *micranthum* (pink in center) in the upper photo are parents of Paphiopedilum Fanaticum in the lower photo. Paphiopedilum Fanaticum AQ (Provisional), received several AOS awards for the group of sibs, Exhibitor Sam Sui, OrchidInn

MAOC) was “How NOT to grow orchids” and some of you may have heard his talk at the Orchid Quest in February. It is a rather comic presentation about making many mistakes before one is successful in growing orchids (especially if you only read the introductory chapter of the relevant information). The 4th lecture by Ron McHatton, currently Director of Education and Research and Regional Operations at AOS, was on “Terrestrial Orchids, growing both in temperate and tropical climates”. Ron showed pictures of some very unusual terrestrial orchids from many parts of the world. He explained the importance of proper temperatures for the dormancy of bulbs when

grown in a different climate from its origin.

Saturday evening started with the traditional auction, which raised about \$ 1,700 dollars, then the banquet, and concluded with an after-dinner slide show by Karen Muir on “The Japan Grand Prix”.

Sunday morning began with the MAOC Affiliated Societies Breakfast at 7am. Discussions centered on “Crisis in Leadership” that many societies are experiencing, as well as: 1) Issues of selection of officers; 2) Communicating job descriptions; and 3) The importance of by-laws. Mark van der Woerd (President of MAOC) talked about the Colorado OS, having only a President and vice-president – no society fee, no secretary, no treasurer, meetings held at members home, many outings to look for native orchids. If they need money they pass the “hat” around. Others questions were raised on how societies choose the President and vice-president, directors, nominating committee or members at large. Others talked about the “Ladder system” where individual members take on responsibilities for many years. In many societies the vice-president is the Program Chair as well as the Show Chair, both of which are very demanding jobs.

It was suggested that the MAOC Bylaws and Charity information for tax-exempt status 501(c) (3) should be put on the web. This could help some societies to write their Bylaws and apply for tax-exempt status.

The President of MAOC, Mark van der Woerd, is asking all societies hosting orchid shows to send data on the number of entries in each class to the Committee – in addition, please tell them species and the number of them registered in class # 111 (Species, hybrids, and inter-generics not covered elsewhere); send data to Committee member Barbara Nuernberger, 27 Colony Dr, Oberlin OH 44074

Mark invited Ron McHatton from the AOS to explain the concept of “**regional directors**”, who are to enhance communication throughout the American Orchid Society. The Mid-America Orchid Congress territory is so large that we will use several regional directors. Emphasized that regional directors are not limited to judges, but to any enthusiastic, involved orchid people – **I can think of at least 2-3 OGG members who would make great Ambassadors – if interested please let me know.**

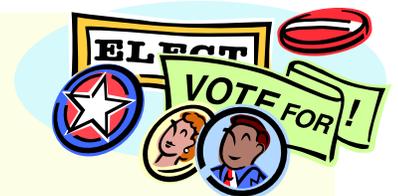
The fall MAOC meeting in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society, will be held at the Kings Island Resort & Conference Center in Mason, Ohio on September 5, 6 and 7, 2008. Dr. Henry Oakley will speak on the Lycastes of Peru and will have his new book available for sale; other speakers include Fred Clarke and Ron McHatton. I encourage OGG members to attend the show and MAOC meeting.

More info Steve Ryan; email: steve.ryan@fuse.net; www.Kingsislandresort.com; www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2008fall

Judith Rapacz

ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS AT MAY MEETING!

The nominating committee consists of Gwyn Padden-Lechten, Jill Hynum and Judy Stevenson. Several terms expire this spring including President, Treasurer and one board position. Nominees to date include Rich Narf for President, Judy Williamson for Board, and Irene Mackie for Treasurer. If Narf is elected President then one more board position would be open for a term expiring in 2010. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Jill.





OGG FIELD TRIP

OGG member David Kohlwey has recommended a field trip to other members. He wrote, "Last year I went on the UWM field station Cedarburg Bog walk with the Milwaukee orchid group. There were ample lady slipper orchids, pitcher plants and other bog plants." Judy Stevenson has arranged with Kate Redmond to conduct a tour for OGG members if we can guarantee at least 10 attendees. Contact Denise Baylis no later than June 22 if you are interested.

What's in Bloom in the Bog

led by Kate Redmond.

Sunday, June 29, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Rain date is Sunday, July 13. If you have a hand lens, binoculars, or a camera, be sure to bring them. The Cedarburg Bog is located in the Town of Saukville, Wisconsin, about 30 miles (45 minutes) north of Milwaukee and 1 hour 45 minutes from Madison. More information to be forthcoming.



Tom Gibson, April 20 2008 Talk:

"*Calypso bulbosa* : Rare Orchid Species in the Wilderness."

Calypso bulbosa has a fairly unusual distribution for a temperate orchid species. It is circumpolar in its distribution, which is a common pattern in species that are 'glacial relicts.' It is widely distributed in the northern parts of Europe, Asia, and North America. In North America it ranges across all the provinces of Canada, and from Alaska to Arizona and New Mexico in the western United States, where it follows the corridor of the principal north-south mountain ranges. In the eastern US it is found only in the northernmost tier of states, where extirpation by habitat loss has been wide-spread.

Tom Gibson has been studying the biology of this beautiful but elusive native orchid. By following individual plants and clumps of plants he has managed to illuminate much of its reproductive biology. It has very specific habitat requirements, including at least 60% canopy cover, a substrate of rotting wood as a soil, and soil temperature no higher than 60 degrees F when it is in leaf.

In the proper habitat, it may be quite common, but over most of its North American range it is rare and sporadic in distribution. Within a favorable habitat, much of the reproduction occurs in a clonal fashion, with clumps of genetically identical individuals, as a result of root budding. Sexual reproduction and dispersal by seed is necessary for the plant to colonize new habitats.

In North American populations, seed-set is limited by lack of pollination. Pollination rates are much higher in European populations. Pollination is performed by bumblebees, and it is suspected that the bees may avoid the *Calypso* flowers. *Calypso* is a 'deceptive' flower, as it provides no pollen or nectar reward to the pollinator.

Calypso is also showing a pattern of shrinking of its range in North America. In Ontario, is gradually disappearing in the southern part of its range, and populations in the mountains of the southwestern US are also in decline. This suggests that climate change may be part of the cause for the decline of this species.

DNR-SPONSORED FIELD TRIPS

If you enjoy field trips to observe orchids and other plants and animals in their natural habitat, here are a few trips sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources:

20. Plants and Birds of Moonlight Bay SNA

May 24, 2008 9 AM-noon

Search for uncommon plants such as arctic primrose and Indian paint brush. Spy shorebirds while exploring a bedrock beach followed by a hike through a boreal forest in the undisturbed solitude of a Door County gem-Moonlight Bay Bedrock Beach SNA.

Location: Bailey's Harbor, Door County

Limit: 25 Persons

Cost: None

38. Beautiful Bogs of Taylor County

June 7, 2008 10 AM-3 PM

Traipse down the boardwalk into pristine and beautiful sphagnum bogs. Tip toe around carnivorous Pitcher and Sundew plants. Keep your eyes open for blooming Pink Lady Slippers! Lunch included.

Location: Westboro, Taylor County

Limit: 20 Persons

Cost: \$10

49. Bog vs. Swamp in the Chequamegon-Nicolet

June 20, 2008 9:30 AM-3:30 PM

Discover the difference! First, venture onto a quaking bog mat to search for orchids, carnivorous plants and other rarities at Grandma Lake Wetlands SNA. Then explore Van Zile Cedars- a primeval old-growth cedar swamp and marvel at the dark, quiet, moss-cloaked landscape of twisted trees.

Location: Long Lake, Florence County

Limit: 24 Persons

Cost: None

Some of these trips fill up fast. To register contact:

Wisconservation.org.

Beware orchids lurking in the weeds!

It appears that some native orchids are ephemeral, appearing one year and then disappearing only to appear elsewhere. We discovered this when we mowed a path through our woods one year and spotted a mass of Tway-blade (half mowed!)



Photograph by David Noakes

This Nodding Ladies Tresses, *Spiranthes cernua*, probably was suffering the same mistreatment. For years David Noakes had an area on his property in Ontario that he rough-cut. One year most of the spring and summer passed without mowing when he noticed the orchids. Thereafter they no longer cut that area!

—Denise Baylis

You know you are addicted to orchids when...

... you try to avoid letting your family see you slip out to take just one more look at your orchids because you are too embarrassed to have them know how many times you've *actually* done that in the span of a few hours.

OGG RIBBON JUDGING MARCH 9, 2008

First Place

Sandy River
Lorraine Snyder
Gary Brendemuehl
Sandy River
Rich Narf
Wayne King
Dennis Pfarrer
Dennis Pfarrer
Rich Narf

Phal Nobby's Amy 'Wilda's Pink Butterflies'
Phal Summer Magic
Paph Maud's Blush (Mod Maud 'Red Blush' x Ruby Peacock)
Phrag Jason Fisher
Epi Lime Drop x Epi schomburgkii
C aurantiaca x Schomburgkia superbiens
Brassavola digbyana
Slc Love Castle 'Kurenai'
Onc Tsiku Marguerite (Twinkle x ornithorhynchum)

Second Place

Don Fago
Wayne King
Annette Minter
Annette Minter
Rich Narf
Audrey Lucier
David Kohlwey
Dennis Pfarrer
Jeff Baylis

Phrag Cape Sunset
Phal Ming-Hsing Yellow boy
Paph sukhakulii (Fast Queen x Tustin Dodge)
Paph Chuck's Surprise (Acker's Pinnacle x Duncan York)
Epicat Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower' HCC/AOS
Maxillaria tenuifolia
Cym Starbright var. Capella
Lc Rojo 'Barbara'
Baptistonia echinata

Third Place

Lorraine Snyder
Sandy River
Sandy River
Don Fago
Jeff Baylis

Phal Starbust
Phrag Cape Sunset Eric Young 'Rocket Fire'
Blc Hwa Yuan Beauty 'Spice Girl'
Onc sphacelatum 'Milo'
Leptotes bicolor



First Place *Brassavola digbyana* grown by Dennis Pfarrer from March Ribbon Judging

A COMMITTEE WILL BE FORMED TO
EXPLORE HOSTING MAOC IN 2010



Photograph by Rich Narf
OGG First Place Exhibit at IOS

APRIL ILLINOIS ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW RESULTS

Set-up by Rich Narf, Lorraine Snyder and Gary Brendemuehl. Take down by Rich Narf.

OGG Exhibit earned first place.

First Place:

Sandy Delamater	Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara
Richard Narf	Oncidium sphacelatum 'Milo'
Chuck Acker	Dialaelia Snowflake 'Northland'

Second Place :

Sandy Delamater	Phrag. Belle Houge Point <i>Vanda Manuvadee</i>
Susan Reed	Paph. hynaldianum 'Cynosure' HHC/AOS x philippinense 'Long Beach'
Jeff Baylis	Paph. leuchochilum concolor x Psyche <i>Brassavola nodosa</i>
Chuck Acker	Dend. Upin King 'Serenade' Phal. Fortune Budda x Phal. Aral Dtps. Kung's Valentine x Phal. New Eagle

Third Place:

Richard Narf	Epi. Lime Drop x Epi. schomburgkii
Chuck Acker	Phrag. Acker's Fu Manchu

UP-COMING EVENTS 2008

- May 24-25, Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society Show, GTC Civic Center 1213 W. Civic Center Drive, Traverse City, MI
- July 27, Central Iowa Orchid Society Speakers Day, Camp Dodge, 7105 NW 70th Ave., Johnston, IA
- September 5-7, Fall MAOC in conjunction with the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and the Miami Valley Orchid Society, Mason, OH
- October 16-19, 2008, next meeting of the American Orchid Society, at Longwood Gardens, PA, with the conference hotel in Wilmington, DE
- March 28-29, 2009, Spring MAOC, Columbus OH

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board meeting will be scheduled for some time in the fall.

MISSION STATEMENT

Forming friendships by working together in harmony as an organization. For guild members and the public, finding pleasure in being with others who share an excitement for the awe and beauty of orchids (native and tropical).

Understanding more about one of the world's largest flowering families, the orchidaceae. 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. Nourish the human spirit and reflect the ideals of AOS and MAOC. Increase general appreciation of orchids through educational opportunities for all.