

The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress

April 2010

<http://www.midamericanorchids.org/>

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REPORT TO AFFILIATED SOCIETIES MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS OMAHA, NE, MARCH 19-21, 2010

The Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress met March 19-21, 2010, at the Marriott Regency Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska. The Greater Omaha Orchid Society Orchid Show, held at the Lauritzen Gardens in the Omaha Botanical Garden, complemented the Congress.

Although MAOC scheduled interesting speakers, attendance at MAOC was limited. The lectures featured Carson Whitlow's "The World of Cypripediums." Carson has grown Cypripediums for over 35 years, registering the first artificial hybrid in 1987. Also highlighting the event were: Scott Stewart, PhD, who discussed the past, present and future of orchid conservation; Ernie Gemeinhart, who encouraged light gardeners with practical tips on growing orchids under lights, and Doug Watson, who walked us through the history of the Congress with his delightful reminiscences of past members.

On Saturday morning, Joe Lankton ably guided the 18 judges in five ribbon teams and three AOS teams as they evaluated the 15 exhibits and 288 entries. The judges identified 29 orchids for award consideration and the following seven were successful:

1. *Epidendrum cochlidium* 'Benja', CHM/AOS, 82 pts--David Taylor, Hickman, NE
2. *Ionocidium Popcorn* 'Katherine Ann', JC/AOS (*Oncidium flexuosum* x *Ionopsis utricularioides*)--David Taylor, Hickman, NE

3. *Paphiopedilum* (Sander's Pride x *adductum*) 'Golden Boy' AM/AOS, 81 pts--Orchid Inn (Sam Tsui), Bloomington, IL
4. *Phragmipedium caudatum* 'Fox Valley', AM/AOS, 81 pts--Fox Valley Orchids, Ltd. (Tom Kalina), Villa Park, IL
5. *Phragmipedium Devil Fire* 'Joan Lorence', AM/AOS, 80 pts (*Grande* x *warscewiczianum*)--Jon Lorence, Solon, IA
6. *Phragmipedium Wössner Supergrande* 'Mem. Jean Lorence', AM/AOS, 82 pts (*warscewiczianum* x *longifolium*)--Jon Lorence, Solon, IA
7. *Trichocentrum splendidum* 'Mem. Gloria Janssen', HCC/AOS, 78 pts--Tim Janssen, Lincoln, NE

The exhibit created by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City received the AOS Show Trophy.

Mid-America Orchid Congress trophies:

1. Henry C. Holmes for the best *Oncidium* alliance plant: *Trichocentrum splendidum* 'Mem. Gloria Janssen' HCC/AOS owned by Tim Janssen (Lincoln Orchid Society).
2. Fox Valley Cypripedium Alliance Award for the best Cypripedium alliance plant: *Phragmipedium Wössner Supergrande* 'Mem. Jean Lorence' AM/AOS owned by Jon Lorence (Solon, IA)
3. F. L. Stevenson Pleurothallid Alliance Award for the best Pleurothallid alliance plant: *Lepanthes gargoyle* owned by John Dolen (Greater Omaha Orchid Society)
4. Myron Banta Award for the best specimen plant: *Lycaste Always* owned by Natt's Orchids (Naperville, IL)

ACTIONS TAKEN BY MAOC:

- Conservation Committee awarded \$1200 in grants in Fall 2009. \$400 grants were awarded to McNeeley Conservatory (St. Paul MN), Wheeler Collection (Ball State University) & Cleveland Botanical Garden.
- MAOC donated \$4,000 to AOS in 2009.
- New Appointments: Beth Martin, Chair of Annual Meeting Committee; Tim Brooks, Chair of Orchidist of the Year Committee.
- Fall MAOC meeting September 24-26, 2010, in Louisville, KY.
- Saturday night's auction raised \$2,083.

At the THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES BREAKFAST on Sunday morning, 33 people discussed "Conservation Efforts by Local Societies":

SUPPORTING ORCHID CONSERVATION

- Contribute 1% of annual budget to conservation causes, e.g., Orchid Conservation Coalition www.orchidconservationcoalition.org
- Society has a native orchid bed at local nature center. Raises funds to support project
- Assist counting & cataloging native orchids in local area
- MAOC Conservation Committee will help fund collection of species at botanical gardens & accepts donations to pay \$300 for Conservation Speaker at Fall MAOC
- Support the Native American Orchid Plant Society; The Nature Conservancy & other conservation groups.
- Attend Native Orchid Conference
- Partner with a federal rescue center

CONSERVATION OF PERSONAL COLLECTIONS

- KEY: Step 1: PLAN; Step 2: DOCUMENT PLAN; Step 3: APPOINT person to execute plan. Time is paramount. Do not delay in executing plans – your orchids cannot wait
- Plan for natural disasters as well as the inability to care for orchids due to poor health or death
- Keep a list of orchids in collection. Estimate value

- Members of local society may assist in selling/distributing orchids
- Donate orchids to college or botanical garden -- contact first to confirm institution's desire to acquire your orchids
- Sell "select" orchids through judging center
- Sell orchids to society members, returning money to family or to society for specific purpose: speakers fund, etc
- Sell or will orchids to commercial vendor
- Post on Orchid Mall
- Divide plants and distribute to members of society

RECRUITING YOUNG MEMBERS:

- Encourage young people: add a "junior exhibit" to show schedule- award a ribbon; give a raffle plant; recycle ORCHIDS magazines; give a gift certificate, plant etc. from local vendor to junior who sets up a display

Plan to attend the Fall Mid-America Orchid Congress in Louisville, KY on September 24-26, 2010. The topic of the Affiliated Societies Breakfast will be: "How Does Your Society Honor Present and Past Members?"

If the Affiliated Societies Committee can assist your society, please contact:

Mary Beth Mansour
Fairview Park, OH
mbmansour1@cox.net

Doug Hartong
Roswell, GA
catmando@mindspring.com

Judith Rapacz
Madison, WI
jorapacz@facstaff.wisc.edu
(November 1-April 1)
Ft. Myers, FL

Roberta Ginavan
Treyner, IA
ginavan@verizon.net

FROM OUR PRESIDENT



Dear Fellow Orchid Growers,

Our spring Mid-America meeting is over -- more about it later. We're looking forward to the fall meeting, which will be held in conjunction with the Kentucky Orchid Society's Fall Orchid Show, in Louisville, September 24-26. Mid-America will once again be hosting the Congress activities, but we are doing a couple things differently this time. In Omaha, several people commented that they'd like a little more free time in the schedule; that Saturdays are particularly hectic. So in Louisville, we are going to have only two speakers, with the first at 2:00 pm. That will leave an extra hour for the judges to finish their work and for the rest of us to see the Show and visit the vendors. For a special treat, we're going to have our dinner at Winston's, a world class restaurant.

As most of you know, our spring meeting in Omaha was hosted by Mid-America. This was only the second time we've done this, and by most measures it was a success. There were interesting talks, the usual good fellowship; the Congress business got done, and the meeting was a financial success. All the numbers are not yet in, but it appears that we broke even or possibly made a couple hundred dollars, and on top of that the auction brought in just over \$2,000. The only disappointment was the lower-than-hoped-for attendance. On the positive side, we were able to host a Mid-America and not lose money even with the low registration numbers.

The consensus of the Executive Committee was that the reason for the low attendance was that Omaha was too far to drive for most people, and many did not want to purchase a plane ticket in this economy. If we're right, then attendance should be strong in Louisville. It's a six hour drive or less from most Mid-America affiliated societies, and September is a great time for a road trip!

I hope I see you there!
Doug Martin

FALL 2010 MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

Please join us at Mid-America's Fall meeting, hosted by The Mid-America Orchid Congress and held in conjunction with the Kentucky Orchid Society's 2010 Fall Orchid Show, September 24-26, 2010. Both Mid-America and the orchid show will be at the Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center, Louisville, Kentucky. Louisville is within driving distance of much of the Mid-America region. We hope you'll take this opportunity to visit with old orchid friends and make some new ones.

We're looking forward to the Saturday afternoon lectures. To allow judges time to complete AOS judging before the lectures, our speakers will begin at 2:00pm. Marni Turkel of Stony Point Ceramic Design will present *Give It a Rest*. This talk will explore some of the factors involved in providing the dry rest period that many orchids receive in their native habitats. Learn about the effects of weather on cultural needs, and how to investigate climate and habitat to become a better orchid grower. Marni's travel expenses are funded by the Shirley Burr Moore Memorial Fund of the Mid-America Orchid Congress.

Our second speaker is Fred Clarke, owner of Sunset Valley Orchids in San Diego, California. Attend Fred's talk, *Today's Mini and Compact Cattleyas*, to learn about the small-growing *Cattleya* species, what hybrids are available, and how to grow these little gems. Then visit Fred's sales tables at the Orchid Show.

Saturday evening festivities will begin with the Mid-America auction, our main fundraising event.

The Mid-America dinner in Louisville will be a treat! Be sure to sign up for dinner at Winston's Restaurant, Sullivan University's highly rated restaurant where culinary students refine their skills before stepping out as professional chefs. In 2007, Winston's Restaurant was named the best teaching restaurant facility in the country by the American Culinary Federation (ACF).

Take advantage of the Affiliated Societies Breakfast on Sunday morning -- Society delegates always leave this Breakfast full of information and ideas to take home to their orchid societies. After breakfast, delegates will convene for the Mid-America business meeting. The business meeting is open to all, and anyone wanting more information about Mid-America is welcome to attend.

REMEMBER TO REGISTER FOR SUNDAY'S BREAKFAST/DISCUSSION

The MAOC Affiliated Societies Breakfast will be held on Sunday, September 26, 2010, at the Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center, 2715 Fern Valley Rd in Louisville, Kentucky. The topic for discussion will be "How Does Your Society Honor Present and Past Members?"

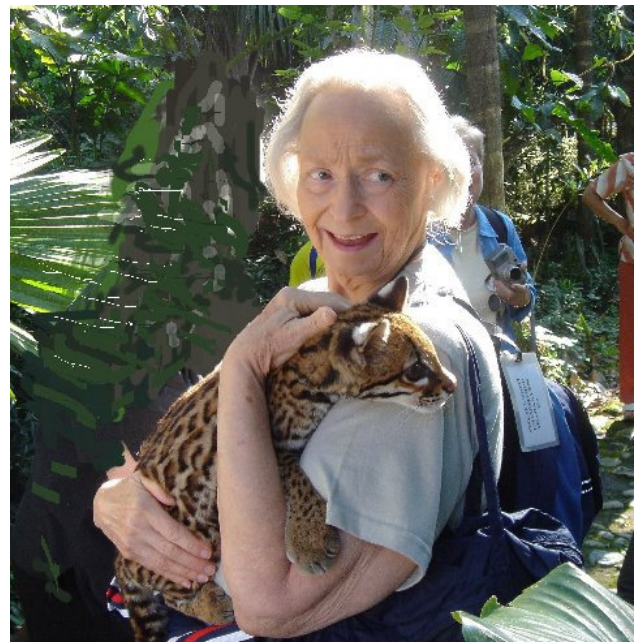
A successful orchid society is dependent on the tireless effort of members serving as officers, organizing orchid shows, mentoring new members and directing special projects. How does your society recognize these individuals? What is the policy of your society when a member in good standing passes? These issues will be discussed at the Breakfast.

The Breakfast offers a forum to share ideas about the challenges facing orchid growers and societies. Plan to attend the Affiliated Societies Breakfast to share your ideas and to learn from the experiences of others.

Mary Beth Mansour, Chair
Affiliated Societies Committee
mbmansour1@cox.net

ANNALEE BOYETT

The Mid-America Orchid Congress lost part of our history when AnnaLee Boyett passed away on the morning of January 14, 2010. AnnaLee served as president of the Congress in 1986-1987, succeeding Tom Harper, who presided 1984-1985, and was herself succeeded by Lois Holmes, who was President 1988-1989. Wearing her presidential gold crown, she presided over Congresses October 1986, hosted by the Atlanta Orchid Society, Atlanta, GA, April 1987, hosted by the Orchid Society of Middle TN, Nashville, TN and in October 1987, hosted by the Southern Ontario Orchid Society, Toronto, Ont.



AnnaLee joined the American Orchid Society in January 1972, became a Certified Judge in March 1979 and served as a judge for thirty years until her retirement in April 2009. She served for a time as the AOS Judging Committee Chair and also Trustee. In addition, she was a long-time member of the Atlanta Orchid Society, serving the organization in countless ways, including President in 1978.

Doug Hartong, who met her the first time he attended an Atlanta Society meeting, attributes his becoming a student judge to AnnaLee's continuing encouragement and friendship. Hermann Pigors recalls AnnaLee as a very good leader and a true asset to the Congress. Doug Watson characterizes her as "a classically sweet, charming, adorable southern lady on the exterior, but a strong willed, forceful, and determined leader."

Our condolences go out to her husband, Ed, and to the rest of her family. We, too, shall miss her.

The Mid-America Orchid Congress

in conjunction with

The Kentucky Orchid Society 2010 Fall Orchid Show

September 24-26, 2010



Fern Valley Hotel and Conference Center

2715 Fern Valley Road
Louisville, KY 40213

MAOC information:

www.midamericanorchids.org

or

Beth and Doug Martin
bethdoug@kc.rr.com
913.248.8669

KOS Show information:

www.kyorchidsociety.com

or

Jim McCulloch, Show Chair
KyOrcSoc@aol.com
502.245.5605



CONTINUE TO BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF MAOC

Remind your Society to pay dues. As a member of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, your Society joins orchid societies in 17 states, as well as in Ontario, Canada, to fund education, research and conservation. The amount of dues is based on the number of members in your Society: \$0.50/member, \$15.00 minimum.

Dues forms are available from our Treasurer Jan Yates (jyates11@earthlink.net)

A completed form, listing the contact persons in your Society, enables MAOC to send the Congress's newsletter, The Mid-American, to members of your Society. The Mid-American informs your Society of issues related to the operation of a successful society, including changes in show schedule rules and classification.

Mary Beth Mansour, Chair
Affiliated Societies Committee

FROM YOUR EDITOR

Thank you, members of the Affiliated Societies Committee, Doug Martin, friends of AnnaLee Boyett, and Mary Beth Mansour, for your articles and Ken Miles for your photos in this issue. Thanks, too, for invaluable computer assistance from Dot Potter Barnett.

I welcome input – suggestions, corrections, and articles to be published are all welcome. Keep those e-mail messages coming!

Doris Asher, Editor
277 N Hagadorn Rd
E Lansing MI 48823
517) 332-0004
asherdoris@juno.com

KEY MID-AMERICA CONTACTS

OFFICERS

President: Doug Martin
913-248-8669; bethdoug@kc.rr.com
1st Vice President: Aileen Garrison
770-961-0449; aileeng5@bellsouth.net
2d Vice President: Jordan Hawley
859-225-6051;
jordanbird00@insightbb.com
Secretary: Roberta Ginavan
712-487-3085; ginavan@verizon.net
Treasurer: Jan Yates
513-475-9771; jyates11@earthlink.net

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Affiliated Societies: Mary Beth Mansour
440-333-5364; mbmansour1@cox.net
AOS Liaison: Doris Asher
517-332-0004; asherdoris@juno.com
Annual Meeting: Beth Martin
913-248-8669; bethdoug@kc.rr.com
Audit: Judith Rapacz
608-274-3053;
jorapacz@facstaff.wisc.edu
Awards: Christine Chowning
859-278-5256;
c.chowning@insight.bb.com
Budget: Jan Yates
513-475-9771; jyates11@earthlink.net
Communications: Doris Asher
517-332-0004; asherdoris@juno.com
Constitution & Bylaws: Lowell Jacks
706-632-9818; ljacks@tds.net
Conservation: Russ Vernon
765-759-5991;
newvisionorchids@aol.com
Education & Research: chair open
Historical: Lois Holmes
763-561-6380;
lois.holmes68@gmail.com
Orchidist of the Year: Tim Brooks
859-268-4567; timbrooks@aol.com
Show Schedule: Hermann Pigors, Co-Chair
847-428-8500; pigors@juno.com
Lois Cinert, Co-Chair
630-739-1068; george.cinert@att.net
Technology: Jeff Delmas
256-534-3332; jeff@delmasfamily.net
Ways and Means: Roberta Ginavan
712-487-3085; ginavan@verizon.net

HELPFUL INFORMATION FROM MAOC

Conservation Committee

FYI The Native Orchid Conference will be held this year June 12-15 at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The theme: Native Orchid Conservation: Making a Difference. For more information:

www.nativeorchidconference.org or email:
ben.rostron@ualberta.ca

The Committee invites affiliated societies to submit proposals for funding for conservation projects to Chair Russ Vernon

12661 W SR 32

Yorktown, IN 47396

(765) 759-5991

newvisionorchids@aol.com

Show Schedule Committee

The Committee reminds local societies it is always an option for any society to expand or contract the number of classes to meet their needs. Simply delete the class and leave the numbering in place; to add a class, simply use a decimal or a letter, e.g., 8.5 or 8 A. The Committee plans to gather as much input as possible for the next revision of the Mid-America Schedule, currently planned for the year 2014. They welcome any input regarding the Schedule, but really need show plant entry data from all areas of Mid-America in order to make informed decisions for the 2014 revision.

Please send the number of entries in each class to:

Lois Cinert, Co-Chair

595 Sharon Way

Bolingbrook IL 60440-1350

(630) 739-1068

george.cinert@att.net

Send any other Show Schedule comments, suggestions, concerns to:

Hermann Pigors, Co-Chair

37W.793 Binnie Road

Dundee, IL. 60118

(847)836-0456

pigors@juno.com

Need Mid-America entry tags for registration of plants and exhibits at your Show?

Order from Tom Ott

22 Algonquin Lane

St. Louis MO 63119

(314) 961-3088

maryott@swbell.net

Send check made payable to MAOC in the amount of \$30.00 for 1000 tags; remember to enclose address to which to send them.

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The current edition of the Mid-America Show Schedule and the January 2010 edition of the supplemental material edited by Lowell Jacks are all available on the Mid-America website (www.midamericanorchids.org)

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For sale: MAOC CD published in 2005 entitled "Orchid names: a pronunciation guide" by Gerda Ferrington. \$10.00 each (\$13.00 each if need to be mailed to you). Send check made payable to MAOC to Jan Yates, Treasurer, 4110 Rose Hill Avenue, Cincinnati OH 45229-1527; remember to enclose address to which to send them.

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Mid-America Constitution & By-laws is available on the Mid-America website (www.midamericanorchids.org)

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For advice or assistance in hosting a future Congress, contact Beth Martin (bethdoug@kc.rr.com; 15523 Johnson Dr., Shawnee KS 66217 (913-248-8669)

**MID-AMERICA MEMBER SOCIETIES
2010**

Alabama Orchid Society
Ann Arbor Orchid Society
Atlanta Orchid Society*
Batavia Orchid Society
Blackhawk Orchid Society
Blue Grass Orchid Society*
Central Indiana Orchid Society*
Central Iowa Orchid Society
Central Kentucky Orchid Society
Central Missouri Orchid Society*
Central Ohio Orchid Society
Central Ontario Orchid Society
Eastern Iowa Orchid Society*
Grand Valley Orchid Society*
Greater Akron Orchid Society*
Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
Greater Lansing Orchid Society*
Greater Omaha Orchid Society*
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society*
Greater Toledo Orchid Society
Gulf Coast Orchid Society
Heart of Dixie Orchid Society
Illinois Orchid Society
Illowa Orchid Society
Kentucky Orchid Society
Kingwood Orchid Society
Lincoln (NE) Orchid Society*
London Orchid Society
Memphis Orchid Society*
Miami Valley Orchid Society
Michiana Orchid Society
Michigan Orchid Society*
Northeast Alabama Orchid Society
Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society
Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society*

Orchid Growers Guild Inc. of Madison*
Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City
Orchid Society of Greater St. Louis
Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee*
Orchid Society of Minnesota*
Orchid Society of the Royal Botanic Gardens
Paducah Orchid Society
Peoria Orchid Society*
Prairie State Orchid Society*
Saginaw Valley Orchid Society*
Smoky Mountain Orchid Society*
South Metro Orchid Society*
South Mississippi Orchid Society*
Springfield (MO) Orchid Society*
Three Rivers Orchid Society
West Shore Orchid Society of Northern Ohio
Windsor Orchid Society*
Wisconsin Orchid Society*

*Has renewed for 2010

Note: Jan Yates, the Congress Treasurer, has sent out the renewal notices for the 2010 membership year. If your copy has gone astray, please contact Jan for another copy (jyates11@earthlink.net).

If your Society is not listed and you believe it is a member, please contact me. Or, if I have your Society listed as not yet having renewed for 2010 and you believe it has, let me know that as well. I will investigate! Doris Asher

SOME IMAGES FROM GULF COAST ORCHID SOCIETY SHOW

January 29-31, 2010

Ken Miles submitted these pictures from the Show held at the Singing River Mall, Gautier, MS. Thank you, Ken!



Note the use of the Mid-America registration tags!



And Lowell Jacks judging



Aileen Garrison judging

AOS REQUESTS HELP FROM SHOWS

The Membership Committee of the American Orchid Society is soliciting the help of societies sponsoring orchid shows this year in recruiting members for the AOS. They can supply an attractive poster and/or membership brochures for use at your Information Table.

For more information, please contact Barbara Noe, Chair of the Committee;
celebrateorchids@aol.com