



# The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress

July 2006

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

## In this issue:

Mid America Orchid Congress Spring Show . . . . .	1	Congratulations to Lowell Jacks . . . . .	6
President's Message . . . . .	2	Future Mid America Congress Dates . . . . .	6
Affiliated Societies Report . . . . .	2	Officers and Committee Chairpersons . . . . .	7
Entering Your Orchids in a Show . . . . .	3	MAOC Fall Registration form . . . . .	8

## CIRCLE August 25-27, 2006, ON YOUR CALENDAR

Dear Fellow Orchid Enthusiast:

The 2006 Fall Mid-America Orchid Congress will take place this August 25-27 in Lexington, Kentucky. This 86<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Congress is being hosted by the Blue Grass Orchid Society and will be held at the Ramada Conference Center in conjunction with the Blue Grass Orchid Expo. The Ramada Conference Center is located at 2143 North Broadway, Lexington, Kentucky at exit 113 on Interstate 64/75. When booking your room at the Ramada Conference Center, request the Mid-America Orchid Congress block. A limited number of rooms with a rate of \$69 + tax, single or double, have been set aside for this Congress meeting. For those flying into Lexington and staying at the Ramada, the Ramada provides complementary shuttle serve to and from the Lexington airport. Please make your arrangements with the hotel in advance. If you experience travel delays the Ramada has a courtesy phone located in the baggage claim area in the airport that you may use when you arrive.

The Saturday seminars look to be outstanding. Claude Hamilton, Hamlyn Orchids, Kingston, Jamaica; Weyman Bussey, Abunda Flora, Mission, Texas; and Harry Phillips, Andy's Orchids, Encinitas, California will provide presentations. Mr. Hamilton will provide the Shirley Burr Moore Lecture with his topic being, *Broughtonia, Cattleyopsis, Laeliopsis And Their Hybrids*. Mr. Bussey will be speaking on *Mexican Species* and Mr. Phillips presentation will be on *The How To Of Mounted Orchids*. Mr. Bussey and Mr. Phillips will also be participating as vendors during the weekend activities.

Glass artist Dan Neil Barnes has agreed to do the awards for the show, with each award being an original piece of art. With the creativity of Dan and the popularity of his work, we are extremely excited and feel very fortunate that we have been able to obtain Dan's talent to design the show awards. You have all summer to get your plants ready, so start coaxing them to bloom for the show.

For registration and hotel information, see the accompanying registration form. Additional forms can be found on the Mid-America web site: [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org). If you plan on exhibiting at this Congress meeting, please send an e-mail to [MAOCLexington@aol.com](mailto:MAOCLexington@aol.com) and an exhibit space request form will be provided to you. Information packets and exhibit forms will be provided to all Mid-America affiliated societies and vendors participating in the show. . For addition show rules, a show schedule will be included in the information packets that will be mailed once your request for exhibition space has been received.

Just a reminder, other than the Executive Committee, Mid-America committee meetings on Friday evening are open to all attendees. Please look through your show program when you arrive for time and location and attend one of the meetings. Everyone's suggestions can only help the Mid-America and it's affiliated societies.

We look forward to showing attendees to this 86<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Mid-America Orchid Congress some good ole Kentucky southern hospitality. With Lexington's proximity to a large number of member societies, we hope to see a lot of familiar faces and make many new friends as we kick off a great fall

show season with this Mid-America.

Sincerely,

*Tim Brooks*

Blue Grass Orchid Expo &

86<sup>th</sup> Mid-America Orchid Congress Meeting

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

On behalf of Mid-America, I want to thank the Greater Omaha Orchid Society for hosting our Spring 2006 meeting. We all had a great time in Omaha and returned home energized and full of new ideas for Mid-America. I was especially impressed that, thanks to excellent publicity, over 700 people came to see the orchid show and visit the vendors' tables. These were paid admissions, an idea worth considering for any affiliated societies interested in hosting the Mid-America Orchid Congress but concerned about the financial commitment.

We're now well into summer, and that's always a good time for projects. While we work on things like painting, landscaping or cleaning the basement, our Mid-America committees are hard at work on projects to benefit our affiliated societies and their members. You can learn more about the committees and their work by attending a committee meeting at our next Mid-America Orchid Congress in Lexington, Kentucky. The committees will meet on Friday night, August 25<sup>th</sup>, and will be open to the public, with the exception of the Executive Committee. We hope to see you there!

### **REPORT TO MID-AMERICA AFFILIATED SOCIETIES MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS OMAHA, NE, MARCH 24-26, 2006**

The Spring 2006 Mid-America Orchid Congress was held March 24-26, 2006 at the Omaha Marriott Hotel in Omaha, Nebraska. The approximately 90 registrants were hosted to a well-organized weekend (albeit a little cold, with snow still on the ground!) which included three lectures on Saturday afternoon and two more after the Sunday Business Meeting. All were most informative and enlightening. Robert Fuchs gave us exciting news of the upcoming 19th World Orchid Congress to be held in Miami Beach, Florida in the Spring of 2008. Application forms and information for trophy sponsorship as an individual or as an orchid society were circulated among the attendees. Bob said he would like to see every orchid society in the United States represented at this fantastic event. Make your plans now to attend and exhibit! You do not want to miss this opportunity to attend a World Orchid Conference in the USA. The last one in the US was in Miami in 1984! On Sunday, Lucinda Winn of J & L Orchids gave a fascinating lecture entitled "Good Things Come in Small Packages". Via a beautiful slide presentation, one saw orchid species suitable for those with limited space

in the greenhouse or even for windowsill growers. Erich Michel educated us on the true definition of *Encyclia* versus *Epidendrum* with live examples and a very informative lecture. Margaret From presented "Orchid Conservation at the Henry Doorly Zoo." Harold Koopowitz discussed "Orchid Conservation and the State of the World." Harold repeated this lecture at the AOS Members Meeting in Orlando, on April 7, 2006.

Dr. Diana Plahn chaired the judging on Saturday morning, as she ably directed the 20-some judges on 5 teams to evaluate the almost 499 entries in 28 exhibits. Forty orchids were selected for further study toward a possible AOS award, and 7 of them were awarded:

*Paphiopedilum* Temptation 'Hoosier' (*kolopakingii* x *philippinense*) AM/81pts (Hoosier Orchid Company, Indianapolis, IN)

*Lepanthes eros* 'Hoosier' CBR (Hoosier)

*Epi. escobarianum* 'Lucinda' CCM/85pts (J & L Orchids, Easton CT)

*Dtps.* Fangtastic Mariana Myers 'Montclair' (*Phal.* Golden Peoker x *Dtps* New Candy) AM/81pts (Iowa Orchids Inc. & Robert Bannister)

*Dendrobium densiflorum* 'Dusty's Buttercup' HCC/79pts (Nile & Lois Disdieker of Iowa) Attendees were treated to a generous sales area which included 15 vendors selling orchid plants as well as hydroponics, beautiful clay imported pots, and other related orchid merchandise. The sales area was packed with visitors and registrants and appears to have done very well. It has been sometime since I have seen such a busy sales area with brisk business.

*Paphiopedilum Xanthophyllum* 'Omaha' (*hookerae* x *mastersianum*) AM/80pts (Joe & Karen Lankton, Omaha NE)

*Pelexia laxa* 'Hoosier' CBR (Hoosier)

The Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City won the AOS Show Trophy with their 50 sq. ft. exhibit featuring a "rock" mountain face with a "stream" running down its side.

Special Mid-America trophies were won as follows:

Myron Banta Award (for best Specimen plant): *Cattleya* Henrietta Japhet (Oak Hill Gardens, Dundee, IL)

Henry C. Holmes Award (for best *Oncidium* Alliance plants): *Odontioda* Victoria Village (New Vision Orchids, Yorktown, IN)

F L Stevenson Pleurothallid Alliance Award (for best Pleurothallid Alliance plant): *Scaphosepalum antenniferum* (Hoosier Orchid Company, Indianapolis, IN)

Fox Valley Cypripedium Alliance Award (for best Cypripedium Alliance plant): *Paphiopedilum* Red Glory x Magic Cherry (Prairie Orchids, Omaha, NE)

The Affiliated Societies Breakfast on Sunday morning was very well attended with 34 people discussing the topic "Specialty Groups Within Your Local Society" hosted by Doris Asher. Several society members mentioned that they offer beginners sessions before

their regular meetings. These sessions enable newer or "green" members to bring in their problem plants and find out what is wrong and ask questions. This is very popular as well as field trips to neighboring orchid nurseries and visits to members who have greenhouses. Raffle tickets are offered to members rewarding them for bringing plants to regular meetings. The Atlanta Orchid Society had a Genesis Group devoted to studying new trends in breeding (*Cattleyas*, *Oncidiums*). It was suggested that a mentor system be set up providing new members with someone of whom they can ask questions and get help regarding their orchid collection. Above all, it was emphasized that we must welcome new members and let them know that no question is a dumb question; we have all been there! The worst thing that can happen is letting a new member feel left out. As the breakfast progressed, the topic changed to "individual experiences" in affiliated societies. Surprisingly, never assume that there is not someone in your society who wants to try his/her hand at putting in an exhibit. One person recalled having two new members with no previous experience offer to put in the society exhibit at a show and won the AOS Show Trophy with their first exhibit! There is hidden talent out there if we are supportive. The Omaha Orchid Society was well represented at the Breakfast, participating actively in the discussion and offering many helpful ideas.

At the poorly attended -- only 22 people -- Business Meeting following the Affiliated Societies Breakfast, it was announced by President Beth Martin that in the future, all committee meetings will be open to registrants. She stressed that better communication is needed to make our Congress efficient and viable for the future. Perhaps fresh input from registrants can "jump-start" our Congress and provide needed stimulus. Judge Christine Chowning requested that an Angraecoid Award in her name be established. This award will be offered beginning at the Fall Meeting in Lexington, Kentucky in late August of this year. Christine graciously provided a check for \$1000.00. An updated Constitution and Bylaws is expected by the Fall Meeting as well A CD entitled "This is the MAOC" is in the works and will be in the form of a power-point presentation with pictures and written material informing people what we do and why there is a MAOC. Jim Harper is working on this project. It was announced that a new society joined at this meeting: the Lincoln Orchid Society of Lincoln, Nebraska. Welcome! The MAOC website can

provide links to local societies and contain copies of your local society newsletter. Jeanne Sanders, the webmaster, is requesting articles of interest regarding our orchid passion. These can be historical, educational or entertaining. Members get busy and write! To everyone's surprise and delight, Ways and Means stated that the previous night's auction earned \$1868.00. Special thanks to Russ Vernon as auctioneer and Mark van der Woerd for providing entertainment during the auction. Well done! If your society is considering hosting a Congress Show check out the MAOC Website ([www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org)) where updated criteria are forthcoming regarding hosting a show and hints for negotiating a good hotel contract. At the conclusion of the meeting, Tim Brooks announced that the next meeting will be August 25-27, 2006 in Lexington, KY, hosted by the Blue Grass Orchid Society. Contact: [MAOCLexington@aol.com](mailto:MAOCLexington@aol.com) for more information; registration forms at [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org). This will be our Fall MAOC Meeting. Plan to attend. Remember to sign up for the breakfast hosted by the Affiliated Societies Committee on Sunday morning. Our discussion topic will be "Trends in Local Orchid Shows". There are still numerous dates open for future Congress hosts.

If the Affiliated Societies Committee specifically or the Mid-America Orchid Congress in general can help your society in any way, please contact one of the following representatives. Always check with the

Congress's web site to keep informed concerning Congress activities ([www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org)). There is always someone in the Congress who is willing to help solve a problem. Make sure your local society newsletter editor receives a copy of this communication.

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## ENTERING YOUR ORCHIDS IN A SHOW

By Stephen Benjamin

The shows in this area of the country typically use the Mid-America Orchid Congress (MAOC) orchid show schedule. This schedule is quite complete, and repeatedly using it allows exhibitors and the show registration personnel to become accustomed to it, so that the process becomes simpler and more accurate. One should always check the local show schedule for each show however, as the host society may add, delete, or alter classes to suit their local needs. The following guide for hobbyist exhibitors is based on the MAOC schedule.

If you are entering an exhibit or a plant for the first time, you should read the instructions contained in the

MAOC Show Schedule, which is available in its entirety at the MAOC website, under Show Rules and Regulations, pages 3 through 7. These rules are not always reprinted in the local rule booklet.

Exhibits- When you ask for exhibit space, you will normally request a specific amount of floor or table space, i.e. 25, 50, or maybe 100 square feet. The hosting society will usually mark these areas out on the floor or table. If your exhibit falls within their outline, your exhibit will properly be entered in that category. If your exhibit expands outside the given outline, you should probably move to the next larger class.

Plant Entry- Each group/alliance of orchids has its own set of classes. Each set has several options, one of which will best fit your orchid. The first things you will need to know are the name and parentage of your plant. The name tag which came with your plant should provide the plant name for you, and it will often list the parentage as well.

To understand that name tag, please note that the first part of the name will be the Genus; it will always start with a capital letter and is often abbreviated. The second part of the name will start with a small letter if your plant is a naturally-occurring species, or a capital letter if it is a hybrid. As an example, consider the hybrid *Lc. Mini Purple*- The genus is *Lc.*, which is the abbreviation for *Laeliocattleya*. The rest of the name starts with a capital letter, so you know that the plant is a hybrid. If you are unsure what the genus abbreviation means, you should look it up in the MAOC Orchid Classification and/or the MAOC Intergeneric Cross Reference guides, both of which are available on the MAOC website. These are often available at the desk of the Show Registrar, as well. If your tag also lists the parentage of a cross such as: *L. pumila* x *C. walkeriana*, then you have the information needed to complete your entry. If the parentage is not on the tag, you should look it up in "Sanders" or in a computer database such as Wildcatt, e-AOS, or Orchidwiz. If your tag only lists a hybrid cross, then you should also check to see if it has been named since the time that your tag was printed. Again "Sanders" or one of the computer data bases should help. If the cross has not yet been named, then leave the space on the entry tag for "Name" blank, and enter the parentage in the "Cross" area.

The process of choosing the class into which your plant should be entered starts with the Genus. In the case of *Lc. Mini Purple*, *Lc. (Laeliocattleya)*, *L. (Laelia)*, and *C. (Cattleya)*, all are in the Cattleya alliance, classes 10-28. In general, you should always choose the first class that the plant fits into. The first class that it might seem to fit is Class 16, which is for "*Laelia* species, hybrids and intergenerics, other than above, but excluding Cattleyas". In this case, our hybrid example plant does contain *Cattleya*, so Class 16 would be an incorrect choice. This plant would correctly fall into the group of classes 20-26, because it contains *Cattleya* in its heritage. This group of

classes is then broken down by color. The flowers of *Lc. Mini Purple* could be: lavender, pink, white, or possibly blue. Lavender flowers easily fit into class 20- Lavender. Pink would fit into class 20 or possibly class 26- Other Colors. When in doubt, put your entry into the first category where it fits, so put it into 20. White-flowered plants would go into class 21- White. Blue- flowered plants would go into 26 -Other Colors. You should also note that within the Cattleya alliance, there is a class for Miniatures, class 28. You could elect to enter your plant in this class as long as it satisfies the criteria listed in the schedule. The MAOC does not allow for "double entering" a plant in two categories, but some local schedules allow you to "double enter", so read the local schedule.

This same decision-making process described above applies to all the Orchid alliances, plus the Miscellaneous groups.

Entering your plants- Whether the show has the paper entry tags or electronic entry, take some time to review the form/tag. The information is generally all the same, but the format may vary. You will get an Exhibit number from the registrar, which is where you will exhibit your plants/entries. You will also get an Exhibitor number/letter for each person who has plants in that exhibit. You will fill out the entry form/tag with this information for each entry. If the entry is a plant, the name and cross must be filled in. If the entry is an Exhibit, Art, orchids in use, etc. write in the appropriate type in the name section. Each entry must have the show classification number entered for the appropriate plant/exhibit. The completed form/tag will be turned into the registrar who will assign "tag numbers" and return your entry form/tag or computerized entry to you. The returned entry tag should be placed in the exhibit with the plant so the judges can readily find it.

Some good points to keep in mind-

Color- Colors may be perceived differently according to the light, so check under show conditions if possible. In general, blush colors and two-toned flowers should be entered in the "Other Colors" classifications, with the exception of *Phalaenopsis*, which has a dedicated Blush class. Color in *Paphiopedilum* and most other alliances is based on

the dominant flower color: ask yourself what color is the most prominent of the several colors that may be present in your flower, and choose that class as your entry class. If you cannot make up your mind, put it into the first of the classes where it could go.

Equitant *Oncidium* hybrid classification is based on the lip color and its markings.

For purposes of the MAOC schedule, the word "hybrid" means a cross made within the genus listed (such as *Cattleya aelandiae* x *Cattleya walkeriana* = *Cattleya Measuresiana*), unless preceded by the word "intergeneric", in which case, two or more different genera are used in the cross (such as *Lc. Mini Purple*).

“Primary hybrid”- This is a first-generation cross, i.e., it was made from two naturally-occurring species (such as *Paph. rothschildianum* x *Paph. primulinum* = *Paph. Prime Child*). “Complex hybrids” have at least one parent which is a hybrid ( *Paph. Susan Booth* x *Paph primulinum* = *Paph. Prime Susan*). If you enter a plant in a Primary Hybrid class and one of the parents was not a species, your plant will be disqualified.

Equitant *Oncidium*s are separated out within the *Oncidium* group. If you have questions, ask the Registrar or another knowledgeable person.

Dendrobiums are separated out by types, and again, if you have questions, ask the Registrar or another knowledgeable person.

Class 111, covers any Orchid that does not fit anywhere else.

Review classes 112 through 114, Miniatures, Specimen Plants, and Seedlings Blooming for the First Time, as these are also options for orchids that may have other appropriate classifications but may be optionally placed here. The MAOC does not, but some local schedules do allow you to double-enter a plant in 112, 113 or 114 plus one other class.

Most important, if you have questions or any doubt about your entry, ask the registrar or another knowledgeable person. It’s always discouraging to find out that your plant could not be considered by the judges because it was entered in the wrong class. The judges will generally transfer a plant into the correct class, but often they cannot do this because the class your plant belongs in has already been judged when the error is discovered.

I want to thank Tom Ott (Chairman of the MAOC Show Schedule Committee) for reviewing and adding some great insight to this document.

## FUTURE MID-AMERICAN ORCHID CONGRESS DATES

The following dates have been set:

Meeting	Location	Dates	Host(s)
Fall 2006	Lexington, KY	Aug 25-27, 2006	Blue Grass Orchid Society
Spring 2007	Chicago, IL	April 27-29, 2007	Illinois Orchid Society
Fall 2007 & beyond	OPEN		
Spring 2008	OPEN		
Fall 2008	OPEN		
Spring 2009	OPEN		
Fall 2009			Central Ohio Orchid Society

## CONGRATULATIONS TO LOWELL JACKS

Lowell Jacks was nominated as the incoming Treasurer of the AOS at the AOS trustees meeting in Orlando this spring.

Lowell is Chairman of the MAOC Constitution and By-Laws Committee. He also is the author of the

MAOC 2006 Orchid Classification and the MAOC 2006 Intergeneric Cross Reference. Both of these were just revised and can be found on the MAOC website:

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

## OFFICERS OF THE MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS

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**Newsletter Circulation Policy:** The newsletter is sent to all member orchid societies whose membership is current for distribution to their membership. It is also available on our website <http://www.midamericanorchids.org/>. Questions about the newsletter may be directed to Barry Rhinehart 10921 Thornview Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45241 [rllyrrrab@earthlink.net](mailto:rllyrrrab@earthlink.net)



# Blue Grass Orchid Expo & Mid-America Orchid Congress

86<sup>th</sup> Meeting

August 25-27, 2006 Lexington, Kentucky

Presentations by:

Claude Hamilton (Hamlyn Orchids LTD)  
Weyman Bussey (Abunda Flora)  
Harry Phillips (Andy's Orchids)

Kingston, Jamaica  
Mission, Texas  
Encinitas, California

**Registration** (Please type or print legibly)

	<b>Yours</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Registration/Guest</b>
<b>Name (For Your badge)</b>		
<i>Society Affiliation</i>		
<b>Address</b>		
<b>City, State, Province, Zip</b>		
<b>Telephone</b>		
<b>E-Mail</b>		

**Will you be judging?** You -Yes No Status \_\_\_\_\_ **Guest** -Yes No Status \_\_\_\_\_  
**Do you wish to clerk?** You -Yes No **Guest** -Yes No

## 2006 Fall Mid-America Orchid Congress Registration

(Congress registration includes unlimited access to the show, seminars and registration bag)

**\$55.00 if postmarked prior to August 1 \$75.00 if postmarked on or after August 1**

	Quantity	US Funds Each	US Funds Total
Registration		<b>\$55 or Late \$75</b>	
Mid-America Banquet		<b>\$35</b>	
Affiliated Societies Breakfast (Sunday)		<b>\$12</b>	
<b>**Make checks payable to BGOS/MAOC</b>		<b>Total of Payment</b>	

**Banquet Choice** Beef \_\_\_ Fish \_\_\_ Vegetarian \_\_\_\_\_

### Hotel Reservations:

**Ramada Conference Center**, room rate of \$69 + tax, single or double

(800) 272-6232 or (859) 299-1261. Request Mid-America Orchid Congress room block. A limited number of rooms are available. The rate & room block are effective until 5:00 PM EDST August 11, 2006. Reservations after this date are on a space and rate availability basis.

**\*\*Return this form with payment (check made to BGOS/MAOC) to: Tim Brooks, 867 Edgewater Drive, Lexington, KY 40502, Information at: MAOCLexington@aol.com or (859) 268-4567**