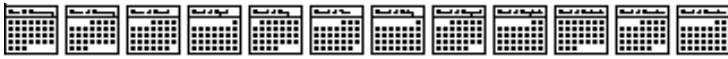




Wisconsin Orchid Hobbyist

The Newsletter of the Wisconsin Orchid Society
September 2007

Web site: www.wisconsinorchidsociety.com



DATES and MEETINGS

September 9
Rob Halgren
Littlefrog Farm
"Growing Orchids
in Terrariums and Vivariums"

He will be bringing plants for sale. Check out his website at <http://littlefrogfarm.com>. He has zillions of plants not listed, so truly interested parties may wish to e-mail him directly. More on page 2.

Rob's Rules:

- 1) There is always room for one more orchid
- 2) There is always room for two more orchids
- 2a) See rule 1
- 3) When one has insufficient credit to obtain more orchids, obtain more credit.

October 14 (Note date change)

November 4 – Members' Auction

December 2 – Holiday Party



WHEN and WHERE

Unless otherwise announced, the business meetings of the Wisconsin Orchid Society, which are normally scheduled for the first Sunday of the month, **begin at 1:00 p.m.** All meetings for the rest of 2007 will be at the Cudahy Family Library; maps are on the website.

Plants to be judged MUST be in place by 12:30 p.m. Library materials are available before and after meetings as are refreshments and general conviviality.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The Wisconsin Orchid Show will be held at the Mitchell Park Domes on September 15th and 16th

September 21 -22-23. Chicagoland Orchid Fest
8:00am - 5:00pm Friday & Saturday, 10:00am - 3:00pm Sunday. Go to <http://www.chicagolandorchidfestival.com/> for more information.

October 13-14. Illinois Orchid Society Show
Chicago Botanic Gardens, Glencoe, IL. Contact Sandy Fuller, 847-991-5434. ☸

January 21-27 2008 19th World Orchid Conference
Miami Florida. Go to www.19woc.com for more information.

New Member

Dianna Dietscher-Nigrelli
18785 Fallett Drive
Brookfield WI 53045
H 262 786-4368
W 262 567-4466
email ddietscher@wi.rr.com

She belongs to AOS and is a beginner growing in windows

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Show Participation

We are participating in shows on the calendar with the ☺ after them. These will be taken by Walt Crawford. Plant drop-off is at his house, 303 South 63rd Street, Milwaukee, on the Thursday before each show between 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. If this is not satisfactory, you may call him at 774-9962 to make other arrangements.

Remember to stake and pack your plants properly for transport. Also remember that Walt has only the space in one van, so don't be too enthusiastic about box size.

Plant pick-up will be the Monday after the show between 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 p.m., or as arranged.

Information for New Members

All new members get an official nametag. If you haven't picked yours up yet, make sure to see Lauren Lenz at the next membership meeting.

Contact Corrections and Additions

Just a reminder – If you change any part of your contact information, please pass the change(s) to the Editor at 414-744-2822 or travelgirl11@hotmail.com.

Meeting Minutes

There were no membership or board meeting last month due to the picnic at Oak Hill Gardens.

President's Message

Hi everyone,

For those of you that wanted a "little" rain — boy, don't ever ask for a whole lot.

For those of you that might have Phalaenopsis outside, be watchful for low night temperatures while the plants are wet. Temperatures under 55 degrees may cause leaves to drop off. Catasetums and Cynoches also do not like cool nights after being wet. Cynoches especially tend to rot at the base of the plants.

September is fast approaching and so is our show. We will try to go over plant preparation at the meeting. We could also use some more help and we will have the sign up sheets at the meeting. We also have a speaker scheduled, so this should be a fairly busy day.

At our last meeting at the Chicago judging center, I was informed that Sue Golan had made a slight mistake when she told me we had sent in a donation for this year and next year. She was looking at the Green Bay account. I am sending Tom a separate e-mail to have him check his records just to be sure.

If we haven't sent a donation as yet, I would suggest we up our usual donation of \$250 to \$500 or \$750 since the center has had to buy a new digital camera and a new storage cabinet for the judging materials. Please give this some thought and present it to the membership for a vote in September.

Hope to see you all there.

Your President,
Bob Lewis

A Costly Proposition

The cost of distributing a printed newsletter has risen steadily. Postage for 6 sheets and under is currently 41¢ and over 6 sheets is 58¢. Printing costs 9¢ per sheet. Thus an 8-page newsletter costs 36¢ for printing and 41¢



for mailing, a total of 77¢. At that rate, 12 months of newsletters costs \$9.24.

Some societies have gone completely to an e-mailed newsletter, but a number of our members do not have this capability. However, there are some persons who have e-mail but still chose to receive their newsletter in printed form.

Please consider switching to the e-mailed version.

Treasurer's Report for August 2007

Balance

Checking account and undeposited funds	\$3,811.84
Money Market	9,187.36
Petty Cash	<u>\$31.00</u>
Total assets	\$13,030.20

The History of Littlefrog Farm



Yes, the word "Littlefrog" has no spaces in it. Your friendly proprietor (and narrator), Rob, has been growing and showing orchids since 1990. It started with a couple plants purchased at a local show (a *Schoenorchis fragrans* and some sort of Epidendrum, if I recall). The orchid addiction began in earnest when I moved to Chicago to go to graduate

school, and the grocery store across the street from my dorm had some very lovely orchids from a place called "Hausermann's". What is a Hausermann, I asked? Can I drive there? And it was all downhill from that point.

With the discovery of Hausermann's and their immediate neighbor, EFG Orchids, I rapidly moved from a few plants to a few hundred plants, and rented greenhouse space for a large portion of my collection from EFG Orchids. Lady'slipper orchids of all types were the first orchids that really sparked our interest, and we continue to specialize in this group, in addition to dabbling in small growing Cattleyas, Catasetinae, and species orchids of all types.

Several domiciles later (all selected for orchid-growing potential), I and my very tolerant wife moved to a more rural country setting about 30 miles outside of Lansing, Michigan. A few acres of land and an absolutely perfect basement for growing orchids were prime considerations in the purchase of the property. Not long after, a local orchid grower decided to go out of business for health-related reasons, and I was too softhearted not to purchase the greenhouse and its contents, and move them 30 miles to our home.

I am no longer quite as softhearted, and learned from this experience that I will never move another greenhouse. Purchase a new one, yes – move one, no way. When one builds a large greenhouse, it rapidly becomes necessary to start selling a few plants, and this was the prime motivation for starting the orchid business.

At about the same time the greenhouse project was initiated, our first child was born. As a fortuitous omen, a small tree frog (*Hyla versicolor*, most likely) was found on the kitchen counter a few hours before we went to the hospital. Our daughter got the nickname of "Littlefrog", and the orchid nursery got the name "Littlefrog Farm". The business is growing at a far slower rate than the child, which is

appropriate. Our only goal for the business is to "Pay the darn heating bill" (which is substantial) and also pay for travels to various orchid shows to support our orchid judging habit.

A few years after the name was established, I got sick of hearing people ask, "Where are the frogs?" and decided to look into the feasibility of getting a few colorful frogs for the greenhouse. Needless to say, there are plenty of colorful frogs, and we have started quite a collection. Curiously, none live in the greenhouse. Dart frogs are almost as addictive as orchids, and Littlefrog Farm is now proud to be a supplier of fine orchid plants that have been selected by a 'frogger' for 'frog friendliness'. We also sell more traditional orchids (phalaenopsis, lady slippers, etc.) at several shows in our region, as well as selling a few plants on the Internet. We do not have a walk-in business, but, if schedules permit, we do enjoy having guests visit the greenhouse.

Currently, I am a research assistant professor in the Department of Animal Science at Michigan State University. If you want a fancy title, I'm the "Associate Director of the Center for Animal Functional Genomics". Wheesh. This is largely a bioinformatics position, which means mainly I write computer programs (usually in PERL) to annotate DNA or protein sequences, and consult with various researchers about how best to analyze, interpret, and present their data. I received my Ph.D. in 1998 from Northwestern University in cancer biology, more specifically, on potential new biological therapies for multiple myeloma.

When I'm not doing my real job, frequently I am admiring, buying, or raising orchids. I'm also a semi-professional orchid grower, and a certified judge in the Great Lakes Regional Judging Center (Ann Arbor, MI). If it isn't apparent from the pictures, I mainly specialize in Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium, but I also grow species orchids from almost every major section and have developed quite a taste for Cycnoches. Don't hesitate to ask questions; I live for that kind of thing.

Ribbon Judging

Here are the current ribbon-judging standings. If you notice any errors, please contact the Editor, Lea Pliszka.

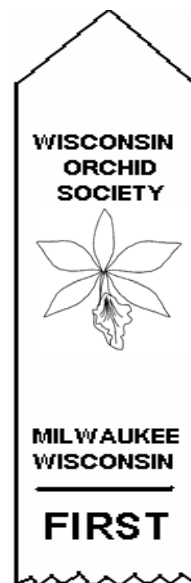
At Meeting:

1st	3
2nd	2
3rd	1
Specimen of the Month	6

At Show:

1st	6
2nd	4
3rd	2
Best of Class	12

Name	Points
Claire Rojohn	194
Cedric Michalak	188
Daryl Zigan	118
Stephen Zayechek	90
Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick	81
Bil Nelson	80
Pat Calvey	69
Joe Gardner	56
Joe Appazeller	52
Bob Lewis	46
John Lowin	31
Bonnie and Ron Feld	20
Bruce Efflandt	20
Michael Bantz	15
Theresa Aftyka	11
Justin White	10
Diane Emmerich	8
Susan Tragesser	8
Paul and Jane Keuler	6
Pete Peterson	6
Dan Panetti	4
Doug Zellmer	3
Jim Hart	3
Stoebich?	3
Wayne King	3
LisaAnn Damrow	2
Penelope Ackerman	2
Lisa Dionisi	2
David Kohlwey	1



Rules Reminder

These are the rules for Wisconsin Orchid Society Ribbon Judging (takes place at meetings).

1. You must have owned the plant for at least 6 months.
2. An inflorescence (spike) may be judged only once. Usually, the plant is brought when the first few flowers are blooming, before any flower begins to collapse.

It's Show Time!

The following vendors are attending:

Vendor	Status
Anything Orchids	2 tables paid
Ecuagera	3 tables paid
Goin' To Pot Orchids	2 tables paid
J & L Orchids	2 tables paid
Leo Schordje	1 table paid
Littlefrog Farm	1 table paid
Natt's Orchids	3 tables paid
Orchid Renaissance	1 table paid
Orchids by the Ackers	2 tables paid
Purple Clay Imports	1 table paid
The Orchid Trading Company	2 tables paid

WANTED

Picture, Picture, Who's got a picture?

We would like photographs to use in the newsletter of our orchids from our meetings or shows.

Please crop them first to reduce the file size, and be careful what else gets included in the picture.

Please email them to the editor at:

travelgirl11@hotmail.com

Do you have any library books skulking about your premises? PLEASE return them to Bil Nelson.

Should We Host a Mid-America Orchid Congress Meeting?

Bil checked with Mid-America and AOS. No one has spoken for Fall 2011. We would also host the AOS Trustees' Meeting. A vote will be held at our September meeting. If you will not be at the September meeting and wish to have a voice in the matter, contact any board member and let them know your opinion.

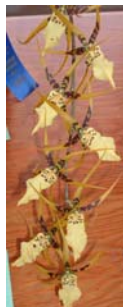
Election of Officers and Director

The three Board members constitute the Nominating Committee. Anyone who wishes to run for an office or the retiring Director's slot should contact any Director, whose names and contact information are at the bottom of page 1. Nominations will be announced at the October meeting and voting will take place at the November meeting or by proxy, which will be enclosed in the November newsletter.

Awards List from Oak Hill Gardens Picnic August 4, 2007

Class	Place	Plant	Person
Cattleya Alliance	1	Brassolaeliocattleya Hawaiian Passion 'Carmela'	Cedric Michalak
	1	Potinara Burana Beauty 'Burana'	Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick
	2	Laeliocattleya Irene Finney X Cattleya John Mossman	Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick
	3	Brassocattleya Keowee	Stephen Zayeck
Cypripedium Alliance	2	Paphiopedilum primulinum var. purpurascens	Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick
Oncidium	1	Oncidium Maui Gold	Cedric Michalak
	2	Cischweinfia dasyandra	Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick
Vandaceous and Phalaenopsis	1	Phalaenopsis Tan Swee Kim	Tom and Judy Fitzpatrick
	2	Vascostylis Crown Fox X Ascocenda Peggy Foo	Cedric Michalak
Alliance	2	Vanda luzonica cross	Cedric Michalak
	2	Vanda Sansai Blue	Stephen Zayeck

Note: State Fair Awards will appear in the next newsletter.



WISCONSIN ORCHID SOCIETY

Lea Pliszka, Editor
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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