

**REPORT TO MID-AMERICA AFFILIATED SOCIETIES
MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS
TROY, MI, MARCH 14-16, 2008**

The Spring 2008 Mid-America Orchid Congress was held March 14-16, 2008, at the Michigan State University Management & Education Center in Troy, Michigan. The annual Michigan Orchid Society Palm Sunday Show complemented the Congress with excellent exhibits and many orchid vendors.

Although the number of registrants was limited due to the lack of a host society, the weekend was a worthwhile event. The show was spectacular; the lectures were very informative, and the auction was entertaining as well as lucrative. The outstanding exhibit was the gigantic, 225 sq. ft. Michigan Orchid Society exhibit. The basket of 12 Paph Fanaticum's in Orchid Inn's exhibit was a show-stopper.

The lectures ranged from Don Farrelly's beginners' lecture "Orchid Growing Basics" to Erich Michel's Conservation Lecture "Conservation of Terrestrial Orchid Species by Asymbiotic Propagation." Russ Vernon discussed with wit "How Not to Grow Phalaenopsis". Ron McHatton concluded the lecture series with "Terrestrial Orchids, Not Just the Family's Jewels." The lectures, open to the public at no cost, had attendance ranging from 80- 120 persons/lecture. The banquet lecture was a highlight: Karen Muir discussed the "culture" of exhibiting and judging orchids in Japan, particularly at the Tokyo Grand Prix Show.

Glenda Lask chaired the 21 AOS and six lay judges in nine teams as they evaluated the 600-plus entries in 28 exhibits. The AOS Show Trophy went to the Michigan Orchid Society exhibit. Twenty-two orchids were evaluated for AOS awards, and following eleven awards were made:

1. Paphiopedilum Fanaticum (malipoense x micranthum) AQ/AOS, Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL
2. Paphiopedilum Fanaticum 'Sam's Best' AM/AOS (88 points), Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL
3. Paphiopedilum Fanaticum 'Red Delight' HCC/AOS (88 points), Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL
4. Paphiopedilum Fanaticum 'Pink Delight' HCC/AOS (76 points), Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL
5. Paphiopedilum Tokyo Black Knight (Memoria Hirohisa Kawai x Muriel Constance) JC/AOS, Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL
6. Paphiopedilum hainanense 'Fox Valley' AM/AOS (81 points), Fox Valley Orchids, Ltd., Villa Park, IL
7. Phragmipedium Sunset Glow (Eric Young x Memoria Dick Clemens) HCC/AOS (79 points), Albert McMillan, Indiana
8. Doritaenopsis (Phalaenopsis Dou-dii Golden x [Doritaenopsis Brother Success x Ho's Sweet Valentine]) HCC/AOS (78 points), Rosie Kiley, St. Claire Shores, MI
9. Masdevallia (Bella Donna x uniflora) 'Free Spirit' AM/AOS (83 points), Lynn O'Shaughnessy, Howell, MI
10. Masdevallia MacInness 'Golden Heart' HCC/AOS (79 points), Lynn O'Shaughnessy, Howell, MI
11. Zootrophion niveum 'Free Spirit' CBR/AOS, Lynn O'Shaughnessy, Howell, MI

Special Mid-America trophies at this Show:

1. Myron Banta Award for the best specimen plant – Encyclia ciliare, Green Acres Orchids, Charlotte, MI
2. Henry C. Holmes Award for the best Oncidium alliance plant – Odontocidium Mayfair 'R.C.W.' FCC/AOS (Ocdm Tiger Hambuhren x Odm Herb Thoreson), New Vision Orchids, Yorktown, IN
3. FL Stevenson Pleurothallid Alliance Award for the best Pleurothallid alliance plant – Masdevallia veitchiana 'William', New Vision Orchids, Yorktown, IN
4. Fox Valley Cypripedium Alliance Award for the best cypripedium alliance plant – Paphiopedilum Fanaticum 'Sam's Best' AM/AOS (88 points), Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL

ACTIONS TAKEN BY MAOC:

- Application for 501(c)3 status in final stage, to be retroactive to August 2007. UPDATE: Treasurer received official notification IRS has approved 501(c)3 status for MAOC, retroactive to August 28, 2007.)
- Conservation Committee awarded \$1700 in grants in Fall 2007. Project reports received from the McNeeley Conservatory (St Paul, MN) and the Wheeler Orchid Collection and Species Bank (Ball State University)
- MAOC donated \$100 to each of the 5 judging centers
- Under consideration: Designate 10% of income from each auction for a MAOC Speakers Fund
- Net profit of the auction: \$1,656.00

- MAOC web-site to be updated
- Greater Cincinnati & Miami Valley Orchid Societies will host Fall 2008 MAOC in Mason, OH, September 5-7, 2008.

INFORMATION FOR LOCAL MAOC ORCHID SOCIETIES

- 2008 Membership Dues. If your society has not yet paid, contact Treasurer Jan Yates (jjates11@earthlink.net) for a form.
- To enhance communication within the Society, the AOS is appointing a limited number of Regional Directors. These Directors do NOT replace the AOS Rep. in each society. The AOS Rep. remains a viable position.
- Show Schedule Committee requests all shows send number of entries in each class to Barbara Nuernberger, 27 Colony Dr. , Oberlin, OH 44074

THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES BREAKFAST addressed “Crisis in Leadership”. Items discussed:

- Identifying potential leaders
- Communicating the requirements & duties of the position
- Nominating Committee selecting At-Large Members of Board (an opportunity to identify potential leaders.)
- Advantages/disadvantages of patterns of succession, ladders
- Good bylaws are vital for leadership issues in a society

Plan to attend the next Mid-America Orchid Congress, September 5-7, 2008, in Mason, Ohio. The topic of the Affiliated Societies Breakfast will be “Compensating Speakers.”

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

Mary Beth Mansour
20780 Valley Forge Dr.
Fairview Park, OH 44124
(440) 333-5364
mbmans@cox.net

Doug Hartong
540 Saddle Lake Dr.
Roswell, GA 30071
(770) 594-7334
catmando@mindspring.com

Judith Rapacz
5701 Tolman Terrace
Madison, WI 53711
(608) 274-3053

Doris Asher
277 N. Hagadorn Rd.
East Lansing, MI 48823
(517) 332-000 4
asherdoris@juno.com

Roberta Ginavan
14025 300th Street
Treyvor, IA 51575
(712) 487-3085
ginavan@verizon.net

19681 Summerlin Road H-269
Fort Myers, FL 33908
(239) 267-3179
November 1 – April 1
jrapacz@facstaff.wisc.edu

MISCELLANEOUS HELPFUL INFORMATION:

1. New By-laws & Constitution -- on MAOC web-site (www.midamericanorchids.org)
2. Show registration tags -- order: Dr. Tom Ott; 22 Algonquin Lane, St. Louis, MO 63119 (314) 961-3088. Price: \$30/1000. Check payable: MAOC.