



OSGKC News

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY www.osgkc.org December 2007

A Look Ahead: December 9th meeting

By Mark Prout

First let me say I've never been prouder to be a member of OSGKC. To put on an orchid show and MAOC of that caliber from a standing start in April is amazing. So many members jumped wholeheartedly into the various tasks that needed doing and did them well. I'm in awe. Now that we know how to do it, let's do it again next year...without the additional burden of MAOC, but we can make our orchid show an annual event anticipated by orchid lovers.

December's meeting is the Holiday and Awards Banquet:
Brunch at Figlio on the Plaza
209 W. 46th Terrace
Kansas City, MO
December 9th, 12:30 p.m.
[Come later if you like, but I'm eating all the shrimp.]
\$16.95

Please let me know if you are planning to attend so I can give the restaurant an accurate count. And those of you who have verbally told me you are coming should tell me again (email, mprout2@comcast.net, or phone call, 816-478-7087), as I didn't have a notebook handy to record it.

OSGKC's Monthly Meeting:
December 9, 2007

Annual Awards Banquet
Figlio on the Plaza

Growing Phalaenopsis...or Does Fred love Phalaenopsis almost as much as he loves Pat?

By Fred Bergman

So why does Fred love Phals? That's easy...They are easy to grow, they come in many varieties of colors, solids, spots, and stripes. But that's just the start. Phals are almost always in bloom, easy to cross, will grow and bloom almost anywhere, can be grown from a cross to blooming size in three to four years, are available from one-half-inch blooms to six-inch blooms, are readily available, and can be potted in almost anything.

Also I have learned to spell their full name...Phalaenopsis...see?

I have grown and bloomed Phals under lights at 200 foot-candles and in a greenhouse at almost 3800 foot-candles, from 62 F



Phal. Fred's Precocious

to more than 100 F. I'd like to keep it below 100 but with that much sunlight that is the best I can do.

Plants stay in the flask one year at 90 F, in flats at 90 F for one year, then in two-inch pots for one year in the greenhouse, then in four-inch pots for one year, and from then on in six-inch pots.

I have grown Phals in many media including bark, osmunda, bark mix, peat lite, my own peat mix, gravel, broken pots, marbles, bottle caps, cocoa fiber,

con't pg. 2

A Message from Tom and Barb Larkin

Barb and I want to express our profound thanks for what became a splendid and most memorable weekend, well beyond our and others' expectations. Even more important to us is that you saw fit to involve us as contributors in what will undoubtedly go down in the annals of OSGKC and MAOC as one of the finest Congresses ever. The Organization, the camaraderie, the enthusiasm of the working group and volunteers are what stood out and made the event the success it achieved. It certainly made Barb and me homesick and wishing we could be closer and more frequent attendees at your meetings.

Congratulations on a Job 'Swell' done. Now do take a well-earned rest.

What made the event even more precious is that it was exactly 50 years ago this month that Lois and Henry Holmes and Barb and I joined the OSGKC.

*Letter from OSGKC
President, Dan Schlozman*

At the time of this report, the show has yet to begin. The publicity has been awesome; and I expect the same of the show. Not much else is going on. I'm looking forward to the winter party followed in January by a new "administration."

Affectionately,
Your lame-duck president,

Dan

Phalaenopsis - con't pg. 2

fire brick, and probably a few other things. I currently grow mostly in my own peat mix that is about 40 percent peat.

I grow Phals using Kansas City water, feed at 200 ppm nitrogen (mostly urea), and feed every watering all year long. Frequency of watering varies greatly, from twice a month to every two months depending on the weather. I

still have my first Phal plant purchased in 1968 from Shaffers.

[What's the name of that plant, Fred?]

I make a lot of crosses, currently working on reds, miniature harlequins, and what I call true miniatures, plants with small blooms and branched spikes. Many of my crosses don't make it, partly because the parent plants are

Beginners' Group

There will be no beginner's meeting at the December meeting. Be sure and come to the January meeting and be surprised.

Fred Bergman

triploid. This year I made 1,050 crosses and have only 123 capsules still on the plants. Capsules need six to 12 months to mature. I sow my own seed using a ripe pod procedure. I currently have in flats and individual pots about 24 miniatures, 30 potential reds, but no harlequins of my own.

Ploidy is important if you want to breed plants and can be helpful in guessing what a cross will do. There are two ways to determine the ploidy of a plant: by a staining and microscopic technique or by background and breeding behavior. Background and breeding is the approach I use. The natural chromosome number of a plant is called diploid. Two diploids crossed produce seedlings that are diploid (2n) and are generally fertile (produce seed). If you cross a diploid with a tetraploid (4n) you obtain a triploid (3n) which is normally sterile. Most of the large white and white /purple lip plants are 4n and are used as one parent to increase size of a 2n plant. This is the makeup of many plants that are available. Sometimes a cross produces an aneuploid, an uneven number of genes, which is also frequently sterile.

When buying seedlings you should be aware that crossing a large flower with a miniature will produce a flower slightly larger than the miniature. If the next cross is of similar breeding, the seedlings will

be a mix of large- and small-flowered plants. It is also important to know the color of the pod parent (it should be the first parent listed) which has a greater influence on the cross.

How do you tell what to buy? If it is a mericlone then you will know what it will be. If a seedling and you know the breeder's reputation then ask what he expects. Always buy un-bloomed seedlings, this gives you the same chance of getting the pick of the litter as the breeder.



Phal. Brother Pirate King x Phal. Carmela's Brite Lites

[A harlequin phalaenopsis]

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Bird's Botanicals
Oak Hill Gardens
r.f. Orchids
Windy Hill Gardens
Whippoowill Orchids

*Welcome
OSGKC's New
Members!*

Cecil Blystone, El Dorado Springs, Missouri
Kate Cita, Kansas City, Missouri
Genevieve Flynn, Kansas City, Missouri
Nita Haas, Raymore, Missouri
Teresa and Tom Kelley, Talihina, Oklahoma
BettyAnn Love, Lee's Summit, Missouri
Robert and Rita Mortenson, Independence, Missouri
Ronald Schorr, Lawrence, Kansas

*A Look Backward:
November 16-18, 2007*



OSGKC's award-winning exhibit



Tony and Jason's exhibit with top award-winning plants

*Kansas City's
"Orchids and All That
Jazz"*

Kansas City Orchid Expo and Sale

photographs by Paul Kreutzer

19th World Orchid Conference – Miami, Florida

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If you love orchids you need to make plans to attend the 19th World Orchid Conference (WOC) coming to Miami, Florida, January 23-27, 2008. The conference is held every three years in different parts of the world, and it will be approximately 25 years before it returns to the United States. It is a unique opportunity for us to see the best in orchids as well as visit one of the most prolific growing areas for orchids in the country. The show is co-hosted by the Fort Lauderdale Orchid Society and the South Florida Orchid Society, both of which are well known for the spectacular shows they host each year – so we should indeed expect the best from this one!

For further information see the WOC website at <http://www.19woc.com/>.

This email message went out to all OSGKC members on November 19th, 2007

All,

As you know, the society is in the process of applying for federal tax exempt status under section 501c(3) of the tax code. I prepared and submitted an application for such status in July. The IRS has now reviewed our application and asked that we follow-up with some additional information before they can approve our tax exempt request. We have only two weeks to respond.

One of their requests was that we amend the dissolution clause of our Articles of Incorporation. This clause provides direction to disbursement of money in the event our club is ever disbanded. 501 c(3) organizations are required to stipulate that upon their dissolution any remaining funds will be transferred for exempt purposes. In short, they want any excess money to be distributed for charitable purposes. I have attached a copy of our original Articles of Incorporation, as well as, a copy of the amendment form and language that will be used to complete our application for amendment with the State of Missouri. You will notice that the amendment form includes lines for voting of the membership.

To accomplish a vote without the benefit of a regular meeting we ask that members respond with a vote of yes or no for the amendment. Here is the question:

Shall The Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, Inc. amend section 5 (D) of it's Articles of Incorporation to include a revised dissolution clause for purposes of applying for federal tax exempt status with the IRS.

Please respond YES or NO. [RESPOND TO jward@sunflower.com]

It is important that you reply to this e-mail right-away because we have a limited amount of time to complete the amendment (should the members vote in favor) and reply to the IRS for finalization of our 501c(3) application.

Thank you.

Jason [Ward]

