



OSGKC

est. 1949

Orchid Society of
Greater Kansas City

OSGKC News

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY

www.osgkc.org

January 2008

A Look Ahead: OSGKC 2008 Meetings - Save These Dates

By Doug Martin

These are the dates for Society meetings in 2008. All ten dates, except the Picnic in August, will be at Broadway United Methodist Church, 74th Street and Wornall Road in Kansas City, Missouri. Locations for the Picnic and for the Growers' Tour (April) and Awards Banquet 2008 (December) are yet to be decided. [See sidebar for plans to reschedule the 2007 Banquet.]

January 14

February 17

March 9

May 18

June 8

July 13 - Auction

August 10 - Picnic

September 14

October 12

November 9

Mark your calendars for these February dates:

February 17th -

February's meeting

is one week later

than usual.

February 24th - Field trip to Fred Bergman's Greenhouse.

OSGKC Expo and AOS Judging

by Mark Prout

The OSGKC's recent show was sanctioned and judged by the American Orchid Society (AOS). Judging shows is a service of the AOS to its members and affiliated local societies to promote the enjoyment of orchid growing and encourage advancement in cultivation and hybridization.

An orchid show features two different kinds of judging. Show judging compares entered orchids according to a schedule of categories determined by the show organizers. In OSGKC's case, judges used the show schedule developed by the Mid-America Orchid Congress.

When judging shows, judges

compare plants for their visual impact,

looking for

the "Wow!" factor. This usually gives the blue ribbon to the best color and form and most flowers on a healthy, well-groomed plant. One plant may not possess all the attributes, but one should stand out above the rest. Sometimes, a category may feature plants that are sub-par and judges may then choose to award no blue ribbon and give only red and white ribbons. In a show schedule with 110 categories, there are usually several with few or no entries. It isn't unusual for the only plant in a category to get the blue or if it's found wanting, only a red or white or no ribbon at all. Since, one of

the objectives of judging is encouragement and enjoyment of the hobby, show judges award ribbons fairly freely and sometimes award multiple



Slc. Yellow Warbler 'Hoosier'

Photograph by Jim Pyrzyński

OSGKC's Monthly Meeting: January 13, 2008

Broadway United Methodist Church
74th Street and Wornall Road
Kansas City, Missouri

Beginners' Group: 1:00 p.m.

Rescheduled 2007 Awards Banquet with
reservations: 2:00 p.m.

Orchid judging and a business meeting
will follow the banquet. Members are
welcome to bring plants for sale.

Beginners' Group

We will start the meeting promptly because we have a packed program for this Sunday. During the Beginners Meeting, we will learn the parts of a Cattleya and will repot a Catt. We will also repot two Phalaenopsis, one that is in good condition

and one that needs special attention. Please bring a piece of paper with the following information: a list of the types of orchids that you grow and some ideas of the topics that you'd like to discuss during the year.

Fred Bergman

New Board of Directors officers for 2008-2009

President - Monica McNamara
Vice President - Beth Martin
Secretary - Holly Hall
Treasurer - Cindy Hobbs
Member-at-Large - Tony King
Member-at-Large - Julie Morrison

con't on pg. 2

Report from the President, Monica McNamara

As we begin 2008, we find ourselves with a sense of great enthusiasm following our successful MAOC Expo. This success was the result of the hard work and teamwork of our membership. In recognition of your efforts and due to the postponement of the December meeting, I am pleased that your Board has decided to assist in the cost of a January meeting/awards banquet to make it easier for all members to be able to attend and enjoy!

I am looking forward to the opportunity to serve this organization as its president. I am fortunate that an outstanding group has agreed to serve as Board members and committee heads.

Throughout the preparation and hosting of the MAOC Expo, I was impressed by the dynamism, energy, enthusiasm and effort that so many members put forth to make this show such a great success. I would like to work with you to preserve and strengthen these qualities throughout 2008.

As your new president I also want to specify my expectations and define our roles as I see them for the coming year.

Respect - I will strive to show respect for each member and expect members to treat others with respect. I know that we will not always agree on specific items, but we can conduct ourselves in a positive and respectful manner.

Communication - The psychologist in me will push me to do my best to communicate with the group, and I expect members to communicate with me or other Board members regarding their questions, concerns or issues.

Positives - It is my preference to focus on the positives and how to improve our society.

Participation - I will endeavor to work hard for this organization, and I expect all members to be willing to "roll up their sleeves" and participate in the betterment of our society.

Fun - I expect and want to have fun and for all members to enjoy themselves and their passion for orchids through this organization.

I hope to see you and to join in celebrating our success and sharing our camaraderie at the catered luncheon at our January meeting. I welcome and look forward to your feedback, suggestions and comments.

Monica McNamara

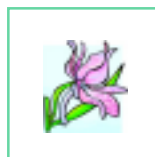
ation for AOS awards. AOS judging evaluates the plant according to exacting standards developed for its genus. Judges must have a broad knowledge of the major genera, the species that comprise them, and how they interact genetically in their hybrids. Judges will discuss a plant's attributes in comparison to the standards, which generally emphasize color, roundness, symmetry, fullness and floriferousness. They compare the plant to ones of the same species or hybrid that have received past awards, consulting the published record. If one of the judges on the team considering a plant nominates it, they then score the plants using a 100 point scale quantifying its qualities. The highest flower quality award is a First Class Certificate (FCC) for plants receiving 90 points or more. An Award of Merit (AM) goes to plants scoring 80-89 points and a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) for 75-79 points.

Slc. (*Sophrolaeliocattleya*) Yellow Warbler 'Hoosier' provides a good illustration of show and AOS judging. In the show, its color, floriferousness, and presentation first won the blue ribbon in its category, then the best of class trophy for the Cattleyas, although there were other larger, even more floriferous plants in the class. Judges then deemed its combination of qualities superior to all the other bests of class and gave it the Best-in-Show Trophy.

The team of judges that considered the Cattleya class also chose SLC Yellow Warbler for AOS judging, recognizing that it was a remarkable example of breeding, crossing Slc. Love Fresh, itself a successful hybrid of two of the best parents in miniature yellow Cattleya breeding, with *Sophrontis cernua*, a species with tiny red-orange flowers. The average of five judges scoring it was 86, adding an Award of Merit to SLC Yellow Warbler's show wins.

It takes a minimum of six years to become an accredited AOS judge, three years as a student judge and three as a probationary judge, perhaps longer if a candidate's accredited colleagues require it. Students write and present two papers a year to their judging center. In monthly judging sessions at the judging center, students learn about judging through practice and by having the opportunity to demonstrate their own knowledge. They attend lectures and read as widely in orchid publications and books to expand their knowledge.

[Jim Pyrzycki was the official photographer for all AOS Awarded orchids at the Expo. To see Pyrzycki's images and the AOS honored show plants, visit: <http://www.kcorchidshow.org/MOAC%20Fall%20AOS%20Awards.pdf>]



Expo con't from pg. 1

ribbons in categories where numerous plants are obvious contenders.

Categories are grouped according to genus and best-of-class trophies, awarded to the best of the blue ribbons in the class. The organizing society sometimes offers trophies beyond the best-of-class. The OSGKC show, for example, gave a best-of-show.

Following show judging, judges select plants for further consider-

Support OSGKC Sponsors:

Bergman Orchid Farm
Bird's Botanicals
Oak Hill Gardens
r.f. Orchids
Windy Hill Gardens
Whippoorwill Orchids