

### **Milton Carpenter Award**

The Milton Carpenter Intergeneric Oncidiinae Award was established in 2005 goes to the grower of the most outstanding example of intergeneric hybridizing within the *Oncidium* Alliance awarded during the preceding year. Max Thompson and Bryon Rinke received this award for *Oncidesa* Walnut Valley Cloud Leopard 'Max & Bryon', AM/AOS (80 points), exhibited at the Great Plains Center Monthly Judging. This award is extra special for these two orchid growers, hybridizers and AOS judges as they also made and registered this cross from two of their awarded plants: *Oncidium* Bryon Rinke 'Yes It's Mine', HCC/AOS (76 points), and *Gomesa* Cloud Ears 'M&B', HCC/AOS (79 points). Bryon says that this grex is easier to grow and flower than either of the parents and has nicely arranged flowers, but some plants have thrown a 5–7-foot (1.6–2.1-m) inflorescence that could be difficult to deal with. This awarded plant had 37 stellate flowers and four buds on a branched 39.3-inch (100-cm) inflorescence. Lowell McCabe, the photographer, captured well the rich color and waxy texture from the *Gomesa* parent as well as the captivating form dominated by the grandparent of *Onc.* Bryon Rinke, *Oncidium maculatum*.