



The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
8767 Apalachee Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249
www.cincinnatiorchids.org/

February 2012 Newsletter

Board of Directors

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The next meeting of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, March 06, 2012. Note that this is the first Tuesday of the month. The meeting will be held at the Civic Garden Center (CGC) on 2715 Reading Road. There will be time to socialize from 6:30 PM to 7:30 PM. There will also be a Beginners Class at 7:00 PM in the CGC Library. You can still bring your plant(s) in and ask some of the Societies experts any question that you have regarding your plant(s). The formal meeting starts at about 7:30 PM.

Our Web Site – Go to: <http://www.cincinnatiorchids.org>. Contact our Publication Chair, Brian Spittler, at publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org if you would like to add to this site.

Membership Vote at March Meeting - The membership present at the March 6th meeting will be asked to vote for a \$300 budget adjustment to cover certain normal Show expenses that have been donated in the past.

Beginners Class – Starts in the Library at 7:00 PM. This month’s topic is on light and temperature and you don’t have to be a beginner to attend.

March Speaker: Dana White and Stan Better talking about “Setting Up Displays and Clerking at our Spring and Fall Shows”.

April Speaker: Ken Mettler talking about “Native Ohio Orchids”.

March Refreshments: Jacquelyn Weber and Ann Tsui

April Refreshments: Jan Yates and Teresa Huesman
 Talk to Diana Dwight about signing up for 2012.

A Word from our President (Elaine Better)

We are beginning our society’s busy season with shows in Dayton, Columbus, Indianapolis (MAOC), and at Krohn; as well as displays at the Cincinnati Home and Garden Show, and in the Civic Garden Center lobby. We will have announcements and volunteer sign-up sheets at our meetings, and information on our web site. These events are great fun and superb learning opportunities and we need all our members’ involvement.

If the weather is questionable, check our web site regarding cancellation.

Newsletter Circulation Policy - The newsletter is sent to all members whose membership is current and to other orchid societies by reciprocal agreement.

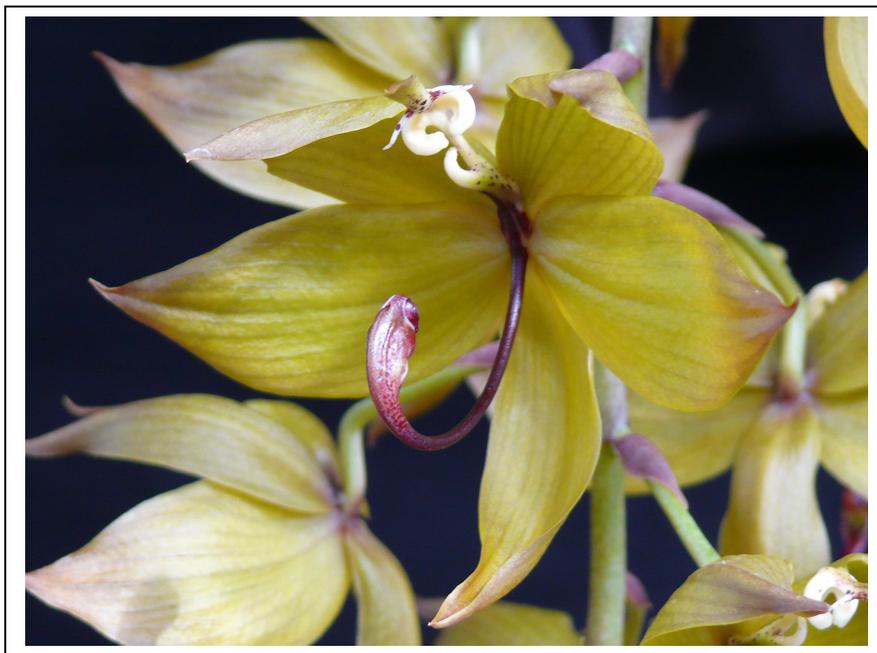
Tax Information (Margaret Cullen)

Letters will be sent to members and donors who made contributions in excess of regular dues levels (including various small donations) received during the year before the end of January. IRS only requires us to acknowledge any single donation of \$75 or more, donors are responsible for tracking smaller donations or in-kind donations (see IRS publication #1771). Your dues are tax deductible minus the value of any plant or promotional item you may have received in connection with your dues. Contact Margaret Cullen treasurer@cincinnatiorchids or at the February meeting if you have questions about your 2011 donation information with GCOS.

Orchid of the Month – This month features *Cycnoches cooperi*. This species plant is grown by Elaine and Stan Better in their home in Blue Ash.

Cycnoches, *catasetum*, *mormodes*, and *clowesia* are very rewarding orchids with 20-35 flowers per inflorescence, with numerous colors in pink, white, red, yellow, olive green, bronze, chestnut brown. Most bloom in the late summer and autumn with blooms lasting one-four weeks. They require heavy watering and fertilizing during their active growth in summer, and reduced watering in late autumn, with complete dryness and dormancy from December to April. They will lose their leaves during this period. They WILL rot if watered in winter (I have killed several this way - the pseudobulbs turn to mush.). Slowly resume watering once new growth is well underway in April. They like very bright filtered light - their leaves burn easily in direct sunlight.

The pictured flower is a first-bloom seedling, *Cycnoches cooperi*, one of several from Sunset Valley Orchids (Fred Clarke). I've had this plant for two years. Plants are repotted every 1-3 years in the spring and slow release fertilizer is added to the mix. They summer outdoors with east, south and west exposure, but have filtering to prevent burning. Once in spike, they are brought indoors and are shaded a bit more to promote male flowers (female are usually much less colorful, and brighter light promotes female flowers). The spike often takes two months to get to bloom. After flowering, watering is reduced, and in November they are moved to a 68 degree basement under fluorescent lights and not watered. When new growths have one inch roots, they are gradually watered, returned to brighter light, and repotted if needed.



If you have a good orchid photo that you would like featured in the Newsletter, send it along with cultural information to Ron Miller at orchidad@cinci.rr.com.