



**The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society**  
**8767 Apalachee Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249**  
[www.cincinnatiorchids.org/](http://www.cincinnatiorchids.org/)

## January 2012 Newsletter

### **Board of Directors**

<b>President:</b>	<i>Elaine Better</i>	<b>Directors:</b>	<i>Dana White, Jane Jones, Ann Tsui, Bob Wolf, Diana Dwight</i>
<b>Vice President:</b>	<i>Barry Jones</i>	<b>Show Chair:</b>	<i>Stan Better</i>
<b>Secretary:</b>	<i>Pat O'Connor</i>	<b>Publications Chair:</b>	<i>Brian Spitler</i>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	<i>Margaret Cullen</i>	<b>Program Chair:</b>	<i>Barry Jones</i>

The next meeting of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, February 07, 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 across from Cincinnati Children's Oak Campus and the American Cancer Society . 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 is scheduled to start at 7:30 PM.

**Our Web Site** – Go to: <http://www.cincinnatiorchids.org>. Contact our Publication Chair, Brian Spitler, at [publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org](mailto:publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org) if you would like to add to this site.

**Beginners Class** – Starting in the Library at 7:00 PM, Rick Noel will be talking about maintaining proper humidity and air movement.

**Speaker** – Our speakers for the February meeting are Alexa and Rick Noel. They will be talking about “Growing Phragmipediums: Habitat; Culture; Species; and New Hybrids”. Several plants will be sold through a silent auction.

**Refreshments** – Margaret Cullen and Steve Helbling will be providing refreshments for the February meeting. Talk to Diana Dwight about signing up for 2012.

### **A Word from our new President (Elaine Better)**

As the incoming President, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year, and many beautiful orchid blooms especially at just the right time for shows and judging.

We continue to mature as a 501(c) (3) organization. Your Board of Directors, Officers and Program Chairs are committed to offering our membership and the public educational lectures, great shows and displays here and away, as well as conservation programs. There will be many opportunities to volunteer and get involved. If you have an interest or concern, please contact any of us –at meetings, phone, or by email. Links are on our web site.

By the way, if weather is really dangerous, I'd likely cancel a meeting. We'll try to get a notice on the website in a timely manner and call those who don't have internet. Cancellation doesn't happen often but assume safety first.

A very special thank you to those who have volunteered their time and expertise to serve on The Board and as Officers and Chairs: Barry Jones, Pat O'Connor, Margaret Cullen, Dana White, Jane Jones, Diana Dwight, Ann Tsui, Ron Miller, Brian Spitler, Stan Better. I am very gratified to be serving our membership with you. Alexa Noel will be leaving as Officer and

Director after six years. She will be working with MAOC and AOS, and will be Head Judge for our Spring Show. Thank you, Alexa, for all your help, past and future.

**Greenhouse Tour** – We are scheduled to visit Erich Michael's greenhouse in Indianapolis on January 14. If you are interested in going, contact Barry Jones at 513-583-5283 or [www.orkidj@zoomtown.com](mailto:www.orkidj@zoomtown.com)

**Membership Renewal** - It's also the time of year when we renew our membership. Registration forms can be found on our Web Page or by asking Pat O'Conner for a form at the next meeting.

We recently learned that there is confusion about our dues, especially among new members who may have joined mid-year or at the spring show. We sincerely apologize for any misunderstanding. Based on feedback from several new members, it's obvious that our communications were not clear when we signed you up. So, to clarify simply, our dues are based on the calendar year. For renewing members, we begin collecting annual dues in the fall and appreciate if everyone pays before January 31. We don't consider memberships to have lapsed until the end of the first calendar quarter (March 31). So we have a significant grace period. In 2011, we made a sincere effort to prorate dues for folks who joined mid-year but we also priced member drives at our shows specifically in consideration of the plant or plant voucher provided as a promotional item. We will continue to evaluate how we structure and price show member drives in the future and certainly welcome any comments or constructive feedback on how we can avoid confusion in the future.

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

**Orchid of the Month** – This month features *Dracula lotax*. This plant can produce many small white flowers if grown under the right conditions.

Culture: This particular plant is grown on one of the curved ceramic tubes sold by The Orchid Gallery. The plant is mounted to this tube using a piece of panty hose stuffed with sphagnum moss. The tube of moss is tied on to the tub and a slit made on the top for the plant. Both ends of the slit are then tied again to keep the plant in place. The tube gets filled with water every day and the plant heavily misted. A small 2" fan is nearby to provide good air circulation. The water evaporating from the tube keeps the plant on the cool side.



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](mailto:orchidad@cinci.rr.com).