

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
8767 Apalachee Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45249

www.cincinnatiorchids.org

April 2014 Newsletter

Board of Directors

President	Barry Jones	Directors	Jane Jones, Ann Tsui, Barry Jones, Diana Dwight, Steve Helbling, Teresa Huesman, Amy Gondosch, Brian Spitler, Alice Palmer
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Potting Bee – Sunday March 30th is our Spring Potting Bee at Krohn. Hours are 1-4. We supply the media & possibly a pot. Everyone is welcome to come, whether you are an experienced “repotter”, a novice, or in between. If experienced, we can use your help, if a novice, you can come & watch us & learn &, if in between, come help & learn. If you have an orchid about which you have questions like in which media to repot or IF it needs to be repotted, bring it in & we’ll see what we can do for you. Some media will be available for sale in small “hobby bags”.

The next meeting of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Note that this is the **second** Tuesday of the month. The meeting will be held at the Civic Garden Center (CGC) on 2715 Reading Road. The formal meeting starts at about 7:30 PM. There are a few announcements then the program. There will be time to socialize earlier. There will also be a Beginners Class at 6:30 PM in the CGC Library. You can bring your plant(s) in and ask any of the Society’s experts any question that you have.

Beginners Class – April – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM. This will be the second of the two part programs. First section will discuss light and temperature aspects of culture. Second section will discuss growing mounted orchids and their unique demands.

Beginners Class – May – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM. The program this month will be for fun. Topic is "Brian and Rick’s favorite orchids and they grow them (or not)" Since both of these guys have a weird streak you’re likely to see some surprises.

April speaker DATE CHANGE – Tuesday April 8th – We are extremely fortunate to have Jose (Pepe) Portilla of Ecuagenera Orchids in Ecuador coming to speak to us. He is going to the COOS show (see below) so we can get him here at a very low cost. **BUT**, we need to make this trip to us worth his while by pre-ordering from his available plant price list, attached (at least I hope to remember to attach it!). There is no way we could afford to have him come here just on our own. The company website is <http://www.ecuagenera.com>.

May Speaker – The May program Dr Glenn Lehr and Dr Kristen Uthus of New World Orchids will discuss Neofinetia falcata, Den moniliforme and Sedirea history and culture. You can learn more about them at <http://newworldorchids.com/pages/nwo.htm>.

Central Ohio Orchid Society show – The COOS show is the last weekend in March, the 29th & 30th. We are looking for someone to take plants up to Franklin Park & put in the display on Friday afternoon the 28th & someone (could be the same person, could be someone else) to take it down on Sunday afternoon. Please contact Barry Jones if you’re interested.

Home & Garden Show – Brian stated there was a lot of member participation for the GCOS table. Thanks to the confusion of shipping, we received a double order of posters and bookmarks, so these were liberally handed out.

GCOS Spring Show – Our show was the weekend of March 15th and 16th. Alexa, our spring show chair, will hopefully be there to give us a recap of the show in general. The Spring Show was a success! Alexa noted that 291 plants were entered. About \$800-900 was cleared. Over 1000 people attended on Saturday as indicated

by the number of paid Krohn entrance fees. Congratulations are in order for the particularly good Beginner's exhibit. Some of the GCOS 2 exhibits' particulars are attached.

A note of interest – in exhibit 1, the Beginners' Group exhibit, the plant *Clowesia Grace Dunn X Mormodes tapoayensis* received an Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) from the judges. This plant belongs to John and Cheryl Jaworski. I understand this is their first AOS award. CONGRATULATIONS! And many more.

Membership: Alice Palmer has agreed to take care of Membership! We currently have 32 paid members, plus 16 new memberships (some are families) who joined at the Show. If you haven't paid your 2014 dues yet please print & fill out the attached form & mail or bring it to the meeting.

Membership Renewal: It has been quite a winter, which has resulted in the cancellation of two meetings. If this has caused you to delay renewing your membership, spring is here and the time is now! Membership can be renewed by mailing the attached form, going onto the society website, <http://cincinnatiorchids.org/>, or joining in person at the April 8 meeting.

Conservation Committee: Teresa Huesman wants to remind us of the June 28 Cranberry Bog trip with GCOS's own dedicated boat and time on the bog. On August 2, a native orchid trip to Shawnee Park is scheduled. An informational session is being planned for May with Jason Brownknight of the Cincinnati Nature Center on establishing orchid conservation.

Spring MAOC & AOS Meeting –Orchids A Growing Obsession in Minnesota.

April 30th – May 4th, 2014

The Orchid Society of Minnesota is very pleased to host the Spring 2014 American Orchid Society Members' Meeting and Show April 30th through May 4th, 2014. This event will be held in conjunction with meetings and events of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, Slipper Orchid Alliance, International Phalaenopsis Alliance, Pleurothallid Alliance and Angraecoid Alliance. The website is up with full information at www.orchidsagrowingobsession.com.

The event headquarters is the Doubletree by Hilton located at I-494 and Hwy 100 in Bloomington, Minnesota. They offer complimentary airport shuttle service to and from the Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport (MSP Terminals 1 and 2). All events are located in this hotel which has free guest parking. Guest rooms will be available at a reduced rate of \$99 while they last in the reserved room block prior to the cutoff date of April 8, 2014. This rate is available for three days before and three days after the show dates for those who wish to extend their stay. There are numerous restaurants near the hotel including TGIFridays (in the same parking lot). The hotel is located on the "494 Strip" of Bloomington with many more restaurants and shopping nearby... including the Mall of America. The hotel does offer complimentary shuttle service to the Mall of America for its registered guests. Following is the hotel reservation link. No password or code is needed:

<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/OSM2014> If you prefer to call, their number is 952-835-7800.

The keynote address will be given by Chris Purver of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation. The speaker line-up includes Jerry Fischer, Alan Koch, Carlos Fighetti, Jason Fischer, Russ Vernon, Cordelia Head, Harry Phillips and Kathy Creger. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to hear the top names in orchids share their knowledge.

Our Exhibition Chair is Joe Acebo. Exhibitor setup will begin Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m., April 30th. Plant and Exhibit Registration will be open on Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. We encourage your participation in this AOS-judged show by staging an exhibit showcasing your member's growing efforts and creativity. Exhibits should follow the class structure as set forth in the current MAOC Show Schedule. We will provide you with table-top or floor space as your needs require, and we can discuss any other needs you might have once you've confirmed your participation. Space is limited so please contact Joe directly at joeacebo@charter.net.

Our Vendor Sales Chair is Ross Hella. Sales will open Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m. with the Preview Party. As of January 2014, our vendor spaces are full; however you may contact Ross at hellapad@dishmail.net with inquiries. Vendors include Andy's, Deerwood, Cal-Orchids, Gold Country, Ingram's Better Books, J&L, Natt's, New Vision, Orchids Ltd, Orchidabilia, RK Gems, and art work by Jacque Rosenau & Kathy Creger and more. This will be an AOS judged show with Ribbon Judging on Thursday morning, May 1st, followed by the AOS Judges' Luncheon at noon and AOS Judging at 1:00 pm. The Preview Party is Thursday evening beginning at 7:00 p.m. This year's theme is "tropical casual"... so wear your favorite Hawaiian orchid shirt and relax!

The Show & Sales area will be open to the public Friday, Saturday and Sunday (May 2-4) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We are offering the public a \$1 off general admission coupon at numerous locations and on our web site.

Beginners' Lectures will be offered on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Full Participant Registration includes the Preview Party, AOS & MAOC Auctions and access to all lectures and meetings as well as the show and sales areas. There will be a Banquet following the Auction on Saturday evening at the hotel. This promises to be a pleasurable & entertaining evening and we certainly hope you will join in the fun.

For show registration, go to www.orchidsagrowingobsession.com and click on the Registration tab.

Please be sure to read the instructions/hints before you begin your registration process.

Come join us at this don't miss event!

Kim Livingston

Show Chair

Cincinnati Judging Center – The April date is Sunday the 13th. You will note this is the second Sunday of the month. We are lucky enough to have an AOS Judging Center right here in Cincinnati. They meet the second Sunday of every month at the Civic Garden Center. Judging starts at 1:00 PM & observers are always welcome.

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 the site.

AOS "Orchids" magazine – "Orchids" magazine is sent to all American Orchid Society members each month and we encourage all GCOS members to join our national affiliate organization (www.aos.org).

December – Front cover – *Habenaria rhodocheila* photographed by Rick Noel! He is one of the best photographers around. He has had many of his photos in the AOS over the years & he has not been the GCOS official photographer for that long. "For the Novice" tells about the good & bad effects of winter on our orchids & how to cope with them. Next we are told that giving orchids for gifts is a good idea – DUH! We always seem to feel the need to share our passion. It also tells us how to notice some of the winter effects on ourselves, environments & plants. The "Genus of the Month" is *Dendrophylax: Tales from the Cryptic*". This is a genus of leafless orchids which includes the wonderful *Dendrophylax (Polyparrhiza or Polyradicion) lindenii* from Florida & Cuba, among other beautiful species. The "Collector's Item" is *Trisetella hoeijeri* a TINY (1 inch tall) Pleurothallid with 1½ - 2 inch tall wire-like inflorescences holding crystalline white flowers with a span of 2 or more inches & looking like flying birds. The "Spotlight" is on photography. "For the third year, we present a selection of the finest orchid photography in the world". Photos are submitted via the web & one is chosen out of the pool each week to be featured on the AOS website. The best of these best are printed here and Rick Noel has his photo of HIS plant, *Habenaria medusa*, in the mix. Told you he was good! "Orchids of Bhutan: *Epipogium*", is a genus long considered saprophytic but more likely parasitic. "Living With the Giants" is about some of the very large *Bulbophyllums* like *phalaenopsis* and *fletcherianum*. These are interesting plants with blooms that are pretty IF you have a really bad cold and can't smell anything – the flowers have an odor similar to the Devil's Tongue that was behind us at the potting bee this weekend. PHEW! But the plants are big and beautiful and you can always cut off the inflorescence. "Orchid Evolution" says "Leave it to the Leaves". Probably one third of the plants we have we have because the foliage or pseudobulbs or growth habit are interesting – after all, you see these features a lot more than the flowers. But they use the leaves for insight into the evolutionary history.

January – In some issues they have an article for "Kid's Corner". This month it is about a game ("Orchid Hunt") that could be made for kids to do at a show. Don't know if we would like to try it or not, we don't seem to have a bunch of kids at the show that I know of but it is easy-ish to make up. Might be something to think about. The "Genus of the Month" is *Rhynchostylis*, a group of plants liking lots of light (they are related to *Vandas*) but will also grow, though slower, under lower light conditions especially if summered outside. They all have wonderfully fragrant flowers. *Angraecum longicalcar* is featured as the "Collector's Item". The article is about the the efforts to keep it from going completely extinct in the wilds of Madagascar. There is also some tips on growing this large plant if you're lucky enough o find one for sale. "For the Novice" is about water quality. We all know that the Greater Cincinnati area's water is VERY, VERY hard. It gives alternatives to the nasty tap water. *Cattleya (Sophronitis) coccinea* Culture is the next article. The writer grows his in high quality sphagnum moss. The tips for growing in moss are useful for all plants you wish to grow in it. Just be sure you use HIGH QUALITY New Zealand moss. An OLD *Cattleya* (and it is still actually a *Cattleya*!) hybrid, gets its own article

next. Cattleya Triumphans was first flowered in 1904 after much difficulty getting the parents to the growers & hybridizers in Europe. The "Spotlight" is on Cattleya dowiana var. rosita. This is a variety of one of the parents of Cattleya Triumphans. The article "Pretty Parasites" is about the genus Corallorhiza, or "coralroot". A lot of these are small, & let's face it, ugly flowers but not all of them. The last one is on orchid fossils which makes sense since they are one of the oldest groups of flowering plants.

February – The "For the Novice" section may not be of much help to us here in Cincinnati – the writer lives in Hawaii, 3 miles from the beach. Not much in common with us, I think. The "Genus of the Month" is the colorful, incomparable Compactia. They are related to the Oncidiums and not that difficult to grow but difficult to keep for long periods of time – they may just be one of those short-lived genera. The "Collector's Item" is a plant most of us "old timers" have had at one time or another, Guarianthe (Cattleya) skinneri. It is well worth the space with its 3 ½ inch flowers. On page 86 is an example of a well-flowered plant – the leaves aren't even visible. It looks almost like an Azalea in bloom! The next article is on Miltoniopsis vexillaria. This is one of the key species in the breeding of modern Miltoniopsis or "pansy orchids". They require a cooler environment than most of us can provide here in Summer but Larry Sanford does them quite well. "Trekking in Nepal" sounds like wonderful fun. As much fun as it is trekking around Ohio looking for orchids, a "tropical" or other type search is that much more fun. I have trudged around in the swamps of Florida & never been happier to be chest-deep in water with alligators, snakes & bugs!

Every month – And if the articles & pictures don't get you the ads certainly will!!

Volunteer opportunities – just tell us what you're interested in and we will get you plugged in. These are the jobs we need to have filled as soon as we can. You will find a longer list on the back of the 2013 membership form.

_____ **Hospitality** (those goodies we all love to eat) at meetings and shows

_____ **Registering plants for shows** – Assisting & learning how to register plants for shows, both at home & away – the biggest qualification for this job is not being afraid of all of those orchid names!

_____ **Show Chair** – Assisting and learning how to chair/organize an AOS sanctioned orchid show

We always welcome input on speakers, field trips, newsletter items, beginner culture group & other program options so please share your ideas with any member of the Board (see top of newsletter for names).

Wisdom from the Prez – As I write we are having a lovely shower, snow shower that is. Can it be that April is upon us? Most be, the daffy dills and phals are in bloom. At least I can see at shows that the phals are doing their thing. As are the paphs and phrags. All the things we can't grow and don't have room for if we could. It's nice to see them at shows, speaking of which we have two more coming up. One in Columbus this coming weekend and nother in Indy the third weekend in April. Hope some of you can make it to one of the out of town shows. Always fun to get to know other people from other societies. And of course visiting the venders is good too! As we wind down from show season it's good to remember all our volunteers that did such a great job at our show. Getting people in and out, great food, setting up and tear down. All the jobs that need doing that you all step up to do. Thank you. See all at the meeting. Take care. Keep happy thoughts.

All for now—Da Prez