

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

www.cincinnatiorchids.org

March 2014 Newsletter

Board of Directors

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Before the meeting we have the first weekend of the Cincinnati Home & Garden Show. Brian Spitler is in charge of this event again (thank you, Brian!) & needs members to stand by the display & talk to people about growing orchids. It is an easy gig because you're just talking about something you love. You don't need to be an "expert" grower, just answer the simple questions. And if they have questions that seem complicated, refer them to another person at the display &/or tell them to go to the show just 2 weeks away at Krohn Conservatory. People are needed on Saturday March 1st from 10:30 AM – 9:00 PM and Sunday from 10:30 AM – 6:00 PM. If you can help, please contact Brian at 513-321-1362 or publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org. We will need people for the following weekend, also, starting Friday March 7 from 5 – 9 PM and the same hours for Saturday & Sunday.

We're going to try this meeting thing **again** this month. No predictions about the weather this time.

The next meeting of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, March 4, 2014. 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. 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 – March – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM. The program this month will be the first of or two part programs intended to provide something interesting for everyone regardless of orchid growing level. The first part will discuss the important culture elements, watering and fertilizer. The second part will discuss culture for "wet growing orchids". This includes genera such as Lycaste, Huntleya, Stanhopea, Phragmipedium etc.

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.

March Speaker – The March program will be on growing orchids in a terrarium and will be presented by Glen Evans. Here's your chance to learn to grow in your own miniature greenhouse. It can even work in your garage - why waste all that space on a car. Glen is an accredited judge with the Cincinnati center.

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>.

MVOS Spring Show – The Miami Valley Orchid Society is having their spring show the weekend of February 15th & 16th with set up on Friday the 14th at Cox Arboretum. We will need your blooming orchids for the GCOS display. (Unless you're Barry Jones & put in a display of orchid plants OUT OF BLOOM!) We also need someone to take those blooming orchids up to Cox Arboretum & arrange them into a beautiful display & someone to go up on Sunday the 16th to take the display down & bring the plants back. Of course, the Miami Valley Orchid Society needs people to come see the show & buy plants. There is a map to Cox Arboretum attached (I HOPE) to this newsletter.

Home & Garden Show – The GCOS will once again have a display at the Home and Garden Show downtown to advertise the upcoming show and to recruit new members. We'll need plenty of volunteers to greet people and answer questions at the booth. The show runs from Saturday March 1st through Sunday March 9th but we will only be there for the weekends. Brian Spittler is organizing again this year so if you can help please contact Brian 513-321-1362 or bspittler@cinci.rr.com.

GCOS Spring Show – Our show is the weekend of March 15th and 16th with set-up on Friday March 14th. Alexa, our spring show chair, has sent out an email looking for people to sign up for set-up, clerking, trophy sponsorships, food donations (and we all do like to eat all weekend), membership table, etc. We will have plenty of vendors with truly awesome plants for sale, as always. We look forward to seeing all of you for the weekend.

Spring Potting Bee – Two weeks after our show is the semi-annual Potting Bee at Krohn Conservatory. This is the same weekend as the COOS show (see below) but it is a good chance to reach out to some of the people who need us most to keep their orchids growing strong. The hours are 1 – 5 on Sunday March 30th. If you feel like repotting some orchids that aren't your own, please come join us.

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.

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.

Dues are due NOW – Your 2014 dues are due as of January 1st. I know we haven't had a lot of chances to pay them at meetings but here's the form.

Spring MAOC & AOS Meeting – The following email was received by Da Prez (aka, Barry Jones) & he asked me to include in newsletter.

Kim Livingston here... Show Chair for the Spring 2014 AOS Meeting & Show. Your society had an exhibit at this event here in 2005. I'm contacting you in hopes that you can help me get some information out to encourage attendance at this event – and possibly a display. Below is an informational message about the show. Could you send out to your members to help us get the word out? Your help would be much appreciated.

Please let me know if you have any questions. I hope to see you there! (it's going to be a good one!)

Kim

Kim Livingston
Show Chair

Orchids A Growing Obsession

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 February date is Sunday the 9th. 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).

September – (Eddie finally for me so here goes.) In the front of the issues these days there is a Pronunciation Guide for most of the genera and species names in that issue. Not that means we will all be pronouncing the names better but they're trying. "A Scaly Problem" has pictures, descriptions and controls for some nasty little buggers. The genus of the month is Rossioglossum. Most came from the genus Odontoglossum years ago but they have also added some from other genera like Oncidium ampliatum. Ampliatum is a typical big-lipped yellow and brown Oncidium. I'm sorry, I just don't see what that has in common with something like Rossioglossum grande or rossii, maybe I never will. Aerangis disticta has a very beautiful and distinct plant and flower. Like most Angeacoids the flower is mostly white but has tan tips to the sepals and spur. Part 7 of the Paphiopedilum in China, by Holger Perner, is about Subgenus Paphiopedilum Section Barbata. Some really nice photos in this one. "In Search of the Star of Africa" shows some of the distinct species (and landscapes) of South Africa. This is to whet your appetite in preparation for the 21st World Orchid Conference in September of this year. The four species of Paraphaleanopsis and some of their hybrids are the subject of the next article. I

love these odd-looking plants and flowers. *Cattleya crispa*, first imported to England in 1826, is still a popular species for its willingness to bloom so profusely. The Orchid Evolution article this month is about different color forms of a terrestrial genus, *Calanthe*.

November – The first thing you see in this issue is an article on how to grow one of my favorite orchids, *Rossioglossum grande*. On the opposite page is a pronunciation guide. Further into the issue you'll find an odd title to an article, "End of Year Slugfest". I always thought "fest" was an abbreviation for "festival" & I can't think of anything festive about slugs & snails, but they give a few methods of prevention & protection. They suggest getting up very early in the morning & checking your plants for these pests but Eddie does it at night & uses a headlamp so both hands are free to lift up plants & leaves. The Orchid of the Month is "*Pterostylis*" (tare-oh-STYE-liss according to the pronunciation guide). They are a very different-looking genus of terrestrial orchids. Next is *Vanda lamellata* var. *boxallii* & some of its hybrids. One of Jan Yates' favorite genera is next, *Schomburgkia*. For those of us who are overwhelmed by all of the moving/renaming/dropping/adding of names of different genera, this one has been a pain since 1917! They have been known as *Schomburgkia*, *Myrmecophila*, *Cattleya*, *Laelia*, *Bletia*, and *Epidendrum*. The flowers I picture from each of these genera are nothing alike and you just have to wonder what they were smoking at the time. After that is one of Steve Helbling and Larry Sanford's favorites, *Cycnoches*. Following is Part 8 of the series "*Paphiopedilum* in China", by Holger Perner, one of the speakers at our MAOC last October. There is an article reflecting and picturing some of the damage done by Hurricane Sandy. The last one is on orchid evolution called, "Part X: Dealing with an Unequal Relationship The One-Sided Dependency of Euglossine-Pollinated Orchids on Their Bee Pollinators". Despite the daunting sound of the title it is an interesting article.

December – (Uh, you're not going to believe this but I can't find the December issue now. It's been one of those weeks).

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 – Maybe. Just maybe we will get to have a meeting this month. I have seen the blue bird of happiness this past couple of weeks, though he was not too happy when the snows for the Dayton show came calling. Why do they have to have snow for their show? Luckily we never have snow or bad weather for our March show!! Which is galloping towards us as we speak. We need you!!!! To sign up: for hospitality, for clerking, for talking with people. We need your help in making this another great show. Brain also needs your help at the Home and Garden Show this weekend and next. He can't do it alone. We will also setup a display at the Civic Gardens after the meeting to advertize the show for the would be gardeners out there. There are so many ways to help so help yourselves. Remember to help someone who ain't you. Take care. Keep good thoughts.

All for now—Da Prez