

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

www.cincinnatiorchids.org

May 2014 Newsletter

Board of Directors

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The next meeting of the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, May 6, 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 – 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.

Beginners Class – June – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM.

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>.

June Speaker – Program will be presented by Ken Mettler. Many of us have visited Ken at his home in the Hocking Hills area to see native orchids. Program topic is still TBA but I'm sure it will be interesting.

Beginners' Group Repotting Party – Alice and Wilson Palmer are hosting this spring's Beginners Repotting Party. We'll start at 2:30. No formal end, just sometime after we eat. Meat will be provided (thanks Alice and Wilson) but plan to bring some sort of dish for a pot luck. We'll be repotting the orchids you bring. Also try and bring pots and repotting media if you can. Come and get to know the others in the group better. That makes it a whole lot more fun.

Central Ohio Orchid Society show – The COOS show results are on another attachment.

Annual Ohio Valley Seminar – The Seminar is scheduled for Saturday July 12, 2014. As always it will be held at the Civic Garden Center from 9AM to 4PM. We will have two great speakers. Roger Cole of Orchids Dominica will speak on Equitant Oncidiums (those of you that prefer the "new" names will know these as "Tolumnias") & Oncidium Onustum Hybrids. Brenda Oviatt of Botanica Ltd will present on Angraecoid Orchids: Keeping a Piece of Nature Alive. There will be lots of plants for sale. Plant sales begin at 9AM with first lecture at 10AM. There will also be an auction of select plants to benefit the Cincinnati Judging Center. If you have plants to donate, please contact Jan Yates. Cost for the seminar is \$15 per person. Lunches can be preordered at \$6.75 to \$7.50 per meal. To ensure a box lunch, orders must be received by July 7, 2014. For registration information contact Jan Yates. There will also be registration forms available at the meetings in May & June.

Membership Renewal! Alice Palmer has agreed to take care of Membership! 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 May 6 meeting. The membership list is being printed &/or emailed SOON!

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.

Cincinnati Judging Center – The May date is Sunday the 11th. 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 Supplement – There was a supplement in the plain white wrapper that contained the December issue. It is called "Lost Treasures from the Golden Age of Orchids" and it contains pictures of some of the paintings collected by Ben Singer. These are wonderfully painted and contain a variety of genera from Cattleyas to Oncidiums, to Promeneas, to Renantheras.

March – The "For the Novice" is trying to demystify reverse osmosis. There is a Special Report about the "Super Slipper Celebration in Pittsburgh". This was held last October just before our MAOC. Tom Mirenda's "March: The Month of the Zombies" talks about the "healing & life-affirming" qualities of growing orchids. I have to agree that it does make a difference in all that cold & snow to have growing & blooming things all around you. The "Genus of the Month" is from Australia. It is a genus which contains the truly blue orchids. Of course, there are other colors, too, including lime green, red-brown & orange, red-brown & yellow, fuchsia with purple spots & yellow-green with brown spots. SO BEAUTIFUL! Schoenorchis buddleiflora is called "The Wisteria Orchid" because it looks like a very miniature upside-down Wisteria bush. The genus Schoenorchis has a range of sizes from very miniature (my kind of plant!) to relatively large epiphytic orchids. Dendrobium speciosum ("The Great Dendrobium") is HUGE. A well-grown specimen plant can produce racemes of over three feet long with hundreds of white to gold intoxicatingly fragrant flowers. Spectacular, but a little big for me. "Orchids Near Cape Town" describes some of the beautiful orchids that will be in bloom at the time of the 21st World Orchid Conference to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, in September 2014. ROAD TRIP! The "Spotlight" is on Bartholina etheliae and an intriguing photograph. "Wet Walls" talks about enhancing your growing area. The practice of making "wet walls" though is considerably easier in a greenhouse than in your home – those pesky non-orchid-loving spouses get unhappy when you start things like thaticking plants at in their house!"Adventures in Misidentified Orchids" might have been written by my husband, Eddie, since the author talks about buying the obscure little species at shows & on line.

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

Wisdom from the Prez – Good thing Dana sent me a minder for the newsletter cause I like totally forgot. Too much thinking of golf season which leads to Getting Orchids Outside Season. Yes, t'is time to get your outdoor growing area in shape for another season. A bit chill still for most orchids but there be some that love the cool days and cooler nights. Most pleurothillids come from this sort of area. The cymbidiums too will like it. Nobel dendrobiums and dendrobiums that have flowers that look like kingianum think this really nice, reminds them of home. But just like us give them outside sun carefully. They sunburn too! Also keep a blankee close by just in case Jack Frost comes nipping at our doors. When in doubt don't take them out. Will time to get ready for my Thursday goofy golf. Hope this finds you all full of fun and thinking of sun. Take care and look both ways crossing the streets of life.

All for now—Da Prez