



The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

<https://cincinnatiorchids.org>

January 2021 Newsletter

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society hopes everyone is staying healthy. Be sure to catch all the changes to our activities as we social distance. While we normally meet at the Civic Garden Center, we plan, at present, to meet online with Zoom. We will be emailing Zoom meeting information for our society and for other societies as they offer their meetings to our members. We are also sharing members' orchids with an online Show-and-Tell.

Presidents Note

Greetings

Winter is here and so is a New Year. I hope the New Year allows us to get together more often in friendship and talk orchids among other things to one another as we used to do before this crazy virus arrived on our doorsteps.

Many planned events for 2021 are still scaled back. Our society board members will do everything we can to plan events that are fun but still safe to enjoy by our orchid community. Your ideas are always welcome in making our society a better one. A special thanks goes out to our new board members for stepping up to the plate and volunteering their time to keep our society running smoothly.

We are continuing Zoom meetings for several months. We hope to meet in person again if we are given the green light to do so by our local Health Officials and the Civic Garden Center. We will keep you posted for updates.

Please read the upcoming newsletters, emails and website for society updates. Let's hope we get back to normal ASAP. Until next time, Happy Orchid Growing and Good Health.



Guaricattonia Michael Sampson

Photo by Rick Noel

GCOS January Meeting

Our January meeting will again be on Zoom starting at 6:30. Eric Sauer will be speaking on “Best plants to Buy and Yes You Can Know What You Are Going to Get” He will have plants for an auction after the talk. Pictures of auction plants are below.

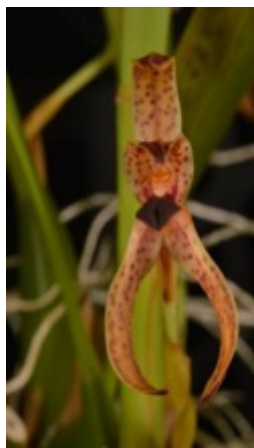
Eric has been growing orchids for over 30 years and specializes in South American Species. He has spoken internationally and across the United States. Eric recently had culture chapters published by Guido Braem in his book on *Paphiopedilums* and his book on *Phragmipediums*. He also has several of his *Maxillaria* photos published in Eric Christenson's book on *Maxillaria*. Eric has received over 85 awards from the American Orchid Society and has three orchids named after him including two species from Ecuador. He regularly works with other *Maxillaria* aficionados around the world to better understand the genus. Eric's real job is as a registered landscape architect and is the planning manager for Five Rivers MetroParks in Dayton, Ohio.

Auction Plants

Maxillaria variabilis – (Min \$15) (2.5” pot- Blooming sized division)



Maxillaria meleagris (Min \$20) (2.5” pot- blooming sized division)



Maxillaria sophronitis
(Min \$20) (3" pot-
Blooming Size)



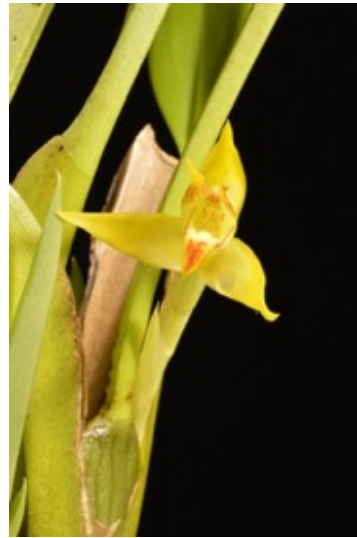
Bulbophyllum scaberulum – (Min \$20) 5" Pot -
Division



Maxillaria buchtienii
(Min\$30) (4" POT-
Blooming size plant)



Maxillaria chlorantha (Min \$25) (3" pot- Blooming size Plant)



Maxillaria hennisiana (Min \$25) (3" pot- Blooming size)



Maxillaria sanguinea (Min \$25) (3" pot- Blooming size)



Pleurothallis stricta (Min \$10) (1.5" pot- Near blooming size keiki)



Phragmipedium Leslie Garay (Min \$35) (4" pot- Near blooming size) (*caudatum* x *longifolium*)



GCOS January 5 Zoom Meeting Login

Time: Jan 5, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82683900046?pwd=WDE5b0tWZUFGncGxmVjRmL1ZjeVV2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 826 8390 0046

Passcode: 391838

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,82683900046#,,,,*391838# US (New York)

+13017158592,,82683900046#,,,,*391838# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

- +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 826 8390 0046

Passcode: 391838

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82683900046>

MVOS Show

MVOS Spring Show is, for now, planned for February 13th and 14th. There will be changes in the show due to COVID. It will be held in a new larger venue with one entrance and one exit and one direction for the people to admire the displays and visit the vendors. We will also limit the number of people allowed in the show at any given time. COVID could cause this to be cancelled and final decisions will be made by end of January.

GCOS Board Meeting

The next Zoom board meeting will be 7:00 pm Tuesday, January 26. Anyone can attend board meetings. If interested in attending contact Jeanne Rhinehart at jeanws@me.com.

GCOS Membership 2021

Because of the effects on finances of many people as a result of the pandemic and loss of employment, GCOS is extending the membership of those who joined GCOS at the Spring Show for the 2021 season. We are also willing to waive fees for members next year if needed. We are encouraging those who can afford it to continue to financially support GCOS. All will need to complete the membership application for 2021. The membership form is at the end of the newsletter. You can fill it out and send a photo of it to Dave Allen. We would greatly appreciate knowing who still wants to remain a member of GCOS. This enables us to update our email list.

Your Orchid Photos on Our Web

If you want to send to send your photos with a short description and the name of the plant and your name to Jeanne Rhinehart jeanws@me.com.

Cincinnati Judging Center

January Judging will not take place in person. Business meeting and presentation by Teresa Huesman on "*Lepanthes*, Awarded and Used in Breeding" will be over Zoom January 10 at 11 am. Anyone wishing to attend, contact Glenn Evans at glenn.f.evans.09@gmail.com.

Orchid of the Month – Holiday Orchids and Orchid Symbolism

- Jeanne Rhinehart

2020 will go down in our memories as a very tough year. We have all had to make sacrifices to protect ourselves and our loved ones. The ending of the year and the beginning of a new, and hopefully better, year allows for reflection on the past and anticipation for the future. Throughout history flowers and especially orchids have reflected meaning and hope with various cultures.

In looking for an orchid to use, there was only one orchid with New Year in its name, Onc. Hilo Firecracker 'New Year' from Akatsuka Orchid Gardens in Hawaii. There are seven orchids called Christmas Orchid around the world. They make up our January Orchid Puzzle below. The importance of orchids in the celebration of Chinese New Year or the Lunar New Year which is celebrated in many Asian countries appeared several times in the searches. It occurs in January or February and lasts for seven days



In Chinese culture, orchids play a major part in the Chinese New Year. Flowers and fruits hold special significance and given as gifts at this time and have symbolic meanings. They have long been symbolic of 'many children' or fertility and abundance. In Chinese feng shui, orchids are thought to be one of the luckiest plants to use in arrangement of the items in the living space. They are thought to bring peace, success, harmony to the home or business. Orchids are a popular gift to married couples symbolizing unity, driving away evil spirits and bringing fertility and abundance. They also signify refinement, luxury and innocence – a valuable and lucky gift! Prized in Japanese culture as a sign of wealth, prosperity and loyalty, they also can be found in temples, as offerings and in pictures painted into scrolls.

Orchid symbolism includes their color. White orchids symbolize purity and innocence; pink: grace, joy and femininity; yellow friendship; purple: royalty, admiration, respect; orange: pride and boldness; red: passion, desire, strength and courage; green: good fortune and blessings; and blue which is exceedingly rare, represent spirituality and rarity.

Not only are orchids important and symbolic in celebrating the Lunar New Year but have also been important throughout history.

Orchids are one of the oldest families of flowering plants found in fossils from the Mesozoic Era 25-66 million years ago and exist today on all continents except Antarctica. Orchid refers to the diverse botanical family Orchidaceae one of the two largest families of flowering plants. and was named by the English botanist John Lindley in 1845.

The name orchid comes from the Greek word "orchis". The Greek botanist Theophrastus thought their underground tubers resemble testicles which is the meaning of the Greek word orchis. Classical Greek mythology tells the story of Orchis (the offspring of a satyr and a nymph). Apparently when visiting Bacchus, the Greek God of Wine, Orchis' behavior with some of the young maidens so angered

Bacchus that he chopped Orchis into little pieces and scattered him over the world. An orchid sprouted up anywhere a piece of Orchis landed. When his testicles were scattered into the sea foam the Goddess Aphrodite was born.

The first record of orchids was about 300 B.C. in “Inquiry into Plants” written by Theophrastus who was a student of Aristotle. The Greeks thought orchids symbolized virility. Dioscorides, a first century A.D. Greek medical botanist and physician, clearly identified orchids in his writing, De Materia Medica”. He thought orchids were able to influence the sex of an unborn child. The father would eat large orchid tubers for a boy and the mother would eat smaller tubers for a girl.

Although the Chinese cultivated orchids for over 3,000 years, they were only brought to Europe from the Far East for the first time in the 1600’s. They were not only cultivated for their beauty and symbolism but were important in Chinese medicine – treating everything including respiratory, digestive, kidney and eye diseases. Confucius grew orchids and wrote poetry about them.

Once Europeans saw them, orchids became in demand by the rich. During the Victorian era, orchids were a display of luxury and refinement by the elite and royalty. Orchids symbolized a woman’s beauty. Men presented them to women they fancied. The rarer the orchid was, the more in love they were and the purer their intentions were. In Europe in the 1700’s and 1800’s orchids were used in aphrodisiacs and love potions. The Aztecs thought the vanilla orchid mixed with chocolate would promote strength and power.

Today there are estimated to be over 30,000 recognized orchid species and about 120,00 hybrids. Orchids were being raised from seed by 1802 and by 1856, the first cultivated hybrid was developed. About 99% of orchids are available for cultivation with only 1% of orchids in inaccessible habitats.

The fragrances of some orchid flowers are used in perfumes and beauty products. Vanilla beans are dried and used as a flavoring and many orchid flowers are edible. We have recent cultural symbols still occurring. Orchids are the gift for the 14th wedding anniversary, and April 16th has recently been named National Orchid Day.

With orchids having so many attributes how we can resist adding just a few more to our collection!

January’s Puzzle of the Month “Christmas Orchids” Around the World

There are several orchids from around the world that are called the “Christmas Orchid” or have Christmas in their name. Match the flower with its name and where it is from.

<i>Cattleya trianae</i> Christmas Orchid Columbia	<i>Dendrobium lawesii</i> The Christmas Bell Papua New Guinea	Venezuelan Christmas orchid <i>Cattleya percivaliana</i>
<i>Angraecum sesquipedale</i> Christmas Orchid	Christmas Orchid in New Zealand	<i>Artorima erubescens</i> The Christmas Flower

Star of Bethlehem	<i>Dendrobium cunninghamii</i>	Mexico
<i>Calanthe triplicata</i> The Christmas Lily Madagascar, Australia, to Southern Asia		



November Orchid Puzzle of the Month Solution



Phantom Orchid, *Cephalanthera austinae*



Mediocalcar decoratum



Hairy Shadow Witch, *Ponthieva racemosa*



Cattlianthe Trick or Treat



Ghost Orchid, *Dendrophylax lindenii*,



Dracula vampira

American Orchid Society Webinars

You must register. <https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>



Greenhouse Chat January 2021

Ron McHutton

Thursday, January 7th, 2021
8:30pm EST

Orchid Q & A



Mounting Orchids

Michael Coronado

Wednesday, January 13th, 2021
8:30pm EST

Learn how to mount your orchids.



Speakers Day

Five Experts

Saturday, February 6th, 2021
11:00 AM EST

Top growers offer culture tips.

GCOS Social Media

GCOS Facebook Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/687922501752919/>

GCOS Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=greater%20cincinnati%20orchid%20society&epa=SEARCH_BOX

Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Board of Directors

President	John Jaworski	Director	Syndi Wilhelm
Vice President	Joel Mattes	Director	Laura McFarland
Secretary	Jeanne Rhinehart	Director	Steve Helbling
Treasurer	Dana White	Director	Roger Miller
Past President.	Barry Jones		

Contact us at info@cincinnatiorchids.org

THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

2021 Membership Application

Please Print

By GCOS Board decision, all 2020 members will automatically have their memberships extended through 2021. Although dues for 2021 are optional, regular dues and/or contributions are gratefully accepted. Judicious management of GCOS funds over the years has provided adequate fiscal stability to carry us through these “bumpy” times.

We do ask that every member complete the 2021 form with updated information. We will have a new membership chair and he/she will need it. Thank you.

DATE	
NAME	
Names in family membership	
STREET ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE, ZIP	
PHONE #1	
PHONE #2	
E-MAIL ADDRESS PLEASE PRINT	

Unless you ask us not to, we include your information on a membership roster that is sent to other GCOS members and to the American Orchid Society (AOS). This chapter is an affiliate of AOS.

	RATE	YOUR PAYMENT
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP	\$25	
FAMILY MEMBERSHIP	\$30	
STUDENT MEMBERSHIP	\$10	
DONATIONS, to support GCOS (identify any restrictions)		
	YOUR TOTAL:	

You may join/renew your membership in one of two ways:

- 1) Mail the form to: Dave Allen, 3899 Sandtrap Circle, Mason, OH 45040
- 2) Take a photo of the form and email to dallen47@gmail.com

If you want to make a donation or pay for membership, you can send a check to Dave Allen or pay online via Paypal at the society's website: <http://www.cincinnatiorchids.org>

Our mission is to create and stimulate knowledge and interest in orchids and their culture, to demonstrate orchid culture to the public, and to preserve orchid biodiversity both in nature and cultivation by enthusiasts.

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) tax exempt organization. Dues and donations to us are tax deductible for most people who itemize their deductions.