



The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress
<http://www.midamericanorchids.org>

Fall 2017

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Save the Date!

Meet us in Strongsville, OH, for the Spring MAOC, April 28-29, 2018



We hope to see you in Strongsville, OH, at the Mid-America Orchid Congress meeting in conjunction with the West Shore Orchid Society Show, April 28-29, 2018.

For more details about the show and meetings, speaker info, schedule, and to register, please go to pages 12-13, or visit <http://www.westshoreorchidsociety.org>

A Message from Your President

It is a great honor to serve as President of the Mid-America Orchid Congress for the next two years. I have been “living the history” of this



organization since 1974.

First, I would like to thank Doug Hartong for his service to the organization as President. I plan on bending his ear for advice during

my term. I also want to thank First Vice President Jim Newsome, Second Vice President Alexa Noel, Secretary Cheryl Erins, and Treasurer Michele Little for their past and continuing service. Former Past President Doris Asher will be hearing from me a lot as well. The Congress has a long history of service to its member societies. This has been due to the active, well run and well attended working committees that support the goals and mission of the Congress. I also want to thank the committee chairs and their members that make our organization the longest continually operating regional orchid congress in the USA.

During my many years of associating and attending Congress events, it has always been informative, entertaining, memorable, a banquet for the orchid eye and especially well worth the time to be with great orchid people. I encourage you and your orchid friends to attend the next Congress meeting, show, orchid lectures, orchid vendors and auction April 28-29, in Strongsville, Ohio. Take a little extra time to visit some of the great cultural and sports attractions in the Cleveland area. Believe me, it will be well worth your time attending. Again, thank you for the honor of serving as your President.

Most sincerely, Russ Vernon
President, Mid-America Orchid Congress

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Fall Business Meeting Minutes Draft
Cincinnati, OH, October 22, 2017

(NOTE: This is a draft subject to approval at the Spring 2018 Congress. Corrections should be sent to Cheryl Erins: cerins10812@comcast.net)

Call to Order –

Call to Order: Substituting for President Doug Hartong, Vice President Alexa Noel called the



meeting to order at 9:15 am., appropriately topped in a wizard's hat. She thanked all for coming and thanked the Martins for their hard work and the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society for their excellent

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cooperation in this event. She then asked Secretary Cheryl Erins to call the roll.

Secretary's Report – Secretary Cheryl Erins called



the roll, and the following affiliated societies were present:

Alabama Orchid Society
Atlanta Orchid Society
Batavia Orchid Society
Blue Grass Orchid Society
Central Indiana Orchid Society
Central Ohio Orchid Society
Eastern Iowa Orchid Society
Greater Omaha Orchid Society

Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society
Greater Lansing Orchid Society
Greater Pensacola Orchid Society
Gulf Coast Orchid Society
Huntsville Orchid Society
Kentucky Orchid Society
Memphis Orchid Society
Miami Valley Orchid Society
Mobile Area Orchid Society
Niagara Frontier Orchid Society
Northeast Alabama Orchid Society
Northland Orchid Society
Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City Orchid
Society of Middle Tennessee
Orchid Society of Minnesota
Orchid Society of the Ozarks
Peoria Orchid Society
Smoky Mountain Orchid Society
South Metro Orchid Society
West Shore Ohio Orchid Society

Absent:

Ann Arbor Orchid Society
Central Ohio Orchid Society
Central Iowa Orchid Society
Central Ontario Orchid Society
Central Kentucky Orchid Society
Central Missouri Orchid Society
Essex County (Ontario) Orchid Society
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
Greater Akron Orchid Society
Illinois Orchid Society
Greater Toledo Orchid Society
Grand Valley Orchid Society
Illowa Orchid Society
London Orchid Society
Mansfield Orchid Society
Michiana Orchid Society
Michigan Orchid Society
Northeastern Wisconsin Orchid Society
Northwestern Michigan Orchid Society
Orchid Growers Guild of Madison
Orchid Society of Gr. St. Louis
Orchid Society/the Royal Botanic Garden
Paducah Orchid Society
Saginaw Valley Orchid Society
Springfield Orchid Society
South Mississippi Orchid Society
Three Rivers Orchid Society
Windsor Orchid Society
Wisconsin Orchid Society

Approval of Minutes: Vice President Alexa Noel asked if there were any corrections to the draft minutes of the spring Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska. There being none, motion to approve passed. The minutes will be posted on the website.

Treasurer Report: Treasurer Michelle Little



read the report and noted that the auction had netted \$2,278 and the raffle (auction 2 now designated) had netted \$255 so far but that the final amount will be announced at the end of the meeting

after last minute checks are received. Unpaid societies were Illinois and Michiana. The others paid at the meeting. Doug Martin asked how much was in unrestricted funds, and Michelle reported \$51,758.00. There were 42 registrants for this event. Motion to approve passed.

Committee Reports:

Affiliated Societies: Chair Mary Beth Mansour reported she, Roberta



Ginavan, Jim Newsome, Judith Rapacz, Sue Charles and Donna Lipowicz met on October 20 at the Crowne Plaza. The topic of the breakfast meeting was

“Managing the Finances of your Society.” Only two societies are now unpaid for 2017, Illinois and Michiana. We will have a special newsletter highlighting the Affiliated Societies breakfast, promote attendance at the MAOC inviting participants and itemize issues of interest in guiding a society. The last newsletter was sent to 149 members, and she stressed the importance of representatives forwarding it to their society members. The topic for the next meeting’s Affiliated Society breakfast in Cleveland, Ohio on April 29, 2018, will be “Challenges in Hosting an Orchid Show.” Approval passed.

Watch your e-mail for a Special Edition newsletter from the Affiliated Societies Committee detailing helpful hints for a successful show, society and meetings.

AOS Liaison Report: Ms. Noel read the AOS Liaison report from Doris Asher. Because of its importance, a transcript of the report is attached as Addendum B for everyone’s reading. Approval passed.

Audit Committee: no report, only in the spring.

Annual Meeting: Chair Beth Martin, thanked



the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society and Doug Martin for their help for this meeting, and announced that the Spring meeting will be April 27-29 hosted by the West

Shore Orchid Society in Cleveland, Ohio. Registration forms were passed out and she mentioned a great lineup of speakers, Tom Mirenda, Bill Thoms, and Chi-Ching Kao (Dennis) from Ching Hua Orchids. Tom Mirenda will be talking on the new position with pictures of the Hawaiian Botanical Garden, and a lecture on Orchid Sex...at dinner. Bill Thoms will be talking on Bulbophyllums. The Fall, 2018 show is being hosted by the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City, October 26-28, 2018. All details for these meetings will be on the Website. Doug Martin asked Beth to talk about hosting a MAOC. They are willing to help any society in hosting an MAOC. She wanted to dispel the rumors that societies who have hosted recently have suffered financial losses. The Niagara Frontier Orchid Society reported financial success for their show. Don’t forget, the society keeps ½ the proceeds from the auction and the registration fees if hosting a show. Please call her or email her to discuss any ideas. Motion to approve passed.

Awards: Jan Yates reported on all the trophies and awards at this meeting (Editors' Note: Special thanks to Janice Yates and Rick Noel for providing these show photos):



The Christine Chowning Award for Best Angraecum Alliance plant *Aeranthes mystacidii* 'Windswept White Waterfall' exhibited by Windswept in Time Orchids, Kim and Edgar Stehli:



(©J.Yates)

The Clifford and Vivian Walters Award: Best Oncidium Alliance plant: *Onc.* (Aviewood x.Rozel)(synonym *Odontioda*), exhibitor Larry Sanford, Cincinnati:



(©J.Yates)

The Delbert Lowell Jacks Award: Best Specimen *Brassavola grandiflora* exhibited by Windswept in Time Orchids, Kim and Edgar Stehli:



(©J.Yates)

The Ray Mccullough Award: Best plant in Epidendrum Alliance, *Brassavola grandiflora* exhibited by Windswept in Time Orchids, Kim and Edgar Stehli:



(©J.Yates)

The following plants were given AOS awards:

Dracula Swamp Fox 'Memoria Patricia June' AM 81, and CCM 83 Exhibitor: Steve Helbling, Cincinnati:



(©R.Noel)



(©R.Noel)

Lc. Miss Wonderful 'San Bar Sensation' AM 81, Exhibitor, Kentucky State University: Hideka Kobayashi:



(©J.Yates)

Paph. Hilo Super Green, AM 80, Exhibitor: Sam Tsui Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL:



(©J.Yates)

Paph. Hilo Key Lime 'Key Lime Pie' Am 81 Exhibitor: Sam Tsui Orchid Inn, Ltd., Bloomington, IL:



(©J.Yates)

The Mid-America Perpetual Award: Outstanding Exhibit: Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society:



(©J.Yates)

Communications: Because we have no chair for this committee, there is no report at this time.

Conservation: Chair Russ Vernon reported he,



Bill Morrison, and Doug Martin met at the Crowne Plaza on October 20. He mentioned that this year they have only two requests for the \$400 grants, The McNeely Conservatory and the Thanhauser-Wheeler

Conservatory at Ball State. They decided that since they had a budget of \$2,400, to increase the donation to \$750 to the NAOCC, instead of the \$400. There were no objections to this change. He asked if we would consider purchasing through the NAOCC, an orchidgami stencil design, which cost between \$3,000 and \$4,000. We would receive 2,000 stencils with our logo. We could sell them to our societies or at shows. He asked for a motion to approve the three donations. Approved.

Constitution and By-Laws: nothing to report at this time.

Education: Chair, Cheryl Erins reported that the meeting occurred Friday night with Doug Hartong, where the letter from NAOCC requesting the donation of \$600 was discussed. That was sent to Jan Yates for the budget. She reported that the website now has some of our educational materials available for societies. Motion to approve passed.

Historical: Chair, Lois Holmes reported that Barbara Larkin had passed away. She also read a letter written by the “archives” in some of our own MAOC archived materials are stored. She had originally proposed \$2,500 donation in the EC meeting, which could be matched. Cheryl Erins had reported on the major costs of the project and Doug Martin asked if we can revisit this next year for perhaps an ongoing donation. Russ Vernon had asked about the material stored in Missouri Botanical Garden, which would require someone to go there and physically look and bring the material. This discussion was tabled for another time. Motion to accept the report approved.

Orchidist of the Year: Lowell Jacks and his committee performed a skit naming Beth and Doug Martin together as Orchidist of the Year



and presented the award to them for their outstanding leadership and work getting all the meetings arranged and put together.

Show Schedule: not present no report.

Technology: not present no report.

Ways and Means: Chair Roberta Ginavan



thanked everyone for their participation in the auction especially Lowell Jacks for his brownies and George Hatfield. The proceeds the night before were \$2,378 and because this was

not a hosted show, the money goes to the MAOC. The item for Auction 2, was the new book by P. Cribb and C. Purver, on the Slipper Orchids of the Tropical Americas and was won by Russ Vernon. Russ turned around and asked for auction bids and the book raised another \$110 and was won by Anna Morrison. That total came to \$290 and the new total for the Auction is \$2,388. Anna Morrison stated that she was going to donate the book to the Como Conservatory Library in Minnesota.

Budget: Jan Yates presented the details for the coming year. A. While it appears that we run in the red, in actuality we are in the black on the expense side, this year at \$11,835.00 with income estimated at \$9,900.00. Jan explained the \$2,500 deposit that societies can avail themselves of for hosting a MAOC event, that would be paid back with registration proceeds and that all the hosted events have been profitable for the hosting societies. This amount shows as income and as an expense. Conservation grants have only two requests of \$400 of the \$2,400 budgeted and that the NAOCC donation will be increased to \$750. She explained the Education grant to the NAOCC for \$600 and that each judging center in our region receives \$150 for the work they do, for a total of \$900.00. She noted that web site costs would be \$360 this year. Insurance remains at \$500. One new item that was proposed was a donation to the AOS proposed

at the EC meeting by Lois Holmes to be a restricted start up for the Archival Library at the Fairchild. A motion was made and Cheryl Erins discussed the costs based on contacts at the AOS which are estimated to be around \$28,000 for the move, and \$5,000 for equipment. The motion passed to create this donation, which may be matched. George Hatfield thanked the MAOC for their generosity in creating this donation. Ms. Yates also mentioned the endowed Shirley Burr Moore fund that pays for a fall meeting speaker, in one of two amounts, \$750 if in the states, and up to \$1,500, for outside the U.S. For the budget, the larger figure is used. Addendum A is attached to clarify the budget items. Motion to approve passed.

Nominating Committee: Vice President Noel asked Aileen Garrison to read the Nominating Committee report, in place of Doris Asher, who was on her way to Ecuador. The slate of officers is:

President—Russ Vernon

1st Vice President—James Newsome

2nd Vice President—Alexa Noel

Secretary—Cheryl Erins

Treasurer—Michelle Little

A motion was made to close nominations and the slate of officers was officially approved, at which time Russ was presented a “substitute” hat (Doug and Beth had forgotten the hat at home) which he donned proudly as he talked about having fun at the MAOC, which is what it is all about. He said try to talk up the fun you have with your societies.

New Business:

President Russ Vernon asked if there was any new business. There being none, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Cheryl Erins, Secretary

**In Memorium: MAOC Loses
CHRISTINE CHOWNING**

Christine Morrill Chowning passed away on June 15, 2017, in Lexington, KY. Christine was born in Manchester, NH, on September 9, 1921. Christine was always interested in flowers, participating in flower contests in grammar

school. She continued her interest raising roses and orchids. She belonged to the American Orchid Society, the Mid American Orchid Conference, and was a renowned AOS judge. Christine chaired the MAOC Annual Awards Committee for many years and endowed the Christine Chowning Award for Best Angraecum Alliance plant. MAOC extends condolences to Christine’s family and friends. She will be dearly missed and her wit will be fondly remembered.

Parting Shot:



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President Doug Hartong happily receives an appreciation gift from the Board for his services to MAOC as President, and beyond, from Aileen Garrison, MAOC past-President.



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KEY MID-AMERICA CONTACTS

OFFICERS

President: Russ Vernon
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Treasurer: Michele Little; 513-320-3409;
My3snakes@yahoo.com
Immediate Past President: Doug Hartong
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Nominating: Doug Hartong
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Orchidist of the Year: Lowell Jacks
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Ways and Means: Roberta Ginavan
712-487-3085;
ginavan@frontier.com
Technology: Brian Spittler
publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org

ADDENDUM A: 2018 Budget:

The 2018 Budget presented at the business meeting on Sunday, October, 22, 2017 reflects income and expenses comparable to years past with one new item, a donation of \$ 1500 to the American Orchid Society restricted to expenses associated with restoring its Archival Library. As is the norm, some of the budget's largest expenses are covered by endowed funds, significantly reducing the expenses which are paid from annual income.

On the income side, these items include:

Auctions (Spring and Fall Congresses)	\$ 5,000.00
Donations & Honoraria	600.00
Investment Income	50.00
MAOC loan repayment (see expense section)	2,500.00
Show Tags	250.00
Society Dues	<u>1,500.00</u>
	\$ 9,900.00

On the expense side, the items include:

Bank charges	\$ 25.00
Conservation Grants	2,400.00
Conservation Speaker (Endowed Funds)	750.00
Donation to AOS for Archival Library	1,500.00
Education Grants	600.00
Filing fee (State of Ohio)	50.00
Judging Center Support	900.00
Liability Insurance	500.00
MAOC loan (if requested by host society for spring or fall)	2,500.00

MAOC newsletters	100.00
Officer expenses	100.00
Shirley Burr Moore Speaker (Endowed Funds)	1,500.00
Trophies (all but one trophy paid with Endowed Funds)	550.00
Web Site Development	<u>360.00</u>

\$11,835.00 (covered by 2018 revenue and Endowed Funds)

Subtracting expenses not covered by endowed funds, expenses paid from 2018 revenue are \$ 9,085.00, less than projected income. For some additional context on various line items, the MAOC supports six AOS judging centers in Ann Arbor, Atlanta, Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Toronto, donating \$ 150 to each center towards its operations. In addition, the MAOC will loan \$ 2500 to any society which hosts a Congress to cover initial expenses before revenue starts to come in, the loan to be repaid after the Congress; to date, neither the West Shore Orchid Society nor the Orchid Society of Greater Kansas City has requested such a loan but the offer remains open. Last year, the Congress approved an education grant in the 2017 budget to the North American Orchid Conservation Alliance to help advance its native orchid research, education and conservation activities; the Congress received a similar request to help fund 2018 activities. Finally, the endowed Shirley Burr Moore Fund pays for a fall Congress Speaker in one of two amounts, up to \$ 750 for a speaker from within the continental US and up to \$ 1500 for a speaker elsewhere; for budgeting purposes, the larger figure is used.

Addendum B: MAOC AOS Liaison Report, Cincinnati, OH., October 22, 2017

Since I last reported to you at our meeting in Omaha on March 26 of this year, there have been two meetings of the AOS Judging Committee: South Florida in conjunction with the Redland Festival (May 17-21) and a special meeting just of the Judging Committee in Dallas on October 14th (while AOS President George Hatfield plans to hold a “town hall” webinar meeting at the World Orchid Conference in Guayaquil, Ecuador, in early November, there is to be no fall Members Meeting per se in 2017.) The following personnel changes, with a Mid-America connection, took place in the session in May in Redland, FL (the Dallas meeting actions still need the approval of the AOS Trustees – I shall include them in my report next Spring in Cleveland):

One Mid-America judge **promoted from Certified Judge, Associate to Certified Judge, Accredited:** Barbara Barnett (Atlanta)

One Mid-America person **transferred:** David Kessler (accredited) from Atlanta to Rocky Mountain

These Mid-America people became **students in the Judging system:**

John Gross (Mid-America)
Brittany Lowery (Mid-America)
Beth Martin (Mid-America)
Doug Martin (Mid-America)
Laurens Verkade (Toronto)

One Mid-America judge has become **senior judge:** Erich Michel (Cincinnati)

One Mid-America judge granted leave of absence: Donna Lipowicz (student) (Toronto) (January-November 2017)

These Mid-America people became **retired judges:**

Annette Bagby (senior) (Toronto)

Karen McBride (accredited) (Chicago)

With regret, we note the **deaths** of these Mid-America judges:

Alex Challis (accredited) (Great Lakes)
Christine Chowling (retired) (Cincinnati)
Pat June (accredited) (Cincinnati)
Marilyn Lee (accredited) (Great Lakes)
Arthur D Moore (senior) (Atlanta)
Milton Wittmann (accredited) (Chicago)

Some general news items from the AOS which you may find of interest:

Although Coral Gables and the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden sustained a direct hit by Hurricane Irma, initial indications are the AOS, including its new Library, did not experience damage although they were without electricity for an extended period of time.

The Society published its eighth annual supplement in October 2017: *Phalaenopsis*.

Membership numbers continue to improve – currently, just under 8,900, an increase of 1,000 members in the last 18 months.

The Society is investigating creating a “Master Orchid Grower” program, similar to the very successful Master Gardener Program.

There is a new annual award, the Walter Off Award, recognizing the most outstanding Show Trophy exhibit of the prior year.

The Society continues to have an active program of webinars, which are very popular. Take a look at the AOS website (www.aos.org) to see the extensive list of topics which are available.

The spring AOS Members’ Meeting will be at the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show in Santa Barbara, CA, March 8-11, 2018, and I hope to attend.

Doris Asher, AOS Liaison to the MAOC



MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS in conjunction with the West Shore Orchid Society
"Orchids on the Lake" ORCHID SHOW

APRIL 28TH & 29TH 2018

at the Ehrnfelt Recreation Center in Strongsville

2018 West Shore Orchid Society Meeting Schedule

**Learn more about orchids!
Join the West Shore Orchid Society**

Meetings are held Wednesdays 6pm -9pm
at the North Olmsted Community Cabin
28114 Lorain Rd., North Olmsted, OH



February 21st
April 18th
May 16th
June 20th
August 18th (Picnic in Columbia Station)
September 19th
October 17th
December 19th (Christmas Party)

Membership dues \$20.00 per family • Questions? call 216-538-5537 • All are welcome! • westshoreorchidsociety.org

Largest Orchid Show in Ohio!



MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS in conjunction with the West Shore Orchid Society
"Orchids on the Lake" ORCHID SHOW
APRIL 28TH & 29TH 2018

at the Strongsville Ehrnfelt Recreation Center • 18100 Royalton Road • Strongsville, OH 44136

Saturday, April 28th 9 am - 5 pm

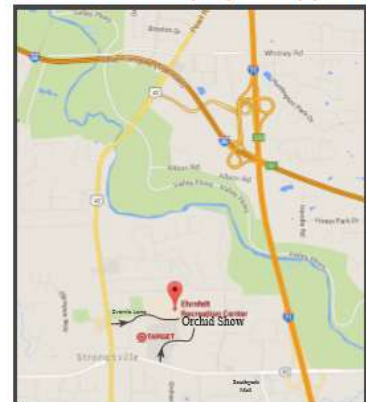
9:00 am Sales open
Noon Show area open after judging
12:30 pm Beginners culture talk: FREE with paid admission
*1:30 pm Tom Mirenda talk on Orchid Conservation: \$10 fee-cash at the door
*2:45 pm Bill Thoms talk on Bulbos: \$10 fee-cash at the door
*4:00 pm Chi-Ching Kao or "Dennis" of Ching Hua Orchids talk on "New Paph Hybrids from China" \$10 fee-cash at the door
4:50 pm Sales area closes

Sunday, April 29th 10 am - 4 pm

10:00 am Show opens
12:00 pm Orchid talk: Potting your orchid: FREE with paid admission
1:30 pm Orchid talk: Hawaii Botanical Gardens: FREE with paid admission
4:30 pm Show closes

Admission: \$5.00 per person, kids under 12 free (*additional fees apply)

Plant Sales • Displays • Supplies



Plant sales • Supplies • Auction • Raffle

for more information visit: westshoreorchidsociety.org



Mid-America Orchid Congress

Meeting in conjunction with the
West Shore Orchid Society
Orchid Show and Plant Sale

April 28-29, 2018
 Strongsville, Ohio

2018 Spring Mid-America Orchid Congress Registration

(Please type or print)

Participant Info		First Registrant Name		Second Registrant Name		
Name (for your badge)						
Orchid Society Affiliation						
Your Address						
City, State or Province, Zip						
Phone						
E-Mail						
Will you judge at the orchid show?	Yes No	AOS Status _____		Yes No	AOS Status _____	
Will you clerk?	Yes No			Yes No		
Participant Costs		Received by April 7	After April 7	First Registrant	Second Registrant	Total
Full Registration (includes show admission both days, transportation between show and hotel, Saturday open buffet lunch, 3 speakers and goodie bag)		\$35	\$50			
Banquet Dinner and Speaker Saturday		\$55	\$70			
Payments for dinner and breakfast must be made by April 14, 2018				___Chicken ___Salmon (choose 1)	___Chicken ___Salmon (choose 1)	
Affiliated Societies Breakfast Sunday at hotel		\$22	\$29			
Total		\$112	\$149		Your Total	
Show Admission Only			\$ 5 at door			
Speaker Presentations-each--cash only			\$10 at door	Questions? Call John at 216-538-5537		
Speaker Only Sat. evening--cash only			\$20 at door			

Hotel Reservations
Holiday Inn
1547 Royalton Road
Strongsville, OH 44136
Mid-America Orchid Congress room rate is \$92 + tax
<i>This rate is available until April 10, 2018</i>
Call the hotel to make your reservation 1-877-408-4913; use code ORC

More Show Information at

Payment
<i>The link below allows you to pay online with a credit card (fee applies)</i>
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/mid-america-orchid-congress-tickets-38592742933?aff=eac2
<i>OR Mail registration form and payment to:</i>
WSOS Orchid Show c/o John Rini 6490 E. Vancey Dr. Brookpark, OH 44142

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