



The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

<https://cincinnatiorchids.org>

January 2023 Newsletter

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society hopes everyone is staying healthy. January and February meetings will be only over Zoom with our speakers coming from California. Meetings will resume in person for the March meeting.

President's Message

Happy New Year!

2023 is already brightening up our world; more sunlight, December stresses are fading, and we can look forward to lots of orchid blooms (being positive!).

Looking ahead a bit is our annual show in March (25 & 26). Although that may seem to be off in the distance, it will be here sooner than our taxes (and much more fun). Much of the planning (vendors, location [BSA], logistics) is well along, but one of the most important components needed to pull this off is VOLUNTEERS. Many hands make light work, and one of the GCOS Board objectives is to get more members involved in all aspects of our operations and activities. If we all put a little skin in the game, it takes some of the weight off of the "regulars". We are using "GoDaddy or Sign-up Genius" [the exact sign up mode will be sent out to all very soon], but you can sign-up on paper at our March 14 in person meeting. The sooner we have all categories covered, the better. Please consider set-up, tear-down, hospitality, clerking for judges, membership table, or a monetary contribution.

Please join us for our ZOOM only meeting this Tuesday(10th) at 6:30 for beginners, and 7 pm for everyone. Mark van den Woerd will provide us with information on growing orchids in tents. See you on ZOOM, Roger

GCOS January 11th Meeting



Meeting with start at 6:30 with Q & A. With talk at 7:30. Zoom link available email jeanws@me.com.

Title: How to grow orchids better - about light and humidity.

Presenter: Mark van der Woerd

Abstract:

A long time ago in a State far away, a young man went to a botanic garden and there happened to be an orchid show. He won the door prize, which was of course an orchid. And the rest is history! Mark has been growing orchids for over 30 years, on windowsills, under lights and outdoors where possible. However, the results were never as good as the accomplishments of "real hobbyists".



Circumstances make us discover and try different growing conditions. A unique opportunity came along to try something new. It is now trivial to purchase tents in which you can grow orchids. In this presentation Mark will cover growing orchids in tents, under light and in high humidity. He will cover how to set up your growing area, what to watch for, and how to grow plants you could never grow before.

Your assignment ahead of the talk is this: surely you have thought "I wish I could grow....". Bring that idea to our question-and-answer section and we will try to discuss it. But remember, if you want to grow in an enclosure, you must grow small plants!

Upcoming Meetings and Events

January Meeting - Zoom only	January 10	Mark van der Woerd How to grow orchids better - about light and humidity
Grand Rapids Orchid Show	January 28-29	Grand Rapids, MI
February Meeting - Zoom only	February 14	Alex Minter Orchids of Australia
February Judging	February 12	Cincinnati Judging Center
Greater Lansing Orchid Show	February 25 - 26	
March Judging	March 12	Cincinnati Judging Center
March Meeting - hybrid	March 14	Matthew Speights
Ann Arbor Orchid Show	March 18 - 19	
GCOS Show	March 25-26	BSA
April Judging	April 9	Cincinnati Judging Center
April Meeting	April 11	Eric Sauer
Central Indiana Show	April 22-23	Indianapolis, IN
May Meeting date change	Thursday May 11	Ron Parsons
May Judging	May 14	Cincinnati Judging Center
June Judging	June 11	Cincinnati Judging Center

June Meeting	June 13	Steve Benjamin Growing on slabs – a hands on activity
GCOS / MVOS Picnic	TBA	
July Judging	July 9	Cincinnati Judging Center
August Judging	August 13	Cincinnati Judging Center
Ohio Valley Orchid Fest	August 26 - 27	BSA
September Judging	September 10	Cincinnati Judging Center
September Meeting	September 12	Doug Martin Growing Terrestrials
October	October 8	Cincinnati Judging Center
October	October 10	Edgar Stehli Windswept in Time
November	November 12	Cincinnati Judging Center
November	November 14	Leon Glicenstein
Christmas Party	TBA	

GCOS Spring Show - March 24 Setup, March 25-26 Show

Hey there orchid enthusiasts! Our society spring show is swiftly approaching, and we are in need of volunteers to help make our show a success!

We will need help in these areas:

- Setting up on March 24th at the Dan Beard Council building
- People to man tables to sign up new members and give out info about our society
- People to assist the AOS judges during ribbon judging the morning of March 25th
- People to help at the potting bee
- People to provide food and beverages for the volunteers and vendors in the hospitality room
- People to help break down the show at the end of the day on March 26th

Please consider what way you can help and if you aren't able to help in any of these areas please consider a monetary donation to help cover the cost of food items, the cost of our trophies we give out or any other expenses we have for the show.

I'm excited for the show and I hope you are too!

Joel Mattes, Spring Show Chair

joel.mattes21@gmail.com

Joel

Orchid Culture

A safe orchid spray to use on orchids in your house. Using a 2 qt sprayer combine 1 cup alcohol, 1 Tbs Dr. Bronner's Pure-Castile Liquid Soap – Peppermint and fill rest of way with water. You can get the soap on Amazon, Target and many other stores. Thanks to Eric Sauer for this recipe.

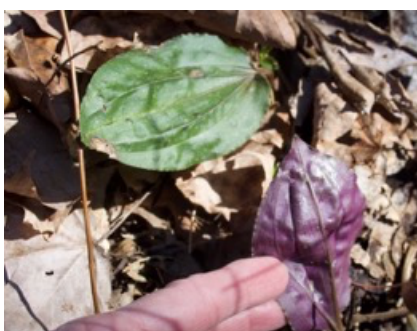
Conservation Committee Report - Winter Orchids in Ohio

As soon as the ice and snow leave the ground and you can go hiking, start watching for native orchids around you. Green leaves stand out amongst the leaf litter under trees. Watch for three kinds of orchid leaves found in Ohio at this time of year. If you see them, make note of where they are so you can come back later in the year when the orchids are in bloom. Two of these species of orchids, *Aplectrum hyemale* and *Tipularia discolor*, are sometimes called “naked ladies” as they bloom after their leaves disappear. The third orchid, *Goodyera pubescens*, is visible year-round.

Aplectrum hyemale, known as Puttyroot or Adam-and-Eve Orchid, is noticeably unique from other plants seen at this time. Each plant has a single leaf with distinctive ribbing. Plants are found in wooded regions and flood plains. Their leaves are visible in the fall through late winter when they disappear. The flower spike appears in mid to late May around here.



Tipularia discolor or the Cranefly Orchid is the second orchid around Ohio whose leaves disappear before the bloom spike appears. Most leaves are green on top, but they can be found in a dark form, but the consistency is that the underside of the leaf is purple. This distinguishes the *Tipularia* from the other green leaves found at this time of year. The bloom appears in late July to early August.





Goodyera pubescens leaves are visible year-round with flowers appearing in mid to late July.



Orchid of the Month

Arundina graminifolia (Bamboo Orchid)

Arundina graminifolia

The genus *Arundina* is in the Subtribe Arethusinae that is comprised of 5 genera, [*Anthogonium*](#), [*Arethusa*](#), [*Arundina*](#), [*Calopogon*](#) and [*Eleorchis*](#). Some species that were identified in earlier times as *Arundina* have since been moved to the genus *Dilochia*. So, *A. graminifolia* is the only species in *Arundina* now. *Arundina graminifolia* is commonly known as the Bamboo Orchid because of its reedy stem and large clumping growth. The genus was first formally described by Blume in 1825. The name *Arundina* comes from the ancient Greek word *arundo* meaning reed. The specific epithet means having grass-like leaves.

Arundina graminifolia has been awarded 6 times by the American Orchid Society. There have been 2 crosses made using *graminifolia*. One of these crosses were made with another *Arundina* species that was later changed back to *graminifolia* and the other was to *Bletilla striata* that was called *Bletundina Jumbo Strica*.

Arundina graminifolia are found throughout southeast Asia and have become an invasive species in many areas competing with native orchid species.

They can be found growing from near sea level to 7100 ft elevations. They grow as hardy terrestrials and can tolerate many conditions which have made them so successful at colonizing new environments, especially disturbed areas such as along roadsides. They grow in bright indirect light to partial sun conditions. They are very popular and are commonly grown in outdoor gardens.

Arundina graminifolia is a rather tall terrestrial or sometimes a lithophytic plant that can reach heights of 10 feet even though they have a short rhizome which reduces spacing between plants. They are normally 4 – 6 feet tall. Too bright a light will make for more compact plants.

Arundina graminifolia pseudobulbs/stems are very long with erect leafy stems spaced apart on the upper half of the stem. The stems are covered with overlapping sheaths at the base of the leaves and older leaves sometimes make more branches. Evergreen leaves vary in size and taper to pointed tips. The leaves alternate along the length of the stem which is similar in the way *Epidendrum* leaves are oriented.

The inflorescence is about 16 inches long and number up to fifteen sequentially blooming flowers so that there will be one blooming flower at a time over an extended period. The flowers resemble Cattleya flowers and are about 1.5 – 3.5 inches wide. There is much variability among flower size and colors. The flower is white to pink with a yellow center and rose-colored lip. They bloom throughout the year but most often in the summer.

As with some other orchids, *Arundina* can form keikis (baby plants) which can develop along the pseudobulb. The keikis are a major vegetative propagation strategy for this orchid.

Arundina graminifolia is a cool to warm growing large terrestrial orchid species. Summer day temperatures average 83°F and night temperatures average 71°F. Winter temperatures average 44°F (nights) to 71°F (days). They can occasionally handle mild freezes. They grow in bright indirect light to partial sun conditions between 3000-4500 foot candles. Plenty of air movement is recommended. Relative humidity should be at least 85% during the summer and 55% during the winter months. Water and fertilizer frequency will depend on when it is actively growing and its growing conditions. Bamboo Orchids should be [watered](#) as they approach dryness; don't let them dry out too thoroughly. Dilute the strength of the fertilizer to about ¼ to ½ the strength recommended and fertilize at least weekly according to your growing conditions.

Arundina graminifolia is best grown in a pot using a suitable potting mix. Media must be fast draining. Bamboo orchids are an invasive species in places like Hawaii which Cheryl and I recently visited this November/December. They are an invasive species that drives out the native plants. The photos below are from our trip to Hawaii.

Happy Growing
John Jaworski



Sign in the Sulphur Banks area and *Ha'akulamano* trail within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park about the Bamboo Orchid.



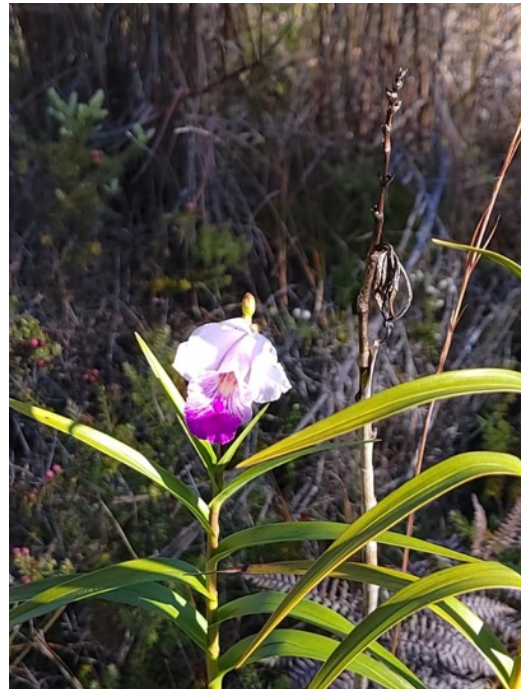
Another non native Epidendrum orchid (with many seed pods) growing as a terrestrial in the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park.



Bamboo orchids growing everywhere in the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park.



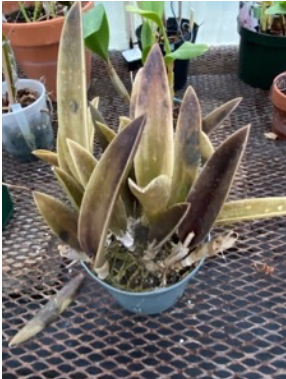
Sulphur Banks area and *Ha'akulamano* trail within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park have many Bamboo Orchids growing in areas where volcanic gases seep out of the ground along with groundwater steam.



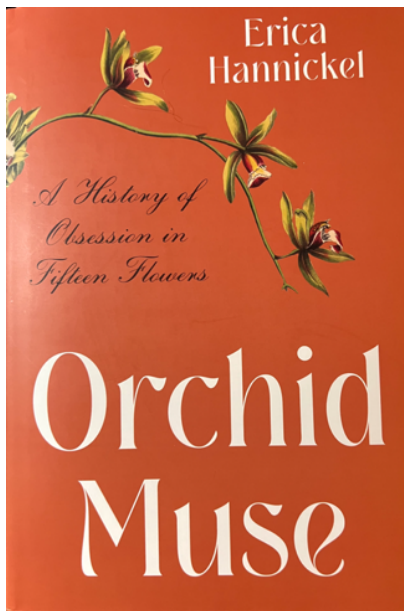
Closeup photo of the Bamboo Orchid taken just outside of Kilauea Military Camp which is located in the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park on the Big Island of Hawaii.

Buffalo Storm Damages Historic Conservatory

Well Buffalo is in the news again for our unbelievable weather. As you all probably have heard we had a Blizzard over Christmas weekend with hurricane force winds of 74 mph. The storm began on Friday morning Dec 23rd with the worst wind gusts, it continued through Saturday into Sunday Christmas day. While no one was able to get to our Botanical Gardens until Monday Dec 26, that is when it was discovered that 5 panes of glass in the orchid house roof had been blown out, with the broken glass being found 40 feet away from the hole in the roof. My guess is that the greenhouse was open to cold from Friday until Monday when the glass was repaired. I received an email with pictures and a heads up before we were allowed in on the following Friday to see the damage. My volunteers and I were sickened when we entered the greenhouse and seen our collection with extensive cold damage. We have worked for a year and a half to bring the collection back from the neglect of the pandemic where we were not allowed in for 15 months. The collection was looking the best it had in twenty years I have been volunteering with the orchids. My posts on social media have seen reactions from orchid people around the world, and many willing to help us rebuild the collection which has been extremely heartwarming for NFOS. Orchid friends are planning on sending gift certificates, cash donations and plant divisions to us. We are extremely grateful and touched at the outpouring of the Orchid World. For anyone wishing to help us out please forward donations to Buffalo Botanical Gardens Orchid Collection 2655 South Park Ave. Buffalo NY 14218. Some photos of the collection show we lost all our species Cattleya's and Paphs along with all our Phals. Thanks to all of you that are thinking of us and sharing our sorrow.



New Orchid Book



Memberships Due Now

Membership form below

GCOS Board Meeting

The next in person board meeting will be 6:30 pm Tuesday, January 23th. Anyone can attend board meetings. If interested in attending contact Jeanne Rhinehart at jeanws@me.com.

Your Orchid Photos on Our Web

If you want to send your photos with a short description and the name of the plant and your name to Jeanne Rhinehart jeanws@me.com. We also would appreciate any articles for the newsletter on culture or Orchid of the Month.

Cincinnati Judging Center

There will be a meeting on the second Sunday of each month at 11 am. For information, contact Glenn Evans at glenn.f.evans.09@gmail.com.

American Orchid Society

<https://www.aos.org>

The American Orchid Society's website is a great resource for orchid growers. We want to encourage membership. Even nonmembers can find information to help them become better orchid growers. Information at right

Webinars - Coming Attractions!

REGISTRATION IS EASY <https://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>
 Cannot make on the scheduled date and time. No need to worry.
 Register now and view on your time schedule.

Send Your Greenhouse Chat Questions and Photos to: greenhousechat@aos.org
 Greenhouse Chat webinars are recorded and indexed by topic for future viewing.

When	Jan. 04, 2023 8:30 pm EST Wednesday	Jan. 05, 2023 8:30 pm EST Thursday	Feb. 07, 2023 8:30 pm EST Tuesday	Feb. 12, 2023 11 am-4 pm EST Sunday
Topic	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Jan. 02</i>	New Directions in Zygopetalinae Breeding and Culture	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos and Questions by Feb. 05</i>	The Winter Blues Orchid Culture Day Expressions of the Color Blue in Orchids
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Tim Culbertson Historian, AOS Judge, Hybridizer for SVO, SOA Board Member	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Fred Clarke Dr. Leslie Ee Rob Griesbach Carson Whitlow

Check Out the Timeless Collection of Recorded Webinars on the AOS Website

Webinar announcements are posted to Facebook, Instagram
and in the AOS Corner of your Affiliated Society's newsletter.

Use the
WEBINAR
Display
Filter

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

You can follow us on Instagram @cincinnatiorchids.

Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Board of Directors

President	Roger Miller	Director	Syndi Wilhelm
Vice President	Joel Mattes	Director	Pat O'Connor
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Treasurer	David Allen	Director	Christa Speights
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		Director	Kristen Mason

THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

2022 Membership Application

Please Print

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 renewing member complete this 2022 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 Primary	
PHONE Secondary	
E-MAIL ADDRESS PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY	

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 those people who itemize their deductions.