



GCOS 2025 Show. Photo by Dan Tsui

THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

April 2025 Newsletter

www.Cincinnatiorchids.org



April 8, 2025 Meeting 7:00 pm

Ray Barklow: *Demystifying Orchid Fertilizer and More*

With over 50 years of orchid-growing experience, coupled with a background in science and engineering, Ray will help “demystify” many aspects of orchid culture, making it easier to understand, taking it from mythology passed down for decades to clear, observable science.

First Rays has been supporting the hobby orchid grower, botanical gardens and commercial nurseries since 1994. He offers unique, state-of-the-art products to help you grow your plants better. A few will be available at the meeting. **The meeting will be at the Scout Building, 10078 Reading Rd, Cincinnati, over interactive Zoom.**

Rays’ website is <https://firstrays.com/>

April 8, 2025 6:00 pm Beginners’ Meeting

Summer Care---taking orchids outside

Prevent and manage fungal diseases

And, of course, there will be time for general questions and answers.



Open House: Sunday April 27, 12:00-4:00 pm.

6140 Pondside Dr, Maineville, OH



Our first **Member Open House** will be Sunday April 27 from 12:00-4:00.

Shirley Holt grows 130 orchids attractively arranged and managed in an innovative growing area in her dining room. She developed an efficient system of watering and maintaining them with some in sunlit windows but mostly under artificial lights.

RSVP is not necessary but appreciated. A sign-up sheet will be at the next meeting.

Cell: 513 340-6348

Address: 6140 Pondside Dr, Maineville, OH

Orchid Show 2025



GCOS Show Exhibit, Photo by DanTsui

The 2025 Orchid Show was a delightful event that brought together orchid enthusiasts from the Cincinnati area and nearby Orchid Societies. The vibrant displays showcased a stunning array of orchids, each reflecting the dedication and passion of the growers. Venders offered a rich variety of orchids and high-quality pottery.

We are so grateful to the many GCOS and MVOS Volunteers who provided their time and talents, and to all those who bought Hospitality food! Show attendance included over 400 adults, children, GCOS members and members of other societies who put up exhibits and enjoyed the Show.

Three AOS Awards were given at the GCOS Show, photographed by Eric Sauer:



Cattleya Suan Travers ‘Gaby’s Delight’ BKS/AM/AOS
80 pts awarded to Brian Spitler

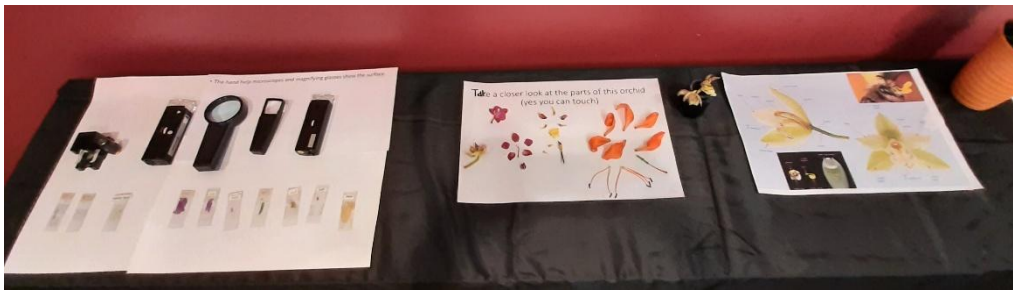


Phragmipedium Les Varines ‘River Valley’ HCC/AOS
79 pts awarded to Eric Sauer

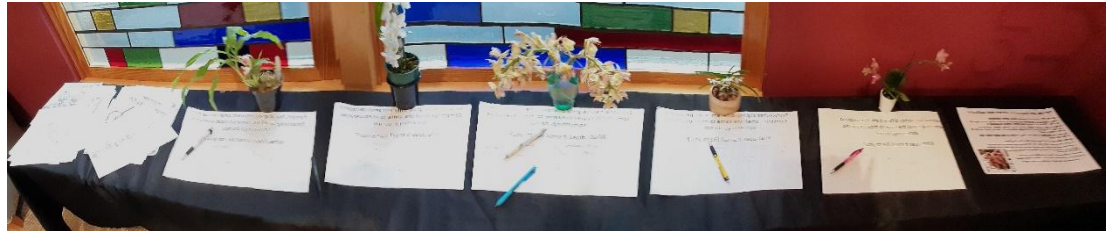
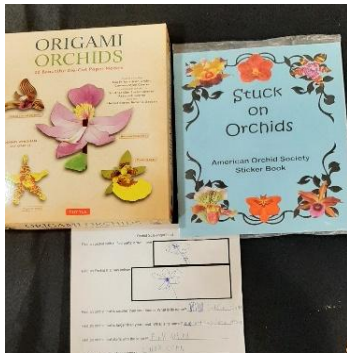


Phragmipedium humboldtii ‘River Valley’ AM/AOS
87 pts awarded to Eric Sauer

The Hands-On Display for Kids was Enjoyed by Everyone



Close examination of the parts of orchids were examined in minute detail.



The interactive educational display encouraged participants to experience orchid fragrances.

The Scavenger Hunt with a sticker book or orchid origami sheet as a prize for participation was a hit! Some adults even enjoyed the fun.

My Favorite Orchid: *Phalaenopsis Sogo Vivien 'Leaf's Edge'* by Shirley Holt



Two or three years ago, this little *Phalaenopsis* was hit with spider mites so badly that it lost all its leaves but one and almost died. By treating it with miticide weekly and talking to it with encouraging words, it grew 4 chubby leaves. These wide leaves are thickly outlined in creamy white.

When it finally bloomed it was entered into our Show. The striking leaves placed it in Class 111, "grown for foliage interest" where it received a Best in Class Award.

Upcoming Meetings and Events:

SPEAKER/EVENT	DATE	ORGANIZATION	TOPIC
Ray Barklow	April 8	First Rays	Demystifying Orchid Fertilizer
Open House 1:00-4:00 pm	April 27	GCOS Member	Shirley Holt's Orchid Setup
Nicholas Rust	May 13	Rusty Exotics	Artificial Lighting
GCOS/MVOS Picnic	June 14	Emmanuel Church, Dayton	
Sarah Hurdel	October 14	Needmore Orchids	Orchid Pests
Ohio Valley Orchid Fest	August 23-26	MVOS, MAOC, AOS	