



# THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

May 2026 Newsletter

[CincinnatiOrchids.org](http://CincinnatiOrchids.org)

## **May 12 Meeting, 7:00 pm at the Scout Achievement Building, 10078 Reading Rd**

**Cheryl Erins**

### **Converting an Ikea Cabinet into a Growing Space.**

Cheryl will share how she solved her problem with miniature orchids that were quite unhappy in her greenhouse. To the rescue comes the IKEA furniture Mart. Cheryl will share her journey and experience with her unique solution.



Cheryl has been growing orchids for over 35 years. She is a certified Orchid Judge in the Chicago Judging Center and has served as Treasurer. Cheryl is a Past President of the MidAmerican Orchid Congress and serves on the Education Committee. Cheryl is a member of the Batavia Orchid Society, Batavia, Illinois and has been president for three terms. She is currently working with the AOS in presenting the very successful webinars and serve on the Education Committee, Library Committee, Governance Committee, as well as being the Past President. Cheryl speaks to various groups about growing orchids and the value it brings to our lives. Cheryl has over 30 years experience in running organizations large and small in the medical community and is, at present, senior healthcare consultant for Salud Revenue Partners out of Lafayette, Indiana where she specializes in insurance reform, revenue enhancement for hospitals and medical practices as well as internal reorganization, governance, marketing and strategic planning. Cheryl is the Past Co-Chair of the Board of Directors of the Medical Group Management Association, the largest organization of its kind in the country, a 501C3, with over 35,000 members, where she served on multiple committees and sub groups which strive to provide education and guidance to our members. As the Co-Chair of this organization, Cheryl came up through the American College of Medical Practice Executives after serving as its secretary-treasurer, and the vice president as well as serving on multiple committees for the MGMA organization. After the two organizations merged, Cheryl and the VP of MGMA served as the new organization's first Chairs. In this role, she traveled extensively talking to medical and hospital groups both for profit and non-profit. The group supervised the financials of this huge organization and made recommendations for enhancements to the organization for the benefit of our member groups. Outside of orchids, Cheryl enjoys cooking, traveling and vocal work with the Michigan Latvian Chorale, singing for various functions.

### **Beginner's Conversation 6:00 pm May 12**

*"Words of Wisdom for the Orchid Grower"*

Shared from an AOS article by orchid growing expert Sue Bottom. Sue's articles in Orchids Magazine on culture are often quoted.

Meet in the smaller room at the end of the hall on the left at the Scout Achievement Building.

### **Collecting Questions and Topics for our Expert Growers in June**

Bring questions that will be answered at the June 9 meeting from 7:00-8:00 by a panel of our advanced growers. These can be anonymously entered or emailed in advance to [luna6551np@gmail.com](mailto:luna6551np@gmail.com)

**Questions and topics are needed from beginners as well as experienced growers!**

Although questions will be taken from the floor, the panelists would like some in advance.

### **Index**

2,3-GCOS Awards, Ribbons and Photos from CIOS

4-Picnic Auction Guidelines

4-Orchid Fest Intro; Registration is Open

4-Plant Sale at Warder Nursery May 16, 17

4-Cedar Bog; Orchids in Early June

5-Event Calendar

# 2026 GCOS at the Central Indiana Orchid Show April 25, 26

## Awards and Ribbons

The GCOS Society exhibit won “Best in Class“ with a Trophy! Special appreciation and recognition are due to Joel, Stephanie, and Stephanie’s friend who crafted this amazing display!

An incredible 13 members entered a total of 46 marvelous orchids! That number may be the record for a GCOS out-of-state exhibit! Plus 22 ribbons were awarded!



*Miltoniopsis* NOID  
By Nicole Kendle



*Paphiopedilum rothchildianum*  
By Rick and Alexa Noel

### Ribbons Awarded:

*Abundant entries, abundant ribbons!*

#### **GCOS Exhibit Best in Class, and Trophy!**

Rick Fuchs, 1 first, 1 second  
Robert Mohat, 1 first  
Stephanie Kimberlin, 5 seconds, 2 thirds  
Joel Mattes, 1 first, 2 seconds  
Nicole Kendle, 1 first  
Mary Ann Foss, 1 second, 1 third  
Spencer Chroninger, 1 second  
Rick and Alexa Noel, 1 first, 2 seconds

Show Exhibit Photo by Stephanie Kimberlin  
Other CIOS Show Photos by Kris Mason



*Brassocattleya Yu Toung Star*  
By Stephanie Kimberlin



*Guarianthe skinneri*  
By Rick and Alexa Noel



*Guaricyclo Serena O'Neill*  
By Rick Fuchs



*Cattlianthe Gold Digger*  
By Stephanie Kimberlin



*Brassocattleya Robert Bauman*  
By Joel Mattes



*Cattlianthe Maric Delight*  
By Spencer Chroninger

## Previews and Announcements: *More Details Coming in June*

### **GCOS and Miami Valley Orchid Society Picnic and Auction June 21: General Guidelines**

This is your chance to sell your plant divisions, orchids you have duplicates of, or those that you want to give to a new home!

Upon arrival at the picnic, plants are placed for bidding either by silent auction or by live auction. Silent auction involves writing your bids on paper. The live auction is conducted by a lively auctioneer.

Sellers receive 80% of their orchids' sale price, and 20% goes to the society of the seller's choice (GCOS or MVOS) or 10% to each.

Excellent orchids are often at good prices! Add orchids your friends grew successfully!

Everyone brings a side or a dessert. MVOS will furnish chicken for the main dish. GCOS supplies sodas, water, and utensils.

*See more Details in the June Newsletter.*

### **Ohio Valley Orchid Fest August 21-23**



[www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com](http://www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com)

The OVOF is open to the public on Saturday 9-5, and Sunday 12 till 3:00. There will be ticketed events including 2 keynote speakers and the Preview Party on Friday, August 21.

Tickets can be purchased in advance on the website for individual speaker lectures (2 on Fri, 2 on Saturday), Preview Party Friday, and even meals.

The full registration for the entire weekend is a bargain, *even if attending only one day*: Preview Party, 4 Keynote Lectures (2 on Fri, 2 on Saturday), snacks all weekend, a goody bag, dinners at the Preview Party and prior to Saturday Activities... all for \$80 before August 1 or \$100 after or at the door.

### **Warder Nursery Plant Sale May 16, 17, 8:30-2:30**

The Warder Nursery grows and supplies flowering plants to city parks, including the Krohn Conservatory. After furnishing the parks, leftover plants are **sold to the public on May 16 and 17.**

Rachel, the supervisor, showed Mary Gardner, Shirley Holt and Ann Tsui, Warder's incredible greenhouses full of gorgeous blooming plants! The orchid room at Wader definitely needs more orchids! Once orchids bloom at Warder, they go to the Krohn Orchid House. When finished blooming, they return to Warder for care.

The GCOS Board voted to give our annual Conservation Donation this year to the Krohn to help their orchid display. Due to recent budget cuts at Warder, staff and purchases have decreased. Therefore, volunteer help is desired to repot and help care for orchids at both Warder and Krohn.

Paid staff is available from 7:00-3:00 M-F to train and work alongside volunteers. Regular repeat volunteers may be able to help at other times.

If interested in volunteering, contact Mary Gardner at [luna6551np@gmail.com](mailto:luna6551np@gmail.com)

***Everyone is invited to the plant sale May 16 and 17.***

### **Cedar Bog Nature Preserve**

980 Woodburn Rd, Urbana, OH

In early June, the most spectacular native orchid, the Showy Lady Slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*), blooms at Cedar Bog. Just north of Dayton, this Ohio Natural Landmark Preserve is well worth seeing.

Fully accessible boardwalk. Only \$5 admission.

Summer Hours:  
10:00-7:00 Wed, Thu, Fri, Sun;  
9:00-4:00 Sat.  
Closed Mon, Tues.



## Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Speaker/Event	Date	Speaker/Place	Topic/Information
GCOS Members Meeting	May 12	Cheryl Erins	<i>Converting an IKEA Cabinet into a Growing Space</i>
Board Meeting	May 26	Madeira Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
GCOS Members Meeting	June 9	A panel of Expert Growers	Addressing topics and questions both previously requested and at the meeting
Judging Center	June 14	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
<i>GCOS Picnic and Auction</i>	<i>Sunday June 21</i>	<i>GCOS Hosts MVOS at the Scout Building, 10078 Reading Road</i>	<i>Plant Registration at 11:30 Lunch at 12:00, then Live Auction at 1:30.</i>
Board Meeting Cancelled		(No June Board Meeting)	
Judging Center	July 12	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
(No July GCOS Member Meeting)		(No July Meeting)	
Judging Center	August 9	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
(No August GCOS Member Meeting)		(No August Meeting)	
<i>Ohio Valley Orchid Fest</i>	<i>August 21, 22, 23</i>	<i>Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Kettering</i>	<i>Registration is Open! Visit <a href="http://ohiovalleyorchidfest.com">ohiovalleyorchidfest.com</a></i>
Board Meeting	August 25	Madeira Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
GCOS Members Meeting	September 8	Ron Parsons	<i>Orchids of Australia and Tasmania</i>
Judging Center	September 13	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
Board Meeting	September 22	Madeira Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
Judging Center	October 11	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
GCOS Members Meeting	October 13	To Be Confirmed	
GCOS Members Meeting	November 10	David Sorokowski	<i>Paphiopedilums</i>
<i>GCOS 2027 Orchid Show</i>	<i>April 3,4 2027</i>	<i>Dan Beard Scout Building</i>	

