

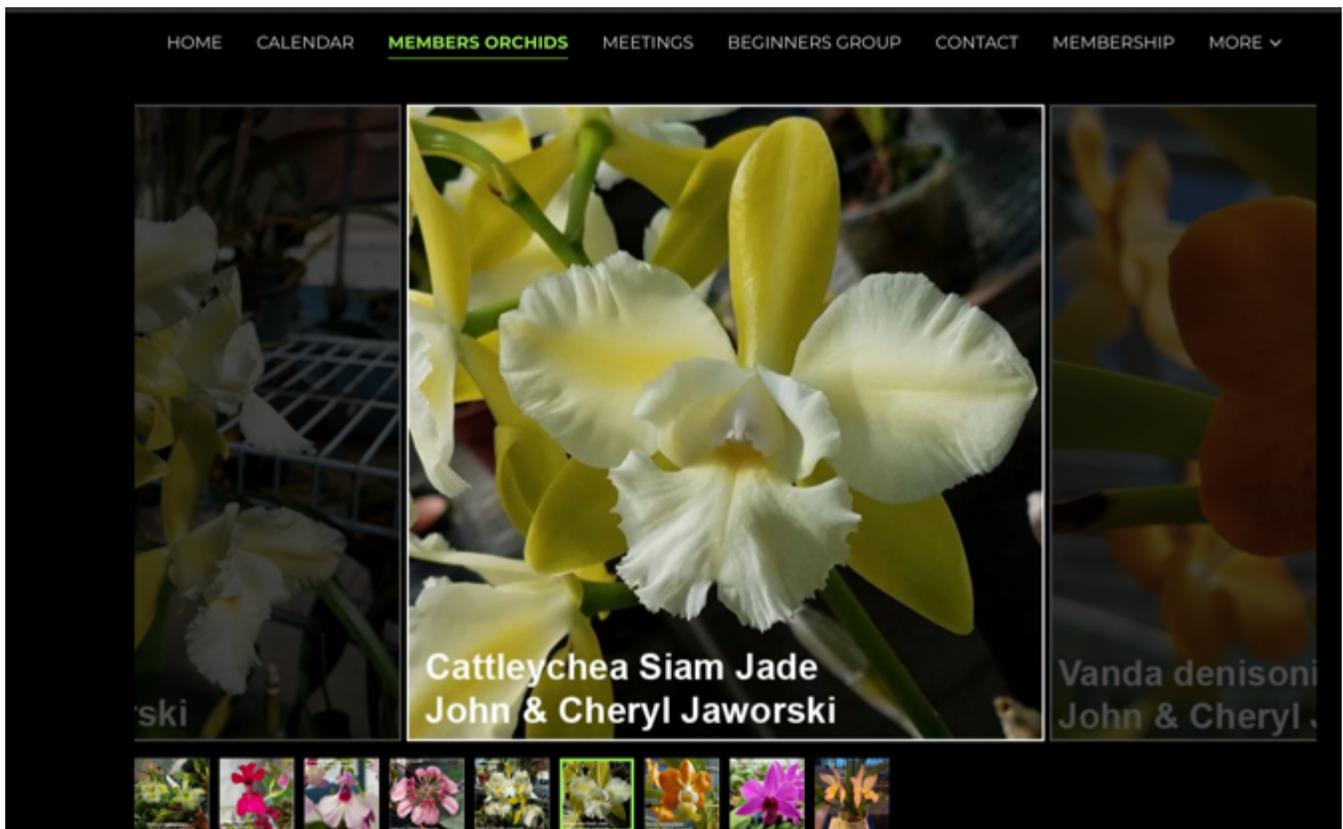


The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

<https://cincinnatiorchids.org>

June 2020 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 (See login below for our June meetings). We are also sharing members' orchids with an online Show-and-Tell.



Your Orchid Photos

If you want to send to send your photos with a short description and the name of the plant and your name to Laura McFarland laura.mcfarland.94@gmail.com.

President's Note

Greetings

We continue to lead our lives as best as possible during the pandemic to including nurturing our orchids. This is a great time to get your plants outdoors if you have not already done so. Our website has some useful documents that will help you with this. Many experienced growers will tell you that bringing your plants outside is good for them and may even get some of your more challenging plants to bloom. Just watch out for those bugs and keep your plants out of direct sunlight as you would do indoors with them. Continue to fertilize as recommended. Water as needed and look forward to that occasional splash of rainwater which is usually preferred by orchids in nature as compared to our municipal water.

We continue to partner with Miami Valley Orchid Society (MVOS) on having virtual meetings on various orchid topics that we hope are useful to everyone. Zoom meetings are a great way for us to stay in touch with the orchid world in lieu of a physical meeting. It is the best we can do during this time.

GCOS and MVOS have recently formed a planning group to see if we could have a 'Vendors Day' outdoor event in August/September in hopes of getting us all together (safety in mind) to have some fun with orchids. A survey was recently sent out that has questions regarding this event as well as others so please complete them so that we can better plan for successful events.

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.

GCOS June Meeting Plans

For our June meeting we will join with MVOS to hear our planned speaker, Peter Lin of Diamond Orchids, over Zoom on Wednesday, June 10 at 7:00 PM.

Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature

Peter T. Lin will be presenting a talk on one of his favorite topics: Mini-Catts, also known as miniature Cattleyas. Peter will be sharing a fast-paced Powerpoint presentation on these charming orchids. The journey will begin with a review of the miniature species, early hybrids, and then to some of the relevant hybrids of today. He will also review how to grow these wonderful plants.

Peter started growing orchids over 30 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 14 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again. He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country. He also has thousands of photos of his orchids that he maintains on Flickr. You can view them by typing this address into the internet: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/minicatt/collections/>

His website: www.diamondorchids.com

Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has received numerous AOS awards. His other interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and Neofinetias. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, as well as in the house under fluorescent lights.

There will be a 10% discount for pre-orders. Members can view his catalog on his website: www.diamondorchids.com and can order by phone: 909-573-6751 or email: lin.peterT@yahoo.com

For our usual date we will hold a beginners/ members meeting on “Putting Your Orchids Outside for the Summer” over Zoom on Tuesday, June 9 at 7:00 PM. We are encouraging members to also join to help with the questions. We will have some AOS information on the topic on the website. If you grow outside, have pictures of your area to show.

Logins for both meetings are at the end of the newsletter

You can view Zoom on any computer, laptop, tablet or smart phone that has a microphone. A camera allows all to see each other. Most smart phones have a Zoom app available for download. Please see that your machine has the microphone and camera turned on. When you log in, it helps to mute your volume except when you want to speak. Jeanne’s email is jeanws@me.com. If you have any questions her cell is 513-383-3805 and you can call before the meeting with questions.

Ohio Valley Seminar and The Joint GCOS and MVOS Picnic Both have been canceled.

Cincinnati Judging Center June 14th Judging

AOS judging will resume June 14th at the Civic Garden Center with social distancing in place. Plants for judging can be brought to the center after 12:30. There will be no lunch or training. EVERYONE MUST WEAR MASKS TO ENTER. The general public may bring plants and attend but will not be seated with the judges to observe the actual judging.

Great Lakes JC Summer Seminar 2020

Due to all things related to COVID-19, the annual judging center June seminar on Slipper Orchids has been rescheduled for June 2021. In an effort to provide quality orchid education, the Great Lakes Judging Center will instead host a web meeting on Saturday June 20, 2020 from 11 am to 1 pm for any interested participants from the orchid community. GLJC members

will host "Managing Your Orchids" which will focus on problems that are encountered by everyone who maintains a healthy orchid collection. There will be talks on pest and disease control, environmental problems and time permitting Q&A with the participants.

Dave Miller will be the host and questions about the web meeting can be directed to him at dcmjpsmil@aol.com or text at 330-307-7189.

MEETING RUNS FROM 11:00 to 1:00.

Future Society Meetings and the Beginners' Group

The Board is looking at getting more presenters with Zoom for our future society and beginners' meetings this summer. When *Cypripedium reginae* is in bloom at Cedar Bog we will email the membership. It should be around June 15.

Vendors' Day Orchid Fest

A group of members are working with MVOS to organize a Vendors' Day at a local outdoor venue to help support our great vendors. If you did not see the following email. Please respond to our survey.

Since the Summer Seminar and the MVOS/GCOS picnic have been canceled, GCOS and MVOS are looking into organizing a Vendors' Day as a replacement to help support our vendors and to give members a chance to purchase orchids, orchid related items and supplies. It will be held in an outdoor venue to allow for social distancing. We are looking into activities we can include for safe fun. We are also talking to vendors to determine their interest. The time frame we are considering would be in August or September. We realize that the virus may change some of our plans, but we hope that this is a beginning of an activity we could hold and possibly expand, every year into a major regional event. This survey is to determine our members' interest in attending.

Please take a few minutes to take a quick survey to provide your input to help us plan this event! Please click the link below to complete the survey.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZXY65BN>

GCOS Conservation

GCOS is considering donating to the American Orchid Society to continue their conservation work. We include AOS reports each month. Much of their conservation work is published here. If members have another group for our yearly donation, please contact Joel Mattes joel.mattes21@gmail.com

Native Orchid Hike June 13 Cedar Bog

Cypripedium reginae Showy Lady's-Slipper is in bloom right now.

We will meet at Cedar Bog at 10:00 AM. 980 Woodburn Rd, Urbana, OH 43078

The hike is a boardwalk through the fen. Comfortable clothing and insect repellent. Pack a lunch and drink. Let Jeanne Rhinehart know if you want to attend.

jeanws@me.com

Cedar Bog

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



GCOS Fall Show

At present the Society is going ahead with plans for our fall show. Planning must start now to ensure success. We will follow state and local health and safety guidelines in our plans. If we are to have a fall show on October 17th and 18th, we need volunteers! We need volunteers to organize hospitality for the show, to oversee the society display, to oversee the beginners' group display, to organize the society table volunteers. We also need volunteers to support each of these along with setup and tear down and clerking. As we are not having in person meetings with signup sheets, we need you to email that you are volunteering for any of these. We must have volunteers to even consider having the show.

Email to the Show Chair Jeanne Rhinehart jeanws@me.com.

GCOS Social Media

We have a Facebook page and a new Facebook Group you can join.

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

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. It will be available online later this year.

Orchid of the Month *Angraecum (an-graY-kum) ... sesquipedale (ses-kwi-peh-daY-lee)* Darwin's orchid, Christmas orchid, Star of Bethlehem orchid, and King of the Angraecums



Xanthopan morgani praedicta
The hawk moth *Xanthopan morgani praedicta* uses its long, specially adapted proboscis to pollinate the Madagascar star orchid (*Angraecum sesquipedale*).
Minden Pictures/SuperStock

Angraecum sesquipedale grows in the lowlands of Madagascar. *In situ* it grows on trees at the edges of forests at altitudes below 500 feet. It is found in regions with heavy rainfall (150 inches per year). It has a continuous growing season blooming from June to September. In cultivation it blooms from December to January getting the name “Christmas Orchid”

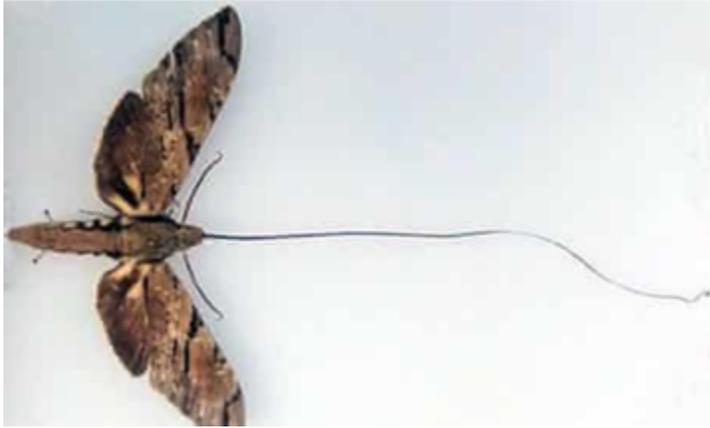
Flowers are large (up to 7 inches), star-like and waxy with a long (10 to 18 inches) green spur. Its species name *sesquipedale* in Latin means “a foot and a half” and refers to the length of the spur. When the flowers first open, they are green turning white with age. As the flower begins to wilt, it turns yellow, then orange and ultimately brown.

The plant gets its name “King of the Angraecums” from its large plant size getting over 3 feet in height in cultivation with leaves over a foot long. Best growing conditions are intermediate to high light (Cattleya), humidity of 50-70%, temperatures 70-80 degrees F and prefer a temperature drop at night of 10-15 degrees. For



best blooming the light intensity should be high in September and November. They should seldom be repotted as their roots dislike being disturbed. When potting becomes necessary, the potting mix should be a very coarse mix that can dry quickly or may be mounted.

The plant has a strong, spicy fragrance at night. As such, it is moth pollinated. Longer spurs have higher concentrations of nectar. *Angraecum sesquipedale* pollination methods make it one of the most historically interesting species. In 1798, Louis-Marie Aubert du Petit-Thouars, a French botanist discovered it, but it was not described until 1822. But in 1862, Charles Darwin received a group of orchids from Madagascar. When he saw the length of the spur of



Angraecum sesquipedale, he predicted that a moth with a long proboscis must be its pollinator. He surmised that they must have evolved together. It took 150 years for the moth to be found and Darwin did not live to see its discovery. In 1903, the hawk moth, *Xanthopan morgani praedicta*, was discovered in Madagascar by Walter Rothschild and Karl Jordan. It was finally photographed pollinating *Angraecum sesquipedale*.

There is a YouTube video from National Geographic of this Madagascar Star Orchid and Hawk Mothn <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q8GdkMBLuis>

Happy Growing
Jeanne Rhinehart

Orchid of the Month

If any members would like to write an orchid of the month article, let Jeanne know. It is a great way to learn more about an orchid of your choice.

Zoom Meeting Logins

Contact jeanws@me.com for login information

June Orchid Puzzles of the Month

We are adding a new topic for fun. This month are photos of 9 orchids from different orchid genera. Guess each orchid's genera and if you want, guess the species. Answers posted next month.

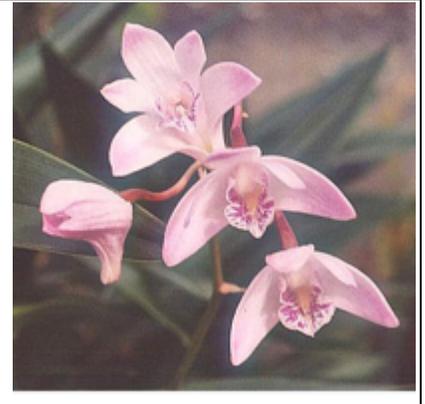
A second puzzle is an orchid related crossword puzzle.
Have fun!



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



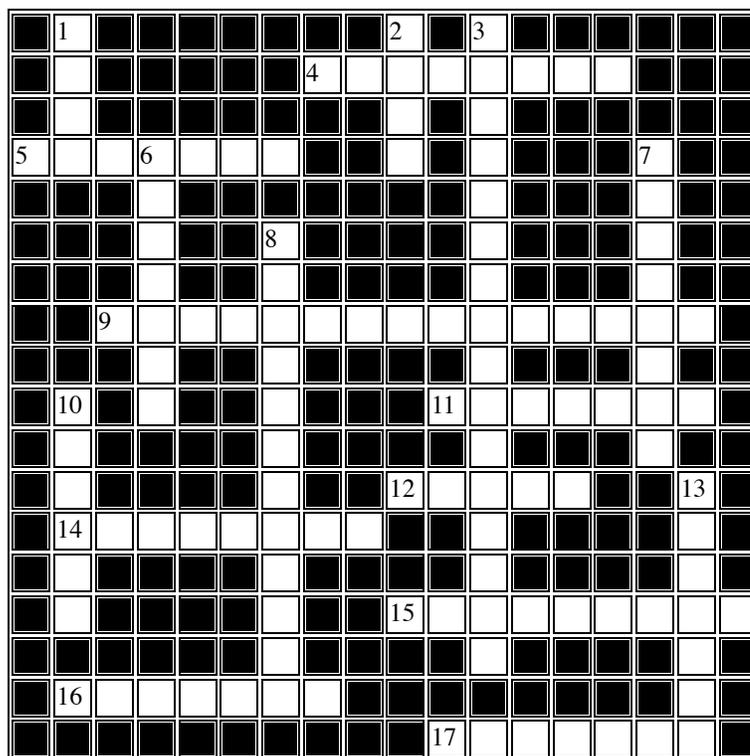
7.



8.



9.



Across

- 4. smooth
- 5. cloud forest monster?
- 9. color intensifier
- 11. seedy pill?
- 12. GCOS showplace
- 14. tree dweller
- 15. sticky pad
- 16. horizontal stem
- 17. Whorled_____

Down

- 1. seaweed gel
- 2. medium woof?
- 3. "lady of the Night"
- 6. club shaped
- 7. flower stalk
- 8. has some real stinkers
- 10. pencil-like
- 13. fern root medium

Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Board of Directors

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Contact us at info@cincinnatiorchids.org