



# The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society

<https://cincinnatiorchids.org>

## November 2022 Newsletter

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society hopes everyone is staying healthy. We meet in person at our meeting site in the Scout Achievement Center of the Dan Beard Council, Boy Scouts of America, 10078 Reading Road, Cincinnati, OH 45241. Meetings start at 6:00 pm with our beginners' class. The main meeting will start at 7:00 pm and will also be over Zoom. We are also sharing members' orchids with an online Show-and-Tell.

### President's Message

Hmm, November...Ah, Thanksgiving! ... is just around the corner and we are thankful for so much in our lives, including the wonderful, and satisfying orchid growing hobby. To help us along, Marni Turkel will join our in-person meeting via ZOOM, presenting a talk: "give it a rest". This is very important for those of us who grow varieties of orchids such as Catasetums, Habenarias, and others which need some down time. Marni grows hundreds of species and hybrids from seed, which can be acquired for those of us who want a bit of a challenge.

Our spring show has been confirmed for March 25 & 26 at the BSA. As our major event of the year, we strive to present an even better show than the last time, with some of the goals being getting new members, and making a great showing for our attendees. There will be ample volunteer opportunities for those who are able to do so, and you can enjoy the satisfaction of volunteering your time to donate food, energy or money. Monetary gifts to the GCOS are welcome any time, and the coming season seems to have morphed into the time of giving (we are a 501c3), so let's all do what we can to keep us strong.

Our November meeting is on election day, and what better activity to give our campaign weary heads a rest than a complete change of pace, including a great speaker, plants for sale (Jim France),



Habenaria Galah

Photo by Rick Noel

refreshments and your “Show and Tell” plants. We all enjoy our monthly mini show, made possible by you bringing in your plants...some small, some large. All are appreciated!

A Christmas party is in the works and details TBA very soon.  
Roger

## GCOS November 8th Meeting

Beginners Meeting starts at 6 pm and will be a discussion of potting media. Our business meeting will follow with elections and budget approval. Jim France, Oakwood Orchids, will be selling plants. Our talk will be over Zoom with Marni Turkel live so questions can be asked of her.

Marni Turkel (pronounced tur KELL) is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. She grows in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa with approximately 1250 sq ft of growing space. Her main interest is in miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well. Marni has been a contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been translated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been feature in articles noted orchid publications including Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. She currently shares her photographs and knowledge on OrchidsForum.com and FaceBook.



Starting in 2009, Marni expanded her work with orchids to include propagation of orchids from seed and has set up a flasking lab of her own to take the process from start to finish and sell flasks of many of the orchids species in her collection. After working for over 43 years as a potter, she has retired from ceramics to pursue orchids full-time. Give It a Rest

Many plants receive a dry rest period in their native habitat and this talk explores some of the factors involved. Learn a bit about weather patterns and the “make it or break it” effect a dry rest period can have on growth and flowering of particular species. You’ll see some plants that many people find hard to bloom and find out how to get a great blooming by giving them what they need.



*Angraecum didieri*



*Cymbidium tigrinum*



*Barkeria skinneri*



*Lycaste deppei*

## Business Meeting

Election of Directors and the approval of the budget voting will take place. The new 2023 Membership forms will be available and are included with email along with a copy of the budget and the Zoom login for the meeting.

2023 GCOS Board of Directors

Those highlighted in **Red** are up for election at our November Meeting

**President Roger Miller 2-year term**

VP Joel Mattes 2nd year

**Secretary Ann Tsui 2-year term**

Treasurer Dave Allen 2nd year  
 Director Steve 2nd year  
 Director Syndi 2nd year  
 Director Kris Mason 2-year term  
 Director Christa Speights 2nd year  
 Director Pat O'Connot 2nd year  
 Director David Crowe 2-year term  
 Director Jeanne Rhinehart 1-year term  
 Director Lindsey Pertuset 2-year term

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

GCOS Christmas Party	December 2 tentative	
GCOS Show	March 25-26	BSA

## Hospitality for Meetings

November	Steve Helbling, Barry and Jane Jones
----------	--------------------------------------

## Central Ohio Orchid Society Show, October 22-23 – Joel Mattes

Steve Helbling  
 Phrag. Barbara Lee Ann – blue ribbon  
 Galeandra greenwoodiana – red ribbon  
 Paph. Wossner Ministar – blue ribbon  
 Paph. fairrieanum – red ribbon  
 Procatavola Key Lime Stars 'Bronson' – red ribbon, awarded an AM/AOS 83 pts.  
 Paph. (Diana Bird X Luther Pass) X Winston Churchill  
 Phrag. Nicole Tower 'Mem. Paul Gronneck' HCC/AOS – blue ribbon, class trophy

Roger Miller  
 Vaughnara Golden Spice 'Red Peppers' – white ribbon  
 Guarachea Black Comet 'Indigo Blue' – red ribbon  
 Dendrobium Razzle Dazzle – red ribbon

Mary Gardner  
 Onc. Sharry Baby 'Red Fantasy'

Joel Mattes  
 Phal. Alfinia – red ribbon  
 Phal. Tzu Chiang Sapphire – blue ribbon (class 5) and red ribbon (class 112)  
 Phal. tetraspis f. imperatrix – red ribbon

Barry Jones  
 Cymbidium (Carlos Gardel X Assassination Tango) – blue ribbon, class trophy

Ed and Dana White  
 Dendrobium NOID – blue ribbon





## GCOS Survey

At our October meeting, members were surveyed about GCOS. We wanted to learn what issues and activities were most important to them.

Twenty-five people responded. We mined the responses and learned a lot. Members fell evenly into three groups: new members, a middle group, and long-term members. So, summarizing very generally (because these are small groups):

New members are eager learners who want to soak up information, emphasizing orchid culture and basics. They value the beginners group and hands-on activities. They attend meetings to learn. When they don't come to meetings, it is mainly due to conflicting life demands.

Long-term members are looking for more specific content, and have more specific orchid problems. The opportunity to socialize with friends is very important to them, and the main reason they attend meetings. When they don't attend, it is mainly due to bad weather or time conflicts.

Unsurprisingly, the middle members look like a mixture of new and long-term members. Speaker presentations are important to them. Their main orchid problem is reblooming them. They also like the friendships and socializing. They had fewer problems attending meetings, and the reasons varied.

Looking across groups, we seem to join GCOS to learn how to grow orchids, and over time we stay for that and the friends we have made.

There were many helpful comments and suggestions. These will inform our future programming. Thank you to everyone who completed the survey.

## Conservation Committee Report

One of the last blooming orchids of the season finished last month with many of us traveling to Lynx Prairie, Shawnee or Hueston Woods to see it in bloom

### Orchid of the Month

-Jeanne Rhinehart

### *Spiranthes magnicamporum* - the Great Plains Ladies' Tresses

*Spiranthes magnicamporum*, the Great Plains Ladies' Tresses was the first *Spiranthes* species to be identified as a new species and not a variety of *Spiranthes cernua*. It was described as a species in 1973 by Charles Sheviak. Other species later identified as distinct species from others in the *Spiranthes cernua* complex are *Spiranthes odorata* - the Coastal Fragrant Ladies' Tresses, and *Spiranthes ochroleuca* - the Yellow Ladies Tresses. Recently *Spiranthes cernua* and been further divided with *Spiranthes incurva* and *Spiranthes arcisepala* being identified as their own species.



The *Spiranthes cernua* complex group are commonly referred to as the Nodding Ladies' Tresses. *Cernua* means "nodding" as the base of the flowers arches downward which makes them appear to be nodding. The complex is also commonly referred to as the Autumn Ladies' Tresses referencing their fall blooming time. *Spiranthes magnicamporum* grows in drier regions than *Spiranthes cernua* often growing nearby.



*Spiranthes cernua*



*Spiranthes ochroleuca*



*Spiranthes odorata*



*Spiranthes magnicamporum*



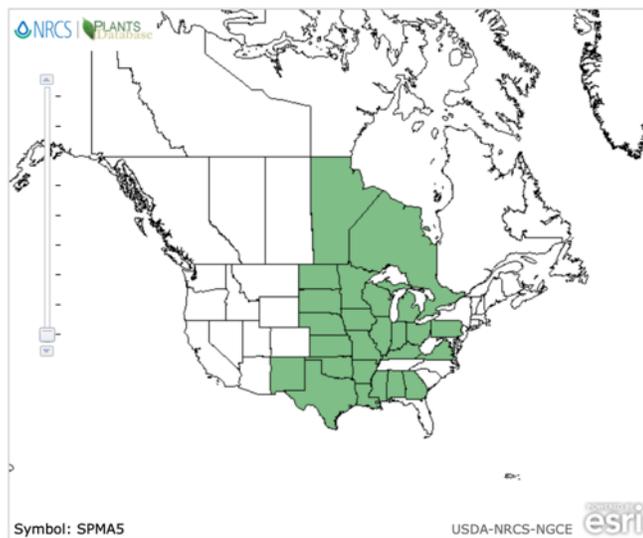
*Spiranthes incurva*



*Spiranthes arcisepala*

The name magnicamporum comes from the Latin “magnus” and “campus” with the meanings large or great field or plain thus the Great Plains of the United States giving the name Great Plains Ladies’ Tresses.

While common in the Great Plains *Spiranthes magnicamporum* also occurs Appalachian Mountains and in Ohio, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, Michigan, Wisconsin, Indiana, Texas, and Tennessee also appearing in Canada and as far west as Colorado, New Mexico and recently in New York. It wet, calcareous meadows, moist to dryer and grassland conditions in calcareous also around fens and even dune soils the drier conditions but tolerating moist conditions.



regions, in the Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, Ontario, Utah and is found in prairie soils but preferring



While common in many parts of North America it can be threatened by compacting of soil in its growing region, by invasive species growth and by general succession. The last can be controlled by periodic burns of habitats.



“Plant glabrous except for capitate hairs on the upper stem and inflorescence, 25-35 cm tall. Roots several, very thick, fleshy. Leaves linear-lanceolate to oblanceolate, 10-15 cm long x 8-12 mm wide, characteristically absent at anthesis. Inflorescence a tight spike of 20-40 flowers, each subtended by a lanceolate bract 7-10 mm long x 2-3 mm wide.

Spike multi-ranked, with phyllotaxy 1/3 or 1/4. Lip 8-10 mm long x 3-5 mm wide, white with a dull yellowish center, oblong-ovate, with a wavy margin distally, and 2 relatively small basal tubercles. Petals white linear-lanceolate, 8-10 mm long x 1-2 mm wide. Sepals white, lanceolate to linear-lanceolate, 8-10 mm long x 1-3 mm wide. Petals and dorsal sepal convergent. Lateral sepals widely spreading, incurved apically and commonly arching above the flower.”

Besides differing habitat of open prairies and higher pH than *Spiranthes cernua*, another of *Spiranthes magnicamporum* distinctive characteristics is its pleasant fragrance, in some cases noticeable from a distance. The fragrance is described to be coumarin. This is the fragrant substance produced from tonka bean tree seeds. Another distinctive characteristic is its lack of leaves while in bloom. Seeds of *Spiranthes magnicamporum* seeds differ from *Spiranthes cernua* in that *Spiranthes magnicamporum* seeds are short and broad in comparison to the longer and narrower seeds of *Spiranthes cernua*. Also, *Spiranthes magnicamporum* seeds are nonembryonic while *Spiranthes cernus* are poly embryonic. *Spiranthes magnicamporum* is also the latest *Spiranthes* to bloom. Blooming times vary by region starting around August until frost.

It is pollinated by bumblebees, such as *Bombus fervidus* and *Bombus nevadensis*



but can also self-pollinate (cleistogamous).



#### References

- <https://plants.usda.gov/core/profile?symbol=SPMA5>
- <https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/52774-Bombus-fervidus>
- <https://www.inaturalist.org/taxa/341001-Bombus-nevadensis>

*Orchids of the Western Great Lakes Region*, Frederick W. Case, Jr. Edwards Brothers, Inc., 1987, pp. 177-180.

*Native Orchids of the Southern Appalachian Mountains*, Stanley L. Bentley, University of North Carolina Press, 2000, pp198, 206-209.

*Orchids of Indiana*, Michael A. Homoya, Indiana Academy of Science, 1993, pp 207-210.

## GCOS Board Meeting

The next in person board meeting will be 6:30 pm Tuesday, November 29th. Anyone can attend board meetings. If interested in attending contact Jeanne Rhinehart at [jeanws@me.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

**REGISTRATION IS EASY** <http://www.aos.org/orchids/webinars.aspx>  
 Cannot make it on the scheduled date or time? No need to worry.  
 Register now and view on your time schedule.  
 Greenhouse Chat Webinars are indexed by topic for future viewing.  
 Send your Greenhouse Chat questions and photos to: [greenhousechat@aos.org](mailto:greenhousechat@aos.org)

When	Nov. 08, 2022 8:30pm EST Tuesday	Nov. 13, 2022 2:00pm EST Sunday	December Winter Break
Topic	Greenhouse Chat Orchid Q & A <i>Send in your Photos &amp; Questions by Nov. 06</i>	Disas Flowers of the Rainbow	Choose Your Topic From RECORDED WEBINARS
Presenter	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Michael Tibbs International Traveler, Author, Hybridizer, Consultant	Expert Growers, AOS Judges, Hobbyists, Conservationists and more

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](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
Secretary	Jeanne Rhinehart	Director	Steve Helbling
Treasurer	David Allen	Director	Christa Speights
Past President.	John Jaworski	Director	Ann Tsui