



# THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

## April 2026 Newsletter

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



### April 14: Pizza Party!

**At 6:00 Pizza, Sodas, and water will be provided!**

We want to welcome new members and to allow more time to socialize. So instead of the usual Beginner's Conversation, pizza will be provided starting at 6:00 pm with time for questions and answers. Attendees may bring finger foods to complement the pizza.

Our speaker, Kristin Uthus, will join us for pizza. After about 30 minutes, she has agreed to show us her special repotting technique of using long fibered sphagnum to wrap and secure small orchids in the Japanese style.

This leads nicely into her presentation at 7:00 pm on the *Wonderful World of Neofinetia*.



*Neofinetia falcata* Kibana furan ("Yellow Wind Orchid")  
From the New World Orchids Website

Visit the New World Orchids website to place an order. Kristin will deliver it on April 14. No shipping cost!

### April 14<sup>th</sup> Kristin Uthus 7:00 pm "Neofinetia falcata"

**New World Orchids** is owned and operated by **Dr. Kristen Uthus** with help from her husband, Dr. Kevin Wehrly, and her two sons, Henry and Gus. **NWO** is a family-owned orchid business in Manchester, Michigan, specializing in miniature orchids, particularly species, from around the world. They have one of the widest selections of *Neofinetia falcata* and other Japanese orchids in the US.

A former university professor, Dr. Uthus is an experienced and dynamic educator who travels to orchid societies all over the country to talk about orchids. She often appears at shows in the Midwest and on the East Coast throughout the year. She is welcomed back to GCOS as one of our favorite presenters.

Kristin will be bringing plants and sphagnum to sell.

Taken from the New World Orchids website.

### What is *Neofinetia falcata*?

*Neofinetia falcata* (also known as *Vanda falcata* or "furan"/"fukiran" in Japan) is an Asian orchid highly valued for its foliage and fragrant flowers. They were once exclusive to high-ranking individuals, so were nicknamed "Samarai Orchids". Their long-lasting blooms offer a scent of vanilla, honeysuckle, and orange blossom. From the NWO Website



*Neofinetia falcata* Wonhyo, from the  
New World Orchids Website

## 2026 GCOS Orchid Show: March 21,22



Our annual Orchid Show on March 21 and 22 featured a breathtaking variety of displays, educational booths and presentations, and a lively raffle. Congratulations to everyone who participated and helped create such an engaging event! For a recap in pictures, visit our website at [CincinnatiOrchids.org](http://CincinnatiOrchids.org) click Spring Show and scroll down to find many delightful snapshots taken by Kris Mason.

## Awards and Ribbons

The GCOS Society exhibit won 1<sup>st</sup> and a Trophy for the fabulous entries and arrangement. Special appreciation and recognition are due to Joel, Stephanie, Ashlee, Robert, Julie, John, and Nicole who helped Kris set up the display. Notice the newly purchased lights and backdrop frames that are much easier to handle and assemble. Below is the GCOS winning exhibit.



### GCOS Ribbon Awards:

John & Cheryl Jaworski 1 trophy,  
3 firsts, 3 seconds, 1 third  
Mary Anne Foss 1 second and 1 third  
Ashlee Williams 1 second and 1 third  
Ann Tsui 2 firsts  
Stephanie Kimberlin 3 firsts, 5 seconds  
and 1 third  
Nicole Kendle 2 firsts, 2 seconds  
Kwen Hsu 1 first, 1 second  
David Allen 2 firsts 1 second, 1 third  
Robert Mohat 1 second, 2 thirds  
Julie Peterson 1 second  
Pat O'Connor 2 seconds, 2 thirds



*Arundina graminifolia*,  
Best in Class by John  
and Cheryl Jaworski  
Photo by John Jaworski



*Phragmipedium kovachii* 'Peggy' AM/AOS, Photo by  
Eric Sauer



Paph Chilled Bubbles 'River Valley' AM/AOS  
Grown and Photo by Eric Sauer



**“That’s My Orchid!”**

Mary Anne noticed that the orchid used on our 2026 posters was her beautiful orchid’s photo from a past Show.

Photo by Kris Mason

**The Show Raffle Winners**

**Congratulations to our 2026 Raffle Winners:**



Dedra Neitzel - Sterling Silver Phalaenopsis Bead obtained from Superstina Etsy Store; and Sterling Silver Bracelet - obtained from Mula, Top Left

Nicole Moore - Ceramic pot from Karen Eberhardt, Top Right

Betsy Hoskin - Kelpack and K-lite fertilizer package obtained from First Rays, Center

Stephanie Kimberlin - Cypripedium Phillip Dark obtained from Plants Delight, Bottom Left

Dudley Eirich - Cattleya Betty Ford, Bottom Right

**Thank you to everyone who participated in our raffle drawing!**

Photos by Kris Mason

***Thank you to all our volunteers, participants, and attendees who made the March show a memorable event. We are grateful for your support and enthusiasm for orchids.***

## Upcoming Meetings and Events:

Speaker/Event	Date	Speaker/Place	Topic/Information
Judging Center	April 12	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
GCOS Pizza Party plus April Members Meeting	April 14	Kristin Uthus	<i>The Wonderful World of Neofinetia</i>
Board Meeting	April 28	Madeira Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
Judging Center	May 10	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
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 Experienced Growers	Discussion of Previously Requested Topics
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</i>	<i>Plant Registration at 11:30 Lunch at 12:00, auction.</i>
Board Meeting	June 23	Madeira Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
		No GCOS Member Meetings in July and August	
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>
GCOS 2027 Orchid Show	April 3,4 2027	Dan Beard Scout Building	

### Is your membership renewed for

**2026?** Membership is by calendar year, ending on December 31. Two-year memberships end the second year on December 31. The exception is for memberships purchased at Orchid Fest, or on or after October 1, which are good for the end of the year purchased and the following year. We appreciate membership renewals as this is a major revenue source. On the website find a **new online fillable membership form!**

### 2026 Officers and Directors

President	Joel Mattes
Vice President	Kris Mason
Treasurer	Jeanne Rhinehart
Secretary	Ann Tsui
Director	Mary Gardner
Director	Shirley Holt
Director	Jennifer Depillo
Director	Stephanie Kimberlin
Director	Nicole Kendle
Director	Spencer Chroninger

