THE GREATER CINCINNATI ORCHID SOCIETY

November/December 2026 Newsletter

CincinnatiOrchids.org

November 10th *David Sorokowski: "Multifloral Paphs"*

Paph Paradise
www.paphparadise.com

David Sorokowsky
Paphiopedilums





It all started with a few orchid seedlings from a 'big box' store... Soon all the windows were full. Then the grow lights went into the spare bedroom, and then the inevitable greenhouse was built. As David and Stacey Sorokowsky's collection grew they experimented with different genera, but found that slipper orchids were the most intriguing. After a few years paphiopedilums became their main focus.

After David received his degree in biochemistry from the University of Toronto, Dave opted to step outside his chosen field and operated a tropical fish import business for eight years. Upon returning to school, Dave received a degree in enology and viticulture from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. While attending Brock, Dave began acquiring orchids one 2" pot at a time and before he graduated, Dave had over 100 orchids. Winemaking and a passion for orchids prompted Dave to seek a warmer climate in California about one year later. Dave is an accredited AOS judge. In 2018 Dave left winemaking in order to focus all of his time running Paph Paradise Orchids.

David and Stacey have over 20 years experience growing and breeding top quality orchids with over to 100 AOS and CSA awards. Having been a major customer of the Orchid Zone, they were able to acquire some of the finest plants in the world from them, and now are using these exceptional orchids to produce their own new and unique breeding lines. After dabbling with hybridizing for a few years, David and Stacey started setting significant numbers of seed pods in 2013/2014. These seedlings started blooming in 2017 and each year more and more are blooming. Dave has more than 118 registered crosses since 2005.

Dave will be bringing plants for sale. Dave is taking pre-orders for any of our members who are interested in specific plants from Paph Paradise. 10% discount on orders over $100. Pre-orders are due November 3. You can email Dave with your order at dave@paphparadise.com , please remember to include that you will be at the GCOS meeting.

From the *Paph Paradise* Website

The GCOS Annual Meeting will be held at 7:00 prior to the speaker presentation. At this meeting, the Proposed 2027 Budget and the Slate of Officers and Other Directors will be voted on. These are Attached with the email.

Since the Holiday Celebration is on a Tuesday/workday, we proposed catering as an option to Potluck. We will vote on our dinner options at the Annual Meeting. See options on page 3.

Help provide a spectacular table display at the Pop Up Orchid Sale! Show off your blooming orchids on November 14. You may bring them to the November 10th meeting, or to the Krohn Sale to be displayed. Be sure to put your name on the pot and arrange for pickup after 6:00 pm.

Orchid Basics and Exchange of Ideas 6:00 pm

The discussion begins with the topic *" A Snapshot or Overview of Orchid Pests and Diseases"*.
Bring your questions. Bring your problem orchids for discussion.

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Pop Up Orchid Sale at the Krohn Conservatory!



GCOS is hosting an Orchid Sale at the Krohn Conservatory on November 14!

Flask and Flora will fill 2 tables full of a wonderful variety of orchids!

This sale coincides with the famous annual Krohn Conservatory Christmas Display. Their event includes "Intricate model railway displays weaving through handcrafted miniature replicas of iconic Cincinnati landmarks…"

Krohn is granting ***GCOS Members FREE entrance*** *when they come anytime from 10:00 am to closing at 8:00 pm during the Pop Op Orchid Sale!* A list of current members will be at the Krohn entrance desk. You may have to **tell them you are a GCOS member** for them to check the list.

GCOS will have 3 Tables. The Society Table will have informational handouts. Bookmarks, Show Postcards, Culture Sheets and information about GCOS. **New Memberships will receive a Membership folder and a Free Plant Misting Kit**!

At a second table we will sell plant media, pots, and some GCOS-purchased orchids.

Orchids in bloom are needed for a display table!

A third table will display GCOS Members' orchids. Bring orchids for this display to the November 10 meeting or bring them directly to the Pop Up. Please arrange to pick these up from Krohn after 6:00 pm.

All of this activity will need many GCOS volunteer helpers. **Please sign up at the November 10 Meeting.**

If you have questions contact Mary Gardner luna6551np@gmail.com

Mary will have the Signup Sheet at the meeting.

GCOS Holiday Celebration Tuesday December 8

Holiday Celebration Voting Options at the Annual Meeting

A quote obtained from City Barbeque catering would require the advertised charge of $20 to be increased to $26 each. We will vote on the change on November 10.

Option 1) Catered, the cost will increase to $26 a person.
Attendees may bring desserts.

Option 2) As originally advertised, $20 per person, the Society provides the main dish and attendees bring sides or desserts.

Sodas and bottled water, and tableware are furnished either way. We are allowed to bring your own beer or wine.

Plants will be ordered for Silent Auction. Win prizes with orchid Bingo! Chat with friends!

Please RSVP if you plan to attend with the link:



https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0948AEAC2AA7FFC16-53129775-2026

Two Orchidfest Awards



Paph (Be Happy x henryanum)
'Alexis Larsen' AM/AOS

Owner Eric Sauer
Photo by Eric Sauer



Dendrobium Hibiki
Windswept in Time Orchids

Photo by Eric Sauer

Time for 2027 membership renewal!

Hello Orchid Fans! Thank you for your continued support for GCOS!!

This link makes renewal convenient and easy: Link to Membership

Tap "Pay online" AND please fill in the Google Doc membership form. Be sure to Submit!

If you prefer to pay by check, tap the green

Google Doc Membership Form

Print and mail this with your check to the address on the form.

Our memberships are SO important. Without YOU, we would not have a Society.

Plan for Our Spring Orchid Show!



Upcoming Meetings and Events Calendar:

Speaker/Event	Date	Speaker/Place	Topic/Information
Judging Center	November 8	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
GCOS Annual Members Meeting, then Regular Members Meeting	November 10	David Sorokowski	*Multifloral Paphiopedilums*
Board Meeting	November 24	Symmes Township Library	6:00-8:30 and on Zoom
MAOC Annual Members Meeting	December 9	Zoom	7:30 EST
Holiday Celebration	*Tuesday, December 8*	*Scout Achievement Building*	*6:00-8:00 Dine and Games (Place reserved 5:00-9:00)*
Judging Center	December 13	Civic Garden Center	Judging Starts at 1 pm
Board Meeting	January 26	Reading Library	6:00-7:30
GCOS 2027 Orchid Show	April 3,4 2027	Scout Achievement Building	Mark Your Calendars!

Happy Orchid Growing!