The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society will be on Tuesday, February 5, 2013. Note that this is the first Tuesday of the month. The meeting will be held at the Civic Garden Center (CGC) on 2715 Reading Road. The formal meeting starts at about 7:30 PM. There are a few announcements then the program. There will be time to socialize earlier. There will also be a Beginners Class at 6:30 PM in the CGC Library. You can bring your plant(s) in and ask any of the Society’s experts any question that you have.

Dues are due – Our dues year runs from January 1st through December 31st so get your memberships paid please. Even if all the information we had on this year’s roster is correct, we are asking that you fill out a renewal form. And please print clearly or use a return address label. A legible email address is particularly important. You will notice also that starting this year there is a volunteer jobs list on the reverse side. Please feel free to put a check mark by anything you think you might want to try or even if you just have questions about it and someone will contact you.

URGENT Summer picnic, 2013 – We are looking for a different place to have our picnic this June. Does anyone live in an area where you can reserve a shelter at a local (like township) park for little or no cost? The Sharon Woods shelters are expensive (we have one reserved for Saturday June 15 for $130) & we’d like to keep costs down where possible. Please see Dana White at a meeting or show or email her at GCOSinfo@zoomtown.com.

Beginners Class – February – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM. The topic will be Cymbidiums - what are they and how do you grow them. Note they're not all big.

Beginners Class – March – Starts in the Library at 6:30 PM. Discussion this month will be on the stately Cattleya. Everyone should have lots of these.

February Speaker – The program for the meeting will be Paphiopedilums (the REAL orchids, says Rick Noel) presented by Steve Helbling. (No plant sales.) We all know how well Steve grows everything but especially Paphs. I’m sure you’ll learn a lot.

March Speaker – Program will be on Phalaenopsis presented by Phal-Grower-Extextraordinaire Jim Lurton. He and his wife Annette have lots of quality and culture awards from the AOS on their Phals. If you want to learn how to grow Phals don’t miss this one. (No plant sales)

February Refreshments – Larry Sanford & Hideka Kobayashi

March Refreshments –
We will need volunteers to bring refreshments for the meetings for next year. A sign-up sheet will continue circulating at the meetings until filled for the 2013 year.

Conservation Committee – The chairperson of the Conservation Committee, Teresa Huesman, said that there is a field trip being planned for June 8th to Cedar Bog. More details to follow.

Speaking of conservation, the 1% for Orchid Conservation, Orchid Conservation Coalition, to which we have committed to send 1% of our profits (we voted for a minimum of $100) sends out a newsletter every few months. If you would like to read what other societies & individuals are doing to help conserve orchids, you can go to http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org/update/25.html & read all about it.
Our spring show – The dates for our show next spring have been formalized with Krohn Conservatory. They are March 23rd & 24th, set-up on Friday the 22nd. The potting bee date is April 7th. We would LOVE lots of volunteers for the potting bee in the spring. If you can come & bring your own sterile tools, that’s even better. We can show you how to sterilize them even. There is also a great need for someone with more experience to take the lead role in organizing & “chairing” these events. Margaret has done so for a while but needs to concentrate her energies elsewhere.

Newsletter Circulation Policy - The newsletter is sent to all members whose membership is current and to other orchid societies by reciprocal agreement.

Our Web Site – Go to: http://www.cincinnatiorchids.org. Contact our Publication Chair, Brian Spitler, at publicationschair@cincinnatiorchids.org if you would like to add to the site.

Fall 2013 MAOC – The dates are October 19th & 20th, with set up on Friday the 18th. The name of the MOAC will be “Orchids N Art”, very clever Eric & Barry! We now have an agreement in writing with the Dayton Art Institute.

Speakers – The following speakers have been confirmed for Saturday:
  - Angela Mirro, from New York will be the keynote speaker after the banquet. Topic: Orchids in Art & Illustration.
  - Chris Purver, from the Eric Young Orchid Foundation in England. Topic: Oncidinae including recent name changes & Miltoniopsis, Oncidium, Oncidopsis, Brassidiums, etc.

Speaking on Sunday will be:
  - Lynn O'Shaughnessy. Topic: Orchid photography especially the little ones.
  - Holger Purner speaking at the hotel on Dendrobiums.


Website – We have a website but not much info up just yet: orchidsnart.com.

Next MOAC meeting – will be Monday, March 4 at the Bob Evans off of Union Center Blvd. just off I-75 at 6:30 PM. Any one wishing to be a part of the fun is welcome to come.

Jobs to be filled – There will be a list of jobs needed to be filled at the meeting. Many of these are not until much closer to show time. The following is a list of jobs for the MAOC. If you are interested in filling one or more of them please feel free to come to the meetings &/or talk to Barry Jones, Jan Yates or Dana White.

  Registration
  We need someone to chair/help with the registration of the plants & exhibits. Dana will train.

  Goodie Bags
  Everyone is encouraged to think of things which are uniquely Cincinnati, Northern Kentucky &/or Dayton to go into the bags handed out to every registrant. Things like refrigerator magnets from local companies, brochures from local attractions, etc. They need to be free or VERY cheap since we need about 120 of each of them. We will also need representatives from both societies to put one of each of our acquired goodies in the bags. This is done a week or so before the show.

  Decorations
  We will be getting a plant from each of our vendors to be used as table decorations for the banquet on Saturday night. We will need volunteers to wrap the pots in foil on either Friday night or Saturday afternoon of the show.

  Tours
  We will be offering tour of local places like Wright-Pat & others. We need someone to look into other places like Jungle Jim’s, Ikea, etc., see if they are interested & make the arrangements.
Hospitality

People will be needed to man information tables for societies. We will also have a place to keep plants that have been bought & paid for people away from public. Also people for the registration table to hand out the goodie bags, badges, etc.

MAOC show booklet

We are looking for someone to do the layout for the show booklet. We would like for anyone interested to try to sell ad space in the back of the booklet. Pages are 8” X 5.5” and ads are black & white & sold by the quarter, half & full page.

Show

All the jobs associated with any orchid show, including but not limited to the show schedule, display area layout, trophies, invitations to individuals & nearby societies, plant & display registration, coordination of the Friday night preview party including celebrity invitations & ticket sales.

Signs

We will need someone to figure out proper wording & print & install very detailed signs for the elevators & hallways at the DAI pointing the way to the sales & display areas & hospitality room.

Cincinnati Judging Center – The February date is Sunday the 9th. You will note this is the second Sunday of the month. We are lucky enough to have an AOS Judging Center right here in Cincinnati. They meet the second Sunday of every month at the Civic Garden Center & observers are always welcome. Judging starts at 1:00 PM.

Board of Directors – The next meeting of the Board of Directors is set for Tuesday February 19. Anyone interested in the inner workings of the GCOS is welcome to attend.

AOS "Orchids" magazine – It has been suggested that I include highlights from this wonderful publication for those members who do not yet belong to the AOS (American Orchid Society). "Orchids" magazine is sent to AOS members each month and we encourage all GCOS members to join our national affiliate organization (www.aos.org).

January – This issue had an article titled “Baby It's Cold Outside” with a picture of someone covering a plant with a sheet. DON'T WE WISH IT WERE THAT EASY HERE!! There is useful information in the article for we non-tropical people but the picture got my attention first. There is also an article on Angraecum urschianum, a TINY plant with large flowers. They don’t give a size of the plant but it is not much larger then the person's THUMB in the picture! Then toward the back of the magazine is an article on its MUCH larger “cousin”, Angraecum sesquipedale. There is also "Species from the Dry Side" about the many orchids that grow where you’d least expect them. Then there’s the article about Boisduval scale infesting the plants in the wilds of Florida. And we think WE have bug problems in our controlled environments. They offer some hope but it is still depressing. Then there is yet another article on Paph. charlesworthii.

Every month – And if the articles & pictures don’t get you the ads certainly will!!

Volunteer opportunities – just tell us what you’re interested in and we will get you plugged in. These are the jobs we need to have filled as soon as we can. You will find a longer list on the back of the 2013 membership form.

Hospitality (those goodies we all love to eat) at meetings and shows
Registering plants for shows – Assisting & learning how to register plants for shows, both at home & away – the biggest qualification for this job is not being afraid of all of those orchid names!
Show Chair – Assisting and learning how to chair/organize an AOS sanctioned orchid show
MAOC – We are hosting a major regional show to be held in collaboration with the Dayton MVOS in October 2013 at the Dayton Art Institute. Help will be needed with directing visitors during the event, "park a plant" (for show visitors who bought plants but don’t want to carry them around), society table, show clerking, general promotion, fundraiser auction items, getting items for goody bags for registrants…many, many more opportunities.

We always welcome input on speakers, field trips, newsletter items, beginner culture group & other program options so please share your ideas with any member of the Board (see top of newsletter for names).
Wisdom from the Prez – Jan. 19th at New Vision Orchids near Indy. 50 degrees!! Monday the 21st talking 6 by morning. Ugh!!! Think winter has been here too long already. At least our meeting is in Feb. so March ain't far away. And speaking of Mar., our show will be coming rapidly at us. Be ready to help where you can. Always need volunteers to setup/teardown the show; help other societies and vendors in and out; answer questions from puzzled mind (is that really an orchid??) and other needs as needed. Can't do it without your help and ideas. Brian is heading up the effort for the Home and Garden Show in Mar. Jane and I will try a new place (Newport of the Levee) at the end of Feb. More about each at the next meeting. Not much wisdom this month…too cold to think. Hope all are well enough. Keep happy thoughts. BYE BYE.

All for now—Da Prez