

# CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

## *Reporter*

OCTOBER 2020



### WHERE DO I FIND?

President's Message .....	2
Plant of the Month .....	8
Virtual Show Table Winner's List .....	9
Virtual Show Table .....	10
Into the Wild .....	37
COOS 2020 Calendar .....	41
COOS Board Members .....	42

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**The Fall Plant Sale was a success!** Thanks to all the members who sold and attended our fall member's plant sale. First, we had a great turnout of sellers who brought beautiful and healthy plants to the event. Also, we had a great turnout of members who snatched up some unusual orchids which hopefully will be happy in their new homes. If you have any issues, our members will be happy to provide you with growing guidance. Just make sure you are a member and use our member's only section, following your registration, on the Society website ([centralohioorchidsociety.org](http://centralohioorchidsociety.org)). As we expect Covid-19 precautions to continue into the spring, we will also plan on having another member plant sale after repotting and dividing of orchids commences. Stay tuned for information in late winter.





# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## October meeting coming up soon -- Thursday, October 15th

Our October meeting is scheduled for October 15th at 7:30 pm. Kristin Ulthus will be speaking on mini-cattleyas. She owns and operates New World Orchids and is offering us two, yes two, discounts on any plants bought through her website [newworldorchids.com](http://newworldorchids.com). Any orders over \$100.00 will receive free shipping and all orders using the discount code COOS10 will receive a 10% discount. Start shopping for the best selections!!

To attend the meeting, please follow the following link:

## Zoom meeting: Central Ohio Orchid Society Meeting

**October 15, 2020 at 7:30 pm**

Eastern Time (US and Canada)

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85312999926?pwd=UzY5Sy9EZGs1NlZpbEtJOXRNSmJLQT09>

Meeting ID: 853 1299 9926

Passcode: 079168

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,85312999926#,,,,,0#,,079168# US (Germantown)

+13126266799,,85312999926#,,,,,0#,,079168# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location :

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown) +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York) +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 853 1299 9926

Passcode: 079168

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85312999926>

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CON'T

Dr. Kristen Uthus studied both plant and animal ecology and evolution at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and the Ohio State University (OSU). She then taught biology and ecology at several colleges including VCU, OSU, University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University. The daughter of a plant fanatic, Kristen has been growing orchids for over 20 years, and in 2014 she fulfilled her dream of making orchids a full-time commitment by purchasing New World Orchids.

Although she enjoys growing many varieties of orchids and other plants, miniatures remain her passion—the weirder the better. NWO specializes in Japanese species including *Neofinetia falcata*, *Dendrobium moniliforme*, and *Sederia japonica*, but her miniature selection includes many other small species including Pleurothallids, Bulbophyllums, and Angraecums. Although never entirely up-to-date, you can check out some of NWO's offerings at [www.newworldorchids.com](http://www.newworldorchids.com). Living in Manchester, MI, about an hour west of Detroit, Kristen is supported in her orchid pursuits by her husband, Dr. Kevin Wehrly, and her two sons, Henry and Gus.

## CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

### *October Society Meeting*

**October 15, 2020**

**Thursday - 7:30 pm**

**Virtual**

**Speaker: Dr. Kristin Uthus**  
- New World Orchids

**Topic: "Cattleyas:  
The Miniature Collection"**





## **Orchids 101**

Each January, Dave and Edna Markley have taught an Orchids 101 class for the Conservatory. They have asked us again and we will proceed with a virtual class if that is acceptable to the Conservatory. If anyone would like to provide the class, Dave and Edna will be happy to assist you with their presentation and guidance. Please let us know if you would like to participate, even if it is to join them in the presentation.

## **2021 Dues**

It's that time again, when we begin to ask all members and those who can't wait to be members to go to our website and join the Society. It remains one of the best deals out there. Single membership is \$20.00, while \$25.00 gets you the family membership. With Zoom, it is easy to have your family members learn about orchids (and hopefully assist you in purchasing a few more) as you participate. Dick, my partner, has attended several meetings this year and has responded, "that was really interesting" following the meetings. He even listened and watched the Kentucky Orchid Society meeting last week and was impressed with the information shared. As always, the Society appreciates your membership and support of our activities.

## **Central Ohio Orchid Society History**

A number of years ago, the Society had a "ton" of materials stored at the Franklin Park Conservatory. They asked us to move it all out and Tennis Maynard stored the boxes for a long time. Well, we (Troy Timbrook) finally got the boxes out of his living room (following a leak in the closet they were originally stored) and a few of us went to Troy's and in a safe and socially distant way reviewed the contents of the 20-30 boxes of stuff. Some we determined could easily be recycled as on-line versions of the journals now existed. However, we have about 8 boxes left that have the following materials that are not on-line:

- Orchid Digest
- Orchid Review
- Orchid Australia
- Sander's list of Orchid Hybrids

If you are interested in any of these, please email me at [nlshapiro2@gmail.com](mailto:nlshapiro2@gmail.com).

Additionally, Tom Hart and I went through a box that contained back issues of the Central Ohio Orchid Society Reporter. Issues go back to the several decades. It would be great to have this archive saved digitally. If anyone would like to help us scan and create an on-line archive, please let me know.

## Upcoming On-line Plant Auction

One of the problems of being an orchid lover, is the need to get the next orchid. To help you with that, we are planning an on-line auction to take place in November or December. If you have a desirable orchid that really needs a new home (it won't flower for you or you just need more room and know someone else would really love to have it) and would like to donate it to benefit the Society, please take a picture of the plant, determine what you think would be a good starting bid and get ready to send that information to us. We will have more info on how this will all work in the next few weeks. STAY TUNED.

## Orchiata Sale

For the last few years, we have arranged for bulk purchasing of Orchiata bark. Those of us who have used it have seen our plants looking and feeling so much better. As you look at which plants you may want to donate to the upcoming plant auction, also check out which plants will need to be repotted this spring. The names of the grades or sizes of Orchiata do little to help you decide which size to purchase. So here is a description of the sizes and which plants do best in each one:

### Community

trays and very young orchids

We recommend the smallest chip size, **Precision 1/8" - 1/4"**

### Seedlings

and/or young orchids

We recommend the next chip size up, **Classic 1/4" - 3/8"**

### Young

and mature orchids being repotted

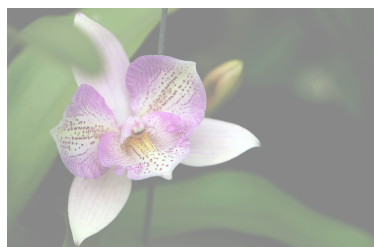
We recommend the next chip size up, **Power 3/8" - 1/2"**

### Mature

orchids and orchids in larger pots

We recommend the next chip size up, **Power+ 1/2" - 3/4"**

We will begin taking orders in January and will plan for delivery in late February or early March. Plan ahead and make sure you have the supplies you will need this spring.



*Nancy Shapiro | President  
Central Ohio Orchid Society  
October 11, 2020*

## GCOS Mini Show and Sale October 17th - 18th Krohn Conservatory

Since the usual fall shows have been canceled, the society is encouraging members to support two of its regular vendors and see some members' blooming plants at Krohn Conservatory:

**Friday October 17, 10am to 4pm**

**Sunday October 18, 10am to 4pm**

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society  
**Orchid Mini-Show & Plant Sale**  
cincinnatiorchids.org

**Krohn Conservatory**

**Oct. 17 & 18, 2020**

**10am - 4pm**



Cattleya harrisoniana 'Volcano Queen' AM/AOS

Photo by Richard Noel

The vendors are **Littlefrog Farm** (Rob Halgren) and **Windswept in Time** (Edward Stehli).

Sales tables will be set up in Krohn's lobby as usual - masks and social distancing required which means ten people will be in the sales area at any one time.

If you have your eyes on specific plants from either vendors, you can contact

Rob ([www.littlefrogfarm.com](http://www.littlefrogfarm.com))

or Edgar  
([www.windsweptorchids.com](http://www.windsweptorchids.com))  
in advance.

And if you know of friends who have empty window or bench space for plants, tell them about our vendors.



# SEPTEMBER 2020 PLANT OF THE MONTH

## Plant of the Month: Paph Michael Koopowitz Grown by Ken Mettler

### Paph. Michael Koopowitz

I bought this plant as a small seedling from Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn about a year and a half ago. Like all my orchids, it goes outside for the summer.

It gets bright indirect light, and lives under LED grow lights in the winter. It likes warm conditions, days in the 70s and nights in the 60s, occasionally into the 50s.

I try to move it inside if the temperature will drop more than a little below 50 degrees. I repot annually.



I use a mix of 50% Orchidata bark, 25% coarse perlite, and 25% charcoal. To this basic mix, I add about 5% by volume ground oyster shell. I fertilize with Michigan State formula, at about a half teaspoon per gallon. I don't fertilize from December through February.

I was thrilled this year when it showed a spike and grew four flowers as a first-bloom seedling. And yes, those petals are over 26 inches (61cm) long!

- Ken Mettler

# SEPTEMBER 2020 VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE

## CATTLEYA:

1st	<i>C. dolosa</i>	Grown by Tennis Maynard
2nd	<i>C. interglossa</i>	Grown by Tennis Maynard
3rd	LC. Mary Bohn 'Royal Flare'	Grown by Tom and Pat Stinson
3rd	L. Santa Barbara Sunset 'Showtime' HCC/AOS	Grown by Dave and Edna Markley

## PAPH:

1st	Paph. Michael Koopowitz	Grown by Ken Mettler
2nd	Paph. Raisin Jack	Grown by Nancy Shapiro
3rd	Paph. sukhakulii	Grown by Justin Pepperney

## VANDA:

1st	<i>V. Kultana Purple</i>	Grown by Tessie Steelman
2nd	<i>V. (Pra Pathom x Varut Leopard) 'Super Spot'</i>	Grown by Tessie Steelman
3rd	<i>V. No ID</i>	Grown by Dave and Edna Markley

## PHALAENOPSIS:

1st	Phal. Samera	Grown by Amy Thomas
2nd	Phal. hieroglyphica	Grown by Courtney White
3rd	Phal. No ID	Grown by Tracy Strombotne

## CATASETUMS:

1st	<i>Ctsm. expansum</i>	Grown by Tessie Steelman
2nd	<i>Ctsm. Susan Fuchs x tigrinum</i>	Grown by Jennifer Sonnenberg
3rd	<i>Cyc Golden Shower</i>	Grown by Amy Thomas

## OTHERS:

1st	<i>Sobralia decora</i>	Grown by Ken Mettler
1st	<i>Trichopilia Apache</i>	Grown by Tennis Maynard
2nd	<i>Zygopabstia Dragon Kitten 'Purr'</i>	Grown by Amy Thomas
2nd	<i>Bulbophyllum Jersey</i>	Grown by Tennis Maynard
3rd	<i>Dracula vespertilio</i>	Grown by Tom Hart
3rd	<i>Masdevallia veitchiana</i>	Grown by Tom and Pat Stinson

**PLANT OF THE MONTH: PAPH MICHAEL KOPOWITZ** Grown by Ken Mettler

# CATTLEYA



*C. dolosa*  
Grown by Tennis Marnard





# CATTLEYA



C. Interglossa  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



# CATTLEYA



L. Santa Barbara Sunset 'Showtime' HCC/AOS  
Grown by Dave and Edna Markley



LC. Mary Bohn 'Royal Flare'  
Grown by Tom and Pat Stinson

# CATTLEYA



*Cattleya lueddemannina* var. tipo 'Hayde' AM/SVN x 'Leslie'  
Grown by Dave and Edna Markley



# CATTLEYA



Catt. maxima coerulea  
Grown by Tessie Steelman

# CATTLEYA



Epidendrum NOID  
Grown by Jennifer Sonnenberg

# PAPHIOPEDILUM



Paph. Michael Koopowitz  
Grown by Ken Mettler



Paph. Raisin Jack  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



# PAPHIOPEDILUM



*Paph. sukhakulii*  
Grown by Justin Pepperney



*Paph. sukhakulii*  
Grown by Justin Pepperney

# PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph. In-Charm 'In Charm'  
x Paph. primulinum 'Dr. Lee'  
Grown by Dave and Edna Markley



Paph. Garnet Fire x henryanum  
Grown by Ken Mettler

# VANDACEOUS



V. Kultana Purple  
Grown by Tessie Steelman



V. (Pra Pathom  
x Varut Leopard) 'Super Spot'  
Grown by Tessie Steelman



# VANDACEOUS



V. No ID  
Grown by Dave and Edna Markley



# PHALAENOPSIS



Phal. Samera  
Grown by Amy Thomas



# PHALAENOPSIS



Phal. hieroglyphica  
Grown by Cortney White





# PHALAENOPSIS



Phal. No ID  
Grown by Tracy Strombotne

# CATASETUMS



Ctsm. expansum  
Grown by Tessie Steelman



Ctsm. Susan Fuchs x tigrinum  
Grown by Jennifer Sonnenberg

# CATASETUMS



Cyc. Golden Shower  
Grown by Amy Thomas



# CATASETUMS



Ctsm. 'SVO Upgrade' x Ctsm. tigrinum 'SVO'  
Grown by Tom Hart

# CATASETUMS



Ctsm. expansum 'Myra' X Ctsm. osculatum 'Clara'  
Grown by Jennifer Sonnenberg

# CATASETUMS



*Ctasm. fimbriatum*  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro



# OTHERS



*Sobralia decora*  
Grown by Ken Mettler



*Trichopilia Apache*  
Grown by Tennis Maynard



# OTHERS



Zygopabstia Dragon Kitten 'Purr'  
Grown by Amy Thomas

# OTHERS



Bulbophyllum Jersey  
Grown by Tennis Maynard





# OTHERS



*Masdevallia veitchiana*  
Grown by Tom and Pat Stinson



*Dracula vespertilio*  
Grown by Tom Hart



# OTHERS



*Psychopsis Mariposa* 'Green Valley'  
Grown by Tom Hart



*Habenaria medusa*  
Grown by Nancy Shapiro

# OTHERS



Den Himezakura 'Sanokki'  
Grown by Tom and Pat Stinson

Stanhopea oculata  
Grown by Wayne Roberts





# OTHERS

*Coelogyne usitana*  
Grown by Ken Mettler



*Aerangis punctata*  
Grown by Cortney White

# NOT FOR JUDGING



Phrag. Predator  
Grown by Ken Mettler

# Into the Wild ...

## A Pleasant Accident—*Spiranthes odorata*

By Ken Mettler

Well, it's October.

And for a wild orchid enthusiast that means one thing, more *Spiranthes*!

Specifically, members of the *Spiranthes cernua* species complex.

The topic of this month's column is the Fragrant Ladies Tresses, *Spiranthes odorata*.



First, a little background on this group of plants. The genus *Spiranthes* contains somewhere around fifty recognized species. More types of *Spiranthes* are found in the eastern United States than anywhere else in the world. They range from tropical to temperate regions as terrestrial growing species. Many species prefer moist to wet environments, although some have adapted to dry prairie habitats. The flowers are typically some shade of white, sometimes with cream, yellow or green on the lip. Some species are pleasantly fragrant, while others have no scent.

Many of the species look very similar in bloom, and sometimes there can be more variation within a species than between two species. Like other orchids, many *Spiranthes* are actively evolving. There are species complexes, naturally occurring hybrids, naturally occurring polyploids and polyploid hybrids (allopolyploids), and cryptic species that look identical but have been shown to be genetically isolated. Whew! All this subtle variation usually results in people having one of two reactions: either complete confusion, or utter fascination with these plants. I subscribe to the latter.

The taxonomic status is not very well studied, and changes over time and from one reference to another. At one time, all of the fall-blooming *Spiranthes* in the eastern United States were considered to be *Spiranthes cernua*. Then, taxonomists noticed that there were different forms, and many of these were listed as subspecies of *cernua*.



# Into the Wild . . .

Different taxonomists separated these differently, and some forms were considered separate species. In 2017, Matthew Pace and Kenneth Cameron published a detailed study that compared these plants genetically and morphologically. They divided the wild populations into about 14 species and hybrids. The plants that were recently known as *Spiranthes cernua* are now divided into three separate species. All three of these range into Ohio, so we now have two more native species than just a few years ago. Yay!



I know this is a long trip around the mulberry bush (trust me, it could be a lot longer), but for this article I really want to write about *Spiranthes odorata*.

Known commonly as the Sweet-scented Ladies' Tresses, this species was once identified as *Spiranthes cernua* var. *odorata*. Pace and Cameron in 2017 ironically determined that it is the most distantly related of all the forms they studied and suggest it may not even belong in *cernua* complex.

This species ranges from Long Island, New York down the Atlantic coast to south Florida, and west to eastern Texas. It is considered rare in Oklahoma and Arkansas, endangered in Kentucky and Tennessee, and probably extirpated from Maryland. The cultivar that is readily available in the orchid trade is known as "Chadd's Ford".

This plant was rescued in the 1960s by orchid enthusiast Dick Ryan near Bear, Delaware. The site where the population grew was slated for residential development, but he was able to bring the plant into cultivation.

And boy, does it do well in cultivation!

This plant has been propagated by the millions. It produces seeds that do not result from pollination (called agamospermous seeds, if you want to impress your friends), and are genetic clones of the parent plant. These seeds germinate readily, and it can become a weed in some greenhouse situations. But, what a weed! It forms a basal rosette of leaves up to about five inches long. They usually go dormant in November, only to reemerge in the Spring. Then in September, flower spikes emerge up to about 18 inches. The fragrant, October blooming flowers are up to a half inch long, and they spiral around the stem, as all *Spiranthes* do. The scent has been described as a combination of vanilla and jasmine. A clump in a six-inch pot can have up to a dozen blooming stems and is really quite a show-stopper.

# Into the Wild

One of the plants of this species that I've grown over the years came from botany professor Dr. Warren Stoutamire. He had a fantastic collection of Disas and other orchids and non-orchid plants when he lived near Akron, Ohio. Remember that *Spiranthes odorata* sometimes spreads readily in a plant collection. *Spiranthes odorata* likes moisture, so it became a bit of a weed in the *Disa* collection. On one of my visits about 20 years ago, Warren gave me a pot in which a *Disa* had died, but the *Spiranthes* was growing well. He said, "Here. Grow this."

I did. I nicknamed my plant "Warren's Weed". That plant went to several October orchid shows, and always received lots of compliments from admirers. It also multiplied. Even though I don't have a greenhouse, its seeds spread into my houseplant collection. One year I dug 22 seedlings out of other houseplant pots. I put them into small pots, and kept the pots in a plastic dish tray, about four inches deep. I always kept some moisture in the bottom of the tray, and they grew outside on my deck in nearly full sun.



Then, it happened. They were on the deck in early December during a rainstorm that filled the tray to the top. The little seedlings were completely submerged. After the storm and cold front passed, I went outside to check on the hardy plants, and found that the seedlings were encased in a rather large block of ice! De#\$!!! I wanted to take some of these to the December auction for the orchid judging center. I took the tray into my garage and placed a space heater nearby to gently thaw the ice. It took two or three days, but when the ice melted the seedlings were completely unscathed! How's that for a tough plant? A couple did go to the auction.

# Into the Wild

Eventually, one year (2008?) a mouse got into the cold room where I would keep my cool/cold growing plants in the winter. It ate all the tuberous roots and dormant shoots, killing my beloved weed. As luck would have it, I had just had a barn built on my property, and the plant had set lots of seed on my deck, about 50 yards from the barn. To my delight, a year or two after my mother plant died, I found about three dozen blooming stems of *Spiranthes odorata*! They were growing in the bulldozer-disturbed hillside near the barn. They like the disturbance. As time has passed, grasses and other plants have filled in, and this year I'm only finding four blooming plants and a handful of non-blooming plants on my hillside.



Earlier this year, I dug up one of the plants and put it in a pot. They love moisture and disturbance (think regular repotting). It hasn't bloomed but had developed a nice rosette of small new leaves. This species isn't actually native to Ohio, and I expect my hillside population to die out over time, but hopefully this potted plant will continue on the legacy of "Warren's Weed".



# 2020 COOS CALENDAR

## **JANUARY 16**

AOS WEBINAR "GROWING UNDER LIGHTS"

## **FEBRUARY 20**

KEN METTLER - "THE ART + DESIGN OF ORCHID SHOW DISPLAYS"

## **MARCH 19 . . . . . CANCELED**

KEN METTLER AND JUSTIN PEPPERNEY - "DEFLASKING ORCHIDS"

## **APRIL 3-5 . . . . . CANCELED**

COOS ANNUAL ORCHID SHOW AND PLANT SALE - FRANKLIN PARK CONSERVATORY

## **APRIL 16**

AOS VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM - HABENARIAS

## **MAY 21**

ERIC SAUER - PHRAGMIPEDIUMS

## **JUNE 18**

ANNUAL PICNIC AND POT LUCK- CANCELED  
KEN METTLER - "DEFLASKING ORCHIDS"

## **JULY 16**

MARTIN MOTES OF MOTES ORCHIDS - "DARWIN AND ORCHIDS" - VIRTUAL MEETING

## **AUGUST**

KIM FEDDERSON OF FAIR ORCHIDS - VANDAS

## **SEPTEMBER 17**

DR. JOHN FREUDENSTEIN - THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
"MANIPULATION AS A WAY OF LIFE - ORCHID DIVERSITY AND EVOLUTION"

## **OCTOBER 15**

KRISTIN UTHUS - NEW WORLD ORCHIDS - "CATTLEYAS: THE MINIATURE COLLECTION"

## **NOVEMBER 19**

EDGAR STEHLI - WINDSWEPT IN TIME ORCHIDS - "ANGRAECOIDS"

## **DECEMBER**

NO MEETING

# COOS BOARD MEMBERS: 2020 - 2021

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DENNIS EIFEL

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CHERYL EARLY

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## **HOSPITALITY**

TBD

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TOM HART

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WENDY CHRISMAN

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WENDY CHRISMAN

## **WEBSITE + SOCIAL MEDIA**

WENDY CHRISMAN

**Visit the new Central Ohio Orchid Society website at:**

**<https://www.centralohioorchidsociety.org/>**