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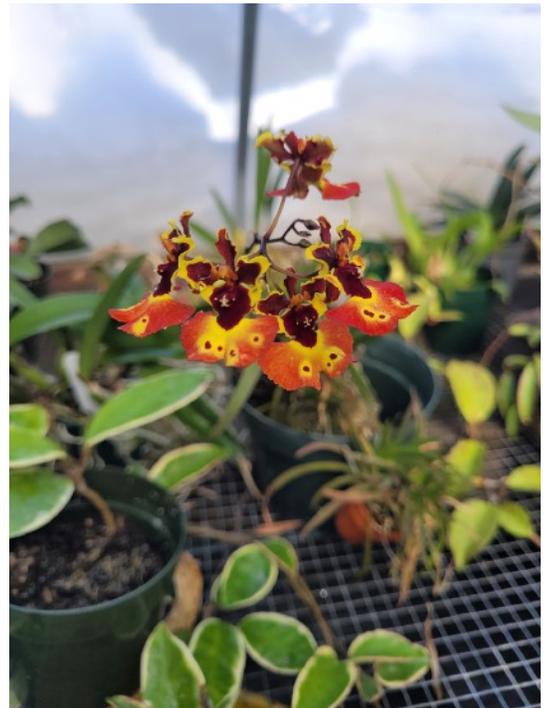
FEBRUARY 2026 COOS REPORTER

As we were unable to have an in person meeting in January due to the winter storm, we asked members to send in a few pictures of their blooming plants to enjoy. These photos, while not judged during our formal show table, are still a hint of spring which should show up soon. We hope to have an in person meeting on Sunday, February 22 at the Franklin Park Conservatory Wells Barn basement. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Tolumnia Genting Orange
grown by Dennis Eifel

Cattleya cruziana grown
by Chris Brown



See additional photos on pages 6 – 7

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President's Message February 2026

I missed seeing everyone in person in January. I don't think anyone would have wanted to go out in the snow that day. Fortunately, we have Zoom capabilities, that gave us an option to stay home, but still have a productive meeting and speaker. I hope everyone is doing well, keeping warm, and taking good care of your plants. I, for one, am fighting the humidity battle on a daily basis. But daylight is increasing, which is good for us and our plants. Spring isn't that far away, in spite of what the rodent said.

We are meeting this month and next on Sunday afternoons, in the basement of the Wells Barn. This was decided to avoid people having to drive late in the evenings in possibly bad weather. This will be our first meeting in the basement room. Hopefully this will work out for us. If the space is adequate, this location should help with parking and access. Starting in April, we will revert back to our Thursday evening times, but the location should stay the same. (Hopefully.)

As a reminder, please pay your dues if you haven't already. Thank you to those who have already paid their dues. This is how we are able to afford speakers and other society functions. I'm excited to see the line up of speakers this year.

Thank you for your participation as a member. I frequently remark that we can do much more as a group than any of us could accomplish alone.

Ken Mettler

January – March 2026 meetings will be held at the Franklin Park Conservatory Wells Barn on SUNDAY AFTERNOONS in an attempt to improve winter driving conditions. Information on dates and times are on page ___ of this newsletter

February 2026 Society Meeting

The next meeting of the Central Ohio Orchid Society will be held on **Sunday, February 22, 2026 at Franklin Park Conservatory at the Wells Barn Basement**. The beginners corner will start at 1:30 pm, followed by the meeting and presentation at 2 pm.

Don't forget to bring your plants for the monthly Show Table, results will be announced after the presentation.

Also, our speaker will be conducting a plant sale so bring a box and some form of payment to take new plants home!



Olga Shostachuk is a nature lover, gardener, and an avid orchid grower, who has been growing orchids for over 15 years. She is a VP of Programming and Newsletter Editor at the Greater Cleveland Orchid Society and an active member at the Westshore Orchid Society. She participates in orchid shows in Northeastern US, where she received several AOS awards, and speaks on various topics at the local orchid societies.

Her collection includes many genera from huge Cattleyas to miniature Lepanthes, and of course, a staple of all times—Phalaenopsis, but her faves are terrestrial orchids and miniatures, specifically, *Neofinetia falcata* and *Dendrobium moniliforme*. She owns *Nature in a Jar | Terrascaping Designs*, a unique place where you can find miniature mossy terrains and rainforests, with orchids if desired, to bring the joy of nature into your home, literally, in a jar.

Each terrarium is a delicately handcrafted ecosystem, and thus, using the highest-grade materials and correct plant species is crucial in order to create a truly self-contained, low maintenance natural bionetwork. In this presentation, Olga will share her best practices on how to build a self-sustaining terrarium and ensure its longevity and good health.

Zoom Link for the Sunday, February 22nd Central Ohio Orchid Society Meeting

Topic: COOS Meeting Sunday, February 22, 2026 at 2pm

Time: Jan 25, 2026 02:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86115299019?
pwd=LabfJSciWDJamKh9770sWAFVs8ecLP.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86115299019?pwd=LabfJSciWDJamKh9770sWAFVs8ecLP.1)

Meeting ID: 851 0153 4199

Passcode: 552449

Yes, It is Time to Pay Your Dues

Your dues support our speaker programs, our operational costs and community outreach efforts. Plus, membership provides you with access to our members-only opportunities such as select portions of our website and plant forums, participating in on-line plant auctions, various non-meeting educational opportunities, access to recorded ZOOM meeting lectures, and much more. Please note even if you chose not to join, you are welcome to attend COOS meetings or listen to our speakers via ZOOM.

Go to <https://www.centralohioorchidsociety.org/>, click on [Join Us](#), from which there are two options.

Yearly membership is only \$20 for an individual and \$25 for a family. We tried to make payment easy and painless.

1.) [Central Ohio Orchid Society Electronic Membership Application](#) Complete the application at the bottom of the page, follow the prompts and make payment via PayPal. (*Preferred Method*) **or** 2.) Click on [PDF Annual Membership Application](#), then print the form, fill it out by hand, and return it with a check. The mailing address is on the form. (To fill in the PDF on-line: open document, right click, rename PDF and "save as" to your desktop, close COOS screen, open the saved PDF in desktop, click on tools, click on "fill and sign", enter data, save and print document

Member Submitted Flowers — January 2026

Paphiopedilum tranlieniarum
grown by Tennis Maynard



Phalaenopsis 'Golden Cloud' (Sogo Kitty x Rong Guan Amah) Grown by Jim and Margo Washburn

All photos were taken by the growers identified

Members Submitted Flowers — January 2026

Phaius Dan Rosenberg 'Tropical Ice' grown by Ken Mettler



Amesiella philippinensis grown by Nancy Shapiro

Monthly Meeting Hospitality

This year Jan Miller has agreed to coordinate our monthly hospitality. She will need assistance to assure that we all have good snacks at our monthly meetings. Please follow the link below to sign up for volunteering or sign up on in the red book at our meetings, to be on January's snack team!

[COOS Monthly Meeting Hospitality Sign Up](#)



Please bring your own non-alcoholic beverage to all future meetings as we would like to reduce our carbon footprint with decreasing our use of single use plastics! Thanks in advance.

Welcome New Members

We are always excited to have new members to welcome into our Orchid Society. **Please say "hello and what do you grow" to all our new member(s).**

Jared and Cheryl Swartzentruber

Brandon Gray

Upcoming 2026 Orchid Shows

Location	Dates	Set Up
Greater Akron	March 7 – 8	Ken Mettler
Greater Cleveland	March 14 – 15	Beth Makley
Greater Cincinnati	March 21 – 22	
Western Pennsylvania	April 11 – 12	
West Shore	April 25 – 26	



ORCHID CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

**INVITES YOU TO JOIN ONE OF THEIR ORCHIDS IN THE
WILD ECOTOURS**



**THE GARGANO
PENINSULA, ITALY**

April 13-20



**NORTHERN
YUNNAN, CHINA**

June 14 -28



TIBET

June 28 -July 6

**For More Information on
these or other 2026 tours,
please click on the link
above**

Have You Considered Joining the American Orchid Society

BENEFITS OF AOS MEMBERSHIP

- Receive Orchids Magazine and have access to the Digital Archive
- Receive Exclusive Discounts and Savings on Orchids, Supplies and More
- OrchidPro Online Orchid Software
- Hundreds of Orchid Webinars

Go to AOS.org for more information

AOS Events/Webinars

While some events are for members of the American Orchid Society, many are open to all. Greenhouse chats are usually held twice per month (less in the summer) and are open to all. Other webinars and informational offerings are also available. If you are a member of the AOS, don't forget their easy to use catalog of previous webinars are available to view at any time. Upcoming webinars:

- **Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton, Tuesday, February 10th at 8:30 pm**
- **Happy Roots Happy Orchids with Harvey Brenneise, Thursday, February 12th at 8:30 pm**
- **Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton, Tuesday, March 3rd, at 8:30 pm**

2026 Program Calendar

Andi Yates is becoming our new Program Chair and will be developing another wonderful group of speakers. Each month we will update the calendar as some changes are always expected as people's schedules change. Meetings are at the FPC Wells Barn Basement unless noted below.

MEETING DATES 2026	SPEAKER	TOPIC	VENDOR PLANT SALE
January 25 SUNDAY	Challen Willemsen	Orchids of the Andes	No, member plant sale
February 22 SUNDAY	Olga Shoshtachuk	Growing Orchids in Terrariums, and other -ariums	No, member plant sale
March 22 SUNDAY	TBD		
April 16 THURSDAY	TBD		
May 21 THURSDAY	TJ Hartung	Fragrant Orchids	
June 18 THURSDAY	TBD	Tolumnia	
July 16 THURSDAY	TBD		
August 20	TBD		
September 17 or 19	TBD		
October 16	TBD		
November 20	TBD		
December	No meeting		

2026 Central Ohio Orchid Society Board and Committee Chairs

President	Ken Mettler
Vice President	Troy Timbrook
Secretary	Beth Makley
Treasurer	Tracy Stombotne
Immediate Past President	Dave Markley
Trustee	Tsa Shelton
Trustee	Devin Spencer
Hospitality Chair	Jan Miller
Show Table Chair	Bob Dudley
Program Chair	Andi Yates
Away Show Chair	Ken Mettler
Home Show Chair	David Markley
Newsletter	Nancy Shapiro
Website and Social Media	Wendy Chrisman
AOS Representative	Tom Hart
MAOC Representative	Ken Mettler