

CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY



Reporter
January 2022

WHERE DO I FIND?

President's Message	.....	3
November Meeting + Guest Speaker Information	.....	5
Plant of the Month	.....	7
Show Table Winners	.....	8
Virtual Show Table Gallery	.....	9
Into the Wild	.....	17
Board Members	.....	20
COOS Calendar 2021	.....	21
AOS CORNER	.....	22

learn. share. grow.

CentralOhioOrchidSociety.org



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE | January 2022

WELCOME to 2022! Hopefully, everyone had a wonderful holiday season and has grand plans for the upcoming year. I am excited to be your president for the next couple years. Please bear with me as I transition into and learn the position.

As for our orchid society 2022 plans, there is a multitude of potential!

- Opportunities to take ownership within the society by sharing our growing spaces, plants you do well with, seeking and sharing information about a species of interest. Everyone has something to contribute and what works for one person may not always work for another, but it has value!
- Outreach with schools, grocery stores, libraries, (insert your ideas here). Repotting opportunities (perhaps a fundraiser), show and tell with our collections... and the list goes on. There are so many people who think the only type of orchid comes from a grocery store or they are impossible to grow and have no idea our orchid society exists.
- Incorporating a code of conduct that ensures a positive and welcoming experience for everyone.
- Monthly speakers and plant sales

In December the board met to discuss our 2022 Home Show and first five months of programming. We are no longer able to hold our show at Franklin Park and must find a different location. Our show is typically in early spring so being outdoors is not an option. This change has us thinking outside of the box, which in the end could have positive results. These discussions will continue in January.

As far as programming, this month we will have Kelly McCracken talk about Growing Under Artificial Light. In February, someone from the Cincinnati Judging Center will speak on orchid judging. In March, we are going to have members of our orchid society share what works for them. Let us know if you would like to share! Dick Wells will visit us in April and speak on the topic of Phalaenopsis. Wade Hollenbach from Wade's Orchids will come to us in May with a topic to be determined.

2021 gave us opportunity to "visit" other orchid societies, get involved with different orchid groups on social media, increase our comfort level with technology as we navigate zoom and other programs that allow us to connect in a virtual world. As COVID continues to be an ever-present part of our lives and there will be challenges with connecting in-person, we will embrace the opportunities we find such as meeting in open air locales, especially as the weather trends warmer.

We will have January and February meetings via Zoom and hopefully have in-person meetings at Franklin Park starting in March with a Zoom component for those who are hesitant to meet in-person as well as for those who have joined our society from afar.

Just as a reminder, we will be trying an earlier start time in January and February. Beginner's Corner will start at 6:30 PM, and our regular meeting and speaker begins at 7:00pm. Please let me know your thoughts on this moving forward.

At this point we will continue to have a virtual show table and judging. Please submit your pictures to centralohioorchidsociety@gmail.com by 1/31 for February. When submitting your picture, please include the name of your plant and the grower's name in your email title and file name. It will help sorting if you submit one plant per email. When you are taking pictures, use a solid contrasting background that brings out the beauty your plant. Personally, I use a flat sheet for my background. Make sure there are no wrinkles.

Our newsletter will highlight first place winners in each category and the full show table will soon be available for your viewing pleasure on the COOS website. As always, special thank you to Wendy for streamlining this process and creating a beautiful newsletter!

One last bit, 2022 dues are due, \$20 for a single person or \$25 for a family. You can make payments directly on the COOS website or print the application from the site and send in your payment:

<https://www.centralohioorchidsociety.org/member-signup-and-membership-dues>

Amy Stanley
President
January 2022

CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY

January 20 - 2022

Kelly McCracken
of High Desert Orchids

on **Artificial Lighting**

6:30pm - Beginner's Corner

7:00pm - Meeting Begins



Location: Virtual

BIOGRAPHY

Kelly McCracken, owner of **High Desert Orchids**, started as an avid hobbyist, and like many of you, couldn't stop buying plants. Quickly one greenhouse became two, and now she grows plants in a unique 3,000 sq ft high-bay industrial warehouse space all under artificial lights. Kelly specializes in miniature plants, with a particular affection for miniature Cattleyas, Angraecoids, Jewel Orchids, and Dendrobiums.

Additionally, Kelly has written multiple articles for Orchid magazine, and has appeared on multiple podcasts discussing orchids.

Artificial Lighting

Many growers have discovered the opportunities that the recent drop in price and increase in availability of LED lights has provided. But there is relatively little information about how much artificial light orchids need and what kinds of lights are best. This talk will go over the unique HDO grow space, which is entirely under LED lights, how we set it up, the lights we use, and some tips we have discovered while growing a commercial sized grow space all under artificial light. The talk will answer questions such as:

How much light? What kind of light? What spectrum of light?

About HDO

High Desert Orchids started in 2018 as a small "side hustle" to offset the costs of having built a custom greenhouse in our backyard. The main driving force of the business is Kelly McCracken, who co-owns it with her husband, Stephen.

HDO began on Facebook as the group High Desert Orchids - Orchids for Sale. There, I list plants for sale individually and conduct a weekly livestream where I sell around 200 plants in an evening. The livestream is fun, but it doesn't cater well to customers who prefer a lower-stress and slower shopping experience. Thus [Highdesertorchids.com](https://www.highdesertorchids.com) was born.

High Desert Orchids will still have a presence on Facebook, and we highly recommend joining that group for promotions, livestreams, deals, one-of-a-kind plants, and more! HDO specializes in miniature orchids for the home, terrarium, and limited space greenhouse grower. We also carry a variety of large and compact orchids (though less frequently), for those who do not like miniatures. Our goal is to provide unique, healthy plants that can be grown in the limited space that home and windowsill growers have.



TOPIC: CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY JANUARY 2022 MEETING

Thursday, January 20 6:30 pm Eastern Time (US + Canada)

JOIN ZOOM MEETING:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81421790125?pwd=QUZid3hBeDhzSUo4ZFJHaG5uL3JyQT09>

MEETING ID: 814 2179 0125

PASSCODE: 484822

ONE TAP MOBILE: +19292056099,,81421790125#,,,,*484822# US (New York)
 +13017158592,,81421790125#,,,,*484822# US (Washington DC)

DIAL BY YOUR LOCATION:

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)	+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)	+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)	+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

FIND YOUR LOCAL NUMBER: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kbbcoA9Dcg>

DECEMBER PLANT OF THE MONTH



VANDA PAYIFLY X THONGLOR 'BURNING SANDS'
Grown by Tessie Steelman

TIPS FOR GROWING VANDAS

Tessie shared how she grows her amazing Vanda: "During the summer, I grow my Vandas under 60% Aluminet. I shower them at least twice a day in the morning and afternoon. I also fertilize them twice a month with a regular Miracle Grow sprayer from June to September. I use baskets made for hanging although I don't hang them. They are filled with coco fiber and extra-large Orchiata bark. I use water trays for extra humidity even during the summer.

Winter orchid care has been modernized. I am now using multi-colored LEDs - some with an overall bluish tint alternating with those with a reddish tint. The lights run about 12 hours/day. I have a very powerful Petra battery operated sprayer that atomizes the spray into a super-fine mist. I've added hose extensions so that I have 12' wand and I don't have to lug or wheel the sprayer around so much. The growing setup is in my basement so that with the spraying, humidifying trays, fans and heat vents, the humidity is probably always close to 70%. I don't even worry about water on the floor.

With these indoor growing improvements, my winter blooms are now equal to or even better than those in the summer with no worry about insects or burning."

DECEMBER 2021 VIRTUAL SHOW TABLE

CATTLEYA SPECIES

- 1st Cattleya maxima var. coerulea
- 1st Laelia splendida
- 2nd Cattleya bicolor
- 2nd Barkeria skinneri
- 3rd Cattleya skinneri 'Roberts'
- 3rd Guar. Bowringiana

GROWN BY

Cortney White
Tennis Maynard
Ken Mettler
Ken Mettler
Wayne Roberts
Wayne Roberts

CATTLEYA HYBRIDS

- 1st Rlc. Volcano Lovely
- 2nd Pot. Martha's Sunburst
- 3rd Cattleya Pat Thrall

GROWN BY

Amy Stanley
Amy Stanley
Wayne Roberts

VANDACEOUS

- 1st Vanda Payifly X Thonglor 'Burning Sands' - POTM
- 1st Vanda Piece of Eight x Rasri Gold
- 2nd Phal. lindenii
- 3rd Phal. Nold

GROWN BY

Tessie Steelman
Tennis Maynard
Tennis Maynard
Megan Osika

ONCIDIINAE

- 1st Tolumnia Genting Angel
- 2nd Oncidium Twinkle 'Oro'
- 3rd Alcra. Mem Kuhn Krairit 'Stargazer'

GROWN BY

Ken Mettler
Kat Vogel
Cortney White

PLEUROTHALLID

- 1st Dracula carlueri
- 2nd Neocogniauxia monophylla
- 3rd Pleur. schweinfurthii

GROWN BY

Tom Hart
Tennis Maynard
Dennis Steinbeck

OTHER

- 1st Paph. gratixianum 'Candor' x henryanum 'BK's Little Gem'
- 2nd Cycnoches Dark Swan 'Bold Spots' x Cyc. Richard Brandon 'Extra Wide Petals'
- 3rd Ctsm. Russ Wood

GROWN BY

Sandra & Terry Stohr
Amy Stanley
Cortney White

PLANT OF THE MONTH

Vanda Payifly X Thonglor 'Burning Sands'

GROWN BY

Tessie Steelman

CATTLEYA SPECIES



LAELIA SPLENDIDA
Grown by Tennis Maynard



CATTLEYA MAXIMA VAR. COERULEA

Grown by Cortney White

CATTLEYA HYBRIDS



RLC. VOLCANO LOVELY
Grown by Amy Stanley

VANDACEOUS



VANDA PIECE OF EIGHT X RASRI

Grown by Tennis Maynard



VANDA PAYIFLY X THONGLOR 'BURNING SANDS'

Grown by Tessie Steelman

ONCIDIINAE



TOLUMNIA GENTING ANGEL
Grown by Ken Mettler

PLEUROTHALLID



DRACULA CARLUERI
Grown by Tom Hart

OTHERS



**PAPH. GRATIXIANUM 'CANDOR' X HENRYANUM 'BK'S
LITTLE GEM'**

Grown by Sandra & Terry Stohr

Into the Wild

The Queen of the Lady's Slippers, *Cypripedium reginae*

By Ken Mettler

All photo credits: Ken Mettler



Cyp. reginae in northeast Ohio

Everyone likes showy flowers. But what makes us consider a flower showy? For most people, this would encompass three characteristics: color, size, and presentation. At least two genera of Ohio's native orchids contain species that fit this description: *Cypripedium* and *Platanthera*. And of these, one of the outstandingly showy species is *Cypripedium reginae*.

Just the name suggests you should expect great things. Even though we refer to all of the orchids with pouch-shaped lips as Lady's Slippers, the genus name *Cypripedium* comes from the Latin "Cypris", referring to the Venus, the Roman goddess of love and beauty, and the Greek "pedilon", meaning a sandal or slipper. The species moniker *reginae* is from the Latin word for queen. The common name (as much as I despise common names) is the Showy Lady's Slipper.

And such high praise in scientific naming is rightfully deserved. They stand up to one meter (40 inches) tall, with one to three flowers at the top of each blooming stem. The flowers are large, up to 4 inches (10 cm) in natural spread. The color is eye-catching. The sepal and petals are bright white, while the lip (pouch) varies from light pink to dark raspberry. There is also an alba form, which is snowy white throughout the flower.



Cyp. reginae in Cedar Bog.

One of the best sites to see this species is Cedar Bog in Champaign County. This site is actually a fen, not a bog, and is owned by the State of Ohio, and managed and protected by the Cedar Bog Association and the Ohio History Connection. There are boardwalks for visitors, so you don't get your feet wet, and don't damage the delicate fen ecosystem.

Cypripedium reginae is usually in full bloom by the first of June, and continues until about the 20th of the month, with plants in the shade blooming later. With an abundance of rare species including birds, reptiles, dragonflies, and several other orchids, the five-dollar admission is a bargain. Insect repellent is highly recommended, as mosquitoes abound in this habitat.

I've also observed this species growing in fens in northeast Ohio. One of these sites was a Cinquefoil fen, in which the vegetative mat is actually floating on a layer of water. Walking through this habitat felt like we were walking on a waterbed mattress. Numerous plants of *Cypripedium reginae* were found, the largest of which was waist-high, at least three feet in diameter, and with 87 flowers and buds! I haven't been to this site in over twenty years, but sadly, I've been told that all of the big plants have been poached, and recent visitors said the biggest plants they saw had fewer than a half dozen flowers. Sites like this are hard to protect, and I appreciate the protection measures that have been implemented at Cedar Bog.

There is no need to remove these plants from the wild. This species is one of the easier Cyps to grow from seed, and a number of commercial outlets have artificially propagated plants for sale. If you want to try growing one of these beauties in a flower bed, (they are pricey, and a bit challenging to grow) get one of the lab-grown plants.



Cyp. reginae in northeast Ohio

It will be more likely to grow well for you, and you can rest easy at night knowing that no plants were dug out of the wild for your garden.



Cyp. reginae in Cedar Bog



Cyp. reginae in Cedar Bog

COOS BOARD MEMBERS 2022

PRESIDENT | Amy Stanley

VICE PRESIDENT | Jessica Badger

SECRETARY | Tom Hart

TREASURER | Cheryl Early

TRUSTEE | Megan Osika

TRUSTEE | Troy Timbrook

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT | Nancy Shapiro

COOS APPOINTED CHAIRS 2022

HOME CHAIR | Dave Markley

AWAY CHAIR | Ken Mettler

AOS REPRESENTATIVE | TBD

MAOC REPRESENTATIVE | Ken Mettler

PROGRAMMING | Tracy Strombotne

MEMBERSHIP | Megan Osika

NEWSLETTER | Wendy Chrisman

WEB DESIGNER + SOCIAL MEDIA | Wendy Chrisman

HOSPITALITY | Sandra & Terry Stohr

PUBLIC RELATIONS | Nancy Shapiro

COOS CALENDAR 2022

January 20 - 2022

Kelly McCracken of High Desert Orchids
Artificial Lighting

July 2022

No Meeting

February 17 - 2022

Cincinnati Judging Center
Orchid Judging Presentation

August 18 - 2022

TBA
TBA

March 17 - 2022

COOS Members
How I Grow My Orchids

September 15 - 2022

TBA
TBA

April 21 - 2022

Dick Wells
Phalaenopsis

October 20 - 2022

TBA
TBA

May 20 - 2022

Wade Hollenbach
TBA

November 17 - 2022

Awards Banquet

June 16 - 2022

TBA
TBA

AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY CORNER



American Orchid Society | PO Box 565477 | Miami FL 33256-5477
Telephone: 305-740-2010 | FAX: 305-747-7154



Download a **FREE** issue of American Orchid Society's **Orchids Magazine**.

<https://go.aos.org/freeissue201904>



Discover the top vendors in the orchid community and their special offers on all things orchid.

<https://marketplace.aos.org/>

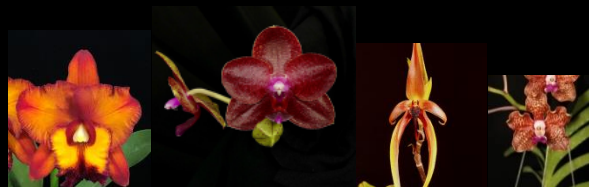


FREE ACCESS: Orchid DealWire™

Get notified when vendors have special promotions and exclusive savings.

Enter your email address here

GET FREE ACCESS



Good Riddance 2021!

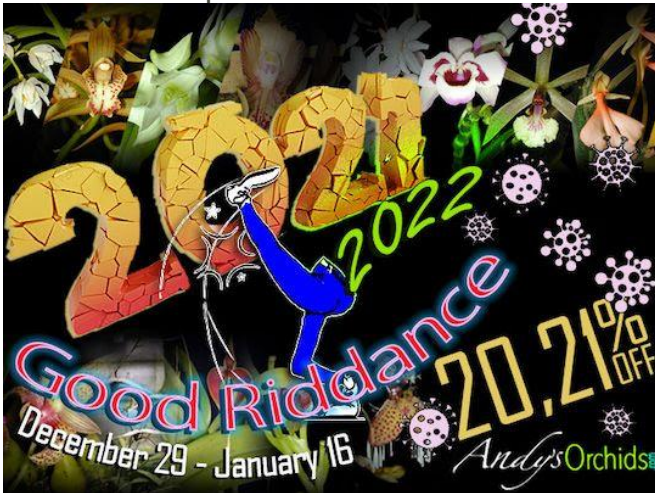
20.21% off everything (Online Only)

December 29th-January 16th

www.andysorchids.com

Note: Offer cannot be combined with other offers or coupons (AOS Included)

Orchid Marketplace™ FEATURED PARTNER



About Andy's Orchids

We are a family-owned nursery specializing in SPECIES orchids. We cultivate over 7,000 different species, and have an inventory of over 750,000 plants. We grow everything from traditional favorites to the rarest exotics.

Who's Andy

I've been growing orchids since the age of seven, and opened my nursery in 1990. My goal is to offer exceptionally well-grown, established plants and to provide my customers with instructions for growing them successfully so they will thrive in your care.

Every purchase contributes to OCA



The **Orchid Conservation Alliance** promotes the conservation of orchids and orchid habitat around the world. Andy's Orchids is a proud sponsor of the OCA, and you can be one too.

For every purchase you make at Andysorchids.com, a portion of the sale will be donated to this noble cause: the preservation of orchid species and their habitats.

[Learn more..](#)



Orchid Conservation Alliance

Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.



Dracula



Dracula



Ventanas



Ventanas

Dracula gigas (L), *D. trigonopetala* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador

Dracula lemurella (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
La Selva de Ventanas Reserve, Colombia

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

For more information: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

<https://orchidconservationalliance.org/>



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

AOS 2nd ORCHID CULTURE DAY

2nd AOS Orchid Culture Speakers Day - A Virtual Event

Sat, Jan 29, 2022

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM EST

30.00 USD



The AOS is proud to announce that we have four distinguished speakers on selected aspects of the Aeridinae and Angraecinae (commonly referred to as the Vanda and Angraecum Alliance) which follows our ORCHIDS magazine supplement on the Aeridinae. Please join Kim Fedderson of Fair Orchids: Yes, you can grow Vandaceous Orchids at home, Jason Fischer of Orchids Limited who will talk on the culture and history of *Neofinitia falcata* (now *V. falcata*), Bob Fuchs, Pres. of RF Orchids on the latest trends in Vanda hybridizing and Brenda Oviatt from Botanica Ltd., talking on Angraecoids: Conservation and Culture. Come with your coffee and snacks!! Enjoy a day with these delightful speakers and learn lots about the Vanda Alliance, history, hybridizing and of course CULTURE!

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4834617917122351119>

All About Orchids (aos.org)

New to Orchid Growing? Check out the AOS website for Short Easy to Read Articles on Orchid Basics

Starting in [June 2009](#), AOS published a monthly newsletter for beginners. The series continued for nearly three years and was intended to educate people with a casual interest in orchids. Subscription was open to all and by the time the last issue was sent there were ten thousand subscribers. They are archived on the AOS website. Here is a timely example of the content.

Here are a few suggestions to keep your orchids healthy this winter:

- If you are a windowsill grower, the light will be entirely different at this time of year. Assess it carefully and make any necessary adjustments. A south window may be brighter due to bare trees and the [sun](#) being lower in the sky. Watch for sunburn and move plants back from the window or add a sheer curtain to cut down the light.
- Shorter days and gloomy weather in many parts of the country can cause plants to produce soft growths that are more susceptible to pests and disease. Some orchids will not flower if they do not receive enough light. If necessary, use a grow light on a timer to provide additional light in winter.
- Orchids grow more slowly in winter and will need less water and fertilizer. Most growers cut their fertilizer back to twice a month at half strength. Monitor orchids to keep them at their proper moisture level for their type. Generally, orchids will need about half as much water in winter as they do in summer. Some orchids must have a dry winter rest in order to flower.
- The loss of humidity as a result of forced air heating can take its toll on your orchids. Remember, most orchids grow optimally with 60-75% humidity. If your home is especially dry, and you will know by the way your own skin reacts to winter, provide extra humidity for your orchids. A tried-and-true method is to set orchid pots on trays of pebbles that are filled with water; just make sure your plant is not sitting in the water. Misting a couple times a day can also help.
- Winter is cold, so protect plants from drafts. If buds start falling off of a *Phalaenopsis* inflorescence the first thing to suspect is a drafty window. Do not put plants close enough to a window to touch the glass!