



September Meeting – “Peloric Orchids”

Thursday September 25, 2008

8:00 p.m., Franklin Park Conservatory Classrooms

7:30 – 8:00p.m., Beginners' Corner

Love 'em or Hate 'em...

Have you ever seen an orchid flower that didn't look quite right, and on closer inspection, you realize that it has three lips, instead of a lip and two petals? These are called peloric flowers, from the Greek word for monster. It is a condition where the petals take on some or all of the characteristics of the lip. All of the "splash petal" Cattleyas are peloric, as the splash color pattern is really a lip feature that is repeated on the petals.

Lately, I've seen a lot of three-lipped peloric Phalaenopsis for sale at grocery and department stores. There are also peloric orchids where the lip grows into another petal, such as Phal. World Class 'Bigfoot' JC/AOS.

Some folks love 'em, some hate 'em. Either way, they are intriguing flowers, and they are more common than you may think. So come to the September meeting, learn more about peloric orchids, and decide for yourself whether you are in the "love 'em" or the "hate 'em" group.

This month's speaker is Dr. Glenn Evans. Glenn grew up in Hamburg, New York, just south of Buffalo. He earned a B.S. and M.S. in Botany from Miami University, and a Ph.D. from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. He moved to Indiana in 1981 and has worked for Eli Lilly & Company for 27 years, currently as a cell biologist in the Cancer Research Division in Indianapolis. Glenn is an Accredited Judge with the American Orchid Society.

As Glenn will have no plants for sale, this will be a member's plant sale night. Bring your plants and your wallets. As is our usual custom we'll be having a pre-meeting meet-and-greet dinner at 6PM, this month at Aladdin's on East Main Street, just east of the conservatory. All members are welcome!



Phal Taipei Gold x Cassandra

Ken Mettler

President's Message

Yes, your honor!

Oh, the life of a judge. To be the final word, the one who decides what's what and how things will be!

There are many kinds and levels of judges. And one kind is an orchid judge. An AOS accredited judge. It takes a special kind of passion (and, in this area, a free Sunday a month!) and perseverance to become a judge. It also requires of course, knowledge, experience, and, hopefully, a large dollop of good sense.

Have you ever wondered why a particular plant received an award? Or, better yet, why another plant did NOT? Have you ever thought you might like to have some input into that, or to learn far more than most orchidists know about their subject? The process of becoming a judge does require a lot from the student, but like all students, the bonus is so much knowledge gained. A judge in training learns so much; sort of a college major in orchids, if you will. And then once certified as a judge, the learning continues and the judge gets to see so many exciting, beautiful, rare, exceptional plants! And to decide (in concert with fellow judges) which are indeed the best of the best.

Sound good? Well, we are an AOS-affiliated society and need more judges in this area. If we get just five (And we have two now and two more in training) we have the possibility of opening a judging center here. And that means we wouldn't have to drive a plant down to Cincinnati and back on a Sunday morning just to have it judged.

One way to check it out would be to volunteer to clerk for judging at our upcoming MAOC next spring. It's a rare chance to get a bird's-eye view of judging up close. You can watch and listen as they assess the plants and get a feel for whether judging may be for you. And of course it's a lot of fun and a stimulating, interesting learning experience in and of itself. Think of it as an American Idol for orchids - pick your favorites and see if they win!

Sound interesting? Sound exciting? Think you'd like to know more and maybe give it a try? If so, just check in with your favorite board member/officer and they'll connect you with the proper person. We need more judges!

Tennis Maynard

We are almost through the new year. Please remember that our membership year is January to December. If you joined the society and you paid your dues in November or December of last year, you are covered for this year as well. If you have paid your dues already, bless you. If you have not paid your dues as yet, please renew your membership in the Central Ohio Orchid Society **TODAY**. Please send your check (made payable to "Central Ohio Orchid Society" to our **membership chair, Jon Young (1752 Marsdale Avenue, Columbus, OH 43223)**, OR bring your check to the next meeting. Now is the time to catch up on your dues if you have not yet done so. Please support the society by renewing as soon as possible. The dues are \$15.00 for Individuals and \$20.00 per household.



Tricopilia calichroma grown by T. Maynard

Dates for Orchid Judging at the Cincinnati Center: Civic Garden Center of Greater Cincinnati, 2715 Reading Road, Cincinnati. Registration of Plants at 12:00, Judging starts at 1:00. September 14, October 12 and November 9, 2008.

Welcome New Members

It's time to get out there and recruit new folks who share our passion. Do the same thing Dan Willis did at the Spring Show. Ask people. You know who likes orchids. Ask them to join in the fun. That said, we are glad to welcome Jeremy Eliot and Karen Arthurs as new members. It's always good to have recent additions to the Central Ohio chapter of the society of orchid addicts.

2008/2009 COOS Officers - Terms of Office are from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2009

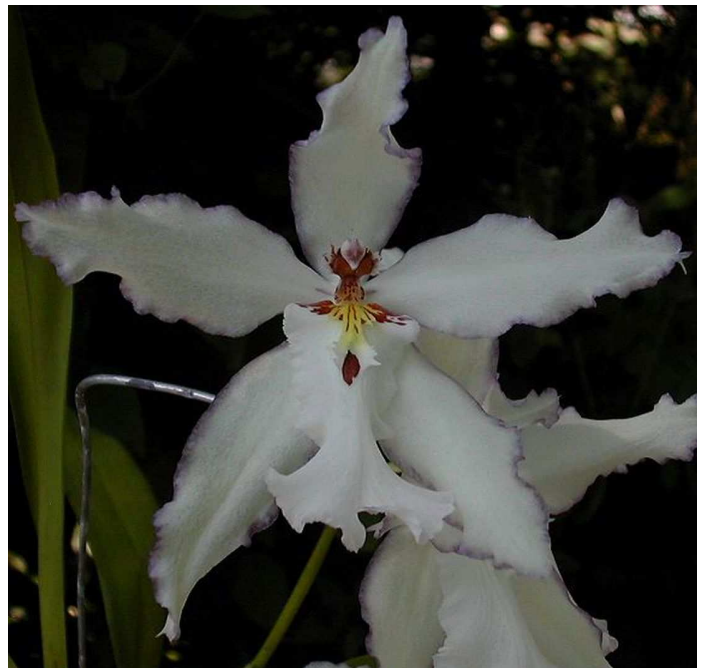
President:	Tennis Maynard		614-252-5710
1 st Vice President:	Ken Mettler	Program Chair	740-380-3023
2 nd Vice President:	Nancy Wagener	Home Show Chair	614-276-8890
3 rd Vice President:	Naila Caruso	Away Show Chair	614-868-5861
Secretary:	John Geslak	Recorder	614-837-3556
Assistant Secretary:	Bill Cavanaugh	Newsletter Editor	614-878-1745
Treasurer:	Thom Weiland	Collect/Disburse Monies	614-850-0483
Assistant Treasurer:	Jon Young	Membership Chair	614-272-5256

COOS Trustees – Terms of Office Expire December 31st of the Year Shown.

Jim Harper	2009	614-965-1921
Screll Jones	2009	614-864-7924
Lori Baldwin	2011	740-246-4713
Eilleen Ansley	2011	614-457-7774
Tom Franczak	Immediate Past President	614-868-5636



Blc. Copper Queen



Bllra. Smile Eri



Bulbo Stella Mizuta



Habenaria Pink Cloud

Notes from the July Meeting.

I looked forward to the annual picnic with great joy because it is usually a wonderful thing, a perfect summer day, good friends, good food and in the last couple of years a good summer orchid show as well. I missed it. But for those of you who didn't, some 35 members attended, you got to see around 45 summer blooming orchids. I wish I could tell you how beautiful it was but I can't. Wasn't there. Nonetheless, I know how our members grow and I am sure it was the usual splendid summer show.

As ever, we encourage you to bring your blooming plants to the show table and share your skills and the beauty of your plants with your fellow members and to set new records beyond our new official tally of one hundred fifteen plants at a show table but hey...why not? Obviously, you can do it. Where the judges thought it appropriate additional place awards were made and because it was a picnic the classification was sort of picnic casual...so if something doesn't make sense, I am blaming it on the judges. That's my story and I'm sticking to it. Wei-Yi Chen, your contest point tabulator extraordinaire is on the job and the tally of the grower's points for the new contest, our second and annual contest, is listed elsewhere in the newsletter. Wei does however ask for a little assistance from the membership. Would you please **print** your name and the name of the plant clearly? The tally keeping, especially now for so many plants, is a difficult job and time consuming as well. It is even harder if he has to guess at the name of the plant or of the exhibitor. If you read closely below you will note that some members showed plants that were completely unknown even as to class and some plants managed to show themselves without members. While these are both amazing feats, it would make Wei's life and mine a little easier if everyone included all of the info in an easily readable form. Besides, all of you No Name folks got no credit for your plant in the contest. So please help out. Remember, if he quits, I intend to draw the name of the next tabulator extraordinaire from a hat and all society members names will be in it. Props to Ed Davis for the plant of the month. Can't wait to see the beauty at the September show table.

Plant of the Month

Ed Davis

Masd. unknown

Cattleya Alliance

Tom and Pat Stinson

Encyclia Phoenicia

1st

Tennis Maynard

Cattleya Humming Bird

1st

Tom Bell-Games

Epi. parkinsonianum

1st

Tom and Pat Stinson

Cattleya Secret Love

2nd

Tennis Maynard

Blc. Copper Queen

3rd

Tom Bell-Games

Encyclia alatum

3rd

Oncidium Alliance

Screll Jones	<i>Onc. unknown</i>	1 st
Ben Harriff	<i>Howerea Lava Burst</i>	2 nd
Screll Jones	<i>Onc. hybrid</i>	2 nd
Tennis Maynard	<i>Beallara 'Smile Ed'</i>	3 rd

Paphiopedilum

Screll Jones	<i>No plant name but we had no first place paph so...</i>	1 st
No Name (maybe Screll ?)	<i>Paph Salvador Dali</i>	2 nd
Thom Weiland	<i>Paph. liemianum</i>	3 rd
Tom and Pat Stinson	<i>Paph. Dewitt Smith 'Black Bamboo' AM/AOS</i>	3 rd

Phragmipedium

Tom and Pat Stinson	<i>Phrag. ainsworthii</i>	1 st
---------------------	---------------------------	-----------------

Phalaenopsis

No Name	<i>Dtps. Tying Golder</i>	1 st
No Name	<i>Phal. Margarita Lime</i>	2 nd
Thom Weiland	<i>Phal amabilis</i>	3 rd
No Name	<i>Phal Tsay's Evergreen 'Fangtastic'</i>	3 rd

Other

Ed Davis	<i>Masd. unknown</i>	1 st
Tennis Maynard	<i>Spathoglotis plicata</i>	1 st
Tennis Maynard	<i>Trichopilia Maria</i>	1 st
Ken Mettler	<i>Habenaria rhodochila</i>	1 st
Thom Weiland	<i>Lycaste aromatica</i>	2 nd
Tennis Maynard	<i>Masd. veitchiana x maculate</i>	2 nd
Screll Jones	<i>Aeranthes grandiose</i>	2 nd
Screll Jones	<i>Podangis dactyloceras</i>	3 rd
Thom Weiland	<i>Neofinetia falcata</i>	3 rd

As we have always noted, collecting and posting the winning plant info is sometimes an inexact science, particularly if you have 100+ plants. If you think you had a plant that was recognized that we have not mentioned, please let me or Wei know.

Annual Growers Contest

Wei-Yi Chen, our master statistician and overall point guru, has returned, and as glad as we are to see him, we are also glad to have updated and current totals on the second and annual growers contest. We also wish to note our appreciation for all of the work that he puts into this, and it is a lot. The totals listed below include the November, January and February, March, April and May show table as well as the Dayton, West Shore, Akron, Detroit, Cinci and Indy away shows. That should cover everything to this point.

Grower	Points	Grower	Points
Tom & Pat Stinson	626	Margaret Borden	30
Tennis Maynard	563	Edwina Carreon	28
Screll Jones	347	Nancy Heath	24
John Geslak	274	Sandra Stohr	20
Bill & Ruth Cavanaugh	195	Sarah Binder	20

Dallas & Ashleigh Ingram	180	Tom Condit	19
Thom Weiland	164	Justin Pepperney	18
Don Weber	157	Tom Franczak	15
David & Edna Markley	115	Elly Campbell	13
Naila Caruso	106	Jackie Wade	12
Tessie Steelman	92	Jim Fagan	11
Ken Mettler	69	Sue Dervin	11
Tom Bell-Games	65	Jon Young	10
Ed Davis	65	Matina Ross	7
Lew Beman	64	Lawanda Martin	2
Dan Willis	61	Wauneta Kerr	1
Dave Sayer	60	Vicki Baden	1
Ben Harriff	38		
Dotty Burchfield	36		
Clifton Hynum	32		

Keep up the good work. Show those plants.

Cincinnati Speakers Day!

July 12, a pleasant summer day, an easy drive to Cincinnati and Tom and I found ourselves slightly directionally impaired. Not to say we were lost, it all looked familiar, after all, this was our third trip, or is it fourth, to the Cincinnati Speakers Day, but we just weren't getting there. Thank goodness there are cell phones. A quick call to Wei Yi Chen, who while being equally directionally impaired, has the good sense to have a GPS system, solved our problem and we were quickly landed in the parking lot of the judging center. I have recommended this trip to our membership a number of times, something to put on your summer calendar of things to do, and after this years trip, I have to repeat my recommendation. It was a great day. Familiar faces, lots of interesting plants and etc. available in the auction. Thought I won a couple of items in the silent auction but some turkey snuck in a later bid than mine causing me to miss a plant and a book that I lusted after, at least enough to make repeated bids and to think I might have won. Alas, it was not so. But the pastries were delicious and you had your choice of beverages. There were two excellent speakers, Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids who spoke on Phrag Kovachii and its hybrids as well as a second session on phrag culture both Kovachii and phrags in general. The second speaker was George Hatfield of Hatfield Orchids who spoke on Cymbidiums, particularly miniature cymbidiums and boy did he have a wealth of information on cyms in general and on the new breeding tendencies not to mention some interesting insight on what is and what was considered a miniature cymbidium. Add in an excellent box lunch and it was a pleasant and illuminating day. Again, a day you should consider adding to your summer to do list for next year.

Bill Cavanaugh

2008 COOS Calendar

September 25	Meeting – Glen Evans on Peloric orchids
October 16	Meeting – Steve Heibling on Spathoglottis and Habenaria
November 1-2	Mini-show
November 20	Potluck Dinner

Board Meetings. Board meetings will generally be held the second Tuesday of odd numbered months with the exception of September:

September 9 November 11

WHAT'S BUGGING YOU ??????

As some of you may recall, I have occasionally asked the membership what you would like to see in the newsletter. Most of you are mute, which aggravates me to no end. However, some members take me seriously and say things like “hey Bill, how about an article or two on the critters et al that are always killing my orchids. Thus is born a new, regular, but not as regular as if you were eating bran muffins, series on bugs ‘et al’.

In my usual fashion, I intend to ask really smart people to make me look pretty smart too. In other words, I will ask the wizened growers of COOS, research the internet, and steal anything that answers the questions asked, only with permission of course. So that said, here is BUG ONE, to be followed at some time by BUG TWO and BUG THREE, etc. If you have favorite bug or other orchid curse, let me know and I will see what I can conjure up.

Fungus Gnats

Heaven help me but if there is something more annoying than fungus gnats, I am not sure what it is. When I first started growing orchids I had this beautiful pristine environment with ten or twenty orchids and no bugs. Alas, I am a collector by nature and as I continued to collect orchids, much to my wife’s chagrin as I kept filling up more and more of that pristine space, I found that I also collected a bug or two or three. My first orchid onslaught was conducted by the fungus gnats. What the heck are these annoying insects I wondered? Where did they come from? And more importantly, how can I get rid of these creeps?

Let’s start with “**What the heck are these things?**”

Biology

Fungus gnat adults ([Figure 1](#)) are about 1/8 inch long, spindly flies with long legs and long, thread-like antennae. They look more like tiny mosquitoes than common flies. Larvae live in the soil and are difficult to find. If fungus gnats are present, larvae are most likely found in the early morning in the topsoil layer of a thoroughly wet pot. Larvae are translucent gray to white, about 1/4 inch long, worm-like with no legs, and with shiny black heads. There is not a similar insect in the production area of a greenhouse or interiorscape.



Figure 1. Fungus gnat.

Where the heck did they come from?

These insects can infest a crop (read your orchids) from soil or algae under benches, from contaminated potting mixes or by flying short distances into the production area. Fungus gnats almost always are present in growing areas, at least at low densities.

Are they here forever?

Life Cycle

Females live about a week and lay 30 to 120 eggs singly or in batches of up to 30 on the soil. Eggs hatch in 4 to 7 days (Steffan 1966). Larval development requires about 8 to 20 days, depending upon temperatures. The resting pupal stage lasts about 3 to 5 days and is located near the soil surface.

Adult flies do not damage plants directly, but are objectionable to consumers and cannot be tolerated on potted plants in hospitals, grocery stores, or florist shops. Adults can emerge from immature forms after sale even when none were evident earlier.

Larvae feed on decaying matter and on healthy and diseased roots in the soil medium. They can be particularly damaging to seedlings and other small plants. Damaged roots provide conditions for root diseases, further complicating fungus gnat management and crop health.

Management

Sound crop management denies fungus gnats the conditions necessary for development, reduces need for pesticides, and promotes parasites. Fungus gnat problems may result from over-wet conditions and diseased roots, and should alert growers to poor cultural conditions. Potting media should be stored dry, and pots and production areas must be well drained. Fungus gnats can exist on soil fungi, algae under benches, and on damp mossy benches. Some growers apply hydrated lime to eliminate the fungal food source.

Biological Control

Adult fungus gnats are attracted to yellow sticky traps. These traps can be used to detect their presence or scouts can look for adults moving on pot surfaces. If fungus gnats become a problem within a few weeks of anticipated sales of potted plants, a pesticide control program may be required.

Pesticides

Pesticides for controlling fungus gnats ([Table 1](#)) can be applied as drenches to pots or as sprays to foliage, pots, beds, or other soil surfaces as label directions indicate. Many of the products act as larvacides when applied as drenches to pots and soil underneath benches. Treated larvae will die, as will larvae that develop from the eggs already in the soil. However, these materials do not kill adults present at application nor the adults that will develop from pupae present at application. Therefore effects may seem disappointing for the first few days.

Hamlen and Mead (1979) demonstrated that some insecticides applied as sprays to soil surfaces were as effective for fungus gnat control as were drenches of the same materials. Sprays normally should be reapplied once or twice at 10-day to 2-week intervals.

The best growers stress good water management and good root health, and are prepared to use insecticides correctly when fungus gnats are not otherwise controlled. When such practices are followed, fungus gnats should not be a problem.

More information on pesticides and their application can be found at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/IG125>

There is the technical part of the education. Now comes the local wisdom. The most significant problem with fungus gnats is that they are a vector for spreading virus, they feed on leaves that have gone soft enough for them to penetrate because of fungal infection and spread the fungus and any viruses present when they find a tender leaf on another plant, a good reason to excise diseased leaves. If you have a fungus gnat scourge, buy yellow sticky traps. I have been told that if you put enough of them out all of the gnats will die...eventually. And if you grow a goodly number of plants in a confined space, having the sticky traps catches fungus gnats and can also alert you to any other flying pests you need to deal with.

Another remedy that I have used is the aerosol bug bomb. You know the one. Set it off, let it fill the room with a mist, you really should be out of the room before the mist fills it, and come back in three or four hours. This worked admirably and there was no apparent harm to any of my plants. It works well if you have a confined growing space. Not sure it is the best solution if your plants are scattered all over the house.

Insecticidal soaps are yet another alternative, spraying the media surface to get the gnats gnawing on your roots and hiding out just below or on the surface. But the key question I think is, are you trying to kill a gnat with an elephant gun? This also applies to more than just fungus gnats. If the problem is just a minor annoyance, the occasional gnat, don't load up on pesticides that you have to wear a biohazard suit to use. Don't ignore the problem, but exercise reasonable precautions (that would be all of them on any pesticide label) and respond to the severity of the problem appropriately. I used a bug bomb because I have a lot of orchids, some, i.e., my wife, say to many, in a relatively confined space and once they got a foot hold the little buggers were everywhere and I didn't have time for the eventually part of the sticky traps. I still use the sticky traps to see if I am developing a problem but they require more patience than I was willing to use in the midst of a small cloud of gnats and the thought of walking through my grow room waving sticky traps was unappealing.

A caution regarding pesticides used for any critter you are trying to drive from your collection, they are not meant for inside use and if the directions are not followed exactly, can harm your plants and more importantly...you.

So now you have some formal education and some conventional and maybe not so conventional wisdom on dealing with fungus gnats. Let me know what bug you love to hate the most and I will tackle the one with the largest outcry next.

Bill Cavanaugh

1. Parts of this document were taken from ENY-912, one of a series of the Department of Entomology and Nematology, Florida Cooperative Extension Service, Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences, University of Florida. Date first printed: October 1993. Revised: November 2005. Please visit the EDIS Web site at <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu>.

REGIONAL SHOWS:

The following shows are within that putative "reasonable" driving distance. As always, a good excuse for a weekend getaway.

Sept. 26-28 - Kentucky Orchid Society Show . Contact: Jim McCulloch, 302 Caroldale Ln., Louisville, KY 40243; jimlou@aol.com. **A bit farther, say six hours drive but you can visit horse country and sip good bourbon.**

Oct. 11-12 - Three River Orchid Society Show, Riverlodge , Shoaff Park, 6401 St. Joe Rd., Fort Wayne, IN. Contact: Kim Weldon, 2020 Forest Downs Dr., Fort Wayne, IN 46815; (260) 493-2005; weldonfamily3@verizon.net. **Closer than Louisville by about half. Never been there but they had a hockey team that I followed as a youth. I trust they grow orchids well.**

Tricks of the Trade – Adjustable Bloom Stakes

Pre-made wire rings (fig. 1) look great on paper. But when you try to get them to stay on pots (especially plastic ones), it's another story.

Fig 2 shows a recalcitrant ring that won't stay upright. Fig 3 shows the solution. One additional support crimped on the ring at the top.



Editor's Corner:

Was this a great summer or what? Baseball, apple pie, Chevrolet, (OK GM is in trouble), the annual Cincinnati speakers day, the summer orchid picnic, the summer Olympics, the weather, hot and humid, the Cubs in first place... I am expecting flying saucers next. Oops, (spelled it right that time for those of you who monitor my mass mailings) revealed another side of my delusional thinking. But really, do you imagine that the Cubs can win the World Series and we won't see flying saucers. ☺ I must admit, I took a little time off. This is, after all, the August/September issue, but I am back and better than ever, or at least as good as before, I hope.

One of the really neat things about this issue is the fact that for the first time since I have been editing this tome, every single orchid picture, and they are, in my opinion, all quality pics of quality plants, every single one, is a picture of a bloom that graced our monthly show table. Now that, to me, is fascinating. When I started editing the newsletter, I searched high and low for good quality pics of good quality plants that I could use without getting my pants sued off, or at least that I could use without too much uproar. And in truth, I looked all over the net and seldom added plants from the show table. There were a lot of really gorgeous blooms but they were not ones that we got to see up close and in person. If you are not yet in the habit, may I suggest that you take a very close look at the quality of our show table. The gorgeous blooms live here. We have set society records for the number of blooming plants at the show table but more importantly, the quality and diversity of the blooms has become exceptional. My congratulations to all of you! This is one of the fun things about sharing a passion with other people. You get to see new things, grow new plants, get old plants that never bloomed to bloom, learn from others what it takes to bloom a particular plant, add new plants and challenges to your collection and you can write really long run on sentences about the whole thing. Keep up the good work!!!

Bill C.



Paph Kathie Taylor



Phrag Eric Young x lindleyanum

Hospitality

Thanks so much to all of you folks who provided the delicious dishes at the picnic. I know I missed it but I have been there before and I know the food is always great. I am sure this year was no different. Also, a huge thank you, in advance, to all of those who have signed up to provide snacks and goodies for the upcoming meetings. Below is a list of who has signed up for future dates and the month they signed for. As is ever the case, the spots highlighted in red and reading **Volunteer Needed**, have no volunteers. For those of you who just can't wait to participate, you will note that we have openings in September and October. LOTS of them. We have only one volunteer for either meeting. Please give Clifton a call or sign up at the next meeting to let him know you would like to add your name to the merriment roster.

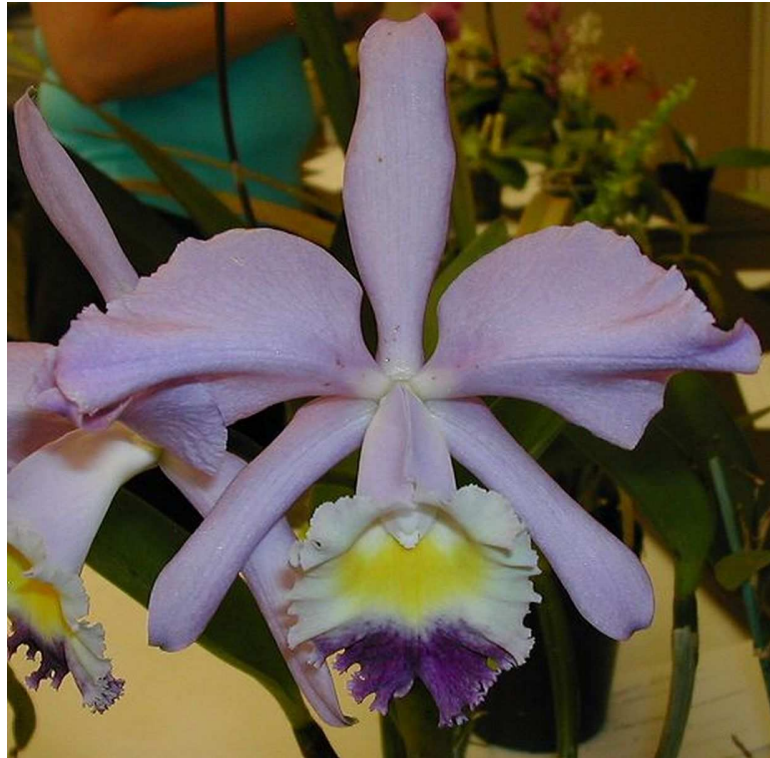
If you have to cancel try to get a person from the following month to switch or ring Clifton to change months.

Clifton Hynum, noted orchidophile, raconteur and hospitality committee chairman, has picked up his orchids and moved. Consequently he has a new phone number...again. You can still reach him at the old one until the first of October but you can also reach him at the new one starting ...now. Clifton's new phone number is 614-558-5203. You can also reach him by e-mail at djsuv4u@yahoo.com. So if you need to get Clifton on the line, call him at his new number. He alleges that the old one, 975-1001, is dropping way too many calls. .

2008

September	Pat Stinson	October	Naila Caruso
September	Volunteer Needed	October	Volunteer Needed
September	Volunteer Needed	October	Volunteer Needed

If you have already volunteered for one of these dates, bless you and I will list your name as soon as I have it, just as a reminder.



C. Valentine v. coerulea

Support for a Good Cause:

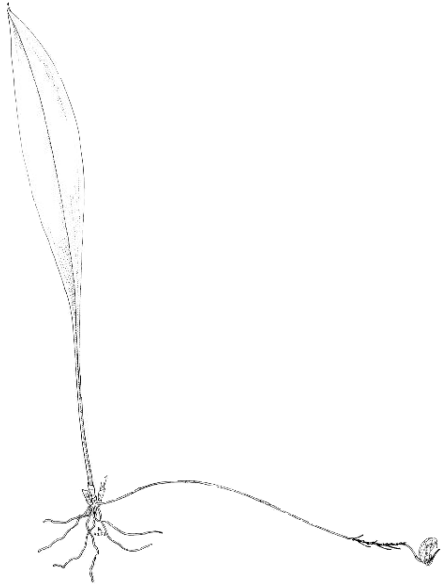
The information below was provided by Jon Young. You all know Jon knows his orchids and I agree with his assessment, Myers Conservatory is one of those places we should support. Check them out.

Word is that Meyers Conservatory is having a hard time staying afloat & if our Members are looking for small seedlings & flasks of mostly Species they might want to take a look at this site. I think Troy Meyers is doing good work getting rare Species & some not so rare into the hands of growers. All the plants that I have gotten from Meyers Conservatory have been excellent plants!!! I would hate to see them fold.

I think buying the established seedlings will help the most.

<http://www.troymeyers.com/>

THE CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY
c/o BILL CAVANAUGH
4965 OLD TREE AVENUE
COLUMBUS, OH 43228



WDC

CENTRAL OHIO ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER