

The Mid-American

Newsletter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress

September 2005

The Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley Orchid Societies invite all to attend

'Orchidfest'

the fall 2005 Mid-American Orchid Congress. 'Orchidfest' will run October 21-22-23, 2005 at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center in Mason, Ohio.

Additional information and registration materials are available on the MAOC web site:

www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2005fall/

With internationally known speakers and drawing exhibitors and vendors as it does from 13 states and eastern Canada, 'Orchidfest' will be a remarkable opportunity to expand one's knowledge of orchids and return home with a treasure or two for the benches.

NEEDED: Auction Items for the Mid-America Orchid Congress Auction !! !!

Anything you can donate will help support the work of the MAOC!

Contact: Mark van der WOERD (MJvdWoerd@netscape.net or 256-880-8180)
Dawn METTLER (rockbridge@hocking.net or 740-380-3023)
for assistance / consultation

Future Mid-American Orchid Congress Dates

The following dates have been set:

<u>Meeting</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Host(s)</u>
Fall 2005	Cincinnati, OH	Oct. 21-23	Greater Cincinnati OS and Miami Valley OS
Spg 2006	Omaha, NE	March 24-26	Greater Omaha OS
Fall 2006	open		
Spring 2007	Glencoe, IL	April 2007	Illinois OS
Fall 2007 & beyond	Available		

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FOCUS ON MID-AMERICA COMMITTEES

By Beth Martin

Most Mid-America “regulars” know that committees are the heart of the Congress. Dedicated volunteers work on a variety of projects to keep the MAOC running smoothly. Along the way, they learn new information and skills, develop friendships with fellow orchid enthusiasts, and most importantly, have fun!

New members are needed on the Mid-America committees described below. Committee meetings are scheduled at both Spring and Fall MAOC meetings, and members are encouraged, but not required, to attend. Most committees find that their work can easily be done by telephone and e-mail throughout the year. If you're interested in volunteering for a committee, or know someone who might be, please contact any MAOC officer for more information.

The **Affiliated Societies Committee** works to strengthen communication and coordination among MAOC member societies, and to encourage the societies to become familiar with MAOC activities. This committee plans the program of the MAOC Affiliated Societies Breakfast. It also recruits new societies for membership in the Congress.

The **Annual Meeting Committee** makes recommendations concerning sites and dates for future Congress meetings. In addition, the committee works with the host societies for future Congress meetings as needed, providing information about the MAOC's needs for the meeting. The committee also distributes show tags and other show materials published by the Congress, and works with the Show Schedule Committee in revising those materials.

The **Auditing Committee** audits the accounts of the Congress and submits a report at each Spring MAOC meeting.

The **Awards Committee** assures that trophies and awards donated to The Mid-America Orchid Congress are presented, and reports the recipients at each MAOC meeting.

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Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley Orchid Societies present *Orchidfest*

October 21, 22, 23, 2005
Kings Island Resort and Conference Center
Mason, Ohio

The Miami Valley Orchid Society and the Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society are pleased to host the MidAmerica Orchid Congress Fall 2005 meeting at the Kings Island Conference Center.

Hundreds of fall-blooming orchids will be on display in exhibits by orchid societies from Georgia to Minnesota. Newly released orchid hybrids, hard-to-find species and growing supplies will be on sale.

This is the first time the Mid-America Orchid Congress has been held in the Cincinnati-Dayton area. It is a remarkable opportunity to see orchid exhibits from regional societies and to buy plants and supplies from vendors who are normally only accessible by mail order.

Admission to the show is free but registration is necessary to attend the speakers' programs on Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

Speakers

Chris Purver, Curator, Eric Young Foundation,
"History and Future of Phrags"

George Carr "Cycnoches"

Francisco Miranda "Brazilian Orchid Habitats"

Lynn O'Shaughnessy "Pleurothallids" Bob Burkey, Odontoglossum Alliance Program "Recent
Odontoglossum Hybrids: Hither and Yon"

For more details Go to:

<http://www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2005fall/index.html>

CIRCLE MARCH 24-26, 2006, ON YOUR CALENDAR

The Spring MAOC Meetings will be held in conjunction with the Nineteenth Annual Greater Omaha Orchid Society Show and Sale, March 24-26, 2006, at the Omaha Marriott Hotel, 10220 Regency Circle, Omaha, NE.

Be involved in the MAOC action: Hear Marge From talk about the success of the Omaha Henry Doorley Zoo's Madagascar Orchid Project, funded in part by a grant from the Mid-America Orchid Congress. Join Doris Asher in a discussion of "Specialty Groups within Your Orchid Society" at the MAOC Affiliated Societies Breakfast.

Check our website: www.omaha-orchid-society.org for information regarding other informative speakers and activities planned for the meetings as well as for registration materials. Contact Roberta Ginavan at 712-487-3085 (ginavan@gte.net) if you have questions.

SEE YOU IN OMAHA!!!

The **Budget Committee** prepares budgets for the routine operations of the MAOC and monitors those budgets to assure the proper handling of Mid-America funds. It studies the long-term financial needs of the Congress, advises delegates of anticipated needs, and recommends expenditures to achieve the objectives of the Congress. It works closely with the Ways and Means Committee in order to stay informed about MAOC income.

The **Conservation Committee** works to preserve native orchids in their natural habitats by evaluating conservation proposals submitted to the Congress, and by recommending action on them as appropriate. The committee also considers requests from qualified institutions to assist them to enlarge their collections of rare or endangered orchids, and/or to naturalize native orchids in suitable protected areas. The committee's assistance may consist of providing informational help or of recommending that the Congress provide limited financial assistance.

The **Constitution and By-Laws Committee** makes recommendations from time to time regarding changes and/or amendments to the MAOC Constitution and By-Laws. The committee also provides a parliamentarian for each meeting of the Congress.

The **Education and Research Committee** studies and plans projects to help societies and their members develop a stronger understanding of and interest in all phases of orchidology. The committee promotes research on the propagation, cultivation, hybridization, and reproduction of orchids by evaluating research proposals in any of these areas from individuals, member societies, and qualified institutions. It may recommend that the Congress provide limited financial assistance for appropriate research proposals.

The **Historical Committee** collects the history of the Congress, its affiliated societies and their members. It cooperates with the American Orchid Society's Historical Committee regarding the acquisition, use and storage of such material.

The **Orchidist of the Year Committee** selects the recipient, if any, of the Orchidist of the Year Award, the highest honor given by The Mid-America Orchid Congress. The committee presents the award at the Fall MAOC meeting.

The **Publication Committee** works with the Editor and the Congress in determining editorial policy of *The Mid-American*, assists in obtaining articles for *The Mid-American*, and maintains the MAOC website. It works with the President and the Congress on other publications as requested.

The **Show Schedule Committee** periodically revises and updates the Mid-America judging schedule. It also gathers and evaluates data regarding the use of the show book and judging schedule at shows, and, with the cooperation of the Annual Meeting Committee, periodically updates the show book published by the Congress.

The **Ways and Means Committee** raises funds for the routine operations and special projects of the MAOC. It also assists the Budget Committee in assessing the feasibility of large projects.

MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS, 4/20-24/2005, BLOOMINGTON, MN

REPORT TO MID-AMERICA AFFILIATED ORCHID SOCIETIES

Bloomington, Minnesota, was abloom in orchids when the Orchid Society of Minnesota hosted both the American Orchid Society's Members Meeting and the Mid-America Orchid Congress from April 20th to the 24th. The event gave ample evidence of both excellent pre-planning and also follow-through by the Society whose members put on one of the best events of its kind in recent memory; happily, their total paid registration was in excess of 340. Kent Peterson, Event Chair, reports that his Society had not hosted an AOS meeting in over 25 years and no Mid-America since 1993, so, for most of their members, this was a first-time event.

The food was a highlight of the meetings. The friendly staff in the Hospitality Room provided delicious food and plenty of it, while also offering directions to attractions and helpful advice. The opening night party featured a breathtaking array of desserts; Mid-America's own Lois Holmes provided delightful piano background music for the party. Saturday's banquet included an excellent dinner with great entertainment offered by Lena and Tina at the expense of Art Moore but, alas, without Pete Furniss! The two local women had Jim Rassman and Art Moore in a "fishing boat" as they sang and roasted them as well as several other people in the audience – their program was seamless, humorous and very well done.

The Society also offered an unbeatable lineup of lectures at this meeting, including two by Alexander Hirtz and one by Jason Fischer. Jason's lecture on Orchids of Japan was quite enlightening and provided new insight on judging *Neofinetia falcata*. Especially important to Japanese orchidists is its lineage with emphasis on foliage (i.e., variegated), root tips, leaf size/shape, plant presentation/ shape. Based on what we are hearing from Alexander Hirtz , orchid genera are continually evolving/adapting to new climate/ environmental challenges and new species are constantly being discovered in the neotropics of South America. All is not lost, according to him!

Francisco Miranda's well-attended lecture on Brazilian *Cattleyas* and their habitats was also very informative and was illustrated with beautiful slides of Brazilian species.

William Rhodehamel's presentation on "Easily Grown Pleurothallids" provided very helpful information for those with limited growing space and using windowsills and/or light setups until a greenhouse is on the horizon. Other speakers included Norman Fang ("Harlequins, their history and development"), Russ Vernon's entertaining "How not to grow phalaenopsis", Karen Muir ("Brachypetalums and their hybrids"), Alan Koch ("The importance of Brazilian laelias in breeding"), and Robert Fuchs ("Trends in vandaceous intergeneric breeding").

Registrants as well as the visiting public enjoyed the superb sales area featuring some seventeen orchid firms.

The orchid show itself was beautiful with about 800 orchids in some 35 exhibits. On Thursday morning, Pete Peterson and Suki Nax organized and directed some 30 judges on eleven teams, each with two or three clerks, as they judged the 685 plants entered for ribbon judging. The AOS Show Trophy and the Orchid Digest Trophy went to the beautiful exhibit entered by the Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley Orchid Societies. It had great variety, very good arrangement utilizing an upright branch to present to best advantage some of the plants, which included interesting and obscure orchids.

The Mid-America Orchid Congress presents four **special awards** at each spring meeting. The awards and their winners in Bloomington:

1. Myron Banta award for the best specimen plant: *Paphiopedilum* St Swithin 'Chocolate Sails' CCM, 81 pts (Orchids Limited)
2. Henry C. Holmes award for the best oncidium alliance plant: *Psychopsis papillio* (Rick Budzynski)
3. F. L. Stevenson pleurothallid award: *Pleurothallis niveoglobula* (Orchids Limited)
4. Fox Valley cypripedium award: *Paphiopedilum* Julius 'Maxima' (Orchids Limited)

All of these MAOC awards went to members of the one society – the Orchid Society of Minnesota. According to Christine Chowning, Chair of the Mid-America Awards Committee, this is the first time that this has occurred!

Leroy Peterson reports the following **AOS awards** were given at this show:

1. Educational Exhibit Certificate for a large woodlands exhibit featuring numerous cypripediums in full bloom, 81 pts (Tom Nelson, Woods End Rescue) (featured pp 243 – 265 in Eric Hansen's Orchid fever, 2000.) This was an exhibit never to be forgotten and probably never seen again; the plants, the staging and the placement of the orchids made it very special.
2. *Restrepipsis striata*, CBR, (Judy Herkow)
3. *Paphiopedilum* Gerd Rollke 'Sam's Choice' HCC, 76 pts (Orchid Inn, Downs, IL)
4. *Phalaenopsis comingiana* 'Fernbrook' CCE, 91 pts (Orchids Limited, Plymouth, MN)

5. Anguloa hohenlohii CHM, 82 pts (Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, Bloomington, MN)
6. Masdevallia Afterglow 'Hoosier' HCC, 77 pts (Hoosier Orchid Company, Indianapolis, IN)
7. Phragmipedium popowii, AM, 85 pts (Orchids Limited)
8. Miltoniopsis Duncan York 'Patience', HCC, 77 pts (Larry Sanford, Cincinnati, OH)
9. Paphiopedilum St Swithin 'Chocolate Sails' CCM, 81 pts (Orchids Limited)
10. Arpophyllum giganteum AM, 80 pts (J & K Orchids, Neenah, WI)

At the Mid-America Business Meeting on Saturday morning, which was very well attended, a small auction brought in \$120.00. When the Mid-America meets concurrently with the AOS, the main auction raises funds for the American Orchid Society. Congress Treasurer Karen McBride reported she had negotiated a substantial discount from the Atlanta hotel from Speakers Day – \$4,450! We learned that MAOC show entry tags now cost \$25.00/1000 tags; the price increase was necessitated by increased printing and mailing costs. The tags can be obtained from Stephen Benjamin, 898 Lutheran Church Rd, Bardstown, KY 40004 502-348-1787 stephenb@oakknob.com. Other highlights of the Business Meeting:

1. Conservation Committee -- \$400 grants each to orchid collections at Como, Wheeler, and Cleveland Botanical Garden.
2. Education & Research Committee -- \$5,000 grant to Virginia Tech
3. Education & Research Committee – the very popular audiotape on pronunciation of orchid names will be re-issued as a CD at the fall MAOC meeting.

All of the details of the Business Meeting will come to your Society's Mid-America representative when the minutes are distributed.

The Congress, which schedules meetings five years ahead, has openings beginning in the fall of 2006. Would your Society consider joining with one or two neighboring societies to sponsor a Congress? Such joint efforts have been done successfully in the past. The dates for upcoming MAOC's, which do have hosts, are as follows:

Fall 2005 Cincinnati, OH 10/21-23/2005 Hosts: Greater Cincinnati O.S. & Miami Valley O.S. This meeting will take place at the Kings Island Resort and Conference Center in Mason, Ohio, with hotel rooms costing \$70.00.

Spring 2006 Omaha, NE 3/ 24-26/2006 Host: Greater Omaha O.S.

Fall 2006 open

Spring 2007 Glencoe, IL April 2007 Host: Illinois O.S

All other future dates are open.

We hope you can join us when we meet this October in Ohio. Be sure to register for the Affiliated Societies Breakfast on Sunday morning. We will be discussing "Communication within your local society". In any organization, communication – written, spoken, electronic – is so vital and so often a problem. The host societies have an excellent web site (<http://www.gardenersutopia.com/MAOC2005fall/>), which gives speakers and their topics, registration forms, hotel information, vendors attending, and much more.

If the Affiliated Societies Committee specifically or the Mid-America Orchid Congress in general can help your society in any way, I hope you'll contact us. Remember, too, to access the Congress's web site often to stay abreast of Congress activities (www.midamericanorchids.org). If we can't solve your problem directly, we'll refer it to someone who can!

Doris Asher, Chair, Affiliated Societies Committee

277 N Hagadorn Road, E Lansing, MI 48823 Phone: 517-332-0004 E-mail: asherdoris@juno.com

Ps: Please share this communication with your Society – give a copy to your newsletter editor – send copies to your board – make an oral report at a Society meeting – please help us help you. Other members of the Affiliated Societies Committee:

Barbara I. Brown 6440 Cecil Avenue, Clayton MO 63105-2225 Phone: 314-727-2385 E-mail: davidandbobbiebrown@att.net

Doug Hartong 540 Saddle Lake Drive, Roswell GA 30076 Phone: 770-594-7334 E-mail: catmando@mindspring.com

Mary Beth Mansour 20780 Valley Forge Drive, Fairview Park OH 44126 Phone: 440-333-5364 E-mail: mbmans@netscape.net

Greater Cincinnati and Miami Valley Orchid Societies
present
Orchidfest
October 21, 22, 23, 2005
Kings Island Resort and Conference Center
Mason, OH

REGISTRATION FORM, PART 1

First Registrant:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Orchid Society

Second Registrant:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Home Orchid Society

All AOS judges and student judges are welcome to participate in the Ribbon Judging and the AOS judging on Saturday morning.

First Registrant:

Will you participate in Ribbon Judging?
Yes ___ No ___

Will you participate in AOS Judging?
Yes ___ No ___

Please indicate your judging status:
___ Accredited
___ Probationary
___ Student
___ Clerk

Home Judging Center _____

Second Registrant:

Will you participate in Ribbon Judging?
Yes ___ No ___

Will you participate in AOS Judging?
Yes ___ No ___

Please indicate your judging status:
___ Accredited
___ Probationary
___ Student
___ Clerk

Home Judging Center _____

REGISTRATION FORM, PART 2

Full Registration includes all days – unlimited access to the Show and Sales area, all speakers, Program Booklet and a high quality Welcome Bag containing gifts from your host societies.

Early Registration Rate for the ends September 21, 2005. Your Registration Form must be postmarked by September 21, 2005 to qualify for early registration rate.

Description	Cost	Reg. 1	Reg. 2	Total
Early Registration postmarked September 21, 2005	\$80			
Registration on or after September 22, 2005	\$95			
Odontoglossum Banquet Fee	\$30			
Affiliated Societies Breakfast - Sunday	\$17			
MAOC Banquet Fee	\$45			
Please indicate your Entrée Selection				
Roast Prime Rib of Beef				
Chicken Oscar				
North Atlantic Salmon				
Please indicate your Salad Selection				
Spinach salad				
Garden fresh market salad				
Please indicate you Dessert Selection				
New York-style Cheesecake with berries				
Dutch Apple Strudel				
Killer Chocolate Cake				

Vegetarian selection available on request.

All dinners include Spinach salad with bacon vinaigrette dressing or a Garden fresh market salad with assorted dressings; Medley of fresh seasonal vegetables and chef's choice of potato, rice or pasta; Fresh breads, dinner rolls and butter; Choice of freshly brewed coffee, decaffeinated coffee, iced tea, soft drinks or reduced-fat milk and Choice of dessert: New York-style Cheesecake with fresh seasonal berries, Dutch Apple Strudel or Killer Chocolate Cake.

Make checks payable to MVOS-GCOS MidAmerica
Mail this completed registration form and payment go:

Steve Ryan
1700 Kruss Avenue
Dayton, OH 45429

Questions? Contact ssryan@earthlink.com

Confirmation will be sent to all registrants, preferably via email, so please include your email address.

Internet or fax registration cannot be accepted. Payment via charge cards cannot be accepted.

No refunds.