

Hope all of you are healthy and not completely bored. We are looking at ideas to keep up interest in your orchid activities.

We will create a page for posting your photos in a gallery of images. Depending on amount and space you will have to wait and see how they will appear.

If you want to send to send your photos with a short description and the name of the plant and your name, my email is jeanws@me.com.

We hope to have some short videos available and links to some sites you might find interesting.

The beginners web page is still a work in progress. We will have to original articles and others available for download.

We would like to get your opinion on two items on our calendar the Seminar in July and the picnic with Miami Valley in June. If parks and the Civic Garden Center were to be open and group events allowed by the Governor, would you attend? The board is discussing canceling and would like members' input. You can email your comments about this to me also at jeanws@me.com.

NOPES <https://nativeorchidpreservationeducationsociety.com> is offering to take interested persons on a car drive and short hike to see *Cypripedium acaule* the Pink Lady's-Slipper and *Galearis spectabilis* Showy Orchis and some other wildflowers and maybe another orchid or two. Most are along the road and only require stepping out of the car. It will be at Shawnee State Forest about 2 hours east of Cincinnati. To keep up with social distancing we expect to not carpool and will provide more information to those interested in attending. I was there last week, and the orchids are up and starting to open! We are looking at Saturday May 9 and meeting near the lodge at around 10. We would spend a couple of hours and go to 3 areas. You would need to pack a lunch and bring water and insect repellent. Boots would not be necessary. Restrooms may be limited although there are gas stations nearby. If you are interested download a copy of the NOPES hiking form, complete it and bring it with you. Email me if you are interested jeanws@me.com.

Also remember to support our orchid vendors. Many have purchased a lot of plants for spring show sales and need your support. Check the Resources page on our website to reach them. A few are on Facebook. Also Orchid Inn has a new website along with sales.

Thanks for your time and stay safe.