

Greater Akron Orchid Society

An Affiliate of the American Orchid Society & the Mid-American Orchid Congress

July 2025

President

Craig Miller

justcraig@sssnet.com

Vice President

Kathleen Martz

catpowell11@gmail.com

Treasurer

Jennifer Pritt

jlpritt@yahoo.com

Secretary

Meghan Harper

sharper1@kent.edu

Editor

Brandon Spannbauer

braxtonds@gmail.com

Trustee

Jane Bush

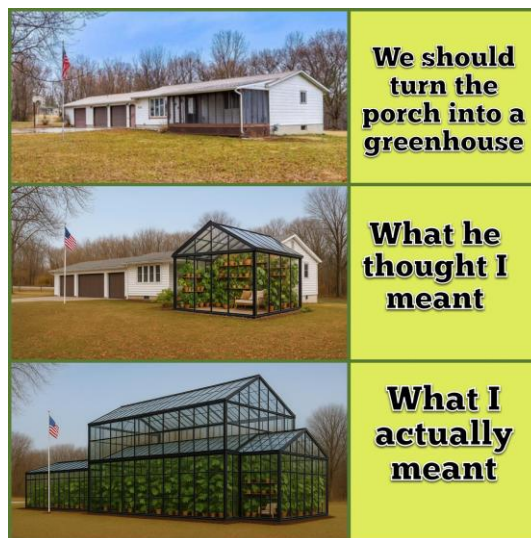
janebush11@gmail.com

Previous Meeting Minutes

In our June meeting, we discussed compact Vandaceous Species & Hybrids with Peter Lin

Our July meeting which will be our summer potluck and Member's Plant Auction

Meeting summary below (Page 4):



Announcements

In 2025, we will have hybrid meetings (both In-Person & Zoom). In-Person meeting details below and Zoom details will be included in each newsletter and on our Facebook page

Meetings start at 6:30pm, doors open at 6:00pm

Zoom details below (Page 3):

Next Meeting

**July 14, 2025
Monday, 6:30pm**

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center
725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

This month only! Start time 6:00pm

Topic

Program: **Summer Potluck Picnic ***Bring a Dish*****
Speaker: **Member Plant Auction**

Each meeting will have a show table in which everyone is invited to bring in their blooming orchids to show off. This is a great way to see what other members are growing and how they do so

New members and visitors are also invited to bring any plants they wish to show or have questions about

Meeting details below (Page 3):

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Letter from the Editor



Greetings,

We are pleased to be providing these newsletters to GAOS members and the public alike! If you'd like to access our current and past issues please visit our website for PDF downloads.

<https://thegaos.com/newsletters>

For access to our most current club news, information and our direct newsletter emails please join our email list by sending us your email address to be added.

Thanks,

Brandon Spannbauer greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/

www.qcos.org

West Shore Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/

westshoreorchidsociety.org/

Meeting Schedule

GAOS has hybrid meetings (both In-Person and Virtual) and meets the 2nd Monday of each month (except December) at 6:30pm, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Members are encouraged to bring blooming orchids from their collection for exhibit. **All are welcome; you do not have to be a member to attend**

Virtual meeting invites will be sent out via email the week before the meeting along with the monthly newsletter

July 14	Summer Potluck & Member Plant Auction
Aug 11	Ploidy Level in Orchids, an N-chanting Phenomenon – Ken Mettler
Sept 8	Picking the Right Plant - Dave Miller
Oct 13	Mistakes I've made and Learned From, With Orchids - HC Qianchu



Photo of the Month: Habenaria rhodocheila blooming in the wild, from Vietnam – Sang Loc

2025 Meeting Information

In 2025, we will continue with our Hybrid Meetings (both In-Person and Virtual.) You can join us either at our normal meeting location or via Zoom where the live meeting will be broadcasted online. Zoom meeting details will be included in the Newsletter before each meeting.

Meeting Location:

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center
725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Doors open: 6:00pm
Main Meeting: 6:30pm

- Remember to bring any orchids in bloom for our Show Table. This is a great way to see what other members are growing and how they do so. New members and visitors are also invited to bring any plants they wish to show or have questions about.

- Virtual portion of the meetings will be conducted via Zoom. It is free to download and use. An email with the invite link will be provided the week before the meeting along with the newsletter for that month. After Zoom is installed on your computer, tablet or phone, all you have to do is click the link to join in.

Please feel free to email any questions or to be added to the email list to receive our newsletter and Zoom meeting links send us a message:

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Thanks,

Brandon Spannbauer, Editor

July 14 Meeting Info

5:30	Open doors (early because of picnic)
6:15	Start picnic
7:00	Open meeting, Show table
7:15	Open floor for plant discussions
8:00	Close meeting

Early doors open at 5:30 PM and start time of 6:15 PM

The Society is providing the main course, plates, utensils, napkins and beverages. Everyone is invited to bring a dish including side dishes, salads, breads or deserts.

We will also have our member plant auction. All are invited to bring any orchid plants or orchid related items they want to sell for the auction. This is a silent auction where buyers pencil their bid on an auction slip and the next buyer then comes along and pencils in a higher bid. The highest bidder at the end of the night wins the plant and pays the treasurer what he bid. 25% of the winning bid price goes to GAOS and 75% goes to the seller. Buyers and sellers are responsible for checking with the treasurer that night for payments. We do not accept credit cards so please bring cash or check with you for the auction.

Auction slips have been attached to this email, you can use them to fill in plants you'd like to auction ahead of time, or you can fill them out at the meeting.

Topic

Program: **Summer Potluck Picnic ***Bring a Dish*****

Speaker: **Member Plant Auction**

Zoom Meeting Details

No Zoom Meeting this month for the summer potluck and member auction, normal Zoom will resume in August

GAOS June Meeting Notes

By Meghan Harper

Show table

Many beautiful orchid varieties were shared.

Presentation:

Mini Compact Vandaceous

Species and Hybrids

Peter Lin <https://www.diamondorchids.com/>

Outline:

Why Grow Compact Vandas

Small and Compact; Temperature tolerant; Can Grow Potted Water 1or 2x weekly/Fragrant/Neofinetia down to 40 degrees

Culture

Light medium; Temperature wide range of temperature 40-90 degrees; Humidity and Air Circulation tolerant of low humidity; gentle air circulation if growing inside; growing in baskets water daily, in a pot with medium 1-2x; Pest and Disease: mealy bugs/scale/center rot

Potting medium: bark/perlite/can do lava rock; or mounted or in baskets

Vandas have long roots; wrap around root ball; put plant and roots into bigger pot; wet the roots to make them pliable and put them in new pot; gently add bark mix

*Remember to label don't wet the bark; wet the perlite

Don't water right away

Read more at Orchids Magazine August 2012 and Orchid Digest Fall 2017

10% discount to GAOS members who would like to order

Our Secretary, Meghan Harper's husband, Thomas C. Liming, passed away unexpectedly on June 28, 2025.

Thomas' journey in life was marked by his dedication to both the culinary and beauty arts, having spent the majority of his career as a chef and more recently as a barber. Beyond his professional pursuits, Thomas was a passionate musician. As the lead singer in two heavy metal bands during his youth, he found solace in music, and he continued to enjoy creating it with his longtime friend, Kirk Shields. His love for music was only rivaled by his devotion to his family, friends and his beloved pets.

A lifelong lover of animals, Thomas had a heart of gold when it came to rescuing countless cats and dogs throughout the years. Thomas practiced many forms of martial arts throughout his life and it was through martial arts that he met Meghan, the love of his life. They were friends for many years before their bond blossomed into a romance, and they were married on June 29, 2019.

Thomas will be remembered for his kind heart, fierce loyalty, and the music he brought into the world. He touched the lives of many with his generosity, love, and laughter. He will be deeply missed by his family and friends.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made in his honor to Akron-area animal rescue organizations Paws and Prayers, One of A Kind Pets, or a rescue organization of your choice.

<https://www.newcomerakron.com/obituaries/thomas-c-liming>

Greater Akron Orchid Society



2025 GAOS Program Calendar

Jan 13	"Getting Your Orchids Ready for the Shows" – Dave Miller
Feb 10	"What's Wrong with My Orchid?" *Bring in your problem plants for discussion*
Mar 1-2	GAOS Orchid Show @ Petitti Garden Center – Tallmadge location
Mar 10	"How to Grow Orchids" / Welcome to New Members – Edgar Stehli
Apr 14	"Orchid Nomenclature" – Eric Sauer
May 12	"Seeing Spots: Growing Brachypetalum Paphs" – Darlene Thompson
June 9	"Compact Vandaceous Species & Hybrids" – Peter Lin
July 14	Summer Picnic & Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
Aug 11	Ploidy Level in Orchids, an N-changing Phenomenon – Ken Mettler
Aug 23-24	Ohio Valley Orchid Fest @ Kettering Ohio
Sept 8	"Picking the Right Plant" - Dave Miller
Oct 13	"Mistakes I've made and Learned From, With Orchids" - HC Qianchu He
Nov 10	Holiday Banquet / Election of Officers
December	No meeting, Happy Holidays



IS THIS FOR YOU?

**The American Orchid
Society Judging
Program**

**is seeking highly
motivated orchid
enthusiasts to join the
judging ranks.**

*Work with other such people
and help maintain our
awards programs and
educational efforts.*

*For more information contact us at
judges@aos.org*

Monthly Checklist for July and August

By AOS

Cattleya

Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer this month is the best way to ensure future blooms. Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Paphiopedilum

Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Phalaenopsis

Most, if not all, potting should be complete by now. This month and next are when these plants achieve their maximum growth. This growth will be that from which they set their spikes for the coming season. The more leaves the plants grow, the better potential for spiking will be realized. Growers in cooler areas such as the Pacific coast have the advantage this month, should they choose, of cooling for early season spikes. Lots of heat and light call for liberal applications of water and fertilizer.

Cymbidium

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

High-elevation Plants

For cooler-growing plants, such as masdevallias, other pleurothallids and the like, the next few months will be a challenge. During the hottest times, keep your plants more shaded and be sure to keep the humidity level much higher. Do not let plants dry out. Delay any potting until the weather cools.



Oncidium intergenerics

Many of the intergeneric crosses between odontoglossums and oncidiums, such as Odontocidium, Wilsonara and Colmanara, will be blooming now. Take special care to train the spikes for best floral display. Keep plants under fairly shady conditions. Watch for snails and slugs.



The Philippine species, Euanthe sanderiana, rewards growers with massive heads of flowers at the end of summer.

Vandaceous

Plants will be growing quickly now and really enjoying the hot humid days so similar to their native habitat. Watch for pests though, as many of these also enjoy the same conditions as the plants. Check flower spikes so that they can extend unimpeded for the best flower presentation later.

NEWS from the Great Lakes Judging Center

AOS plant judging takes place the 3rd Saturday each month. Judging is always open to the public and anyone is invited to bring plants for the AOS judges to look at them. Sessions begin at 11 AM Eastern Time with any center business and then an educational talk by judges or other featured speakers. AOS judging begins no later than 1 PM Eastern Time. The Great Lakes Judging Center is responsible for AOS judging in the region spanning Michigan, Northern Indiana, and Northern Ohio.

Judging sessions are held at Washtenaw Community College which is located at 4800 E. Huron River Dr. Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105. Activities take place in the Morris Lawrence building, Room 160 but occasionally it is moved to another room in the same building. Parking is ample and free. Dress is casual and all are welcome to bring lunch or snacks for themselves as no food is provided. Any awards given are subject to AOS Award fees which are presently \$40 for AOS members and \$60 for non-members.

Upcoming Schedule:

July 19 “Phragmipedium kovachii hybrids” - Jill Wood, GLJC & “Judging Small Orchids” – Cat Schmitt-Sands, GLJC

August 16 “Angraecums” – Kristin Stepanek, GLJC & “Geometric Mean and Other Judging Tools” – Dave Miller GLJC

September 20 Paphiopedilum expert Harold Koopowitz “Who Decided Round and Flat Was Desirable and Why” in Room 16 (ROOM CHANGE), no charge for the lecture

For more information contact Dave Miller at demipasmil@aol.com, especially if you are not familiar with the location or process.

Stubborn Orchids

By Brandon Spannbauer

This series is dedicated to showing off blooms that never make it to a meeting. If you have any stubborn orchids, send photos to be included in a future newsletter: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com



Lc. Sunset Glory (Bl. Richard Mueller x L. purpurata)

This is one of my oldest “surviving” orchids. I bought it 10 years ago from Darlene from one of our member auctions as a small plant. It suffered many setbacks over the years in my care but I have finally stabilized it and now it’s happy. This plant is very interesting in that the flowers were pretty undesirable and misshaped for most of its time with me, but once I nailed its culture, the flower quality improved dramatically.



Bc. Walter August (C. Summer Spot x B. nodosa 4N)

This cross is from H&R and is one of the most vigorous plants in my collection. I bought it 3 years ago as a tiny 2” plant and it has now engulfed a 7” pot to the point where I’m running out of space for it because it wants to take over any plants near it. I love the spots and the shape and will try to divide some of it for the auction for those who’d like to try it.

Bc. Robert Bauman (Bl. Richard Mueller 4N x Lc. Jalapa 4N)

This is another plant whose shape has dramatically improved with age. It is from SVO and blooms several times a year. It opens a deep red and ages to a bright orange. The flowers have straightened out with each blooming and I’m hoping they continue to improve in the future.

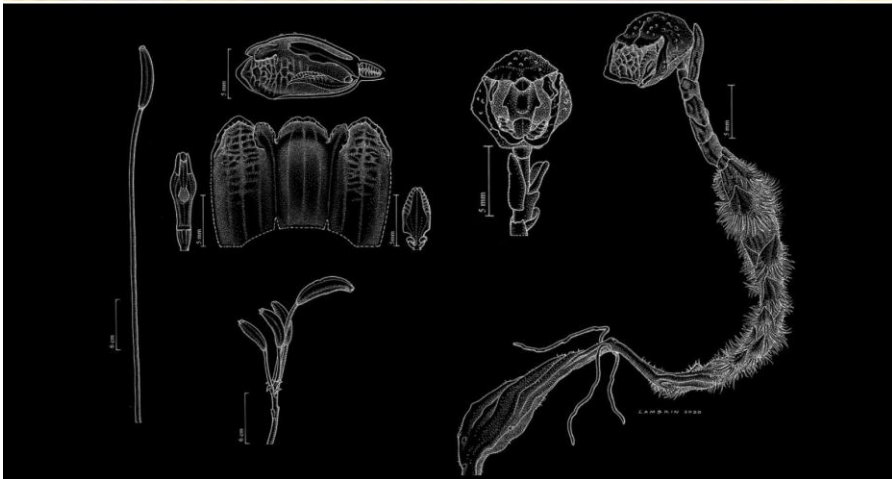
If you have any stubborn orchids that bloom in-between meetings, send in photos to have them included in the newsletter:

greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

New Orchids to Science

The new orchid, *Gastrodia* [#agnicellus](#) from Madagascar. Its unusual [#holomycotrophic](#) habit and flowering beneath leaf humus are discussed

The species name refers to the woolly covering on the rhizome, the ear-like petals and also alludes to the name of the botanical artist who brought the new species to life in her drawing. – Novataxa 2020



Upcoming 2025 Orchid Events

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest

Aug 23-24 Kettering Ohio

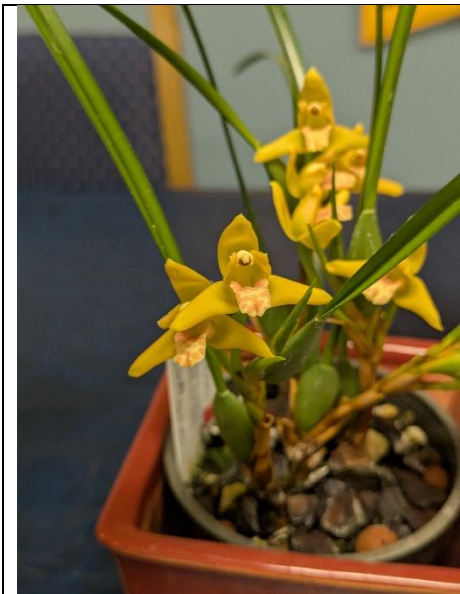
<https://www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com/>

Photo Gallery

Meeting Show Table

June 2025





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