

# Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

## **February 2020**

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**Jane Bush**

Vice President

**Darlene Thompson**

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Secretary

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Editor

**Brandon  
Spannbauer**

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**Dave Miller**

### **Minutes of Jan. Meeting**

Our orchid show is at Dayton Nursery on March 7&8. Please keep this weekend open so you can join us in making the show in our new location as fantastic as possible. Volunteering for the show is a great way to get to know the other members of the society and orchid venders better. You can even invite friends and family to volunteer.

Volunteering is very easy and there are many different jobs that need to be filled and/or food to be donated to help feed helpers. All jobs and descriptions will be explained at the Feb. meeting.

**All show ads are due at the Feb. 10 meeting or give details to Brandon if they are to be late so that I can add them to the booklet in time to be sent off to the printers.**

### **Upcoming Business**

It's time to start preparing for our Spring show at Dayton Nursery, March 7-8. Please consider volunteering. There are many ways large and small that you can help contribute.

We also need ads for the show handout, I have attached a copy of the ad contract that you can print out and either mail to me (address on the ad contract) or bring with you to the February meeting which is the deadline, Feb 10.

Dues for 2020 GAOS membership are now due. Individual memberships are \$20 and Family memberships, \$30. Individual members can receive one free plant at the November meeting while family members can get two.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, Feb 10, 2020. Doors open 6:45 pm, and meeting starts 7:15 pm. Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319.

Program: **Preparing for the Show #2**

Speaker: Dave Miller

We will talk about our upcoming show and its prep.

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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.  
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**Website:** [www.thegaos.com](http://www.thegaos.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/theGAOS](http://www.facebook.com/theGAOS)

**Email:** [greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto:greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com)

## President's Corner

By Jane Bush



Greetings!

I hope everyone had a pleasant and fun filled holiday.

As the New Year begins so does our preparations for our coming show. For the February meeting, I plan to have a list of jobs that are required for the show and what is involved in each job. Then, I hope you will find a job you can help with and commit to it. We can only have a successful show if everyone participates.

Our meetings will continue to have a Beginners Corner at 6:45 PM with the business meeting to begin promptly at & 7:10. This month's meeting will include some pointers on getting plants ready for a show.

**TIDBIT:** Though your orchids may be resting during these winter months, insect pests are not. Be sure to check your plant regularly for signs of infection.

## Meeting Schedule

GAOS meets the second Monday of each month (except December) Beginner's Corner starts at 6:45pm and the meeting at 7:15pm, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

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

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|--------|---|
| Feb 10 | "Preparing for the Show #2"<br>Dave Miller      |
| Mar 9  | Get Acquainted with New Members & "Orchids 101" |
| Apr 13 | "Orchids of China"<br>Tom Sampliner             |



**Photo of the Month:** Beautifully grown and bloomed plant of Bulb. medusae 'Pacific Heights' awarded a CCE of 94 points. Grown by Kate Leonard and Ian Sandison and photographed by Alan Maii.

## Spring Show and Booklet Ads



### Spring Show Book Ads

A very important part of our show is the advertisements in our show program. We need you to get ask your local businesses to buy an ad. This is our largest fund raiser to support our society and shows.

Please help us complete our show program with an ad you solicit.

Blank ads will be available at the meetings or please email: [braxtons@gmail.com](mailto:braxtons@gmail.com) for a printable copy.

### Volunteer Sign-up Sheets for the Upcoming Orchid Show

Jane Bush is looking for a few good men (and women) to help with the March 2020 orchid show. This is your show and it takes the contribution of every member, whether it be time, money or goods (like a dish for the meals.) Sign-up sheets will be circulated at the meetings. Please help make your show a success!

GAOS,

It's nearing that time again, time to start planning for our spring 2020 show on March 7-8. We wanted to start getting the word out to our advertisers alittle earlier this year because we've had to change locations since Donzell's closed its doors.

Our new location is at Dayton Nursery: 3459 S Cleveland Massillon Rd, Norton, OH 44203. This location change means we all need to be proactive in getting advertisers for the show. For new members, each year at our show we hand our show booklets to attendees. Inside is info about orchids, our club, our upcoming schedule and ads for local businesses. These ads are vital for us to bring in enough money to host a yearly orchid show.

They come in 3 different sizes with prices to match. We ask that everyone do their part and print out a few and go to your local businesses and inquire if they would like to advertise for our show. It's that simple. All the details will be explained at the meetings and are in the contract.

Please let me know if you any questions, much more show info to come.

Thanks,  
Brandon

## Upcoming Shows

### Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

February 15-16 at Cleveland Botanical Gardens  
11030 East Blvd, Cleveland, OH 44106

<https://cbgarden.org/orchid-mania/orchid-show/>  
<http://www.gcos.org/>

### Greater Akron Orchid Society

March 7-8 at Dayton Nursery  
3459 S Cleveland Massillon Rd, Norton, OH 44203

<https://www.facebook.com/theGAOS/>  
<http://www.thegaos.com/>

### Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

March 14-15 at Crowne Plaza Suites  
164 Fort Couch Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

<https://www.oswp.org/>

### West Shore Orchid Society

April 25-26 at Strongsville, Ohio Rec Center  
18100 Royalton Rd, Strongsville, OH 44136

<http://www.westshoreorchidsociety.org/>

Orchid Cabinet by Kevin Holcomb shows his 10 years of trial and error to get to this point



## 'Invisible' Bamboo Orchid, Rare Gem of Bogor Botanical Gardens

By Theresia Sufa

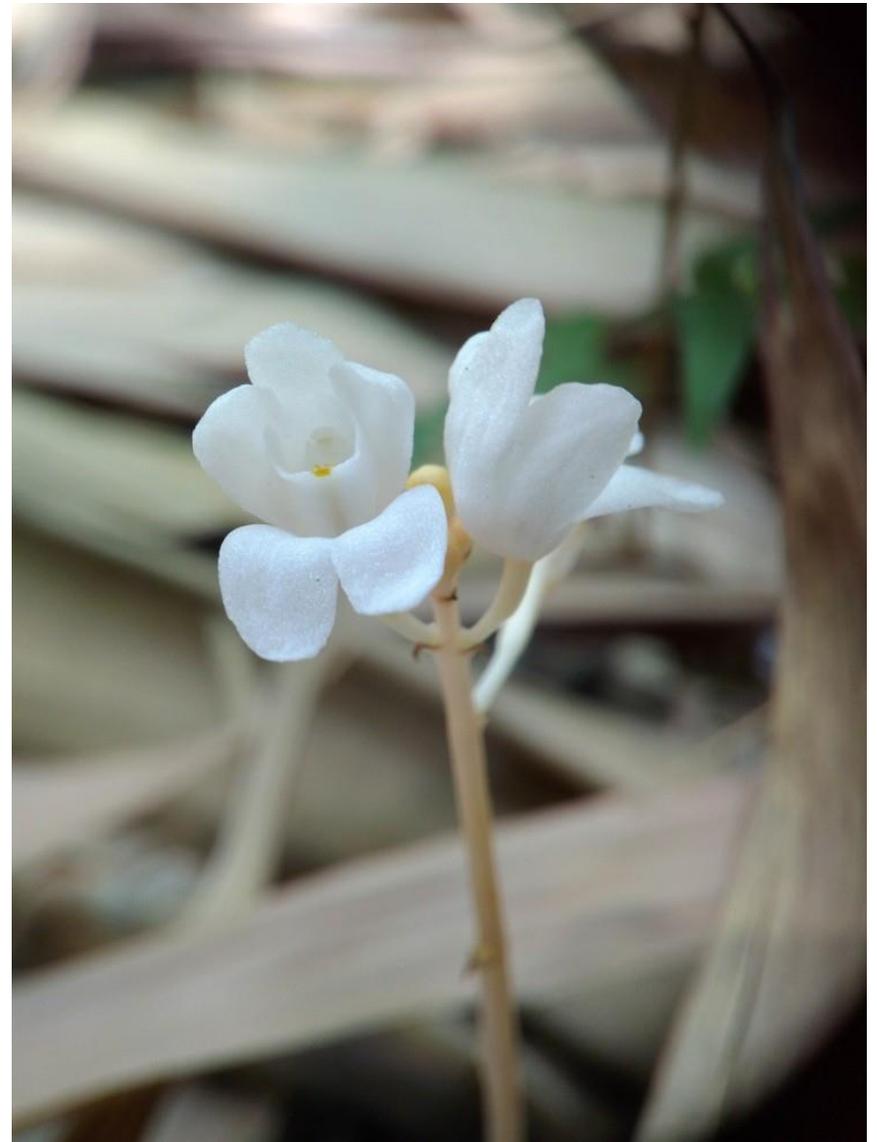


Among the many plants at the Bogor Botanical Gardens in Bogor, West Java, the *anggrek bambu*, or bamboo orchid, is arguably one of the most interesting.

A rare species, this gorgeous, tiny white flower that lives on bamboo clumps is known for heralding the end of the dry season whenever it appears.

The *Didymoplexis pallens* is not an endemic species, as it spreads quite far and wide, including in Southeast Asia.

*Anggrek bambu* is known to have grown at the Bogor Botanical Gardens since the Dutch colonial era, particularly the 1900s. Belgian-born Dutch botanist Johannes Jacobus Smith (1867-1947), who used to head the Herbarium Bogoriense, Southeast Asia's oldest herbarium located in Bogor, wrote about the species in one of his books.



The gorgeous bamboo orchid that is rarely seen even by the gardens' employees is pictured on Oct. 4.

## Meet Stinky 'Bucky,' the *Bulbophyllum* Orchid that Shutdown a Smithsonian Greenhouse

By Tom Mirenda

Every orchid has an interesting story. Once you look beyond their beauty, other captivating qualities emerge about virtually all of them. However, there are some that stand out and make their presence known in ways that simply cannot be ignored.



Whether you like them or not, indifference is unlikely to be your response. In this regard, there is nothing subtle about a magnificent specimen of *Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis*, that was donated to the Smithsonian Gardens last July. Charmed by its pendant glossy leaves and their resemblance to a beaver's tail, donors Lynn Cook and Troy Ray of Penn Valley, Pennsylvania, dubbed it 'Bucky,' a name that lives on among Smithsonian horticulturalists now caring for the new plant.

Researcher Sofi Mursidawati, who studies rafflesia as well as *anggrek bambu* at the Plant Conservation Center of the Bogor Botanical Gardens, called it the "invisible orchid" as it only appeared at certain times, hence it is described as *antara ada dan tiada* (between existent and nonexistent).

Its seasonality is due to its symbiotic dependence on a certain fungus species for nutrition. If the flower gets enough nutrition, it will bloom.

The species is also known as the achlorophyll orchid, since it doesn't have leaves as a photosynthetic tool. It is a flower without roots, only tuber, and it is only spotted when blooming.

The orchid only appears at the beginning of the rainy season or at the end of dry season, and will only bloom for one day. Due to this characteristic, some species of achlorophyll orchid families in nearby countries are dubbed "ghost orchid" as they don't have any green leaves.

"For me, *anggrek bambu's* complicated existence as it is dependent on things that are very specific and rare, namely its symbiotic fungus and insect pollinators, which leads to a higher risk of extinction, makes it very special. If its habitat, the bamboo clumps, is ruined, it will be gone as well. The orchid cannot live in just any bamboo clumps; in the Bogor Botanical Gardens, for instance, it can only be found on bamboo clumps in an area behind the Bogor Post Office," said Sofi.

As it blooms for only one day, people rarely see the flower, including the employees of the gardens.

A visitor from Ciomas, Bogor, West Java, recently told *The Jakarta Post* that she had never heard of the orchid despite being a frequent visitor of the gardens.

"I come here all the time, but I've never seen the *anggrek bambu*. I read about it on the information sign provided at the Bamboo Park, but I have never seen the actual orchid," said Diah.

At the time it was originally acquired a couple of decades ago, few people outside of Asia had seen this species, though many had read about it and its remarkable ecology. The inflorescence, or flower head, consists of a cluster of about 15 to 20 reddish-brown (meat-colored) flowers covered with fleshy projections called papillae that are said to resemble wriggling maggots. Charming!

Since it targets female carrion flies as its pollinator, engaging in 'brood site deception,' it also evolved a nasty fragrance to match its unsightly appearance. Early writings about it claim that its blossoms emitted an aroma reminiscent of the stench of "a thousand dead elephants rotting in the sun." While this is surely hyperbole, staffers have been waiting for many months to experience Bucky's olfactory charms.

Incredibly, buds were forming under one of its huge floppy leaves, which we didn't observe until a visitor spied them during a greenhouse tour. We certainly would have noticed them the next day when they opened and started their fragrance treat—making the greenhouse almost uninhabitable for a few days. A monstrous plant from lowland Papua New Guinea, Bucky loves to be warm and humid all the time. Given its robust girth and thick pseudobulbs (storage organs in the stem), we water it daily and feed it frequently. It is the most famous species in *Bulbophyllum* section Macrobulbon, of which the Smithsonian Gardens Orchid Collection has an almost complete set. They all share the same pollination strategy so more very stinky orchids are soon to come. Superficially the plant resembles *Phalaenopsis gigantea*, the largest *Phalaenopsis* species (native to Borneo). Other than both being in the orchid family, however, they are not at all closely related.



## “EXTENDED MOISTURE” MOUNTING

By Ray Barkalow

Many will tell you that mounting is “the best way” to grow plants, but I can tell you from personal experience that unless your growing conditions favor that method – high humidity and frequent watering – doing so can be an issue. Why? Because mounts tend to dry out really fast. Even if you put a pad of moss over the roots, it will eventually break down and crumble away. Well... here's a way to extend the time the mount stays moist – lightweight expanded clay aggregate – LECA! In this case, I use a cedar slab, smeared some fast-set epoxy on the surface, then poured some dry LECA onto it. It is important to use “fast-set” epoxy (I used 5-minute stuff) so that the liquid does not soak into the pellets, which would preclude absorption. The LECA provides great texture for roots to hold onto, and will hold water for a lot longer period of time than will a plain slab.



# Photo Gallery

Jan 2020 Meeting



Wils Eye Candy  
Pam Everett



NoID Cattleya  
Pam Everett



Den Spring Dream  
Pam Everett



Den Spring Bird  
Pam Everett



NoID Mini Phal  
Dean Pawlicki



Mtdm Pacific Paragon  
Claudia Englert



Burr Francine  
Dean Pawlicki



Den Red Emperor  
Claudia Englert



Den Love Memory Fizz  
Claudia Englert



Bc Binosa x Little Stars  
Claudia Englert



Odcdm Wild Willie  
Claudia Englert



Ang distictum  
Bernie Skalak



Den Fairy Moon Sweetie  
Bernie Skalak



Neo Lou Sweeny  
Bernie Skalak



Den Spanish Eyes  
Jane Bush



Den Enobi Purple  
Bernie Skalak



Den Ise x Den Angel Baby  
Bernie Skalak



Den Love Memory Fizz  
Bernie Skalak



Lyc Balliae  
Frank Skalak



NoID Phal  
Bernie Skalak



NoID Phal  
Bernie Skalak



Phal Black Rose  
Jackie Martin



Den Crystal Rose  
Jane Bush



Paph Song of Love  
Jane Bush



Den Spring Dream  
Jane Bush



Den Spanish Eyes  
Jane Bush



Cymbidium  
Jane Bush



Ang sesquipedale  
Frank Skalak



Ang sesquipedale  
Frank Skalak



Burr Francine  
Dean Pawlicki



Den Spring Dream  
Jane Bush