

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

February 2022

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Jane Bush

Vice President

Craig Miller

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Pam Everett

Editor

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Trustee

Barb Ford

Minutes of Jan Meeting

We had our First 2022 meeting and it was in person. Edgar Stehli was our speaker where he discussed Caring for Oncidiums.

Meeting details below

Painting of paphiopedilum venustum by Hemlata Pradhan



Upcoming Business

We are still navigating the confusing world of reopening meetings amid covid. Please bear with us as things may change month to month. Here is our tentative meeting itinerary for 2022

February 14: In-Person

March 14: In-Person

April 11: Virtual

May 9: In-Person

Our 2022 meetings will have a combination of in person and Zoom meetings. A detailed meeting schedule is on our website and on the next page

Next Meeting (In-Person)

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, Feb 14, 2022. 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**

Speaker: Barb Ford & Dave Miller

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

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Letter from the Editor

By Brandon Spannbauer



Greetings!

We are partnering up with nearby societies to promote our online Zoom meetings to members for those interested in checking them out and their interesting speakers. Details on future free online meetings will be periodically emailed out to you with instructions on how you can join and participate if you wish.

Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/

www.gcos.org

West Shore Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/

westshoreorchidsociety.org/

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.**

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

- | | |
|--------|--|
| Feb 14 | (In-Person) Preparing for the Show - Barb Ford & Dave Miller |
| Mar 14 | (In-Person) Orchids 101 – New Member Q&A |
| Apr 11 | (Virtual) Demystifying Sphagnum Moss
Carri Raven-Reiman |
| May 9 | (In-Person) Repotting Clinic / 1 st Member Plant Auction |



Photo of the Month: Paph. Norito Hasegawa 'Yoko's Smile' AM and CCM Award AJOS orchid show 2022. Grower is Masahiro Saito.

Greetings GAOS members

In 2022, we will be having both In-Person and virtual meetings. A detailed itinerary is explained in our Calendar as to whether the meeting is in person or online. We want to make people feel comfortable coming and participating in in-person meetings so here are a few details:

- Masks will be recommended but not required
- Please social distance if possible

Meeting Location:

Doors open 6:45pm, meetings start at 7:15pm
Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr.,
Akron, Ohio 44319

- 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 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

- If there are changes to future meetings you will be notified via email, if you haven't been getting any GAOS emails please send your email address to be added to the list

We hope that everyone has been staying healthy and look forward to getting together. Please feel free to email any questions or to be added to the email list to: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Thanks,

Brandon Spannbauer, Editor

2022 GAOS Dues

2022 GAOS dues will remain at \$25 for an individual or family membership. Dues allows us to host our annual orchid show as well as bring in amazing speakers to showcase their orchid knowledge. Each membership will receive a free orchid during our holiday party at the November meeting. You can either send in payment to the address on the form provided with this email or on the website, or in person at one of our meetings. Thank you

Greater Akron Orchid Society Membership Application

To become a GAOS member or to renew your membership, complete the following form and present it or mail it with your payment to the society using the address below.

Dues are \$25 for a single/family membership

Make checks payable to GAOS

Name _____

Additional Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____

Primary Cell Phone _____

Primary e-mail _____

Check this box if you do not want your contact information on the published member list

Mail to:

GAOS
830 Zeletta Dr.
New Franklin, OH 44319



GAOS January 2022 Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS met in person Monday, January 10, following an orchid show preparation meeting earlier in the evening. Vice President Craig Miller called the meeting to order at 7:00. Members were reminded that 2022 dues of \$25 are now due and cover either a single or family membership. GAOS is developing a digital repository in the cloud to preserve important files and promotional materials. Members learned that the Greater Cleveland Orchid Society will not have a show this year. A vendor sales-only event will be held February 5 and 6 at the Cleveland Botanical Garden.

This month's show table had 14 plants.

Barb Ford covered many details of the upcoming show at Dayton Nursery in Norwood and passed around a number of sign-up sheets for volunteers to participate in working the show, including set up and tear down.

Edgar Stehli of Windswept in Time Orchids was guest speaker and presented his talk on Oncidium care. He noted that there are 70 genera in the Oncidium group and more than 1700 species. Oncidiums grow naturally in the southern United States and Central and South America. Generally, these plants like brighter filtered light but do not do well in the direct light of noonday sun. They typically prefer temperatures that are warmer during the day and cooler at night.

Edgar suggested that small plants can do well potted in sphagnum alone. As the plant gets larger, a mix of ½ sphagnum and ½ fine bark can be used. And for the largest plants, a larger bark mix is ideal.

Edgar included some tips peculiar to particular orchids. Oncidium Twinkle, for instance normally likes low temperatures in the 50s but it can take low temps down to the 40s for a brief period that can enhance blooming. Edgar also suggested that it is important to keep Miltoniopsis roots cool and always moist. And in order to encourage Brassia to bloom fertilizing the plant should be discontinued near the end of June.

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, our website or please email for a printable copy.

greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com
www.thegaos.com

All ads are due by Feb 14, 2022 at the meeting, or mailed to Brandon (address on the ad)

Volunteer Sign-up Sheets for the Upcoming Orchid Show

We are looking for a few good people to help with the March 2022 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!

Greater Akron Orchid Society



2022 GAOS Program Calendar

- Jan 10 In-person – Edgar Stehli – Caring for Oncidium
- Feb 14 In-person – Preparing for the Show – TBD (Barb Ford and Dave Miller)
- Staking spikes, selecting plants for the show
 - Cleaning plants and creating labels
- Mar 14 In-person – Orchids 101 – Panel Discussion/New member meet and greet
- Orchid Tabletop Conversations
- Apr 11 Virtual – Demystifying Sphagnum Moss – Carri Raven-Rieman
- May 9 In-person – Repotting Clinic (will need 3-4 volunteers to demo)
1st Member Plant Auction
- Jun 13 Virtual – Orchids of Columbia – David Haelterman
- Jul 11 In-person - Summer Picnic
- Aug 8 Virtual – Orchids of Borneo – Charles Wilson
- Sep 12 In-person – Preparing for Fall/Winter (Speaker Needed) – Panel Discussions
2nd Member Plant Auction
- Oct 10 Virtual – Clark Riley – 60 Years of Orchid Growing Mistakes
- Nov 14 In-person - Holiday banquet / Elections
- Dec 12 No meeting



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*

Judges Viewpoint

By Dave Miller, Great Lakes Judging Center

Issue #12



Presentation, Presentation, Presentation

Sure, you have babied your prize orchids and now they are coming into bloom just in time for exhibiting at the show. Let's talk about how to maximize your ribbon count by putting a little effort into putting each of your plants into their Sunday best outfits.



Pretend You are the Audience

Yay, it's show season finally, what should you be thinking about your orchids? The simple view of how to display your orchids is to pretend you are the Viewer. There will be hundreds of visitors passing the exhibit area after judging is over. Some of them even are looking for a quick photo op of YOUR great flowers. Make it easy on them by presenting your flower directly at their eyes. With multi-floral orchids, sometimes that is a very tough thing to do. It may take the better part of a half hour to get the arrangement just right. And whatever you do, don't leave your arrangement up to the exhibit builder. They are extremely busy but keep in mind they do dozens of plants to arrange so your plant will only get a fraction of attention that you would give.

Many times, I will start priming my plants as soon as they start to spike. Yessiree, it could be three months or more before the flowers open. Phals and slippers for sure. As soon as the spike is 2" tall, I put a stake in the plant to notify me there is one and secondly to keep my bumbling hands away from the tender tip. On the right is a Phal with two spikes and I already enforced a separation in the spikes as I can see there will be interference when the flowers open.

One note about this. I use simple bamboo skewers at first but if I know the spike is long for an Oncidium or Phragmipedium, I would likely start

with a larger stake. Floral stakes from the craft store are sturdy and affordable and bamboo plant stakes are the strongest wooden product.

The Process

As the flower spike develops, it can be carefully manipulated into a pleasant form. I repeat CAREFULLY. The process of training spikes takes time. Move it a little, stake it there, come back in four to seven days and move it again. Sometimes only once in a while is enough as long as you have left time before the anticipated showing. So, on the right, is what happens if you push/pull on the spike too much. Sad to say it's not the first Phal spike I have broken while getting ready for a show.

Early Staking

Visualize what your flower spike will look like as it starts to develop. Next, examine the tendency of the spike or more importantly, the spikes to see if you think they will be crowded and if so, then early is the time to get them spaced apart. In the first picture below, it is visually obvious the two spikes are colliding even though they are both nicely arched. The watch-words here are we want to see every flower with no crowding. Simple, use an upright stake on each one to pry the spikes apart to give all flowers a little breathing room. In the right photo, the flowers have started to open and there is plenty of room with no crowding, yet all the flowers are oriented up because I started early.



To restate, it's important to do this early before the buds have differentiated which means they have already decided which way is up. Doing this too late will give you flowers that twist in all directions. Not good. I will put this plant back on the bench in EXACTLY the same spot and orientation as it came to keep the emerging flowers the same. Just before the show, I will decide whether stakes are still required and if so, I will trim them, wrap them, and fix the spike to them.

These two slippers on the left have been prepped for show with their faces directed at the viewer and their stakes upright and wrapped to blend in with the spike. On the right is a large Bulbophyllum with thirteen spikes and some of them were crawling over the others. Before the flowers opened, I staked some of the spikes away from others to make sure none were touching and to try to have spikes visually all around the plant. After two weeks most of them stayed with no staking. On the right is the fabulous Paphiopedilum out of the Barbara Tisherman Slipper Orchid Collection that just recently received an AOS CCE award for cultural excellence. Note how the spikes are arranged all around the plant. This is critical to receive the highest possible award the plant can garner in its current form. What you don't see are the eight stakes attached but hidden to make those spikes "appear" all the way around the plant. Again I say, please don't force this job on the exhibit builder, it just isn't fair to them. In addition, there is only so much time, so if you want better ribbons, then YOU need to put in the time to groom your own plant before you drop it off for exhibiting. True for shows, true for AOS judging, and also very true for the Show Table



Housekeeping

Cleaning your plant is just as important than the rest. Take for example the cute purple Phal with two spikes. It has a fading leaf, the oldest one, which is normal. Before showing this plant, the leaf will either fall off or I will remove it. It's wrinkly and unsightly.



Finally, the most sacrilege of all. If you have a plant with multiple flowers or spikes but one is damaged or fading/wilting. CUT IT OFF. Two flowers are better but one good and one bad flower will depreciate the visual effect of the good flower and a viewer's eye will go directly to the bad stuff first. Believe me, it is heartbreaking to cut off a fading flower or spike on the way to AOS judging. Sorry, it must go, and that is also true for entire spikes if the flowers are past prime. Take a look at this Howeara and how unsightly the faded spikes highlight the plant instead of the good flowers.

Go get 'em now and follow these simple guidelines for prepping your plants for the show.

Happy Orchid'ing Contact Dave at dcmjpasmil@aol.com or 330-307-7189

Pot Stand Idea

[Gawler Districts Orchid Club Inc.](#)

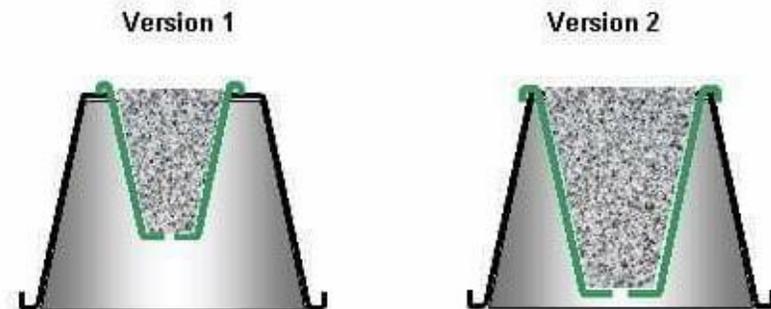
So you need a stand to gain some height or to stabilize a lush plant in a small pot...

Easy Pot Stand

A simple and cheap pot stand can be made using plastic pots. Select a pot which is at least several sizes larger than the one in which the orchid is growing, invert it and cut a circular hole in the bottom big enough to hold the pot with the plant but not allowing it to fall through.

***When cold, plastic pots can be brittle, making cutting difficult and possibly dangerous. Place the plastic pot in the sun on a warm day or soak the area to be cut in hot water before attempting to cut it. The plastic will become flexible and easier to cut. ***

www.facebook.com/GawlerOrchids



2022 Show Ad Contract

It's official, we are going ahead with plans for our 2022 Spring Show! With taking a year off, we'd like to get a head start with our show planning and prep. One of the most important things to get squared away are securing advertisers for our show.

Our spring show will take place on March 5-6, 2022. Our location is:

Dayton Nursery

**3459 S. Cleveland Massillon Rd.,
Norton, OH 44203**

It is so important that we secure advertisers as this is one of our main ways that we secure the funds needed to have a great show and allow for speakers for our society. A copy of the ad contract has been attached to the email with this newsletter, will be provided at the November meeting and is available on our website for download: <http://www.thegaos.com/>

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. They supply their business card and/or art for their advertisement to be included in our booklet. It's that simple. All the details will be explained at the meetings and are in the contract.

All ads are due by Feb 14, 2022 at the meeting, or mailed to Brandon (address on the ad)

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

Thanks,
Brandon

Sample Contract:

Greater Akron Orchid Society Advertising Contract

The Greater Akron Orchid Society is pleased to announce its 20th Annual Spring Orchid Show to be held at our new location, Dayton Nursery: 3459 S Cleveland Massillon Rd, Norton, OH 44203, on March 5-6, 2022. As part of this unique event, we are handing out a show program booklet which will showcase local businesses and will talk about orchid care and the Orchid Society membership. This is a great opportunity to advertise your business and to help support our Orchid Show. Please consider supporting our event. Thank you.

Sincerely, The Greater Akron Orchid Society

Sponsor Copy (Due Feb. 14, 2022)

Greater Akron Orchid Society, Affiliated Member of the American Orchid Society

Ads for our show booklet come in 3 sizes. Please select a size and provide a business card or ad art that you wish to be included. Thank you.

Receipt for:	Business Card (\$25)	Half Page (\$50)	Corporate Sponsor (\$100)	Approx. Dimensions
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3.5 x 2 in.
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5 x 4.25 in.
			<input type="checkbox"/>	5.5 x 8.5 in.

Ad Show Program Amount: \$ _____

Ad copy to be submitted in electronic form as PDF, JPG or PNG file to: braxtonds@gmail.com

Cash or checks made payable to: **Greater Akron Orchid Society (GAOS)**

Accepted By: Sponsor _____ GAOS _____

Please send GAOS COPY with payment, Business card and/or Art to: Brandon Spannbauer 2081 Thornhill Dr. Akron, OH 44313 braxtonds@gmail.com (330) 285-3798

<=== CUT HERE ===>

<=== CUT HERE ===>

GAOS COPY (Due Feb. 14, 2022)

Advertiser's Name: _____

Accepted By: GAOS: _____

Select ad size: Business Card _____ Half Page _____ Corporate Sponsor _____

Advertising Total: Cash _____ Check _____

Ad copy to be submitted in electronic form as PDF, JPG or PNG file to: braxtonds@gmail.com

Notes: _____

Repeat advertiser wishes to use old ad? Yes _____ No _____

Please send GAOS COPY with payment, Business card and/or Art to: Brandon Spannbauer 2081 Thornhill Dr. Akron, OH 44313 braxtonds@gmail.com (330) 285-3798

Secret crop of near-extinct Oaklands donkey orchids discovered in the Riverina

By Charmayne Allison & Matt Dowling



Rangers have discovered a secret meadow of near-extinct native orchids on a travelling stock reserve in the Riverina. The extremely rare Oaklands donkey orchid comes from the genus *Diuris*, known for its petals that poke up like "donkey ears". Until recently, there were just 1,000 Oaklands donkey orchids remaining, their survival threatened by livestock grazing, rabbits and invasive weeds. Murray Local Land Services officers had been searching for a reintroduction site for the endangered bloom when they discovered a hidden crop.

"We found a single plant back in 2017," senior land services officer Shanna Rogers said. "It was dry conditions for the next two years, and nothing came up. "And then, last year with the good rainfall, they found a healthy population of 250 plants."

Wild Orchids Project brings new life

There are just four populations of the orchid in the entire region, all clustered around Urana and Oaklands. Ms Rogers said it was a bit of an estimate as to how many flowers there were. "Not all of the orchids found within an area flower each year," she said.

"So, we just monitor the flowering orchids because there potentially could be other orchids in the area that are dormant tubers that just don't come up."



It was the incredible rarity of these flowers that seeded the Wild Orchids Project, a New South Wales Environmental Trust-funded initiative. As part of the project, experts are looking into three endangered orchid species, also including the sandhill spider orchid and crimson spider orchid. "Monitoring back in 2014 indicated the numbers of these orchids were incredibly low, and that we needed to do something to manage the remnant populations and boost their numbers in the wild," Ms Rogers said.

Steps to protect near-extinct orchid

Officers have started caring for known remnant populations and are working to reintroduce orchids back into the wild at new translocation sites. In the wake of their latest discovery, officers have fenced off the meadow to protect the orchids from grazing stock. It's just a small patch – 3 hectares of a 150-hectare reserve. But it could determine the survival of this highly endangered plant. "While the orchids are dormant tubers, it's not a risk," Ms Rogers said. "But we obviously didn't want to have stock grazing and trampling the orchids while they were flowering and setting seeds. "This management of the orchids will continue permanently."

Photo Gallery

Displays

Jan 2022



