

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

January 2020

President

Jane Bush

Vice President

Darlene Thompson

Treasurer

Claudia Englert

Secretary

Lore Yu

Editor

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Trustee

Dave Miller

Minutes of Nov. Meeting

The meeting opened with our annual potluck dinner. As always, the food was delicious. It was announced that dues will be due in January.

We had elections in November, the slate of officers for 2020 are:

President	Jane Bush
Vice President	Darlene Thompson
Secretary	Lore Yu
Treasurer	Claudia Englert
Newsletter	Brandon Spannbauer

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.

We finished with the annual holiday orchid distribution for members. There was a great variety of orchids from which everyone could choose.

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, Jan 13, 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 / Hygiene**
Speaker: Dave Miller & Jane Bush

We will talk about our upcoming show and its prep.

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.

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

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 January 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 and a discussion on Orchid Hygiene.

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.**

Jan 13	"Preparing for the Show" & "Orchid Hygiene Dave Miller & Jane Bush
Feb 10	"Preparing for the Show #2" Dave Miller
Mar 9	Get Acquainted with New Members & "Orchids 101"



Photo of the Month: Catasetum naturally growing on a roof

Photo: Catasetum brazil

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 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 a little 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/>

West Shore Orchid Society

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

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

Julie Radford is Victoria's 'orchid whisperer', propagating rare native orchids one tiny seed at a time

By ABC Central Victoria



Photo: [Julie Radford has spent \\$30,000 on her at-home orchid laboratory.](#) (ABC Central Victoria: Beth Gibson)

Dedicated ecologist, Julie Radford, has worked for the last 12 years to propagate rare native orchids to help bring them back from extinction.

But her first experience with orchids was not an entirely positive one.

"I just bought this orchid when my children were really little, and I didn't know anything about caring for orchids," she said.

"I worked on trying to keep this thing alive for years, and I actually threw it in the bin three times.

"I had a young daughter at the time, and she kept getting it out of the bin and saying, 'You can't do that. It's not dead yet'."



[Photo: The Mclvor Spider orchid is one of the rarest of its kind in the country. \(Supplied: Julie Radford\)](#)

Julie's daughter's affection for the plant got Ms Radford wondering whether there were any native varieties growing in the Victorian bush, where she had grown up.

"I decided from then on that I was going to study more about them," she said.

For the last 12 years she has worked in orchid conservation but last year she decided to ramp-up her efforts.

Ms Radford spent \$30,000 setting-up a home laboratory, which allowed her to propagate and pot over 800 rare endangered orchids native to central Victoria.

In a few years' time the plants will be ready to go back out into the wild.

Some of the plants, like the Stuart Mill spider orchid and the red cross spider orchid, have been on the very brink of extinction.

Ms. Radford currently has 250 pots of the Mclvor spider orchid, which only has about six known wild plants around Australia.

"You want to talk the scary? Knowing that you're working on one the rarest plants in the country and hoping they come back up next year — it's terrifying," she said.



[Photo: Julie Radford hand pollinating a Stuart Mill Spider Orchid in the Central Victorian bush. \(Supplied: Julie Radford\)](#)

The orchid whisperer

Some have called Ms. Radford "the orchid whisperer" because the plant was notoriously difficult and complex to propagate.

Many of the varieties she has been growing required the presence of specific kinds of fungi to germinate, so Ms. Radford has been collecting and growing the fungi on small petri dishes with agar jelly.



[Photo: The red cross spider orchids is one of the endangered orchids Ms Radford is working to conserve. \(Supplied: Julie Radford\)](#)

She has then been going out and cross-pollinating wild orchid flowers by hand to encourage them to produce seeds. "Some of these species that I work on, we might have two populations with two individual plants in them," Ms Radford said. "So, I got out and actually take pollen from one plant and then deposit it on another plant. "That might mean that I have to take a two-hour drive from one plant to the next." One of the reasons some of these plants are so rare is because they relied on specific types of wasps to cross-pollinate them. "The orchid emits a pheromone that attracts the wasp, and the male wasp will emerge and they will think the orchid is a female wasp," Ms Radford said. "The male wasp with attempt to mate with the orchids, in the process spreading the pollen from flower to flower. "Essentially that means that if you lose that wasp species from the ecosystem, then you will also lose the orchid species."

Bolstered for the future

Ms Radford has been spending anywhere between three to six days a week propagating orchids. While she has been getting some funding, mostly from government community environmental grants, there was no guarantee it will continue.



[Photo: The Brilliant Sun Orchid is one the flowers Julie propagates.](#)

Ms Radford said she questioned at times why she dedicated so much effort to the cause. "Sometimes I actually wonder if they're giving off some kind of crazy pheromone that's tricked me into following them around the landscape," she said. "Especially if I've gone and collected pollen from one site and then I have to drive for two hours to another site, I might be driving there going 'What's wrong with me?'" Ms Radford said she hoped that by bolstering the orchid populations one day they would survive without her help. "They're in isolated patches of bushland, and so genetically the animals and the plants within these isolated, fragmented populations can't actually talk to each other," she said. "What happens is you get inbreeding depression, and eventually things start to die-out. "What we're trying to do here is mix-up those populations genetically, to make sure that doesn't happen, and that these things get to stay there in the long-term."

Photo Gallery

Nov 2019 Meeting



C eldorado
Wayne Roberts



C Chocolate Drop 'Yellow'
Wayne Roberts



Phrag Nicholle Tower
Wayne Roberts



Phrag Incan Treasure
Wayne Roberts



Paph glaucophyllum
Wayne Roberts



Phrag Incan Treasure
Jane Bush



Paph Song of Love
Jane Bush



NoID Onc
Bernie Skalak



C Big Ben
Frank Skalak



Den Enob Purple
Bernie Skalak



Ang disticum
Bernie Skalak



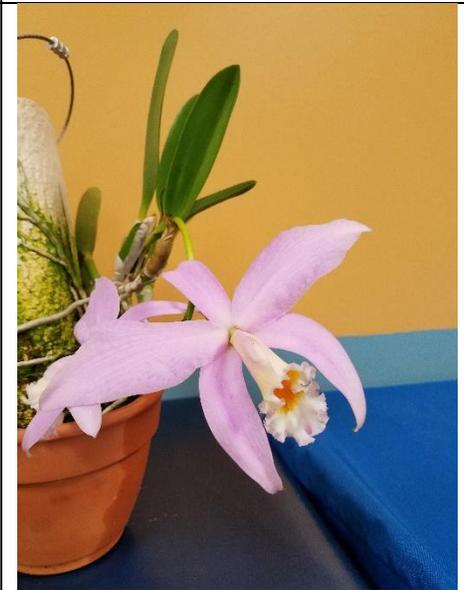
Paph Grace Henry
Darlene Thompson



Paph malipoense
Darlene Thompson



Paph glaucophyllum
Darlene Thompson



C jongheana
Darlene Thompson



C. jongheana
Darlene Thompson



Clo Dragon's Treasure
Dave Miller



Clo Dragon's Treasure
Dave Miller



Paph. Fairly Dreamy
Dave Miller



Paph. Fairly Dreamy
Dave Miller



Bulbo cuperium
Dave Miller



Bulbo cuperium
Dave Miller



Holiday Plants