

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

Jan 2021

President

Vice President

Darlene Thompson

Treasurer

Claudia Englert

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Pam Everett

Editor

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Trustee

Jane Bush

Minutes of Nov Meeting

We had a Zoom meeting Greenhouse Chat where we answered member submitted questions.

GAOS Meeting Goes Online!

The GAOS meeting will be online, hosted by Dave Miller and Darlene Thompson. Anyone who is interested will be able to participate in the meeting or just view it from home using your personal computer, smart TV or smart phone.

Our meeting will be from 7:00 to 8:30 pm on Monday, Jan 11 with people able to join the meeting as early as 6:30 pm where we will chat and answer questions until the meeting starts officially.

More info below.

Upcoming Business



Next Meeting

Our January meeting will be online using Zoom where Dave Miller will discuss: Managing an Orchid Collection

Zoom meeting details below.

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Letter From the Editor

By Brandon Spannbauer

Greetings!

Welcome GAOS to 2021.

I hope that all are well and staying safe as we continue to persevere through these trying times, although now we can definitely see a light at the end of the tunnel with the release and distribution of the Covid vaccine.

I would personally like to thank you all for your continued support in the society and our love of orchids even if we can't meet in person.

Even though our spring show is cancelled this year we have some great things lined up for our meetings. Darlene has been working very hard and has secured some wonderful speakers on a wide range of interesting topics.

The upcoming 2021 schedule has been attached to this email and will also be posted on our website:

www.thegaos.com

This year we are also trying things a little differently because we are functioning with just a Vice President and the Board. We would like to ask if anyone is interested in helping us keep this a growing and thriving society to please contact Darlene, Dave, myself or anyone else on the board.

Dip your toe in the pond, the water's warm! Any help and participation large or small is greatly appreciated.

Thanks,

Brandon

braxtonds@gmail.com



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 11	Managing an Orchid Collection Dave Miller
Feb 8	Understanding Orchid Nutrition Ray Barlow
Mar 8	Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids



Photo of the Month: Here's my latest, just registered hybrid BC. Heavenly Convergence. It is a hybrid of Brassavola Yaki 'Black's Best' X Cattleya labiata rubra. The flower is 5.5" wide. I really like the lip. Photo © Allen Black

Greetings GAOS members!

Our January meeting will be Online. Here are the details on how to enter the meeting (this info will also be emailed to you so you can follow the links that way).

You can use your Windows PC, Mac, iPhone or Android phone to connect and participate in the meeting. Preferred equipment will be speakers and a microphone but members have connected using only phone or computer screen and no camera attached. People have found it beneficial to test their equipment prior to the meeting so if you have questions contact Dave Miller at 330-307-7189 or dcmjpasmil@aol.com or Darlene Thompson at 901-210-5502 or darlenejthompson@gmail.com.

The meeting will open early at 6:30 pm to allow everyone plenty of time to connect to the Zoom Conference room we are using. You can text or email either of us if you have trouble connecting using the information below. The actual meeting content will start at 7 pm and end at approximately 8:30 pm.

Agenda

6:30pm – Virtual Doors Open for Member Mingle

7:00pm – Meeting Starts with Society Updates

7:15pm – Virtual Show Table

7:30pm – Presentation

If you have any pictures of your blooming orchids for the show table, please send them to me (darlenejthompson@gmail.com) by Saturday before the meeting. I would love to showcase your beautiful orchids. (Darlene Thompson)

"Managing Your Orchid Collection" by Dave Miller
Many times we focus on the orchids and forget about what we need to do to take care of them in the time we have. Dave will be talking about a variety of things to consider in taking care of large and small orchid collections. From one to hundreds of orchids, we all need to develop good practices to keep them looking their very best.

Dave Miller is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Greater Akron Orchid Society January meeting
Time: Jan 11, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88042087107?pwd=UkRGU1hLU3hMWIF3VkNRRTEvRUVsZz09>

Meeting ID: 880 4208 7107

Passcode: 163246

One tap mobile

+13017158592,,88042087107#,,,,*163246# US (Washington D.C)

+13126266799,,88042087107#,,,,*163246# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 880 4208 7107

Passcode: 163246

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kd2A4sgwIK>

The American Orchid Society Judging Program

**is willing to teach you
to become an AOS
Judge and is actively
seeking orchid
enthusiasts**

IF YOU

- **Have a love of orchids**
- **Are willing to learn more about orchids**
- **Would like to work with other like-minded enthusiasts**
- **Can contribute to the long-term health of AOS & Affiliated Societies**
- **Are able to teach the public about orchids**

THEN

***contact us for more
information at 330-307-
7189 or dcmjpasmil@aol***



WANTED

***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 Dave
Miller at 330-307-7189 or
dcmjpasmil@aol*

Judges Viewpoint

By Dave Miller, Great Lakes Judging Center



Presenting Your Orchid

Last month we talked about the qualities that make for good orchid flowers but there is a hidden side to making a good plant look even better. That hidden element is "Presentation".

Dress Me Up

When I speak to orchid groups about what judges like to see in a displayed orchid, I always stress presentation. Whether on the show table, show exhibit or in the AOS judging room, presentation can improve or distract the quality of any plant.

Here are a few tips on how to take your favorite plant and make them even more desirable.

Face the Viewer

Stand in front of your plant, eyes on the flower. What do you see? Make sure your flower or flowers are oriented to meet the viewer's gaze straight on. It may take some work to do that, but in the end the resulting plant will "show" even better. Sometimes that will require some work to get the flower oriented in the best way. Other times it is impossible because the presentation work should have started months ago when the flower spikes were just starting.

This is especially true for Phalaenopsis and slipper orchids. Many orchid spikes resist rearrangement as the spike matures. Also, if not arranged before the buds mature, the flowers will not be oriented relative to the final staking.

Staking

Other than buying plants with high quality flowers this step is the single most important thing to do prior to displaying your plant. Note in the attached photo that there is already a stake in the pot for every single emerging inflorescence even if only $\frac{1}{4}$ " tall. It accomplishes two things. First, it alerts me to be more careful around the plant so not to break it. Second, as the spike grows, the staking process begins and continues as it lengthens which may take as much as four to six months on some orchids. It can be staked straight or with a curved wire which becomes a personal choice.



Housekeeping

Staking has been separated out due to its importance. Next comes making the best possible plant presentation. There are a couple easy steps to grooming that make a huge difference. Clean the dust and dirt off the leaves. DO NOT USE LEAF WAX. Leaf waxes and orchids tend not to co-exist. Instead, use dilute milk or lemon juice solution and a soft cotton to wipe down the leaves. Personally, I frequently use insecticidal soap for insect maintenance and find it better than either of these other products.

Next, clean any loose debris out of the leaf mass and the media surface. Now, look at all the leaves for bad spots or injury and prune those away using a sterile razor blade. Only part of the leaf need be taken off. But, if the plant only has three leaves, cutting one leaf off should not be done. Be sure to cut the tip of the leaf in the same shape as the original leaf as there is nothing worse than looking at a plant with blunt cut leaves. The photo on the left shows staking early and it also has bad leaves from frostbite. These leaves will fall anyway so cut them off before showing the plant.

A last note on this topic. Particularly in Phalaenopsis, a leaf will roll over or be twisted. It surely can be fixed but requires a little creativity. In the photo a wire attached to a stake was used to keep the leaf from rolling back to where we do not want it to be. Carefully roll it to normal position and use the wire to hold it there. After two weeks it will be normal orientation and the apparatus can be removed. The front stake remains as it is guarding the emerging spike.

Coming Next: **Picking Good Orchids**

Contact Dave at dcmjpsmil@aol.com or call or text to 330-307-7189



Lore Yu had a problem with bush snails eating her miniature orchids and used instant coffee to help remedy it. She lists a few articles of research for those having the same problem.

Hi!

I have had these nasty things twice, both came with orchids, happily exploded in population and tried to decimate all my other plants (they entirely ate some of my miniature orchids). Here is what I did: I sprinkled instant coffee on all my mounts and used a water bottle to wet the crystals. I put used coffee grounds on the surface of all my other plant pots, including the orchids (my daughter, a heavy coffee drinker was living with me, thankfully). I also watered the plants with the leftover coffee. I saw no further damage and I haven't had any trouble since. I really, really hate Bush Snails.

Lore Yu

I couldn't find the original article that I had read but here are some others:

https://digitalcommons.unl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1465&context=icwdm_usdanwrc

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/dn2470-caffeine-repels-and-kills-slugs/>

Great Lakes Judging Center Online Zoom Meeting Jan. 16 features Edgar Stehli. All are welcome to attend.

I would like to cordially invite anyone from our societies to join in for Edgar's talk. Even though he was the speaker at the December West Shore meeting, I am guessing some members were not able to attend. I intend to continue inviting all my societies for as long as we offer online orchid talks through the Judging Center. dave

Due to COVID concerns, January's AOS monthly judging will have only online education; there will be no live AOS judging. The meeting will open at 10:30 am for social time and start promptly at 11 am; Edgar will start his talk around 11:15.

"Understanding and Growing Angraecoid Orchids"

Our featured speaker for the January Great Lakes Judging Center online educational meeting will be Edgar Stehli of Windswept In Time Orchids located in Broadview Heights, Ohio. Edgar will share his knowledge of this interesting group of predominantly South African orchids that lend well to growing in our part of the country. This group includes orchids from Angraecum and Aerangis and also some of their intergeneric hybrids. He has numerous AOS awards in this group of orchids including a number of cultural awards for specimen sized plants. Orchids in this group are frequently available for purchase by many of our vendors. For more than twenty years, Edgar and Kim have been selling orchids to our communities as

ONLINE MEETING INFORMATION

Mei Ling Clemens is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: GLJC January Zoom Meeting
Time: Jan 16, 2021 10:30 AM America/Detroit

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86396695741?pwd=MDhocjISOVpZSIVJdHYyMXBlaGhpdz09>

Meeting ID: 863 9669 5741

Passcode: 756691

One tap mobile

+19292056099,,86396695741#,,,,*756691# US (New York)

+13017158592,,86396695741#,,,,*756691# US (Washington D.C)

Dial by your location

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 863 9669 5741

Passcode: 756691

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kb9ZITKU7L>

Mei Ling Clemens

(231)557-2647

meilingclemens@gmail.com

Contact Dave Miller at 330-307-7189 or dcmjpasnil@aol.com for technical problems before or during the meeting.

Some variations of *Cattleya tigrina*



“Just a little something to take the edge off”



Photo Gallery

Home Displays
Nov 2020





