

# Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

**July 2021**

President

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**Darlene Thompson**

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Editor

**Brandon  
Spannbauer**

Trustee

**Jane Bush**

## **Minutes of June Meeting**

We had a Zoom meeting where Dr. Kristen Uthus discussed "Honey, I shrunk the Orchids" Miniature Orchids

### **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

**Monday, July 12:**

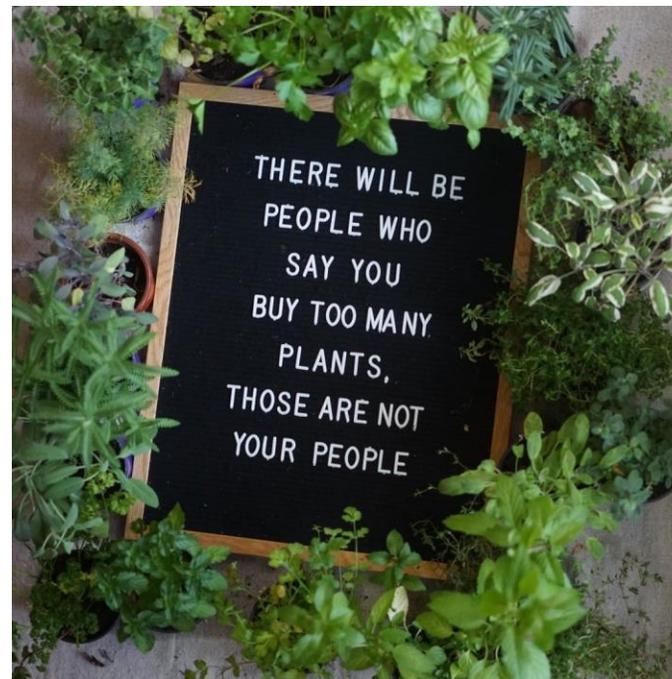
**Our meeting will be from 7:00 to 8:30 pm with people able to join the meeting as early as 6:30 pm where we will chat and answer questions until the meeting starts**

If you have any pictures of your blooming orchids for the show table, please send them to ([darlenejthompson@gmail.com](mailto:darlenejthompson@gmail.com)) by the Saturday before the meeting to be included in the Show Table presentation

**More info below**

## **Upcoming Business**

GAOS yearly dues are now due, details below



## **Next Meeting**

Our July meeting will be online using Zoom where Edgar Stehli will discuss "Tolumnia Species and Hybrids"

**Zoom meeting details below**

**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)

## 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.

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### Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

[www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/)

[www.gcos.org](http://www.gcos.org)

### West Shore Orchid Society

[www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/)

[westshoreorchidsociety.org/](http://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.**

|         |  |
|---------|--|
| July 12 | Tolumnia Species and Hybrids<br>Edgar Stehli |
| Aug 9   | TBD  |
| Sept 13 | TBD  |



**Photo of the Month:** Paphiopedilum bellatulum is a warm to cool growing terrestrial from Assam India, Myanmar, Thailand and Yunnan China at elevations of between 300 to 1600 metres.  
Photo: Masahiro Saito

## Greetings GAOS members!

Our next 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 [dcmjpasml@aol.com](mailto:dcmjpasml@aol.com)  
Darlene Thompson at 901-210-5502 or [darlenejthompson@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:darlenejthompson@gmail.com)) by Sunday before the meeting. I would love to showcase your beautiful orchids. (Darlene Thompson)

## June 2021 Zoom Online Meeting Info

Our featured speaker for the July Greater Akron Orchid meeting will be Edgar Stehli of Windswept In Time Orchids. Edgar will share his knowledge of Tolumnia, which is a subgroup of the Oncidium alliance. Tolumnia have come a long way in just a short time. In this presentation Edgar discusses the species used in hybridization, and what hybridizers are looking for as a result. There are slides of the various species, as well as some of the hybrids. A fair amount of the presentation is devoted to the cultural requirements needed to keep the plants happy.

Please join us on Monday, July 12. Our virtual doors open at 6:30pm, and the meeting starts at 7pm.

We look forward to you joining us on Monday. Zoom details are below.

If you would like to submit photos for the show table, please send those to [darlenejthompson@gmail.com](mailto:darlenejthompson@gmail.com) by Sunday at 12pm ET.

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Dave Miller is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Greater Akron Orchid Society July Meeting  
Time: Jul 12, 2021 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84704901265?pwd=YmNlQW90MGZlZ0oOGl4cjI4OFFqbzQvdz09>

## GAOS June Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS met on Zoom Monday, June 14. There were 33 members and guests participating. After a brief business meeting, Darlene Thompson shared photos of 21 orchids on the virtual show table.

Our featured speaker was Dr. Kristen Ulthus from New World Orchids in Michigan. Her topic...Honey, I Shrunk the Orchids...a lively presentation covering her favorite subject, miniature orchids. While there is no American Orchid Society definition for "miniature", there are four rather popular definitions:

Plants that are less than 6 inches tall, excluding inflorescences

Plants that are less than 12 inches tall, excluding inflorescences

Plants that are less than 6 inches except for Cattleyas, which are less than 10 inches

Plants that are smaller than typical for that particular genus

Kristen explained that there are several factors involving miniaturization. There is something as simple as natural variation. Size varies among species. In the animal kingdom, for example, there are eagles and there are hummingbirds. Both are birds, but there is a huge variance in size. There is also genetic constraint. DNA determines size, and as DNA gets modified, it can affect size. And there are environmental factors. Light, food, and water can all affect orchid size. But light, or the lack thereof, has the greatest impact on orchids.

So why consider miniatures? Kristen cited three good reasons. Miniatures require less space in a collection. Miniatures are ideal for terrariums which can make care of the plant easier. And there are aesthetic considerations. If one were to look at plant form, one can observe more notable variations in leaf color, leaf texture, and leaf shape than non-miniature orchids. If one were to look at plant flowers, there are also significant variations and frequency in flowering among miniatures.

Kristen concluded by sharing photos of some of her favorite miniatures, most of which she grows in and sells from her greenhouse.

Following a period of questions and answers, the meeting concluded at 8:30.



## 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](mailto:judges@aos.org)*

# Greater Akron Orchid Society



## 2021 GAOS Program Calendar

- Jan 11 Managing an Orchid Collection – David Miller
- Feb 8 Understanding Orchid Nutrition - Ray Barlow
- Mar 8 Mini-Catts: Delightful Cattleyas in Miniature – Peter T. Lin of Diamond Orchids
- Apr 12 Understanding Light – Cheryl Erins
- May 10 Curating an Ever-Blooming Collection – Darlene Thompson
- Jun 14 Summer Picnic  
1<sup>st</sup> Member Plant Auction
- Jul 12 “Tolumnia Species and Hybrids” with Edgar Stehli
- Aug 9 TBD
- Sep 13 2<sup>nd</sup> Member Plant Auction
- Oct 11 TBD
- Nov 8 Holiday banquet / Elections
- Dec 13 No meeting

Something is definitely stinking up the greenhouses this morning. This lovely *Bulb. beccarii* is in bloom today and it is looking fantastic even though it's a stinker! This wonderful species from Borneo puts out a profusion of flowers in spring and summer and is one of our favorite species to date. – Krull Smith



## GAOS 2021 Dues

By Jane Bush

Greetings GAOS members and friends,

GAOS membership dues are **now due**. Dues are our biggest income and determine how much financially we can do as a society.

Attached (to the email along with this newsletter) is the correct **application for 2021. An application must accompany dues money.** The application is GAOS's record of your membership.

Because we are not meeting in person, you **must mail** your application and check to our treasurer Claudia.

Please note that there are some old forms of membership applications in cyber space. If you have not refreshed your browser, you may get one of these old forms. Please be sure to use the form attached to this email or the internet form that has **January 2021 (21-03)** in the bottom right corner.

Thank you for your support of GAOS through membership dues,

Jane Bush, Trustee

## 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



*Note – At this time, electronic or credit card payment is not available.*

## Rare Orchids Found In City of London Bank's Rooftop Garden

By Tom Edwards, BBC



**A colony of rare orchids has been discovered growing on the rooftop of an office building in the City of London.**

It is the first time the small-flowered tongue-orchid has been seen in the UK since arriving in Cornwall in 1989.

*Serapias parviflora* is generally found in the Mediterranean basin and Atlantic coast of France, Spain and Portugal.

The 15 plants growing in Nomura International's 11th-floor garden represent the entire known wild UK colony of the species.

The joy of the previous colony's discovery, at Rame Head in Cornwall in 1989, was in sharp contrast to the pain felt when it disappeared 20 years later. At this point, the small-flowered tongue-orchid was thought to have become extinct as a wild plant in the UK.

Looming over us are the huge, glinting towers of the City - we are on the Nomura bank's huge grass roof, which is a haven for wildlife and biodiversity. It is a carpet of sedum, grasses and flowers.

There are 17 species of bee up here and 159 species of plant. It is dry and arid due to the concrete and the [urban heat island](#) effect and it's perfect for these rare orchids more commonly seen on the continent.

There are 15 of the small delicate orchids and they flower for just a few weeks. With the changing climate, ecologists say it's likely we'll find more Mediterranean species in London.

And these green roofs are now a regular sight across London and have become an important place for wildlife, which now includes species unseen in the UK for some time.

Nomura's ecologist Mark Patterson, who manages the roof garden at 1 Angel Lane, discovered the small-flowered tongue-orchids during a monthly survey.

How the plant came to be in the Japanese investment bank's roof garden remains unknown, although as Mr Patterson points out, its seeds can travel great distances by wind.

"The plants could have originated on the continent and been brought over the Channel on southerly winds which frequently bring Saharan dust deposits to the capital," he said.

"Once settled on the Nomura roof, the seeds would have formed a symbiosis with a mycorrhizal fungus enabling them to germinate and grow. Whilst possible, the odds are astronomical."



## Monthly Checklist for July and August

By AOS (Abbrev. to fit)

### CATTLEYA

Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs due to high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a great way to cool down plants. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent misting and watering. 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 as well as pests.

### 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. A cooling period after all the heat will induce 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 INTERGENERIC

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.

### 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.

# Photo Gallery

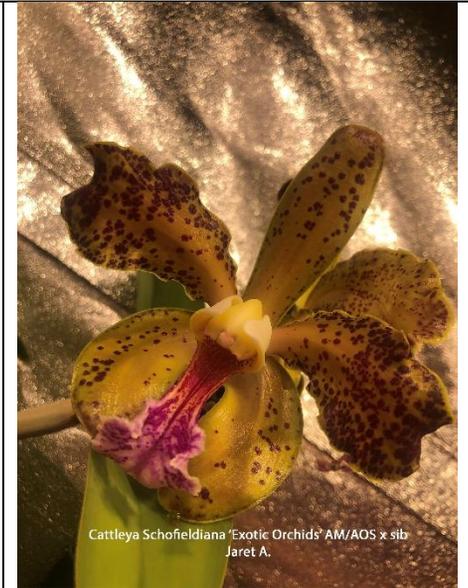
## Home Displays June 2021



*Cattleya Carlhamiana* 'Oberlin' AM/AOS coclearia  
Frank S.



*Cattleya purpurata* 'Hihimou's purpurata' Carmencita  
Frank S.



*Cattleya Schofieldiana* 'Exotic Orchids' AM/AOS x sib  
Jaret A.



*Dockrillia rigida*  
Mandy B.



*Dockrillia rigida*  
Mandy B.



*Gastrochilus japonicus*  
Mandy B.



*Wilsonara Pacific Panache* 'Dorothy Jean'  
Pam E.



Habenaria Huron 'Windswept Rose' HCC/AOS  
Edgar S.



Habenaria Huron 'Windswept Sunrise' AM/AOS  
Edgar S.



Habenaria Trogon 'Windswept' JC/AOS  
Edgar S.



L. purpurata sanguinea  
Brandon S.



L. purpurata sanguinea  
Brandon S.



Lycaste Angular Dubai x Lycaste John Ezzy  
Frank S.



Oncidium Sweet Sixteen  
Pam E.



Phal. tetraspis  
Chester K.





Phal. Mituo Gelb Eagle 'Rainbow'  
Jaret A.



Phal. Mituo Love 'Rainbow-520'  
Jaret A.



Phal. Yin's Black Eagle 'Nobby-B' AM/AOS  
Jaret A.



Rlc. Loud Nine  
Jaret A.



Slc. Jewel Box 'Schlagerade'  
Chester K.



Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'  
Chester K.



Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata 'Windswept' HCC/AOS  
Edgar S.



Wilsonara Eye Candy 'Penny Candy'  
Pam E.

