

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

June 2024

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Previous Meeting Minutes

In our May meeting, we had our 1st member plant auction and discussed 'How I Grow Orchids' with Kat Martz

Meeting summary below (Page 4):



Announcements

In 2024, we will continue our hybrid meetings (both In-Person & Zoom). In-Person meeting details directly below and Zoom details will be included in each newsletter and our Facebook page. We will also continue with our earlier 6:30pm start time, doors open at 6:00pm

Zoom details below (Page 3):

Next Meeting

Monday, June 10, 2024

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center
725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319
Meeting starts 6:30pm. Doors open 6:00pm

Topic

Program: **How to Grow Miniatures (with Plant Sale)**
Speaker: **Olga Shostachuk**

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 (Page 3):

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Letter from the Editor



Greetings,

We are pleased to be providing these newsletters to GAOS members and the public alike! If you'd like to access our current and past issues please visit our website for PDF downloads.

<https://thegaos.com/newsletters>

For access to our most current club news, information and our direct newsletter emails please join our email list by sending us your email address to be added to the list.

Thanks,

Brandon Spannbauer greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/

www.gcos.org

West Shore Orchid Society

www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/

westshoreorchidsociety.org/

Meeting Schedule

GAOS has hybrid meetings (both In-Person and Virtual) and meets the 2nd Monday of each month (except December) at 6:30pm, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Members are encouraged to bring blooming 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

June 10	How to Grow Miniatures – Olga Shostachuk (Plant Sale)
July 8	Summer Potluck Picnic – ***Bring a Dish***
Aug 12	2 nd Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
Sept 9	What's Wrong with my Orchid? (Bring in problem plants)



Photo of the Month: Growing in a sand dune in full Australian sun. It grows leaves over winter that die off before flowers emerge in spring. These do not have any root system but have a single small tuber. This is *Pterostylis Arenicola* – Steve Howard

2024 Meeting Information

In 2024, we will continue with our Hybrid Meetings (both In-Person and Virtual.) You can join us either at our normal meeting location or via Zoom where the live meeting will be broadcasted online. Zoom meeting details will be included in the Newsletter before each meeting.

Meeting Location:

Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center
725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Doors open: 6:00pm
Main Meeting: 6:30pm

- 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 portion of the 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.

Please feel free to email any questions or to be added to the email list to: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Thanks,
Brandon Spannbauer, Editor

June 10 Meeting Info

6:00 Doors open
6:30 Meeting starts:
Opening comments
Show table
Break
7:00 Presentation: How to Grow Miniatures – Olga Shostachuk
Olga will be bringing plants for sale at the meeting
8:00 Meeting ends

Topic

Program: **How to Grow Miniatures (with Plant Sale)**
Speaker: **Olga Shostachuk**

Zoom Meeting Details

For those who would like to join us online please, follow the link below to join the Zoom Meeting

Topic: GAOS June Monthly Meeting Time: Jun 10, 2024 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85467918683?pwd=EdPSneTvRciTtIAaQeyVg2OEzegX8y.1>

GAOS May Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS met Monday, May 13 for the first of its two annual plant auctions. There was a full show table with many plants. While attendance was good, there were fewer plants for auction this time around. Following a brief business meeting and our show table, Kat Martz shared with us, through photos and discussion, how she grows orchids in her home.

Our final member plant sale of 2024 is August 12. Start going through your collections to see if you'd like to bring in any plants or supplies for sale.

Can I Grow My Orchids Outdoors?

By AOS



Orchids grow well under trees during frost-free summer months.

Where winters are cold, orchids can be grown on the patio or under trees in the warmer months when frost does not threaten. This is often a wonderful solution for orchid growers in colder climates, and enables the plants to grow so much better than they would if left indoors all year. Growers in frost-free areas with cooler summer nights (below 60 F in August and after) can grow cymbidiums, one of the finest of all garden orchids. Where summer nights are warmer, many varieties of vandas and cattleya types are appropriate.

Greater Akron Orchid Society



2024 GAOS Program Calendar

- Jan 8 "Picking the Right Orchid" – Dave Miller
- Feb 12 Getting Your Orchids Ready for the Show
- Mar 11 How to Grow Orchids / Welcome to New Members
- Apr 8 "How to Grow Slipper Orchids" – Darlene Thompson
- May 13 1st Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
- June 10 "How to Grow Miniatures" – Olga Shostachuk
- July 8 Summer Picnic
- Aug 12 2nd Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
- Sept 9 "What's Wrong with My Orchid?" *Bring in your problem plants for discussion*
- Oct 14 "The Future of Orchid Growing" – Edgar Stehli
- Nov 11 Holiday Banquet / Election of Officers
- Dec 9 No meeting, Happy Holidays



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*

How Do I Water My Orchid?

By AOS

Avoid overwatering which leads to the demise of many more orchids than underwatering. Constant wetness will cause the roots to rot, which leaves the plant without a means for taking up nourishment which then causes the leaves to droop and will eventually kill the plant. The classic advice is to water the day before the plant dries out. If you have to let the plant go dry to figure out what a dry plant weighs, it will not kill the plant and will make you a better grower. Another measure is to use the pencil trick (the point of a sharpened pencil, when inserted into the medium, will darken with moisture if the plant has enough water). And, there's always the old standby - put your finger in the mix. If it feels wet, it is wet. If you aren't sure whether it is time to water, wait one more day.

"Evenly moist," while the most commonly given advice on watering, is the least easily explained. Because most plants are grown in plastic containers a good diagnosis is the weight of the plant: heavy - does not need watering; light - does require water. With a little practice, one can easily tell the amount of moisture remaining in the container.

Water your orchid early in the morning. This insures complete water evaporation on the foliage as well as the crown by nightfall. If your home is very warm or has low humidity you will most likely need to water more often. The best place to water your plant is in the kitchen sink. Use lukewarm water (do not use salt softened or distilled water) and water your plant for about 15 seconds and be sure to thoroughly wet the media. Then allow the plant to drain for about 15 minutes. It may appear dry but it has had enough water. After the plants are watered, they should be placed so that the pots do not stand in water. Some people like to place the pots on "humidity trays" or in trays or saucers of gravel or pebbles and water. The pot is placed on the pebbles above the water line. This helps to ensure that the base of the pot is not immersed in water, increases humidity for the plant, and provides some air circulation under the pot.

When Should I Repot?

By AOS



When an orchid plant starts to grow over the edge of the pot, it is time to repot it!

Orchid plants need repotting for one or a combination of two main factors: Potting mix breaks down, often evidenced by dead roots, or the plant outgrowing the container. In the first case, a larger pot may not be required, simply replace the growing medium. In the second case, the plant may need dividing or may be shifted into a larger pot. Fresh media should always be used. A good general rule of thumb is to pot for the bottom of the plant, the root system, and not for the top, the foliage.

Rediscovery of the Neotropical orchid *Porroglossum parsonsii* and recommendations for its conservation

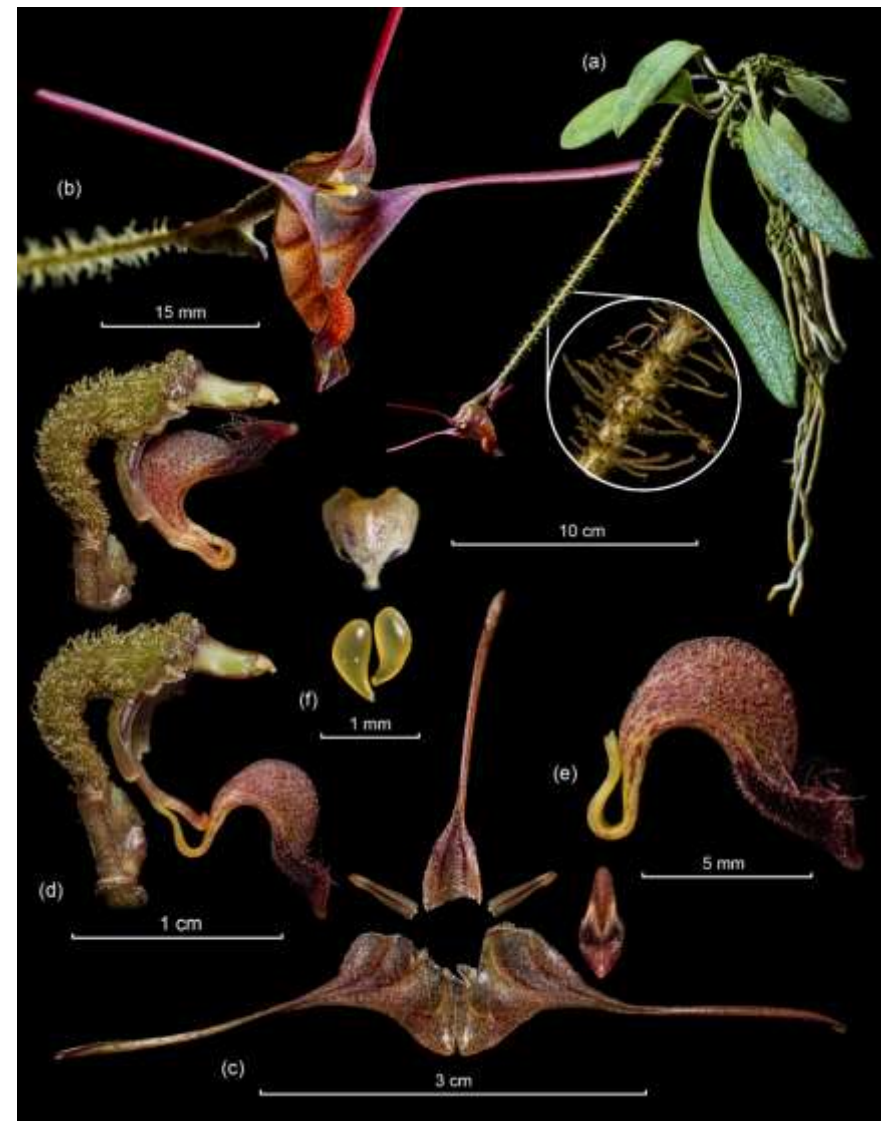
By Cambridge University Press

Orchidaceae is one of the most species-rich families, yet an estimated 4,342 orchid species are threatened with extinction. This estimate only includes species for which the taxonomy is clear and for which basic knowledge regarding geographical location, habitat requirements and/or population size exists. For many orchid species such knowledge is lacking, and therefore there is inadequate information for appropriate conservation actions.

Porroglossum parsonsii Luer is one such species for which there is no geographical or ecological information. It is one of the 51 known species in the genus, which has its greatest diversity in Ecuador. Despite being traded on the global market, the only recognized collection of *P. parsonsii* is the holotype in herbarium MO, which was exported from Colombia without any traceable documentation.

During a large-scale orchid survey (January 2019–December 2021) we found natural populations of *P. parsonsii* for the first time. We surveyed 341 randomly located 10 × 30 m plots in Andean forests, *paramo* habitats and pasturelands in the Eastern Cordillera of the Colombian Andes. Our survey covered c. 270 km from north to south over 1,130–3,700 m elevation. In each plot we recorded adult orchid individuals in the understorey (up to 2 m aboveground).

We found *P. parsonsii* in two of the 341 plots, separated by 17.6 km, in the protected area Santuario de Fauna y Flora de Iguaque at 3,140 m, and in Arcabuco at 2,580 m in a forest patch c. 30 m from a dirt road and near pasturelands. The species grows as an epiphytic plant on mature trees, with low local population sizes (5–17 adult individuals per plot).



Our extensive survey suggests *P. parsonsii* has a limited geographical range, a non-uniform occurrence within the same habitat or across habitats in the region and a small population size. *Porroglossum parsonsii* should probably be categorized as Critically Endangered on the IUCN Red List as it has a restricted distribution with a small number of individuals.

Continue on Page 9

Stubborn Orchids

By Brandon Spannbauer

This series is dedicated to showing off blooms that never make it to a meeting. If you have any stubborn orchids, send photos to be included in a future newsletter: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com



Bc. Walter August (C. Summer Spot x B. nodosa 4N)

This cross is from H&R and its 2nd blooming and has 4 large flowers. It has a nice start shape from its nodosa parent with a good distribution of spots on the petals. A vigorous grower, I purchased as a small 2" seedling 2 years ago and it is already overflowing a 5" clay pot.



Bc. Keowee 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS / Bl. Claudia Cotarelo

Bc. Keowee 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS (C. Lorraine Shirai x B. nodosa)

This orchid hybrid was one of my very first orchids that I had in my collection over 10 years ago. I had since lost the original plant but was determined to find a replacement which I found last year at Windswept in Time. This is a first-time bloom from the replacement. It is a little misshapen but I believe it will improve in the future.

Bl. Claudia Cotarelo (Bl. Sunny Delight x Bl. Richard Mueller)

I bought this orchid 8 years ago from Sunset Valley Orchids (SVO). It has since become my most reliable bloomer with flower nearly every month of the year. I find it hard not to bring it in every month because its display is so good. The flowers open a deep orange and finish is bright yellow color.

**If you have any stubborn orchids that bloom in-between meetings,
send in photos to have them included in the newsletter:**

greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

New Orchids to Science

Bulbophyllum romkloaense (B. sect. *Lemniscata*) from northern Thailand is a species new to science. It is most similar to *B. muscarirubrum* and *B. triste*, but differs by having inflorescences with only 4–6 reddish-brown flowers, falcate-subovate lateral sepals that are connate only in the upper half along the interior margins, petals with erose to fimbriate margins and a lip with long cilia in the distal half on the lower surface. – Novataxa 2024



Continued from Page 7

Porroglossum parsonsii is traded at a price of USD 18–20 per plant (based on the websites Equaflor-A, [2019](#), and Ecuagenera, [2023](#)), with the origins of these traded plants being unknown. We speculate that individuals were taken from the wild (either from the localities we report here or from others nearby) and grown in nurseries, as mentioned in the holotype. Illegal collection of native species is one of the greatest threats to orchid diversity, although the full impact of this on abundance in the wild is unknown. However, frequent illegal collections from orchid populations have led to local reductions in the number of adult individuals and could affect phenological cycles.

We recommend that Santuario de Fauna y Flora de Iguaque integrates *P. parsonsii* into its strategic plan for the conservation of threatened species. This would promote monitoring and conservation of the wild population. In addition, we recommend protection of the trail where the population is located, minimization of the effects of tourism and mechanical damage, further surveys across Santuario de Fauna y Flora de Iguaque to detect any other occurrences of the species, and inclusion of adult plants in the protected area's nursery.

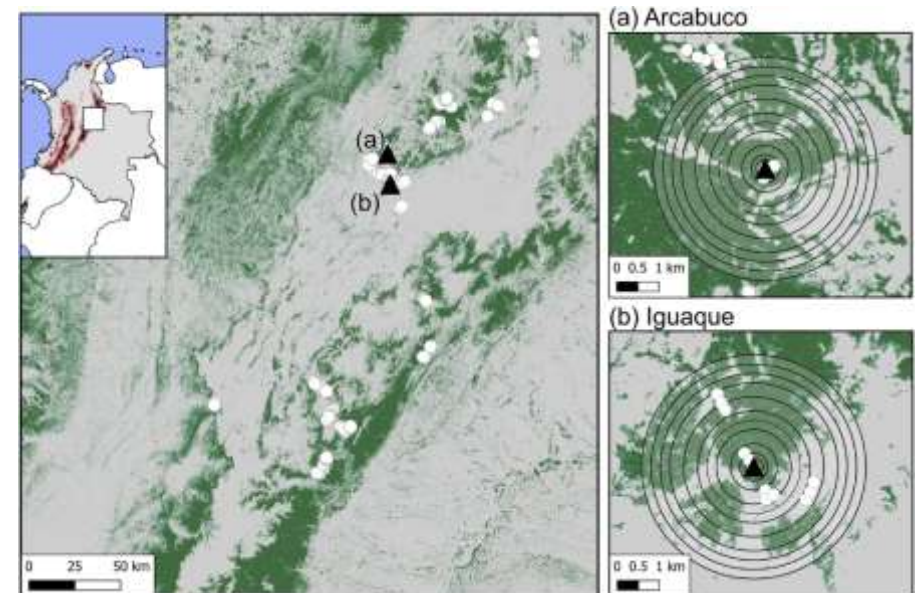


Photo Gallery

Meeting Show Table

May 2024

