

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

May 2020

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Minutes of April Meeting

GAOS May Meeting Goes Online!

The May GAOS meeting at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis on May 11, 2020 has been cancelled in order to comply with recommended COVID-19 guidelines on public gatherings. Instead we will have an online meeting 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 to 8 pm on Monday May 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 at 7 pm.

More info below.

Upcoming Business



Next Meeting

Our May meeting will be online using Zoom, info below and detailed instructions on how to view and/or participate in the meeting will follow in an email in the next few days.

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

Email: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

President's Corner

By Jane Bush



Greetings!

Oh, how I miss all of you and our monthly meetings! Unfortunately, the stay at home order is still in effect so our May meeting is again cancelled.

The good news is that Dave and Darlene have been working very hard to develop a meeting using a video conferencing tool called "Zoom." I have asked Dave to provide detailed instructions on how to use this tool as I for one am in the dark on using it. Watch for communications from Dave and be ready to join us for a web meeting on May 11. Darlene is doing the "show table" part of our meeting and Dave is presenting his topic of "Growing Under Glass" about growing orchids in a terrarium. They also plan a question and answer period.

A word of caution for the future: Be extremely careful, stay out of public as much as possible, and continue to use social distancing for the first 3-4 weeks after the quarantine is lifted. The upper island of Japan had massive COVID-19 illnesses so the island government quarantined the whole island until only a minimum number of cases were occurring. Then, they lifted the quarantine and the new cases skyrocketed to the point that they had to impose the quarantine again. With our governor lifting the ban on a few groups at a time, I'm hoping that we will not experience the skyrocketing of cases here. However, limiting exposure to others in the first weeks after quarantine is a wise practice, especially for seniors. We will also take this into account as we plan our June meeting.

TIDBIT: The difference between a Miltonia and Mitoniopsis is that Miltonia is a warm to intermediate temperature grower from Brazil that sets buds in the summer while Mitoniopsis is an intermediate to cool grower from Columbia that sets buds anytime from spring to fall. Both like bright light with filtered sun and night temperatures between 50 and 65 degrees F. Miltonia is salt sensitive so these need regular flushing to avoid leaf tip burn.

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.**

May 11	ONLINE "Orchids Under Glass" Dave Miller
Jun 8	Summer Picnic & 1 st Member Plant Auction
Jul 13	TBD Edgar Stehli



Photo of the Month: Cattleya pumila tipo. Photo © Daucio Junior

Website Revamp and Virtual Orchid Tours

With our meeting(s) cancelled until further notice we have been working on improving our website with education, presentations and articles to give us something to tide us over until we can all meet again. If you have anything interesting of that nature, or find it online, please send it to me to be added, braxtonds@gmail.com. I'm acquiring presentations from members as well as scouring the internet for useful and helpful orchid related information and have added them to the website. I have also added a Resources tab which contains links to many great orchid websites and vendors.

<https://thegaos.com/education>

(Check out Dave's Plant Stand setup presentation for inspiration)

<https://thegaos.com/resources>

If you have other ideas for staying connected, reach out the Brandon (braxtonds@gmail.com) or me (Darlenejthompson@gmail.com). We would like to hear how you want to stay connected.

You can also do a little safe shopping. Contact Kim and Edgar at Windswept in Time (<https://windsweptorchids.com/>) and Wayne and Nancy at Robert's Flowers Supply (<http://www.orchidmix.com/>). They are both full stocked and can figure out the best way options to shop safely and in compliance with our local regulations.

New York Garden's Virtual Orchid Show:

<https://www.nybg.org/take-a-virtual-tour-of-the-orchid-show-jeff-leathams-kaleidoscope/>

Visit the virtual orchid show table on Facebook! We invite you to post pictures of your blooming plants or growing areas on Facebook at any time.

<https://www.facebook.com/theGAOS/>

Make a post our page, feel free to add photos and a description of your orchid. To view other's flowers, click the 'Community' tab on the left of the screen or follow the link below. Here, you can view what others are posting, ask questions or strike up a conversation.

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/theGAOS/community/>

The screenshot shows the Facebook page for the Greater Akron Orchid Society (@theGAOS). The page header includes the Facebook logo, the name 'Greater Akron Orchid Society', a search bar, and user avatars for 'Darlene', 'Home', and 'Create'. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'Liked', 'Following', 'Share', and 'Send Email' buttons. The main content area features a 'Write a post...' section with options for 'Photo/Video', 'Tag Friends', and 'Check In'. Below this is a 'Photos' section displaying a grid of images, including a large purple orchid and a display of various orchids. The right sidebar shows a 6.0 rating based on 5 opinions, a 'Community' section with options to 'Invite your friends to like this Page', and an 'About' section with a map and address: '725 Portage Lakes Dr, Akron, Ohio 44319'. The page footer includes 'Page Transparency' information and a creation date of November 18, 2014.

GAOS ONLINE

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On Monday will be having an online Show Table. Feel free to send your orchid photos with plant names to Darlene and she will add them to the slideshow. Please send no more than three photos and we may be only able to include two as we want to make sure everyone can get some of their plants included. Deadline for show table submissions is Saturday at noon.

We will be sending out additional instructions for how to participate in the Monday meeting.

Agenda for May GAOS meeting

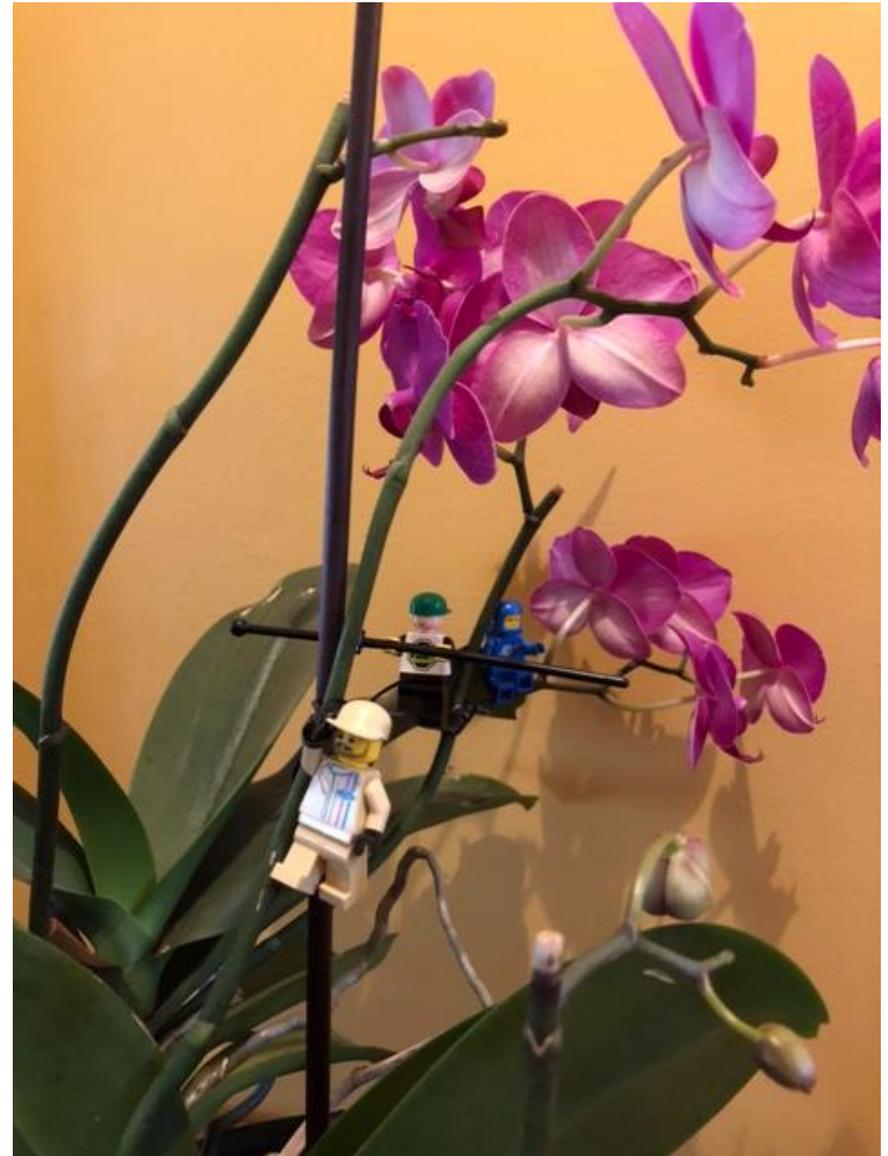
6:30 pm Social time, Chats and Q&A
7:00 to 7:25 Show Table hosted by Darlene
7:30 to 8:00 "Orchids Under Glass" with Dave

Orchids Under Glass

"Orchids Under Glass" takes a look at the use of terrariums, jars, and other containers to maintain a higher humidity in order to flower orchids at home. There are a number of orchids that do quite well in this environment.

Orchid Pest Question

My orchids are experiencing a weird pest since the quarantine started....do you think I should contact an expert? I've never seen this addressed. I think it has something to do with having 6 kids, but I can't be sure.... I hope you're doing well! - Colleen



How Do Your Orchids Grow - Meet a Member

with Darlene Thompson

3. When and How were you introduced to orchids and the hobby?

About 10 years ago when my husband and I were dating, he gave me an adorable miniature phalaenopsis. It has a small dark circular spot on one of its leaves. The spot grew and grew. Then the leaf dropped. Then another spot on another leaf. And so, it went until the little Phal perished. My husband assured me that all would be well with a trip to Cleveland Botanical Garden's Orchid Mania. It worked. I was hooked. I loved the variety of shapes, colors, and smells. After that Orchid Mania and the Akron Orchid Show became winter staples.

4. What type of environment do you grow in (under lights, greenhouse, Windows, etc.)?

My growing situation changes with the seasons. I grow under lights and in window for the winter and wintery portions of spring. I use basic wire racks, and various LED light fixtures. I am transitioning away from High Output (HO) T5. I don't find LEDs to be superior to HO T5s from a growth perspective. However, they are more energy efficient, and I do not have to replace light tubes. As spring temperatures rise, I slowly move the orchids outside. When deciding whether or not to take plants outside, it is more important to look at nightly lows than daily highs. I have a few cooler growers that appreciate nights in the low 50s. The bulk of my collection does not go outside until nights are consistently about 58F or warmer. My orchids summer outside under the shade of maple trees. I have a small 6' x 8' Harbor Freight greenhouse that is perfect for meeting the needs of my cooler growers requiring a winter rest. Nothing stays in the greenhouse year-round. The heating requirements would be too great.

5. What have you found to be the most rewarding and the most challenging about orchids?

Growing up in Memphis, gardening was all about vegetables. We had rose bushes, lilies, azaleas, and the like, but vegetables were the main event. The longer growing season allowed us to always have something to plant, harvest, or groom and warm enough weather to enjoy outside all but a few months out of the year. Now my orchids allow me to enjoy my love of plants year-round – inside and outside. Their variety continues to amaze me. I never fear I will ever get bored. (This could also be stated - I fear I will never get

bored!) Plus, I am always learning. This hobby has introduced me to some truly amazing people. These are a few of my favorite things about orchids.

The most challenging thing has been learning to match my plants with my growing area and myself. It can be challenging to learn the basics of what different orchids need but reading and asking questions resolved this issue. The next challenge is evaluating your growing conditions and what you are willing to do as a grower. For example, I adore cool growing cloud forest orchids like Masdevallias. My conditions are not cool enough, and I am not committed to watering enough to grow most of these successfully. Discipline in know what to pass up is a huge challenge.

1. What are the top 3 things people should know to be successful growers?

Number one: Learn the basics of how and when to water first. We get caught up with fertilizers to grow bigger and bloom better too early. Having a thorough understanding of water and light needs are the most important tools a grower can have.

Number two: Orchids will die, and it is okay. It sucks, but it is okay. We all have killed more plants than we care to admit. Sometime this is a result of neglect, abuse, or something outside of the grower's control. These unfortunate events are learning opportunities. So, after tantrums are thrown, dust your feelings off and try to figure out what happened. The cause may not always be obvious, but some lesson can generally be gained.

Number three. Read, research, and experiment, but don't forget to ask questions and visit growers. You can learn a lot from books and online blogs or forums, but often hands on experience is the most impactful.

2. What are your top 3 must have or must-see orchids - whether you own one or are you are on the hunt for one?

As a disclaimer, this list changes fairly often... Assuming I grow them well, I would love to have a well flowered: *Cuitlauzina pendula*, *Trichopilia marginata* (or *tortilis*), and any *Lycaste skinneri* or its hybrids. Lately, I have focused on *Paphs* and *Phrag*, and these are still my favorite genera. However, the orchids I listed above continue to fascinate me whenever I see them.

6. Photos

1. Phrag Collection →
2. *C. jonheana*
3. Phrag. Frank Smith
4. Phrag. Inca Rose x Fall River
5. *Phal. lobbii* frm flava



If you would like to featured in a member segment, we'd love to learn how you grow orchids! Please contact Brandon: braxtonds@gmail.com for an easy to fill out questionnaire. Thanks!

Lepanthes telipogoniflora – Barbara Haywood



When Can I Put My Orchids Outside?

by Dave Miller

Now that spring is approaching, we want to get our orchids outside as quickly as possible. It is now late April approaching May and we are at the height of desire to get our orchids jump started for the Summer. Well, nice plan, and in past years, a good plan. But, Mother Nature has her ways and not always fitting our ways. I generally put half of my orchid collection outside for the Summer (notice I did not say Spring). Keep in mind that most of our orchids are tropical and do not like extended periods of temperatures below 60 degrees. I use the general rule of "orchids outside between Memorial Day and Labor Day". In some years I am lucky to put them out May 15 and keep many out past September 15 approaching October 1. However, I have damaged some of my orchids staying out till October.

I know of other orchidists who are willing to move their plants in and out each day and night to get that early breath of warm weather but I am not one of those. Where others are willing to carry them to the garage each night, I am not. When I put my plants out, they stay out. About two weeks ago when the weather was routinely in the 40-50's overnight, I put out my cold-loving orchids. Cymbidiums, nobile Dendrobiums, Dendrobium moniliforme and Neofinetia (Vanda) falcata all tolerate very cold temperatures so some years they go out in late March. As you can see by the photos, Mother Nature tricked me and the overnight temps went back down to the 20's and snowed. Oops. Now, these plants will tolerate snow but not frost so a game of risk is in play. As I awoke that morning several weeks ago, they were snowbound. So, in they came and have remained so ever since. They are just fine.

On April 20th, we had a hard frost and even my *Bletilla striata* clumps got frost-bitten. These are hardy perennial orchids that grow in my flower garden. I have had these clumps for several years but as you can see in the photo, the frost killed all of the tender growth. I don't know the extent of damage yet, perhaps losing only recent growth but possibly losing all of the flowers. Yikes. Even Carolyn Bolton in Pittsburgh has suffered the same fate on her *Bletilla* clumps.

I have found that four months of Ohio Summer is enough time to encourage strong flowering of most of my orchids. Be patient and you will be rewarded with blooms in time for show season next year.



Home schooling led eight-year-old to rediscover long lost orchid

by Amelia Mcguire (Sydney Morning Herald)

Eight-year-old Arabella Hanisch Jasiak was bushwalking in the Blue Mountains with her parents when she stumbled upon an orchid last seen more than 140 years ago. Her parents Ben Jasiak and Sabine Hanisch, who have authored books on the orchids of the Blue Mountains, knew immediately their daughter had made a rare find. Arabella Hanisch Jasiak, 8, has rediscovered an orchid, *Corunastylis reflexa*, that has not been seen for 145 years. "He (Mark Clements) is the king of Australian orchids so it was really exciting for Bella to help reinstate the species," Ms Hanisch told the *Herald*.

The family had been taking a lunch break in Newnes in the Wollemi National Park during a day of COVID-19 enforced home schooling when Arabella came upon the species last month. "For us, Arabella understanding nature and conservation is extremely important, and we try to explore outdoors most weekends ... when she discovered the plant population that day it was so unexpected and we were absolutely thrilled."

Scientists estimate that about 75 per cent of Australia's biodiversity remains undocumented. To rectify this, the federal government has partnered with Earthwatch Australia and BHP to provide everyday Australians with opportunities to identify plants and animals across Australia in a program known as "Bush Blitz".

The multibillion-dollar project began in 2010 and has uncovered thousands of new species. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Bush Blitz would join taxonomists, Indigenous communities, park rangers and local councils across the country to explore remote parts of Australia and classify new species.

Using the app iNaturalist Bush Blitz is providing every day Australians with the opportunity to have their discoveries analysed and verified by the country's best taxonomists. After an individual's discovery is verified by one of the experts on the app the data is categorised in the Atlas of Living Australia as a new species.

Although aimed at involving all Australians, Ms Harding said children especially will help reveal Australia's unknown biodiversity. "Adults have often lost the ability to wonder in awe. The way that children look at the world as if everything is new and worth examining is exactly how discoveries are made," she said. "We finally have the technology to tap into that lack of expectation and nurture that quality."





Phrag. Longifolium 'Pinky'
x Penn's Creek



Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice –
for one day it had 4 blooms at
once but I missed the picture



Lc. Mini Song 'Petite'



Max. tenuifolia



Grcym. Memoria Nathan Newman
'NN' – a Gramatophyllum crossed
with a Cymbidium



Cym Radian Harry



(Paph. Supersuk 'Eureka'
AM/AOS x Raisin Pie
'Hsinying') x sib

Jane Bush's Blooming Orchids



Slc. World Vacation
'5th. Avenue' AM/AOS



Phaius Lady Romona Harris



Phal. Soga Vivian – a named,
mini Phal. With leaves as
attractive as the flowers.



Phrag. Saint Ouen
flavum 'Ice Queen' x
andreettae 'Ghostly'



Blc Mahina Yahiro 'Julie'

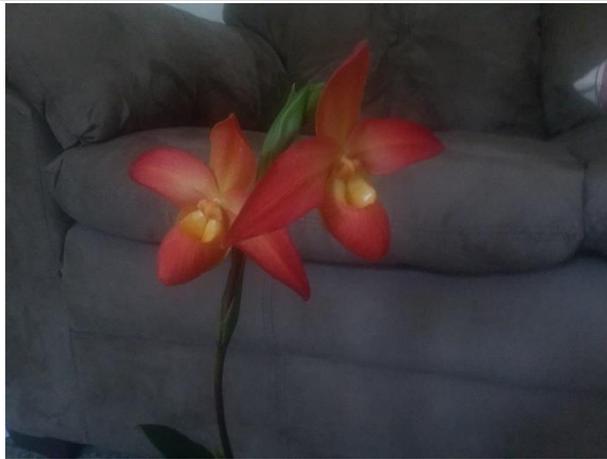


Tsuhotsara Melinda Marie
'Blue Angel' – long lasting
blooms; keep damp

Send in photos of your blooming orchids to Brandon for next month's Photo Gallery: braxtons@gmail.com, also add to our Facebook page!

Photo Gallery

Home Display Submissions - April 2020



Phrag Millbrook
Kathleen Powell



Bc Makai Louise
Pam Everett



Cattleya gaskelliana
Frank Skalak



Cattleya mossiae var coerulea
Frank Skalak



Phrag Dick Clemens
Frank Skalak



Phrag Super Nova
Dave Miller

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Photo Gallery

Home Display Submissions - April 2020



Paph Vanda M. Pearlman
Dave Miller



Lc Bella
Frank Skalak



Leptotes bicolor
Frank Skalak



Lycaste Ngai International
Frank Skalak



Lycaste Maria Rives
Frank Skalak



Paphiopedilum Loonie Hellas
Pam Everett

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Photo Gallery

Home Display Submissions - April 2020



Paphiopedilum Mary Bess
Pam Everett



Phal Minstrel's Sunrise Flame
(1st Bloom after 8 Years) Pam Everett



Slc Pat Thrall
Pam Everett



Wilsonara Eye Candy
Pam Everett



Paphiopedilum bellatutum
Darlene Thompson



Paphiopedilum Acker's Berry
Darlene Thompson

Photo Gallery

Home Displays
April 2020



Laelia anceps var *lineata*
Brandon Spannbauer



Blc Haw Yuan Rose
Brandon Spannbauer



Epc Rene Marques
Brandon Spannbauer



Pleione Snow Monkey
Brandon Spannbauer



Paph Magic Lantern
Dave Miller

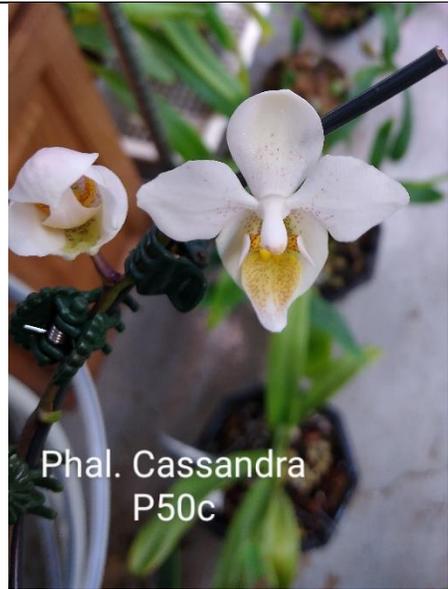


Phal Patches
Pam Everett



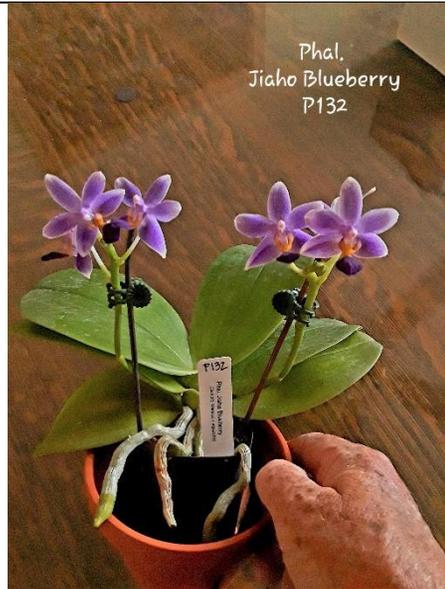
Phal. Cassandra
P50a

Phal Cassandra
Dave Miller



Phal. Cassandra
P50c

Phal Cassandra
Dave Miller



Phal.
Jiaho Blueberry
P132

Phal Jiaho Blueberry
Dave Miller



Phrag Acker's Dragon
Dave Miller



Blc Tsiku Lily
Pam Everett



Phrag Collection
Darlene Thompson



Den tetragonum
Darlene Thompson



Mandy Brooks



Paph Superstik
James Done



Onc Sherry Baby
James Done



Phrag schlimii forma manzurii
Darlene Thompson



Phrag Barbara LeAnn
Darlene Thompson



Lycaste Mahogany
Darlene Thompson



Lc Aussie Sunset
Andrea Altvater



Laelia purpurata
Darlene Thompson



Ang Magdalena
Darlene Thompson



Phrag Suzanne Decker
Darlene Thompson