

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

May 2022

Minutes of April Meeting

Our April meeting was on Zoom with Peter Lin of Diamond Orchids. He spoke on 12 months of orchids, where he showcased different genera and species that bloom in specific months so you can tailor a collection that will bloom all year.

More meeting details below:

When I'm at a friend's place
and find a neglected plant.



Upcoming Business

We are still navigating the confusing world of reopening meetings amid covid. Please bear with us as things may change month to month. Here is our tentative meeting itinerary for 2022

May 9: In-Person
June 13: Virtual
July 11: In-Person
Aug 8: Virtual

Our 2022 meetings will have a combination of in person and Zoom meetings. Detailed meeting schedule below

Next Meeting (In-Person)

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, May 9, 2022. Doors open 6:45 pm, and meeting starts 7:00 pm. Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Program: **Repotting Clinic / 1st Member Plant Auction**
Speaker: Jane Bush

Early meeting 5:45pm for spring show helpers and participants. Info below

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

President

Jane Bush

Vice President

Craig Miller

Treasurer

Claudia Englert

Secretary

Pam Everett

Editor

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Trustee

Barb Ford

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

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Letter from the Editor



Greetings GAOS,

In the March 2022 meeting, Officers discussed their roles and duties in the society. One of my main jobs is to write these monthly newsletters. I love showcasing our members' orchids and interesting articles I find around the internet to you all. Sometimes it's hard to come up with new and exciting things to include. Therefore, if any of you find an interesting article, want to share pictures of your plants or how you grow at home, or just have a question you'd like answered here in the newsletter: please feel free to email it to me. I'd love the feedback on how to improve these newsletters with information that you're interested in.

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 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.**

Virtual meeting invites will be sent out via email the week before the meeting along with the monthly newsletter

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|---------|---|
| May 9 | (In-Person) Repotting Clinic / 1 st Member Plant Auction |
| Jun 13 | (Virtual) Orchids of Columbia – David Haelterman |
| July 11 | (In-Person) Summer Picnic |
| Aug 8 | (Virtual) Orchids of Borneo – Charles Wilson |



Photo of the Month: Paph Delophyllum

Photo © Dustin Miller

Greetings GAOS members

In 2022, we will be having both In-Person and virtual meetings. A detailed itinerary is explained in our Calendar as to whether the meeting is in person or online. We want to make people feel comfortable coming and participating in in-person meetings so here are a few details:

- Masks will be recommended but not required
- Please social distance if possible

Meeting Location:

Doors open 6:45pm, meetings start at 7:00pm
Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr.,
Akron, Ohio 44319

- 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 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

- If there are changes to future meetings you will be notified via email, if you haven't been getting any GAOS emails please send your email address to be added to the list

We hope that everyone has been staying healthy and look forward to getting together. Please feel free to email any questions or to be added to the email list to: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Thanks,
Brandon Spannbauer, Editor

2022 GAOS Dues

2022 GAOS dues will remain at \$25 for an individual or family membership. Dues allows us to host our annual orchid show as well as bring in amazing speakers to showcase their orchid knowledge. Each membership will receive a free orchid during our holiday party at the November meeting. You can either send in payment to the address on the form provided with this email or on the website, or in person at one of our meetings. Thank you

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
728 Apache Run
Macedonia, OH 44056



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

GAOS April Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS held its regularly scheduled meeting on Zoom Monday, April 11 with 32 individuals participating. Jane Bush called the meeting to order, and a discussion regarding GAOS participation in the upcoming West Shore Orchid Society show with setup on Friday, April 22. As with our show, registration for the WSOS show will be done online; and Jane requested that members who expect to exhibit plants please email her with the number of plants you expect to show.

Craig Miller conducted the virtual show table, which included photos of 18 orchids plus comments from those who submitted photos of their plants.

This month's speaker was Peter Liu of Diamond Orchids in California. His presentation, Twelve Months of Orchids, began with photos and descriptions of various orchids that typically bloom in the spring. He covered each month, March through May, then proceeded with the summer months, then the fall months, concluding with the winter months. With each orchid, he shared notes regarding proper care for that plant. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Jane concluded the meeting at 8:30.

May 9, In-Person, Meeting Info

5:45pm:

We will be having a pre-meeting discussion for everyone who worked and attended the show. We will discuss what went well and what needs improvement. The discussion will start at 5:45pm before the regular meeting.

7:00pm:

Our program for the May meeting is our spring plant auction and a repotting clinic. All are invited to bring any orchid plants or orchid related items they want to sell for the auction. This is a silent auction where buyers pencil their bid on an auction slip and the next buyer then comes along and pencils in a higher bid. The highest bidder wins the plant and pays the treasurer what he bid. 25% of the winning bid price goes to GAOS and 75% goes to the seller. Buyers and sellers are responsible for checking with the treasurer that night for payments. We do not accept credit cards so please bring cash or check with you for the auction.

The repotting clinic will include a discussion of the types of potting material and when it is appropriate to use each type. We will also demonstrate the repotting of several kinds of orchids. If you have a plant that needs repotting, you may bring it for our demonstration.

Greater Akron Orchid Society



2022 GAOS Program Calendar

- Jan 10 In-person – Edgar Stehli – Caring for Oncidium
- Feb 14 In-person – Preparing for the Show – TBD (Barb Ford and Dave Miller)
- Staking spikes, selecting plants for the show
 - Cleaning plants and creating labels
- Mar 14 In-person – Orchids 101 – Panel Discussion/New member meet and greet
- Orchid Tabletop Conversations
- Apr 11 Virtual – Demystifying Sphagnum Moss – Carri Raven-Rieman
- May 9 In-person – Repotting Clinic (will need 3-4 volunteers to demo)
1st Member Plant Auction
- Jun 13 Virtual – Orchids of Columbia – David Haelterman
- Jul 11 In-person - Summer Picnic
- Aug 8 Virtual – Orchids of Borneo – Charles Wilson
- Sep 12 In-person – Preparing for Fall/Winter (Speaker Needed) – Panel Discussions
2nd Member Plant Auction
- Oct 10 Virtual – Clark Riley – 60 Years of Orchid Growing Mistakes
- Nov 14 In-person - Holiday banquet / Elections
- Dec 12 No meeting



IS THIS FOR YOU?

**The American Orchid
Society Judging
Program**

**is seeking highly
motivated orchid
enthusiasts to join the
judging ranks.**

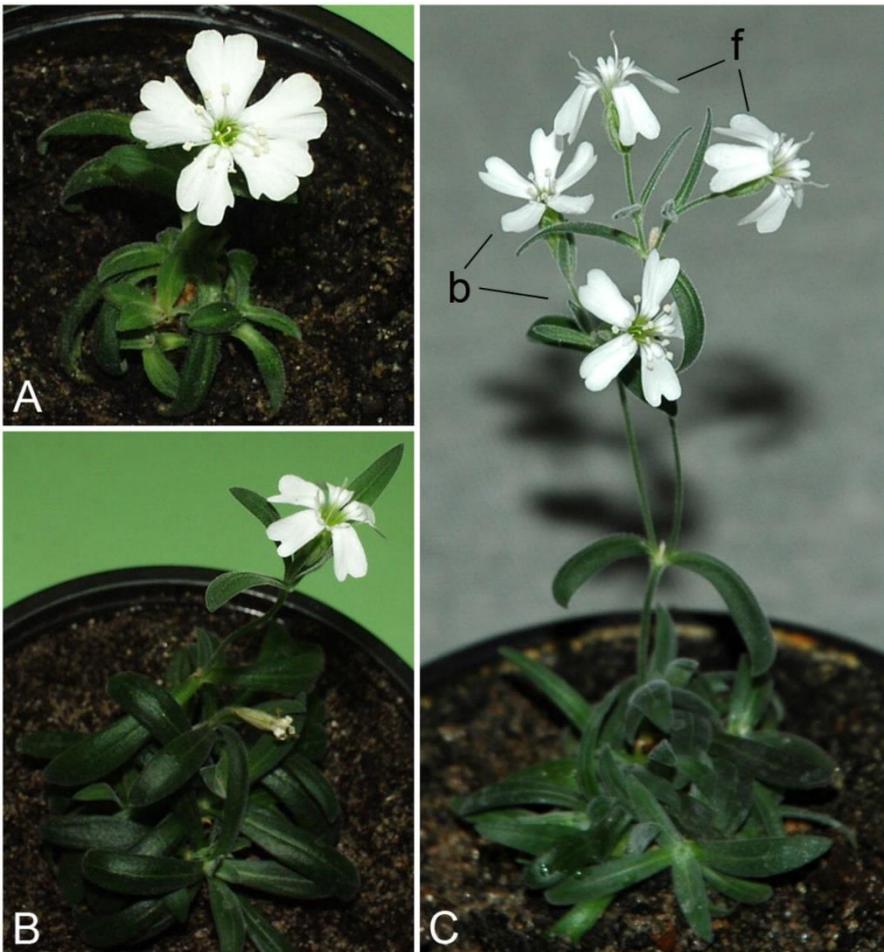
*Work with other such people
and help maintain our
awards programs and
educational efforts.*

*For more information contact us at
judges@aos.org*

Non-Orchid Related News

By National Academy of Sciences

Scientists have revived a plant from the Pleistocene epoch. The oldest plant ever to be regenerated has been grown from 32,000-year-old seeds—beating the previous recordholder by some 30,000 years. A Russian team discovered a seed cache of *Silene stenophylla*, a flowering plant native to Siberia, that had been buried by an Ice Age squirrel near the banks of the Kolyma River. Radiocarbon dating confirmed that the seeds were 32,000 years old.



Nature Finds a Way

By Brandon Spannbaauer

An intense discussion has been occurring online about growing epiphytic orchids in the ground. Of course, this greatly depends on species, the soil make-up and definitely the location, but it is possible in some parts of the world. Here is a photo of a large *Cattleya skinneri* several decades old, growing in a garden in Tampa, Florida. Must be nice, do not attempt in Ohio though.



Summering Orchids Outside

By Darlene Thompson

Whether you are a windowsill or greenhouse grower, the summer presents a great opportunity to let your orchids enjoy the natural light, air movement, and humidity. Plus, it gives you a chance to clean your growing area and save on energy. In this brief article, I suggest some things to consider when placing your orchids in their new summer homes.

Before taking your plants outside, you should monitor the temperature by checking the Weather Channel or using a min/max thermometer in your growing area. Regardless of the method you chose, you want to make sure the minimum night temperatures outside do not go below the suggested temperatures for your orchids. If you have a variety of orchids, they may not be able to all go outside at once. A good rule of thumb is to not put out your warm growers, like phalaenopsis, until you can plant tomatoes, which is between 50°F and 55°F.

Just as you do anywhere else, you want to make sure your growing area has the right balance of shade and sun. Some outside growers have shade houses for their orchids. For the rest of us, we have to find an alternate way of providing our plants with the right amount of shade. Placing orchids under a shade tree or hanging the orchids from the tree is a great option. Last year, I covered a wire shelving rack with a sheer curtain to protect my orchids from the direct sunlight on my balcony. Be creative and resourceful when finding a safe summer home for your orchids. Avoid placing them directly on the ground as this is an open invitation for creepy critters to invade your pots.

The higher summer temperatures mean more watering. Thankfully, rainfall will help you out a little here. While your orchids will love the occasional shower of fresh, clean rain water, Mother Nature can also over water. When there is heavy rainfall, orchids can become waterlogged, especially if you have potted plants. Waterlogged pots increase the probability for roots and new growth to rot. This is especially true when the rain is accompanied by a cool front. To protect orchids, you can simply place something made of water proof material over your plants when the rains are heavy. This could be a piece of fiberglass or a small tarp. If you have saucers under your pots, empty them after each rainfall or you risk rotting the roots.

Some heat loving plants appreciate the higher summer temperatures. However, those that tend to grow in cool conditions will not. To give my cooler-growing Colmanara (*Odontocidium*) some heat relief, a friendly local grower suggested that I place it inside a large clay pot. I then put the clay pot in a saucer of water. The clay pot wicks up the water from the saucer to help keep the Colmanara cooler on warm days. If you do this, be sure to put stones or packing peanuts between the clay pot and the plastic pot. I found this technique very helpful and plan to repeat it this summer.

Finally, you want to watch out for pests. Make sure you are checking your plants and your growing area ever so often for pests. This includes checking under pots where snails like to hide. Remember the best defense against pests is a healthy plant. Pests target stressed plants, so monitor the condition of your plants. Make sure they are getting the right amount of water, fertilizer, light, and shade.

I hope that you find the article helpful in preparing for summer growing. In addition to these suggestions, be sure to talk to other society members to get additional advice and more specifics about summering your orchids outside in northeast Ohio. Your orchids will love you for it.

Monthly Checklist for May and June

By AOS

Cattleya

The last of the spring-flowering types -- those that flower from a ripened hard pseudobulb -- will be finishing, while the first summer-blooming types will be showing buds on their rapidly growing, soft pseudobulbs. Both may need potting, as signaled by deteriorating mix, this month. The spring bloomers present no problems, as you will be dealing with fully ripe, well-hardened pseudobulbs. They will be ready to root on the mature front pseudobulb and will establish quickly. The summer bloomers, will be brittle and may be in bud. Nonetheless, experienced growers know that unless potted now, they may not root later, as this type tends to be seasonal in its rooting behavior. Stake the lead growth to avoid breakage. May can still present some changing light conditions that can lead to burning of the foliage if the plants have not been properly acclimatized. Allow them to build up their tolerance to higher light gradually. Changing light and temperatures can also be the source of some frustration when trying to determine when plants need watering. While cattleyas will be entering into a period of rapid growth starting this month, they have still not built-up sufficient momentum to be significantly slowed by your missing a day or two of watering owing to dark weather. As always, it is safer to err on the dry side than on the wet. It is important, though, especially to the summer bloomers. Too much shade will cause rapidly developing inflorescences to droop unattractively.

Paphiopedilum

The *Paphiopedilum Maudiae* types will be well into their season now, so a careful eye should be used toward staking. Do not be too anxious to stake, however. Many of this type, if staked too soon, will develop nodding flowers that do not face the observer. It is better to allow the flowers to ripen naturally, then support the spike right below the ovary for best display. This is especially common in *Paphiopedilum fairrieanum*-derived hybrids. If you have to do something when you first see the emerging spikes, just put the stake in the pot next to the spiking growth. Not only will this help you, but you will be able to see where the spikes are, so you can continue to pay attention to their development. The multifloral types will be entering their most active growth phase, so lots of light, water and fertilizer are called for to mature their large growths. Many will be spiking in the next couple of months, so be on the lookout for the emerging inflorescences.



These may benefit from earlier staking than most, as the inflorescences grow so quickly in some cases that they can be quite soft. Again, best support is right below the ovary of the first flower. This will allow the most natural presentation of the blooms.

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior.

EXPLORING PHALAENOPSIS

A webinar presented by Great Lakes Judging Center

Five speakers including keynote presenter Norman Fang, Norman's Orchids on

"New Color Forms of Phalaenopsis Species"

Saturday June 18, 2022 10:00 to 12:00 EDT

Live AOS Judging in Howell, Michigan Sat. 1 PM EDT

Sunday June 19, 2022 12:00 to 3:00 EDT

For more information contact:

gljc.judges@gmail.com or gljc.org



Upcoming Open House

Windswept in Time Orchids

May 29 & 30

8066 Skyline Drive, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147

[440-838-5757](tel:440-838-5757)



The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant. This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season. Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. Phalaenopsis are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

Photo Gallery

Displays

April 2022

