

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

October 2023

Previous Meeting Minutes

In our September meeting we discussed Getting Orchids to Bloom, had an Orchid Mounting Clinic and our 2nd Member Plant Auction

Meeting summary below (Page 4):



Announcements

We are excited to announce that in 2023 we will have hybrid meetings (both In-Person & Zoom). Zoom details will be included in each newsletter

2023 will have an earlier start time of 6:30pm to accommodate for the 'Grower's Club', a short topic each month focused on growing happy orchids followed by our normal meeting

Zoom details below (Page 3):

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, Oct 9, 2023. **New start time of 6:30pm.** Doors open at 6:00pm. Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Topics

Mini: **Growing Under Lights**
Program: **What Makes a Winning Show Display**
Speaker: **AOS Webinar**

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):

President

Craig Miller

Vice President

Darryl Everett

Treasurer

Jane Bush

Secretary

Pam Everett

Editor

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Trustee

Barb Ford

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/>

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 meets the second Monday of each month (except December) Grower's Club starts at 6:30pm and the meeting at 7:00pm, 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

Oct 9	Growing Under Lights / What Makes a Winning Display
Nov 13	Orchid Stories / Holiday Banquet / Officer Elections
Dec	No Meeting
Jan 8	TBD / Getting Ready for the Show



Photo of the Month: Bulbophyllum claptonense – Azman Haran

2023 Meeting Info

In 2023, we will be having 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.

Additionally, meetings will start at 6:30pm to accommodate our new Beginner's Corner. Each month will tackle a new topic on growing happy orchids.

Meeting Location:

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

Doors open:	6:00pm
Grower's Club:	6:30pm
Main Meeting:	7:00pm

- 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

October 9, Meeting Info

We will be discussing officer positions and nominating for 2024, then a brief overview to prepare for the spring show and finally finishing with an AOS Webinar on how to put together a show display.

Grower's Club (Mini) / Meeting Topic:

Topics

Mini: **Growing Under Lights**
Program: **What Makes a Winning Show Display**
Speaker: **AOS Webinar**

Zoom Meeting Details

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

Time: Oct 9, 2023 06:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86167210740?pwd=aUxIT2JKbWhUNXR0TlorTjA2THQyUT09>

GAOS September Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS held its regularly scheduled meeting Monday, September 11 with 26 people attending.

Jane Bush gave a presentation on good orchid practices and covered considerations for light, temperature, humidity, and fertilizer on various orchid genera. She also discussed the numerous causes of bud blast on orchids.

Craig Miller conducted the business portion of the meeting and mentioned that Ben has agreed to be Show Chairman in 2024. Craig suggested that we begin thinking about publicity and advertising in our show booklet. There was no news on a possible new projector or storing our technical equipment at the Kiwanis Club. Finally, Craig mentioned that nominations for 2024 officers will be considered at the October meeting.

The show table was next, and there were 36 beautiful orchids on display for owners to show and tell.

Chester Kieliszek gave a demonstration on mounting orchids. He mentioned that most orchids are epiphytes, with roots exposed and getting moisture from rain and humid air. Orchids should be mounted when new roots appear. They can be mounted on a variety of materials, including most woods but excluding treated woods and salty driftwood bark found from the ocean. Cork is also good for mounting.

When mounting an orchid, surround it with plenty of sphagnum moss and wrap with fine fishing line. Be sure to not wrap too tightly as that may cause severe root damage.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45.

For the past 20 years I have been observing, studying, and photographing Ollie, and his brother Greenie, the resident native Green Tree Frogs (*Litoria caerulea*), in our Orchid House in southern Sydney, Australia. Raised from local tadpoles in a shallow dish on the greenhouse floor in 2003, Ollie and Greenie, remain the last of their tribe. Every year between June and September, during our Winter, they ‘vanish’ to hibernate (or strictly speaking “Brumate”), usually without being seen or heard for around 3 - 4 months. Here, they are tucked in under a stem of the Nepenthes Pitcher Plant. – Jim Greenstein



Greater Akron Orchid Society



2023 GAOS Program Calendar

Jan 9	Grow Lights / Preparing Show Plants and Movie "Chasing Ghosts"
Feb 13	Pots / Best Practices for Buying Plants - Eric Sauer
Mar 13	Water / Getting to Know Members and Orchid Basics
Apr 10	Internet Resources / Lycaste - Russ or Cheryl
May 8	Potting Media / Member Plant Auction and Repotting Clinic
Jun 12	Orchid Pests & Problems / Coelogyne - Webinar or speaker
Jul 10	Let's Talk About Your Orchid / Summer Picnic
Aug 14	Buying Orchids on the Internet / Bulbophyllum - Charles Wilson
Sep 11	Getting Orchids to Bloom / Second Plant Auction / Mounting Clinic
Oct 9	Growing Under Lights / Wild, Weird & Wonderful Orchids – Peter Lin
Nov 13	Orchid Stories / Holiday Banquet, Election of Officers
Dec 11	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*

Stubborn Orchids

By Brandon Spannbauer

There's an orchid adage that says that orchids will always flower the day after a show. It may be superstition but it seems to ring true that orchids will either bloom right after a show/meeting or their flowers wilt right before you have a chance to show them off. Let's dedicate this post to showing off blooms that never make it to a meeting.



(C. Summer Spots x B. nodosa 4N)

A new hybrid from H&R Orchids that is a first-time bloomer for me with 6 blooms. I've pretty happy with the light pink color with spotted petals and a distinct marking on the lip. Others are posting their blooms online and the spots seem less common in the siblings.



(C. Small World 4N x Bl. Richard Mueller)



(Epc. Rene Marques 'Tyler)

(C. Small World 4N x Bl. Richard Mueller)

This is another cross from H&R. It has turned into a reliable bloomer that blooms a few times a year on a small, compact plant. I'm happy with the color which has become much richer in later bloomings

(Epc. Rene Marques 'Tyler)

I've been growing my Rene Marques for over 10 years and it blooms every year for me on growths almost 3 feet tall. This year it has 10 blooms on one spike, which is a record. Edgar has told me that mine could grow even taller which I hope it doesn't because then it'll be my lights, we'll see

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

greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

Why You Should NOT Just Add Ice

By Carter and Holmes

By now, many orchid growers, beginners and experienced alike, have heard the theory about watering orchids with ice cubes. In case you haven't, it goes something like this.

“Water your Orchid with three ice cubes a week and it will be happy as can be!”

Sadly, though it may be given with the best of intentions, this advice is problematic and has caused a lot of misinformation to be spread online and through social media. The kernel of truth in the “Just Add Ice” myth/marketing gimmick is that most people who kill orchids do so by over-watering them. But it's not the amount of water people use when watering orchids that leads to over-watering, it's how long the roots stay wet.

Remember where your orchid is from. Plants known as “Ice Orchids” are simply Phalaenopsis Orchids or ‘Moth Orchids’ that originated in tropical Southeast Asia. They are intermediate to warm growing, which means their native environment is usually a minimum of 60 degrees any time of year. Not really ‘ice cube’ type weather.

Phalaenopsis in nature grow attached to trees, shrubs or outcroppings with their roots exposed, They are watered frequently by rainfall, but because their roots don't have much around them to hold water, they dry out between waterings. Their roots need humidity but should not stay soggy.

We always suggest watering potted orchids thoroughly from the top of the pot, with room temperature or tepid water. Water well enough to saturate the media so that it stays damp for a minimum of 4-5 days or as long as 7-10 days.

This number won't be exact because it varies with the amount of light, humidity and airflow and with the temperature where they are grown. If your plant is staying wet for longer than 10-14 days, then additional airflow may be needed. If your potted orchid needs water more than twice per week, then not enough water is being given or it's time to consider repotting (see our Repotting Information here). If the mix is very dry on watering day, water well and come back twenty minutes later and water again. This helps the outer layer of bark, mulch or moss absorb the moisture better. Plus, it flushes free any water impurities or fertilizer salts that collect in the pot.

This wet-dry cycle is needed in one form or another for many of the most commonly found orchids. Adding a few cubes to the top of the media does not address the need to thoroughly water the roots and potting media. As the ice melts, some water trickles into the pots, but not enough to really provide humidity or flush the potting mix of any water impurities or fertilizer salts. Also, remember, these are tropical plants. The ice is likely to cause damage to the roots and foliage it comes in contact with.

Ice cubes may work for some growers for a while, but they are not what your Phalaenopsis needs long term. “Ice Orchids” fit with the marketing strategy of box stores, grocery stores and hardware stores today that sell orchids as a ‘disposable’ alternative to cut flowers. The flowers last longer than a bouquet of cut flowers, and since they are usually very cost friendly, if they die in 6-12 months many people are okay with replacing them. We teach our visitors and new customers how to care for Orchids with an eye to the future. Orchids can be a long-term investment that produce a lot of joy. Bringing your well-grown orchid into bloom year after year can be extremely rewarding.

So just remember, your orchid doesn't like taking an ice bath any more than you do!

New Orchids to Science

Phaius duogae

An unusual species of *Phaius* discovered in the Da Nang City Area in southern Vietnam is described here as new to science. It is similar to *P. hekouensis* but can be recognized by the smaller habit, flower color, lip ornamentation, spur, and column characters. The standard taxonomic description, as well as data on its distribution, ecology, phenology, proposed conservation status, and taxonomic notes on relationships with morphologically similar species, are presented.

– Novataxa 2023



Cattleya species were the bedrock of the early cut flower industry. Shown is a 1915 greenhouse of blooming *C. mossiae* at J A Carbone in Berkeley, California. – Chadwick & Son



Windswept in Time Orchids Open House

Nov 4 & 5
11am – 5 pm

8066 Skyline Drive, Broadview Heights, Ohio 44147,
United States

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

<https://windsweptorchids.com/>

Photo Gallery

Show Table

Sept 2023







