

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

October 2019

President

Jane Bush

Vice President

Barb Ford

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Lore Yu

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**Brandon
Spannbauer**

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Dave Miller

Minutes of Sept. 2019 Meeting

Edgar's Orchid Corner discussed how an orchid enthusiast can learn the care an orchid will need based on the appearance of the orchid.

Jane announced that we will be having elections in November and the role of Vice President needs to be filled. If interested, please let Jane know.

Our orchid show is at Rohr's Nursery on March 7&8. Please keep this weekend open so you can join us in making the show in our new location as fantastic as possible. Volunteering for the show is a great way to get to know the other members of the society and orchid vendors better. You can even invite friends and family to volunteer.

We had our annual orchid silent auction. A wonderful variety of orchids was available for sale.

Upcoming Business

Edgar will have an Open House the first weekend of November (November 2&3), open 11:00am to 5:00pm on both days. Enjoy a fun experience and find some great orchids!

<https://windsweptorchids.com/>

Wayne will not be having an open house but anyone can call Wayne and make an appointment. Wayne has an abundance of supplies for every orchid need and a satisfying variety of orchids.

<http://www.orchidmix.com/>

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, Oct 14, 2019. Doors open 6:30 pm, Beginner's Corner 6:45 pm and meeting starts 7:15 pm. Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319.

Program: **Orchid Diseases Part 2**

Speaker: Jane Bush

Jane will discuss different orchid diseases, their prevention and remedies in this 2-part series.

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.

Website: www.thegaos.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/theGAOS

President's Corner

By Jane Bush



Greetings!

I hope that all your new orchids from our recent society sales are doing well and also those that you summered outside. The orchids that I summered outside look really healthy so I'm excited to see if they will now produce some flowers for me. Several orchid gurus have said that the most common reason for an orchid to not flower is too little light, a common problem indoors

The GAOS Board held a meeting last Monday at Claudia's house. We very much appreciate her hospitality and the delicious cheese cake she served us. Most of the meeting was spent discussing our 2020 show. Since we are at a new location, we realize that attendance may not be what we enjoyed our last year at Donzell's. We have increased our budget for publicity to get the word out about our show. Dave has designed and had printed note size flyers which will be available at our October meeting for everyone to distribute. If we are to make this show a success, we will need everyone to pitch in. Word of mouth is really the best way to advertise, so please think about how you can help with this.

At our new show location, we will be able to offer repotting services for a small fee. This has been a big success at other shows, so we are going to add this service to our show. However, this will require some additional show help with both with receiving and labeling – no special talent needed. Barb and Dave will be the lead repotters.

A suggestion was made that we could provide baskets of goodies for a raffle. This has been a hit at other events I have attended so let's see if we can get donations for some raffle baskets. Books on orchids, orchid media, fertilizer, pots, clips, stakes would all make an interesting orchid-theme basket. Depending on donations, we could have other basket themes or just a grab-bag type selection. Can you collect something to contribute to this project?

Our October meeting will again feature our beginner's corner and finish our discussion of orchid disorders, focusing this time on pest and environmental issues. Last month, someone commented that when they supplemented calcium, the plant's seemed to have less problems. As promised, we will find out why at this meeting!

TIDBIT: Cymbidiums and Noble Dendrobiums will enjoy and benefit from the much cooler nights of October but the rest of your orchids won't be happy in temperatures below 50 degrees at night.

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.**

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|--------|------------------------------------|
| Oct 14 | "Orchid Diseases Part 2" Jane Bush |
| Nov 11 | Holiday Banquet / Elections |
| Dec 9 | <u>No Meeting</u> |



Photo of the Month: Lycaste aromatica. The Picture does not show the size of the vase, but it is 27 cm wide. In 2018 there were 196 floral rods in 17 new bulbs. (fronts) this year there's no way to count, it's blooming in 36 new bulbs by Alvaro Miranda Rodrigues

Orchid Diseases Part 1 by Jane Bush, Review

By: Lore Yu

Edgar's Orchid Corner discussed how an orchid enthusiast can learn the care an orchid will need based on the appearance of the orchid.

Some examples he gave:

Tolumnia has triangular, thick, reddish leaves, and no pseudobulb. It needs high light and grows in the Caribbean which is usually like a desert. It gets its water from dew.

Orchids with thin leaves, no pseudobulb, should never dry out.

Oncidiums have thin leaves and a pseudobulb. This means that it comes from a place that has seasons and needs to be watered like crazy while the weather is warm and then be given drier conditions in cooler temperatures.

Bulbophyllums have a white wax and a stiff leaf which means that it can dry a bit if cool and stay wet in warm weather. These need plenty of light.

Dendrobiums have thick pseudobulbs and waxy leaves. During their growth cycle, they experience monsoon rains and, after, a dry season when the pseudobulb stores water. These grow in the foothills of Himalayas.

Orchid Diseases, Part One:

This is a summary of Jane's presentation with much of the information coming from excellent power point slides Jane has created.

Viruses are living organisms made of cells and contain genetic information which the virus injects into a cell and the cell becomes a virus creating factory. Viruses contain a cover and sometimes a second cover (the envelop). Alcohol will kill a virus that has an envelope but most plant viruses lack this and so plant viruses are more difficult to kill.

If one wants to do their own testing, Agdia test strips are considered reputable.

<https://www.agdia.com/>

If testing proves an orchid has a virus, it is best to discard it. If one wishes to keep an orchid with a virus, the plant must be isolated and good and careful hygiene must be practiced to prevent the virus from being spread to other orchids.

Other diseases that infect orchids are bacterial and fungal infections.

Bacteria are small, simple cell life forms that are transferred by direct contact. Insects, sap, and splashing water are examples of how bacteria can be spread.

Fungi are multicellular and are transferred by spores. They can live on both dead and living parts of plants.

Bacterial issues (copied from Jane's Power Point):

Erwinia

Small, water-soaked spots that become sunken dark areas

Will rot any part of the plant

Spreads rapidly

May have a foul odor

Favors hot, moist conditions

Transferred by splashing water

Pseudomonas:

Water-born and most active in warm, moist conditions

Starts as soft, dark-green blisters

Oozes liquid filled with bacteria

Infection enlarged and becomes dry, dark and Sunken

Prevention:

Do not water from above, Good air-flow, Keep leaves and pseudobulbs dry

Treatment:

Remove infected parts, Use hydrogen peroxide, isopropyl alcohol, or copper (if safe for that type of orchid). Treat nearby orchids

Disinfect growing area with 10% bleach

Fungal infections:

Water mold causes black rot The Zoospores (with tails) swim through water and then penetrate plant tissue.

This infection spreads rapidly and is highly contagious. Parts of the orchid turn purple or black. It is best to discard orchid.

Fusarium Wilt:

Enters roots or rhizomes mostly when nonsterile cutting tools are used

This fungus blocks the flow of sap through the plant and shows as a purple ring on the outer layers of the rhizome. Must cut away all infected parts, repot and treat with Cleary's 3336 (thiomyl)

Fungus can usually be killed by Daconil, Banrot, or Pageant.

Southern Blight (collar rot):

Rapid collapse of roots, stems, and leaves at the base of plant. One must remove infected tissue and drench with Banrot or Pageant.

Brown rot, fungal root rot:

Happens when orchids do not have good air-flow around the roots. The roots die and the plant exhibits issues

Fungal leaf spots:

Prevent by spraying with a fungicide and providing air-flow, using good sanitation, and avoiding water on the leaves.

For help diagnosing a plant disease, this is a very useful site:

<https://staugorchidsociety.org/PDF/OrchidPestsandDiseasesbySueBottom.pdf>

Laelia jongheana by Alek Awz

AWZ Orquideas, Sep-2019



New orchid species from Japan lives on dark forest floor, never blooms

by Mongabay.com on 5 August 2019



From Japan's Amami-Oshima and Tokunoshima islands, researchers have described a new-to-science species of orchid that produces dark brown flowers that likely never bloom.

Kenji Suetsugu of the Kobe University Graduate School of Science, came across the flower during a flora survey of the islands' evergreen forests. When they looked at the orchid closely, they found that it belonged to the genus *Gastrodia*, a group of mycoheterotrophic orchids that don't use photosynthesis to get their nutrients, instead stealing nutrition from fungi.

Suetsugu, who has been documenting Japan's mycoheterotrophs and has described new species of such orchids in the past, has named the orchid *Gastrodia amamiana*.

Like many mycoheterotrophs, *G. amamiana* can be found lurking in the dark understory of forests where sunlight hardly penetrates. Without light, the orchid has evolved to find food without photosynthesis by relying on the network of fungi underneath the forest floor.

It has another peculiar trait: it bears fruit despite flowers that likely never open. Suetsugu posits that the plant probably self-pollinates because it lives on dark forest floors where insect pollinators like bees and butterflies seldom visit.

The act of opening up a flower uses critical resources, and without insect pollinators to open it for, the orchid may have evolved to never bloom, Suetsugu writes.

To date, *G. amamiana* is known from only two locations, one each on Amami-Oshima and Tokunoshima. In both locations, the researchers found some 20 flowering individuals within a dense forest dominated by the evergreen Itajii Chinkapin tree

The Amami-Oshima forest where the species was found, however, could soon become logged, Suetsugu writes. The researchers have already seen evidence of tree thinning close to where *G. amamiana* was discovered, and the dry soil that results from this could dry out the fungi that the orchid depends on, he writes.

"These field surveys rely on cooperation from independent scientists, and our resources are limited, meaning that some species may reach extinction without ever being discovered by humans," Suetsugu said in a statement. "The discovery of *G. amamiana* highlights the importance of the forests of Amami-Oshima. We hope that revealing these new species will draw more attention to the environmental threat faced by these regions."

Color Changing Orchid Blooms

By Brandon Spannbauer

Some orchid blooms change color as they age. This Bc Sunny Delight x Bl Richard Muller is a new hybrid from Sunset Valley Orchids. It opens a rosy red and turns bright yellow with age. Lasting 5 weeks so far, I expect a couple more.



Reliable Bloomers Wanted

By Pam Everett

At the May meeting, Pam had an idea, for those who wish to participate, to send Pam a list of two or three of their orchids that are regular bloomers and have been easy to grow. This may help, especially newcomers, to be on the lookout for plants which they can be successful in growing as they begin their journey into the orchid world. It may also give some of the more seasoned members ideas for plants they haven't yet thought to cultivate.

The main idea, though, is to give each member one additional way of participating in GAOS activities.

To participate provide simple info on the following growing requirements:

- 1) Orchid Name
- 2) Light and Air
- 3) Humidity and Temp
- 4) Media
- 5) Repotting
- 6) Fertilizer
- 7) Side Notes

Send to Pam at pjoeverett@aol.com where she will start a database for us.

Upcoming Orchid Events

'Orchids Under the Dome'

Presented by Niagara Frontier Orchid Society

November 9-10, 2019

Buffalo & Erie County Botanical Gardens
2655 South Park Ave, Buffalo NY

Photo Gallery

Sept 2019 Meeting



Zgt Zesty Kalla
Chester Kieliszek



Phal Kenneth x violacea
Chester Kieliszek



NoID
Mary Bell



Phrag alba purpureum
Mary Bell



African Violet
Kurt Nestle



Odcdm Rex's Lucky Firefly
Dean Pawlicki



Coel ovalis
Claudia Englert



Dtps Chien Xen Pearl
Pam Everett



Den Maiden Charlotte
Pam Everett



Neof falcata x Ascda Suksaram
Pam Everett



Bc Sunny Delight x Richard Muller
Brandon Spannbauer



NoID Habenaria
Darlene Thompson



Habenaria xanthocheila
Darlene Thompson



Habenaria Pink Paw
Darlene Thompson



Phrag longifolium x Saint Ouen
Darlene Thompson