

# Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

## September 2023

### Previous Meeting Minutes

In our August meeting we discussed Bulbophyllums and their care with Edgar Stehli.

\*This month is our 2<sup>nd</sup> Member Plant Auction & Mounting Clinic (feel free to bring in any orchids that you would like to sell or mount.)

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, Sept 11, 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: **Getting Orchids to Bloom**  
Program: **2<sup>nd</sup> Member Plant Auction**  
Speaker: **Mounting Clinic**

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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  
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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](http://www.thegaos.com)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/theGAOS](http://www.facebook.com/theGAOS)

**Email:** [greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com)

### Greater Cleveland Orchid Society

[www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/](http://www.facebook.com/GreaterClevelandOrchidSociety/)

[www.gcos.org](http://www.gcos.org)

### West Shore Orchid Society

[www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/](http://www.facebook.com/WestShoreOrchidSociety/)

[westshoreorchidsociety.org/](http://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**

Sept 11	Getting Orchids to Bloom / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Member Auction & Mounts
Oct 9	Growing Under Lights / Weird & Wonderful – Peter Lin
Nov 13	Orchid Stories / Holiday Banquet / Officer Elections
Dec	No Meeting



**Photo of the Month:** Disa Uniflora - Jose Santos da Costa

## 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](mailto:greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com)

Thanks,

Brandon Spannbauer, Editor

## September 11, Meeting Info

Our program for the Sept meeting is our 2<sup>nd</sup> plant auction and a mounting 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 Mounting 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 mounting of several kinds of orchids. If you have a plant that needs repotting, you may bring it for our demonstration (1 per member please.)

### Grower's Club (Mini) / Meeting Topic:

#### Topics

Mini: **Getting Orchids to Bloom**  
Program: **2<sup>nd</sup> Member Plant Auction**  
Speaker: **Mounting Clinic**

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## Zoom Meeting Details

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

Time: Sept 11, 2023 06:00 PM

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85264363550?pwd=eXRjRmlVb3VQajdRL05ucFVMYStqQT09>

## GAOS August Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS held its regularly scheduled meeting Monday, August 14 in person and on Zoom. Craig Miller talked on buying orchids on the Internet, discussing the pros and cons. He suggested that it is important to do a little research before purchasing.

Craig opened the business meeting and mentioned that he is still working with the Kiwanis Club to secure storage for the Society's electronic equipment at the Club. He also mentioned that he is still working on the purchase of a computer and a new projector to better serve the Society's needs. He also urged all members to be looking ahead to the 2024 Orchid Show and the need for everyone who can to assist in setting up the show and assisting in setting up the display, explaining the amount of work required before the show begins. Jane Bush said the treasury remains the same inasmuch as there were no expenses and no income since the July meeting. The show table was outstanding, with members bringing in 32 orchids for display.

Edgar Stehli from Windswept in Time presented on Bulbophyllums. This class of orchids has included such names as Cirrhopetalum, Cirrhophyllum, Mastipetalum, and Mastiphyllum. But he urged people not to change tag names because these are all basically Bulbophyllums. These orchids can be found throughout the tropics. And their names can tell you everything you need to know about growing them.

Bulbophyllums can be easily identified because they have hinged lips with an open area around the base. They have a conspicuous pseudobulb with a single folded leaf at the top. They have flower adornments that attract flies for pollination. And they are fragrant, although most have an unpleasant odor.

These orchids are warm loving. They are shallow rooted with fine roots; and they like lots of moisture, so let them approach the dry side then water like crazy. It is best to plant them sphagnum moss or fine bark, but they should stay moist. They like low light and lots of food because they are always growing. Growers are now beginning to hybridize Bulbophyllums for larger, more distinctive (and stinkier) flowers.

The wide variety of jewel orchid plants' leaves. – Jewel Orchid Plants



# 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](mailto:judges@aos.org)*

## Monthly Checklist for Sept & Oct

By AOS

### CATTLEYA

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

### CYCNOCHES

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

### CYMBIDIUM

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

### DENDROBIUM

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

### RHYNCHOSTELE BICTONIENSIS

Both *Rhynchostele bictoniensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchostele bictoniensis*, formerly known as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: sulphureum (green with white lip), album (brown with white lip) and roseum (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in Odcdm. Bittersweet and Odm. bicross) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for odontoglossum beginners and advanced alike.

### PAPHIOPEDILUM

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

## Late Summer Advice from Sunset Valley Orchids

By Fred Clark

### Catasetinae plant culture late summer

Your Catasetinae should in full growth by now, with most growers already seeing plants bloom. Watering and fertilizing should be in full swing. This is when your plants really put on their best growth. Be sure you are fertilizing with each watering, use ½ tsp. fertilizer per gallon water.

Remember - no more re-potting at this time, as the roots are well-developed and will resent being disturbed. If you were negligent (how could that be?) and did not get to it in time, it is ok to 'slip-pot' into the next larger pot; just add more moss around the existing moss and roots then and slip the whole thing into the next pot size, being very careful not to damage those important new roots.

This is when your Catasetinae can really take advantage of lots of light and air movement to help push and develop large new growth. Ideal temperatures in summer are 85-95 degree days and 60-80 degree nights, with humidity between 40% and 80%.

Keep an eye out for the spider mites, which can get a foothold on your plants (and they have 8 feet!). Be diligent and check the undersides of the new leaves regularly. If mites are detected, spray immediately. They can quickly get out of control if early action is not taken!

## Aussie Dendrobium plant culture

**Watering and Fertilizing** are related as water carries fertilizer into the root zone. Important for good Aussie Dendrobium growth is to have their roots dry down between watering. In the summer fertilize with every watering using a fertilizer solution of 100 PPM nitrogen, this equates to ½ tsp. in a gallon of water. In the summer when days are long and warm, the plants are in active growth and photosynthesis is at a high rate. As a result, you water and thus fertilize more, usually 2 times a week, however during the hottest period watering may be 3 times a week. During the winter months, November-February allows the plants potting media and roots to be totally dry before watering generally every 10-12 days. The key to good Aussie Den. culture is always check that the potting media has dried out sufficiently depending on season before watering.

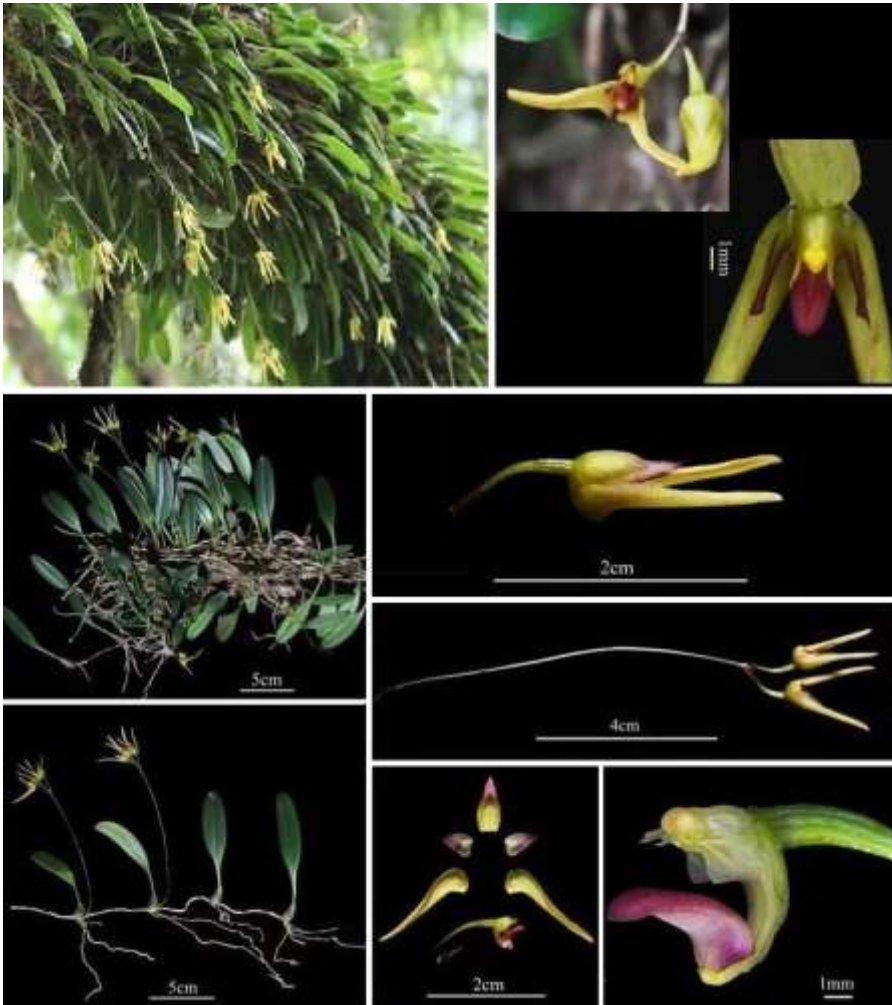
**Light levels and Temperature:** Aussie Dendrobiums like light levels of about 2500-3500 foot candles (fc), like most Cattleyas. For optimal growth I suggest growing under 65 % shade. A southern exposure where the plants will receive plenty of bright, filtered light works well. The plants prefer summer day temperatures of 75-90 F. and for winter nights of 45-55 F. Aussie Dens. are quite adaptable and short periods of higher or lower temperature.

**Re-potting:** Aussie Dendrobiums start their growth cycle in the spring, new roots start to develop about a month after the new growths have begun. This is the best time to re-pot. Please don't underestimate the importance of re-potting when new roots are starting to show, the new roots will quickly reestablish the plant and reduce the stress of re-potting.

Aussie Dens. are hardy and adaptability to a wide range of growing conditions. Their fragrance, variety of flower color, shape and sizes make these an excellent hobby plant. We believe everyone should have some in their collection!

## New Orchids to Science

A new orchid species, *Bulbophyllum wolongense*, from the Wolong National [#NatureReserve](#) (Sichuan, China). *B. wolongense* is a member of the [#Cirrhopetalum](#) alliance and most likely in *B.* sect. [#Brachyantha](#). Further comparative morphological analysis showed that *B. wolongense* is clearly morphologically distinguishable from its closely related species in the phylogenetic tree.  
– Novataxa 2023



## Things to do in the Fall

By AOS

Like spring, fall is an important transitional season and orchid growers should be making preparations for the coming winter. As days get shorter and cooler, orchid growth will slow and, in some cases, cease altogether. Unless a plant is in a crisis situation, put off any repotting until the lengthening days of spring. For many orchids, it is this change of seasonal conditions that begins flower initiation.

As we move into November, be on the lookout for developing inflorescences on *Phalaenopsis*, *Cymbidium* and certain hybrids and species in other genera, and begin staking when spikes reach 6-8 inches.

If you have been summering some or all of your orchids outside, now is a good time to get your indoor growing area cleaned up and ready to welcome the returning orchids. Whether it is windowsill carts, a basement light setup or greenhouse, use diluted chlorine bleach (1:10) or Physan to clean off any accumulated algae. It is easier to make repairs when there are no plants, so make sure that your growing area is in top condition for the trying conditions of winter.

Make sure that heaters are working and that you have plenty of fuel. If you use backup devices or alarms, test them too. Be sure to check plants thoroughly for pests before returning them to the close quarters of your indoor growing area or greenhouse.



# Photo Gallery

Show Table

Aug 2023





