

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

October 2024

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Previous Meeting Minutes

In our Sept meeting, we had guest speaker, John Finer give a very informative presentation on "Orchid Physiology"

Meeting summary below (Page 4):



Announcements

In 2024, we will continue our hybrid meetings (both In-Person & Zoom). In-Person meeting details directly below and Zoom details will be included in each newsletter and our Facebook page. We will also continue with our earlier 6:30pm start time, doors open at 6:00pm

Zoom details below (Page 3):

Next Meeting

Monday, Oct 14, 2024

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

Topic

Program: **The Future of Orchid Growing**
Speaker: **Edgar Stehli**

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):

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/newsletters>

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 has hybrid meetings (both In-Person and Virtual) and meets the 2nd Monday of each month (except December) at 6:30pm, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, 725 Portage Lakes Dr., Akron, Ohio 44319

Members are encouraged to bring blooming 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 14	The Future of Orchid Growing – Edgar Stehli
Nov 11	Holiday Banquet / Officer Elections
December	No Meeting
Jan 13	TBD



Photo of the Month: I hear a lot of lamentations over orchids that have passed on. I came across a pot in my yard where there were all these name tags for Orchids I had owned and killed over the years going back over 30 years. Just a sample. – Tom Rutter

2024 Meeting Information

In 2024, we will continue with our 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.

Meeting Location:

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

Doors open: 6:00pm
Main Meeting: 6:30pm

- 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 14 Meeting Info

6:00 Doors open
6:30 Meeting begins
6:45 Show table
7:00 Edgar's presentation
8:15 Close the meeting

Topic

Program: **The Future of Orchid Growing**
Speaker: **Edgar Stehli**

Zoom Meeting Details

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

Topic: GAOS Monthly Meeting Time: 06:30 PM Eastern Time

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81392205918?pwd=aIaLUOAHRgUV8oXGjPyuUopuhTJ8A1.1>

GAOS September Meeting Notes

By Pam Everett

GAOS held its regularly scheduled meeting Monday, September 9. 26 people attended in person or on Zoom. Craig Miller opened the meeting with a brief business session, reminding members that the 2025 slate of officers will be presented at the October meeting and anyone interested in running for office still has time to notify Craig. He also mentioned that it is also time to begin planning for next year's orchid show, which will be held March 1 and 2. Chester Kieliszek was also recognized for his two AM/AOS awards from the Mid-America conference in late August.

After the conclusion of the business session, members who brought plants, showed their orchids... 22 plants total.

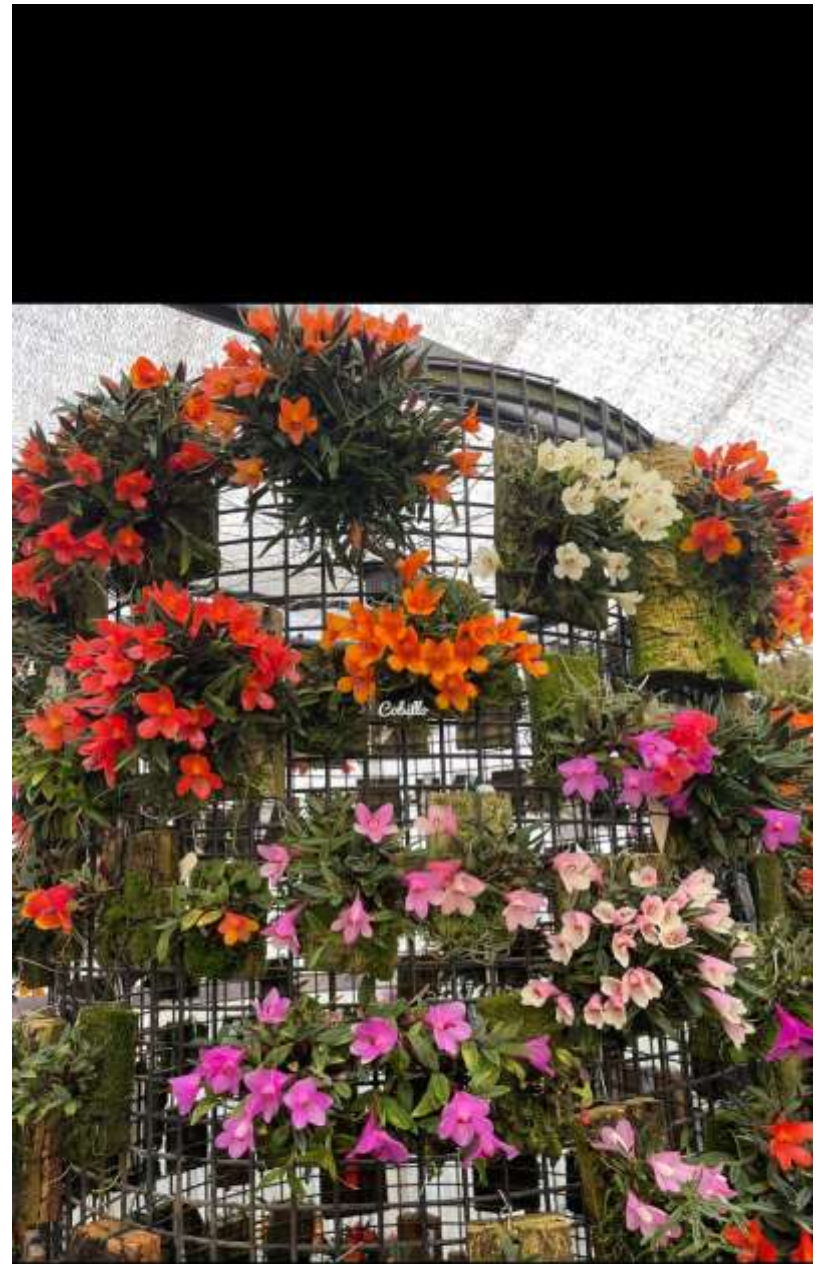
Following a brief break, John Finer, a former member of GAOS, who holds a PhD in plant physiology, shared an interesting presentation and discussion on the uniqueness of orchid physiology particularly. He explained that unlike most other plants, photosynthesis in orchids – especially the succulent orchids – occurs nocturnally as CO₂ is absorbed at night rather than during the day. He suggested that because of this, it may be better to water and fertilize these plants at night. He mentioned that Green Circle Growers in Oberlin, which is the largest grower of Phalaenopsis in the country actually provides CO₂ enrichment in its greenhouses at night.

As most of us would agree, John discussed the importance of root health and stated that of all things he looks for when purchasing a new plant is the apparent health of the root system. He then shared a slide of a cross-section of a typical succulent root structure and explained how moisture is absorbed in the velum and the green which is seen as a result is actually photosynthesis occurring in the root itself.

Finally, John discussed orchid seeds and explained the process required for a seed to become an embryo and ultimately into a seedling, sharing several photos and passing around a vial of seeds, a petri dish of early seedlings, and a flask of growing seedlings.

After questions from the membership, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

My friends' cuthbersonii collection. These are what inspired me to start collecting cuthbersoniis. A sight to behold and the flowers last for 6 months. It is such an eye candy. – Catherine Obillo



Greater Akron Orchid Society



2024 GAOS Program Calendar

Jan 8	"Picking the Right Orchid" – Dave Miller
Feb 12	Getting Your Orchids Ready for the Show
Mar 11	How to Grow Orchids / Welcome to New Members
Apr 8	"How to Grow Slipper Orchids" – Darlene Thompson
May 13	1 st Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
June 10	"How to Grow Miniatures" – Olga Shostachuk
July 8	Summer Picnic
Aug 12	2 nd Member Plant Auction / Member Discussion
Sept 9	"What's Wrong with My Orchid?" *Bring in your problem plants for discussion*
Oct 14	"The Future of Orchid Growing" – Edgar Stehli
Nov 11	Holiday Banquet / Election of Officers
Dec 9	No meeting, Happy Holidays



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*

Story of Yellow Orchid has Personal Significance for Author

By Michael Hastings (Arthur Chadwick)



Cattleya Prince John (Hardyana x dowiana)

The turn of the century was an exciting time for orchid enthusiasts as new species were being discovered and the very first hybrids were being made. Hardly a week would go by without a collector throwing a lavish party and unveiling a new flower. Breeders today look back to those glory days for insight into plant genetics since the results may hold clues for modern hybrids.

My father, Art Chadwick Sr., has been intrigued by yellow orchids ever since he saw an imported *Cattleya dowiana* at a commercial nursery where he worked in the 1940s. The species is native to Costa Rica and Colombia and was grown by the tens of thousands in America for summer corsages. Not only were the sepals and petals pale yellow, but the throat was velvety magenta with gold veining. Breeding with *C. dowiana* would surely produce some nice yellows, he imagined.

Art Sr. researched out-of-print orchid magazines and horticulture books in hopes of finding long forgotten *dowiana* hybrids. He had already remade *Lc Ophir* (*C. dowiana* x *L. xanthina*) from 1901 and *C. Triumphans* (*dowiana* x *rex*) from 1904, both of which produced a bounty of fine yellows in his greenhouse. He came upon a promising entry from 1913 called *Cattleya Prince John* (*dowiana* x *Hardyana*).

C. Prince John was named after His Royal Highness Prince John of Wales, a shy 8-year-old who was fifth in line to the English throne. The junior Prince was the youngest child of King George V and Queen Mary but was kept out of public view because of health issues.

Armstrong & Brown, the legendary English orchid firm from Tunbridge Wells, is credited with making the Prince's namesake orchid. Founded in 1901, Armstrong became one of Europe's most well respected nurseries, garnishing gold and silver medals at the great flower shows and creating hundreds of new hybrids, often named for members of the royal family.

Upon further research, my father learned that the original Prince John hybrid was not made with the common yellow form of *dowiana* but rather with an obscure reddish-purple form. In addition, the other parent, *C. Hardyana*, was purple. No wonder the Prince's namesake was forgotten. My father then set out to remake the *C. Prince John* hybrid using only yellow parents.



C Hardyana 'Clement Moore'



C. Prince John

The tricky part was locating a yellow form of C Hardyana since nearly all known plants are either purple or white with a purple lip. Fortunately, a friend sent him a division of C Hardyana 'Clement Moore' which, at the time, was one of only two yellow varieties in the world. It was so rare that the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) in London put it on the cover of their 1916 Orchid Review magazine.

Early one August morning, my dad pollinated the flowers.

Just to be sure that it would be successful, he made the cross both ways, which means he took the pollen from one parent and put it on the other parent and vice-versa. Surely, one of the seed pods would germinate. As it turned out, both pods were fertile and there were thousands of babies.

Cattleyas take seven years to grow from seed to maturity so breeders have to be patient. In the interim, my father repotted the most vigorous plantlets and made copious notes on what the mystery flowers might yield. He also discovered that, in 1924, a prestigious flower quality award was given to a yellow form of C Prince John — variety 'Orchidhurst' AM/RHS — so he was encouraged.

Seven years to the day after Art Sr.'s pollen swap, the first Prince John blossom to be seen in nearly a century opened. Sure enough, it was yellow — very pale but still yellow. Soon after, another one opened — a darker yellow. Then a third opened — medium yellow. By the end of the summer, 10 plants had bloomed, each intriguingly different, but exactly what the breeder had hoped for.

Stubborn Orchids

By Brandon Spannbauer

This series is dedicated to showing off blooms that never make it to a meeting. If you have any stubborn orchids, send photos to be included in a future newsletter: greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com



Cattleya percivaliana

This is a first bloom while in my care. I received this plant from last year's member plant auction from Darlene Thompson. It was a small division that put out 2 growths before blooming. It is a smaller, compact orchid species compared to its larger flowered cattleyas and its flower is still going strong 4 weeks later.



B. nodosa 4N x *Epc. Mem. Young C. Lott* / *C. Small World* 4N x Bl. Richard Mueller

B. nodosa 4N x *Epc. Mem. Young C. Lott*

This is a new cross from H&R Orchids. I've grown it for 2.5 years from a small seedling and it's now spilling over a 5 inch pot. It's a constant grower and bloomer thanks to its brassavola parent with a very compact growth habit.

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. So far I've only been able to get a max of 2 flowers per stem, most likely from the Small World parent which is (*C. aclandiae* x *luteola*) both small cattleyas with few flower counts.



Ctism. José Abalo

I'm very new to the world of catasetums and this one I bought from Dave Miller last year at the member's sale. It was already a large plant and put out 31 blooms for me, even after I broke off a bloom stalk by accident. It smells like moth balls though, so I don't necessarily recommend it in the main part of your house.



B. Adrian Hamilton / Vaughnara Golden Spice

B. Adrian Hamilton (B. perrinii x B. nodosa)

This Brassavola is a very reliable bloomer for me that looks like a nicely shaped nodosa. I grow this in a hanging clay pot very close to the lights on my hanging wall. Here it gets bright light and dries quickly.

Vaughnara Golden Spice (Bl. Richard Mueller x Epi. Stamfordianum)

This is a first bloom seedling that I bought from SVO during their February cattleya new releases this year. I was looking for a yellow cattleya with spots and this is a nicely shaped one with a compact growth habit that I like. Blooms start off a pale blush pink and fade to a soft yellow. I hope that the color deepens in future bloomings.

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

greaterakronorchidsociety@gmail.com

New Orchids to Science

In Sri Lanka, this genus is represented by only two species, *Gastrodia* [#zeylanica](#) and *G. #gunatillekeorum*. During a recent survey in April, 2021, in the Walankanda Forest Reserve, multiple specimens of an unusual *Gastrodia* species were collected. A critical analysis of the plants revealed their morphological similarity to a Taiwanese endemic, *G. sui* and the more broadly distributed *G. uraiensis*.

Etymology:— [#pushparaga](#) Referring to the [#yellowsapphire](#), locally known as pushparaga, in the Rathnapura district, famous for its gems. The flower colour is similar to that of yellow sapphire, where a high-quality yellow sapphire has a red tint, similar to the flower.— Novataxa 2023



A very interesting chart that I found showing when different cattleya species bloom and root and gives tells when the best time to repot. I will include a pdf copy in the email. – Brandon

Repotting Cattleyas - Sorted by Species Name
compiled by Sue Soban from Bill Rogerson's excellent article

Repotting Cattleya Species - A Rooting and Blooming Guideline						
Cattleya Species	Judging Class	Subgenus	Roots before Blooming	Roots after Blooming	Unusual Growth Patterns	Blooming Season
<i>C. aclediae</i>	Bifoliate	Aclandia			x	April/May and through Summer
<i>C. amethystoglossa</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata	x			January / February
<i>C. araguaiensis</i>	Unifoliate	Stellata				July
<i>C. aurantiaca</i>	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			February / March
<i>C. aurea</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July / August / September
<i>C. bicolor</i>	Bifoliate	Schomburkioidea		x		August / September
<i>C. bowringiana</i>	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			October / November
<i>C. deckenii</i>	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			December / January
<i>C. downsiana</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		late June / July
<i>C. elislorado</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		September
<i>C. elongata</i>	Bifoliate	Schomburkioidea		x		September
<i>C. forbesii</i>	Bifoliate	Intermedia		x		April / May
<i>C. gaskelliana</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July
<i>C. granulosa</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		May / Early June
<i>C. guttata</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		September
<i>C. hamiltoniana</i>	Bifoliate	Intermedia		x		June / July
<i>C. intermedia</i>	Bifoliate	Intermedia	x			March / April / May
<i>C. iricolor</i>	Unifoliate	Stellata	x			April / May
<i>C. jernmanii</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			December / January
<i>C. karrii</i>	Bifoliate	Intermedia				April / May
<i>C. labiate</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			October / November
<i>C. lawrenceana</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			March / April
<i>C. leopoldi</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		June / July
<i>C. loebigessii</i>	Bifoliate	Intermedia	x			November to March
<i>C. lueddemanniana</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		March / April
<i>C. luteola</i>	Unifoliate	Stellata	x			April / May
<i>C. maxima</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			July to November
<i>C. mendelii</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			April / May / June
<i>C. mooreana</i>	Unifoliate	Stellata	x			November
<i>C. mossiae</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			April / May
<i>C. nobilior</i>	Bifoliate	Rhizantha			x	March / April
<i>C. peruvianiana</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			December / January
<i>C. porphyroglossa</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		May / Early June
<i>C. quadricolor</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			Late December / January
<i>C. rex</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		July
<i>C. schilleriana</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		April / May
<i>C. schofieldiana</i>	Bifoliate	Falcata		x		July / August
<i>C. schroderae</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			March / April
<i>C. skinneri</i>	Bifoliate	Circumvola	x			April
<i>C. tenuis</i>	Bifoliate	Schomburkioidea		x		September
<i>C. trianaei</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya	x			January / February
<i>C. velutina</i>	Bifoliate	Aclandia		x		August
<i>C. violacea</i>	Bifoliate	Schomburkioidea			x	May and Through Summer
<i>C. walkeriana</i>	Bifoliate	Rhizantha			x	December to April
<i>C. warneri</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		May
<i>C. warszewiczii</i>	Unifoliate	Cattleya		x		June / July

Note: For 'Roots Before Blooming' Cattleyas, roots emerge as a new lead grows and blooming occurs after the new lead and roots are mature; repot when they begin to send up new growths in spring and summer.

For 'Roots After Blooming' Cattleyas, the new lead grows, matures and flowers and only then do new roots emerge; repot immediately after they bloom in spring, summer and fall. In some cases, the roots emerge as the lead develops or the blooms open; repot after the new roots start to emerge even if this disrupts the bloom cycle.

For 'Unusual Growth Patterns' Cattleyas, repot as the new leads are developing in the spring. *C. aclediae* and *C. violacea* send up new growths in the spring and when mature, immediately flower and then start a second growth, with roots forming anytime during this growth cycle. *C. walkeriana* and *C. nobilior* send out leafless growths in winter that bloom when the leads mature (roots may or may not emerge from these blooming growths) and then send up regular leaved growths that do not bloom but roots emerge as they grow. Repot these after blooming when the new leaved growths grow in the spring.

Source: Rogerson, William P. *Cattleya Species and Their Culture*. 2004. *Orchid Digest* 68.4, pp. 198-219

Photo Gallery

Meeting Show Table

September 2024



