

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

November 2015

October 2015 Meeting

The October meeting was called to order at 6:43 pm at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis by Dave Miller, President. There were 26 members and 2 guests in attendance.

General Business

The treasurer has turned over the 2014 financial records to our trustee for audit review so the 2014 books can be closed. Jane Bush is in charge of the holiday orchids and she has ordered them for early November delivery. Ten additional orchids were ordered to support the Louisville Band Boosters Craft Fair hosted by Lore Yu.

Barb Ford discussed the proposed storage cleanup effort and asked for volunteers. There were only a few volunteers. After some discussion it was determined it will occur on Thursday, November 5, beginning at 10 a.m. Anyone needing more information should contact Barb directly or visit the society website.

New Business

Dave presented the proposal from the Executive Board to honor those members who in 1988 participated in the founding of the Stan Hywet Orchid Society, our original organization. Previously, Barb Ford and Margaret Hartmann had been awarded with Life Membership in the Greater Akron Orchid Society. Members of GAOS in attendance, by consensus, agreed to award Life Membership to Jackie Muster, Georgia Knowles and Warren Stoutamire to complete this activity. The awards will be made at the November meeting.

Program

This month was the second members' plant auction for the year. A large number of orchids changed hands. A portion of the proceeds from each sale was donated to GAOS. Many happy faces left the meeting with new plants.

President

David Miller

Vice President

**Brandon
Spannbauer**

Treasurer

Frank Skalak

Secretary

Janet Neyrinck

Editor

Paul Bujak

Trustee

Barbara Ford

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the GAOS will be Monday, November 9, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis. This will be the annual holiday dinner, member plant delivery, and election of new officers. The society will be providing meat and beverages. We ask that each member family donate an appetizer, main dish or dessert and be sure to bring plates and silverware for personal use. Each member may invite a guest for dinner. Remember, to receive your orchid plant, you must attend the dinner or make arrangements with another member to pick up your plant.

The GAOS *Newsletter* will not be published next month, December 2015, as there is no regular meeting scheduled. The next meeting will be on January 11, 2016.



***Phragmipedium (Phrag.) QF Hazel –
Darlene Thompson***

Open Houses and Other Events

Windswept in Time Orchids will host their fall open house on Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8, 2015 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Windswept in Time Orchids is located at Kim and Edgar Stehli's house on 8066 Skyline Dr., Broadview Heights, OH. From the Akron area, take I-77 north to the Wallings Road exit (Exit 151). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left and go to the stop light at Wallings Road. Again turn left and cross over the highway. At the top of the hill, there is a flashing yellow light; that is Skyline Dr. Turn right. They are the fifth house on the left side of the street.

Louisville Band Boosters Craft Show - The Greater Akron Orchid Society will have a table at the Louisville Band Boosters Craft Show on Saturday, November 14, 2015 from 9:00 to 3:00 at the Louisville Middle School, 1300 South Chapel St, Louisville, OH. The table will be manned by Lore Yu and Kurt Nestel. All GAOS members are invited to stop by and have a look. Breakfast is available at the fair.

Roberts Flower Supply will be having an open house on Saturday, December 12 and Sunday, December 13, 2015. Details can be found at www.orchidmix.com or 440-236-5571.



Brassavola (B.) nodosa – Lore Yu

How I Manage Rain Water for My Orchids Year Round

By Janet Neyrinck

As you know, water quality is a very important element in caring for orchids.

As a beginner, with just a couple of plants, it was easy to use the RO water we drink. One half gallon per week was not a problem. As with most orchid enthusiasts, the hobby grew. At the point when I had 15 plants, it became more of a problem to use the RO water. Our general house water is softened, leaving it out of the possibilities for watering the growing orchid collection. We also have a large outdoor garden for flowers and vegetables, so it began to make sense to find an alternative using rain water.

My husband is a brewmaster and had access to 50 gallon plastic drums. We have an outbuilding with enough roof area to provide a pretty good run-off. So with all that in mind, we set up a system to collect the water from our out building into the barrels.

We have two barrels at this site with an overflow system between them to maximize the amount we could store and not have a problem with overflow. There are screens on top of the barrels to keep out debris and we use Mosquito Dunks to keep down the mosquito larvae. I use about 4 to 5 gallons per week for the orchids now and we have plenty for my outdoor pots.

In winter we store the large barrels, and use a 5 gallon bucket with a more direct route from the roof. Even with the harsh winters we have had lately, there is usually a sunny day here and there, enough to provide some run-off from the roof. I am able to rotate buckets to the barn to thaw and have been successful with having rain water all winter.



JUDGES CORNER – AOS Awards - part 3of 3 "Quality Awards"

By Dave Miller

In part 2 we talked about the "Quality Awards" which are given for superior flower quality. In this final part, we look at the AOS Cultural Awards. The purpose of cultural awards is to acknowledge the exhibitor of a specimen plant with a large number of flowers for its type. Cultural awards are part of the individual plant record only unlike Quality awards and are not carried forward to any progeny, divisions, or seedlings. The plant must have been in exhibitor's care for the previous twelve months. The AOS has a "Cultural Scoresheet" based on 100 total points for perfection and a "Horticultural Scoresheet" also worth 100 total points. Horticultural awards are to recognize only a species or natural hybrid with aesthetic appeal contributing to the advancement of orchidology.

Plants are evaluated by a judging team both at monthly judging center meetings and at any AOS sanctioned orchid show. Judges examine nominated plants for their prominent characteristics and if deemed significant, a plant will be scored. A plant may be scored for more than one type of award. Once judged, nominated, or displayed at a show, no plant can be re-judged until a new flowering. All plants exhibited at a show are deemed "been judged" by the AOS once judging has ended even if never pulled for judging. It is the right of any exhibitor to ask to have his/her plant judged.

The AOS Cultural Scoresheet is divided into three sections with "Size and Condition of Plant" worth 50 points, "Floriferousness" is worth another 30 points and "Condition of Bloom" is worth the remaining 20 points. Horticultural Merit Scoresheets have "Flower Characteristics" worth 36 points, "Plant Characteristics" worth another 36 points and "Other Characteristics" (Aesthetic Appeal) worth the remaining 28 points.

The judging team decides to score for a cultural award based on the condition of the plant being evaluated relative to a specimen for its type. A plant can receive both quality and cultural awards at one judging.

CULTURAL AWARDS

CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit) – 80 to 89 points on the Cultural Scoresheet.

CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) – 90 to 100 points on the Cultural Scoresheet.

CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit) – 80 to 100 points on the Horticultural Merit Scoresheet.

HAPPY ORCHIDING



***Masdevallia (Masd.) veitchiana -
BrandonSpannbauer***

From the Editor...

I have had the honor of being the editor of the Greater Akron Orchid Society Newsletter for the past six years. However, there comes a time when one must move on to other things. I am retiring as your editor to become just a regular member who wishes to grow his orchids, discuss orchid topics with others at monthly meetings and give someone else the opportunity to exercise their creativity with the newsletter.

I wish to thank all who have contributed articles for this newsletter, especially Dr. Darlene Thompson, whose many educational writings have helped all of us be better orchid growers. Warm thanks go to the many of you who have commented so favorably on the orchid photos in the newsletter. I have tried to show the blooms that you have brought to the Show Table as you would want all to see them.

But most of all, I would like to thank all the readers of the Newsletter, GAOS members and others, who read this publication and used it to further their passion for growing orchids. – *Paul Bujak*



***Cycnodes (Cycd.) Wine Delight 'JEM'*
FCC/AOS – Dave Miller**



***Masdevallia (Masd.) Hampshire Prolific* – Brandon Spannauer**



***Prosthechea (Psh.) Green Hornet* – Darlene Thompson**

The Gallery

Some of the fine flowers displayed at the October 2015 meeting.



***Brassolaeliacattleya (Blc.) Ann Morning* –
Andrea Altvater**



***Prosthechea (Psh.) boothiana* –
Darlene Thompson**



***Cattleya (C.) Hardyana* –
Wayne Roberts**



***Paphiopedilum (Paph.) Mmemoria*
Larry Heuer – Bret Winkler**



***Dendrobium (Den.) Enobi Purple* –
Dave Miller**