

AAOS NEWS

January 8 Meeting

Having troubles with overgrown plants? Got a large plant but are afraid to divide it? Got Critters? Well, this is the meeting for you!

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The hospitality volunteers for the January meeting are: Denise Nash, Emma Edge, and Susan Battison.

Grand Valley Orchid Show

Denise Nash

Grand Valley Orchid Society Show
January 28 and 29, 2006
Meijer Gardens

The AAOS has planned a 50 square foot display in Grand Rapids, so we will need plenty of plants. We like to have a variety of plants from our members, so please consider allowing us to show your plant off in our display. Your plant will be cared for to the best of our abilities, and we will return it to you along with any ribbons you might win.

Set up begins at 9 a.m. on January 27, but we plan on starting to set up at 1:00 p.m. This gives us time to get there without a big rush. We find our spot, go shopping, put up the framework, go shopping, place the plants, go shopping, make and hang the tags, eat a fabulous buffet dinner, and then, before leaving, we go shopping!

Doesn't that sound like a wonderful way to spend a Friday? It is! If you have never been to visit the Grand Rapids show, I suggest you take a little drive and join us, either Friday at 1:00 p.m. to help set up our display, or Sunday at 5 p.m. to help at tear down. Trust me, there are plenty of plants available for sale on Sunday afternoon, and you get to see the winners from the Saturday Judging.

If you have plants for the display, please call Paige Hartman (734-426-2704), Denise Nash (248-349-5482), or Harry and Dottie Winter (734-761-5859) so we can arrange pick up and delivery.

For more information and directions, see <http://www.macatawa.org/~gvos/docs/2006showsched.pdf>

See you there!

AAOS November 2005 Notes

Denise Nash

AAOS Meeting November 13 2005

Bill Goldner, PhD, was our speaker. Bill is the owner of Woodstream Orchids. He has also entered into a partnership with Madura Orchids in Panama. Madura is allied with the Panamanian government to identify the orchids of Panama and has a large presence there.

Bill's fascinating presentation was about his trip through Panama, with its variable topography and climate. Panama has 1800 native species of orchids. There are lowland, warm growing species along the Panama Canal, but the lowlands have the least diverse group of orchids of the various geographic areas in Panama. There are a few hundred native species here.

Madura has a nursery in this area, and they do a lot of cut flowers in that nursery. There are many people in this region that speak English, the water is good, and American dollars are used as currency.

In Bill's travels, he spotted vanilla orchids growing in cattle pastures, and Mormodes completely dried out and withering. As he headed into the lowland cloud forest, he

saw Ticoglossum, Huntleya, Oncidium, and Oerstedella species.

As he traveled upland, he had a rescue story about Oncidium onustum. He saw Sobralias, Elleanthus, Trichopilias, and Lycastes. Panama's "Hawaii", Boqueté, has great temperatures year around. Here, Lockhartia, Dichaea, and Brassavola species are plentiful.

The photos of Orchid Haven, the Maduro headquarters, were spectacular. There, they grow Draculas, Masdevallias and other Pleurothallids and cool to cold growing species. The water running off the mountain runs under the guest rooms to cool them - and the same streams run through the growing areas to cool and humidify the plants.

Bill Goldner's presentation left us all anxious to take a trip to Panama, a beautiful country filled with gorgeous orchids!

Orchid Events

- **January 8** - AAOS Meeting - Orchid Repotting & other Demos
- **January 21** - Great Lakes AOS Judging - 1pm MBG Room 125
- **January 28-29** - Grand Valley Orchid Society Show
- **February 11** - AAOS Meeting - TBA
- **February 18** - Great Lakes AOS Judging - 1pm MBG Room 125
- **February 25-26** - Greater Lansing Orchid Society Show - MSU
- **March 18 - 19** Ann Arbor Orchid Festival

President's Message

Gregory Button

Not only do we have a New Year to look forward to, but in the coming months several orchid shows including our own. I have come to view this time of year as not only winter (in all its glory and fury), but "orchid show season." It is a time to look forward to beautiful orchid displays and the coming together of our orchid friends from all over the state and perhaps a visit to our favorite dealer's table.

I would like to thank Paige Hartman, and her husband George, for hosting our recent holiday party. Quite a few people attended and I think all would agree that both the food and company were outstanding. It was also nice to see Paige's new greenhouse. It won't be long before it is filled with plants.

A gentle reminder to pay your dues if you haven't already done so already and please consider volunteering to help set up or take down at one of the upcoming shows. I look forward to seeing you on Sunday.

Happy New Year,
Gregory Button

January Meeting

We will have several Orchid Help tables where you can bring in your tired, your weak, your obnoxiously overgrown, or even just plants that have minor problems! And of course, we plan on making a lovely mess in our repotting stations!

Kevin Griffin will have demos on how to **mount your orchids**.

Dottie Winter will show you how to get your **plants ready for display** at our shows.

Alex Challis will answer **general and obscure questions** on orchids. And you may even get an answer.

MSU Orchid Expert Don Garling will provide his always popular **Pests & Disease** knowledge.

We will have several repotting stations as needed. The society will provide bark mix for you and clay pots. Plastic pots will can be purchased.

There will be a number of **orchids for sale** that are in dire need of repotting (starting at \$5!), as well as blooming orchids from **Summerfield Orchids!**

Setup for the meeting is at 1:30, with the business meeting at 2 pm, followed by the demos and stations.

Please bring a few, choice blooming orchids for the show and tell table. Also, please bring any divisions or unwanted plants for our raffle table. You can also sell off your extra plants at our silent auction. If your plant is bid on, you will get the opening price, less \$2. Once the silent auction is over, please allow the auctioneers time to sort the plants.



From the front - Donna's Schomburgkia superbiens x Cattleya warscewiczii

New Bulb/Cirr Growing Method

Duane & Laura Duman

When I was talking about my new Bulb/Cirr growing method at the Christmas party, I forgot a few important things. Just to be sure you got it right, I am going to do a quick review.

Bulbophyllums like a lot of clean water. The roots like to be moist all the time, and they die quickly if they get into soggy potting mix and the roots starve for oxygen. Most of them like to be warm, and they like to grow in diffuse sunlight.

The growing method starts with medium density Tree Fern. We cut a piece big enough to hold the spread-out plant with some room to grow. "U" shaped wires are used to pin the plant tightly to the Tree Fern. The Tree Fern is then paced flat on the bottom of some sort of a saucer like thing which holds water. Add a quarter of an inch of water and the job is done. You supply the light and temperature.

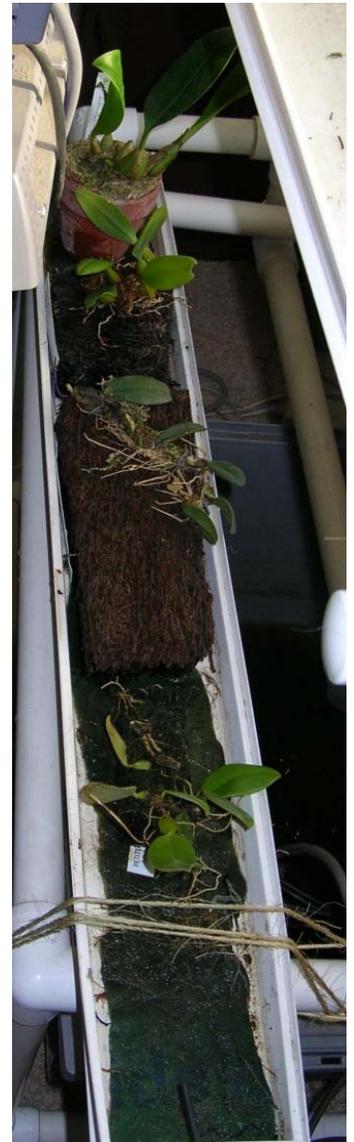
We let the water evaporate away until the Fern is sort of dry. Then we add more water. Now and then we wash everything off to avoid salt buildup. ***We use rain water which is less than 50ppm dissolved salts.*** When a plant is newly installed it needs some dilute fertilizer (M State) until new sprays of roots have grown down into the Fern. We

apply it directly to the plants. After that they get what they need from the decaying Tree Fern. Dilute small amounts will not hurt.

We have now moved our Bulb/Cirr plants into an old hydroponics apparatus. There is no hydroponics mix. The trays start empty. Fine plastic fiber batting strips are placed on the bottom of these trays. The Tree Fern slabs are placed on the batting. The pump comes on for ten minutes every morning to soak the batting. The moisture perks up through the Fern all day. If the Fern is very open, it will not perk. If it is very hard and tight, it perks too well and oxygen becomes a problem. If you can blow through it easily, it is not too tight. The water used is pure rain water.



Cirrhoptalum Elizabeth Ann



Saginaw Valley Orchid Show

Wow, what a great weekend in Midland! A very special thank you to Harry and Dottie Winter, Kevin Griffin, Ann Bommarito, and Paige Hartman for a job very well done with the set up. Another thanks to the "take down" crew of Paige, Dottie and Harry, too. Thanks to everyone for trusting us with your plants!

Our display took second place for its category. It was a small display, only 25 square feet. But you can see in the photo that it looked great!

The following plants took blue ribbons:

Paphiopedilum Papa Rohl	Paige Hartman
Phal Taisuco Candystripe x Golden Amboin	Paige Hartman
Phal Tan Swee Kim	Paige Hartman
Polycicnis muscifera	Paige Hartman
Encyclia garciana	Denise Nash
Epicat. Joseph Romans 'Roman Holiday'	Denise Nash

The following plants took red ribbons:

Den. Blue Twinkle	Paige Hartman
Phal. equestris alba x celbenensis 'Sweet'	Paige Hartman
Phrag. Stenophyllum	Paige Hartman
Den. Angel Smile 'Kibi'	Denise Nash
Den. Virginia	Denise Nash
Paphiopedilum Hsinging Rubyweb	Don and Lee Meyer

Bc Green Dragoon 'Mendenhall' Don and Lee Meyer

The following plants took white ribbons:

Burr. Nelly Isler 'Swiss Beauty'	Denise Nash
Lc. Memoria Robert Strait	Denise Nash



Newsletter of the Ann Arbor Orchid Society

The AAOS meets monthly from September through May (excluding December) at the University of Michigan's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 North Dixboro Road, Ann Arbor, MI.

The AAOS Newsletter is published 8-9 times throughout the year, and is sent to all AAOS members. AAOS members and others are invited to submit articles or other information relating to orchids.

The Ann Arbor Orchid Society is a 501(C)(3) educational and scientific organization, affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Mid-America Orchid Congress, and with the Orchid Digest Corporation.

Ann Arbor Orchid Society 2004-5 Officers

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Orchid Festival - Ann Bommarito & Kevin Griffin	
Orchid Shows - Dottie Winter, Paige Hartman, Denise Nash	
Programs - Alex Challis, Paige Hartman	
Publicity -	

2005 - 2006 AAOS Meetings

September 25 - Tom Nassar, Carolina Orchids, Angraecums & Bulbophyllums

October 16 - Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn, Multifloral Paphiopedilums

November 13 - William Goldner, Woodstream Orchids, Orchids of Panama

December 11 - Holiday Party - Paige Hartman's House

January 8 - Workshops & Demos - Repotting, Pest Control, Etc.

February 12 - TBA

March 17-19 - 11th Ann Arbor Orchid Festival

April 23 - Francisco Miranda - Orchids of Brazil

May 20-21 - Great Lakes Judging Center - Paphiopedilums & Phragmipediums.

AAOS Meeting - Paul Phillips - Ratcliffe Orchids - Paphiopedilums

AAOS Membership Application

Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip

Phone (H)..... (W).....

E-mail.....

New Membership Renewal New Address
 Beginner Advanced Grower Commercial Grower

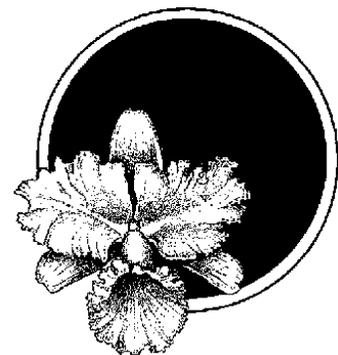
Member of the American Orchid Society? Yes No

Membership is from September 1 through August 31

_____ Individual (\$20) _____ Senior Individual (\$15)

_____ Household (\$25) _____ Senior Household (\$20)

Senior rates apply for those 70 and over.



Please make checks payable to the Ann Arbor Orchid Society. You may bring this application to any meeting, or mail it to: AAOS Membership, P.O. Box 3006, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-3006