

Greater Akron Orchid Society

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

August 2011

July Meeting

The July meeting was called to order by Barb Ford, President, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center in Akron, Ohio on Monday July 11th, 2011 at 6:45pm. The minutes were recorded by Sharon Harper, secretary.

General Business

Barb Ford opened the meeting by greeting all of the members, and remarked that it was very nice to see so many turn out during this busy vacation time. There were 32 people in attendance.

New Business

There was no new business available at this time

Program

The program was presented by our guest speaker and GAOS member, Wayne Roberts. Wayne and his family operate Roberts Orchid Supply (www.orchidmix.com) in Columbia Station, Ohio.

Wayne's program was titled 'Gardening under Lights'. His power point presentation highlighted the fluorescent T-8 lights, the new T-5 bulbs and the latest in lighting, LED light fixtures.

His presentation discussed the range of light coverage and intensity of each type of light used. Wayne indicated in choosing the light source you intend to grow under, consider that plants only need the blue and the red spectrum for optimum growth and bloom. He outlined a method of using a camera to measure the intensity of light the plants are receiving.

Wayne also brought up the subject of greenhouse growing, and indicated that there has been discussion in the general plant industry as to whether or not that it has become much more cost effective to grow under lights compared with the high cost of heating glass houses.

Wayne and his wife, Nancy, also brought a selection of lights and orchid plants for those interested in making a purchase.



**Cattleya gutatta var.
Leopoldii – Frank
Skalak**

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the GAOS will be held on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 6:45 PM, at the Portage Lakes Kiwanis Center, Akron Ohio. Our guest speaker will be former society member Frank Feysa. Frank is an AOS judge from Aurora, Ohio and he will give a talk on 'Dendrobiums'.

Coming Up

August 20 – Porter's Orchids Summer Open House and Plant Sale in Grand Ledge, MI.

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Measuring Light Intensity with a Camera

If you grow orchids under lights, then you probably wonder how much light your plants are actually receiving. A plant growing at a distance of one foot from a light source will receive a certain amount of light. At a two-foot distance, the plant would receive only one-fourth (1/4) of the light intensity. That is because of something called the Inverse Square Law - the intensity of the light decreases inversely proportional to the square of the distance. So how do you determine your light's intensity and where to place your plant?

If you have a digital camera or a film camera (what's that?) on which you can manually adjust the speed and aperture settings, you have a light intensity meter. Here's how...

1. Set the film speed to ISO 25. Some digital cameras lowest ISO rating is 100, so use that instead.
2. Set the shutter speed to 1/60 second. If you use ISO 100, set the speed to 1/250 second.
3. Place a sheet of white paper under your light where you will put your plant.
4. At a distance of one foot from the paper, take a reading with the camera. Be sure that you do not cast a shadow on the area you will be measuring.
5. Note the aperture setting required by the camera and read the light intensity from the following table.

APERTURE @ ISO 25, 1/60 sec or ISO 100, 1/250 sec	LIGHT INTENSITY in Foot-candles (fc)
f/2.0	100
f/2.8	200
f/4.0	375
f/5.6	750
f/8.0	1500
f/11	2800
f/16	5000

That's it. Need more light? Better check with Wayne Roberts.

Open House at Porter's Orchids

Porter's Orchids is holding their Summer Open House and Orchid Sale on Saturday, August 20, 2011. Porter's Orchids is located in Grand Ledge, Michigan at 10868 Royston Road. Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be refreshments and a light lunch. Grand Ledge is about 4.25 hours from Akron using the Ohio Turnpike through Toledo and about 35 minutes longer over fee-free highways. Bill Porter is one of the orchid vendors at our show in March and has generously offered \$50 toward gas for each carload of four or more orchid society members.

We have received the following message from Porter's Orchids.

This is our annual 25% off any plant or plants from our regular stock.

We're putting our cross of unbloomed seedlings of Paph. Magic Lantern (micranthum x delenatii) out on the sale benches at \$30, or \$35 in bud. At our August sale price of 25% off, that would be \$22.50, and \$26.25. At this writing we've bloomed 3, and all have been spectacular. The 2nd to bloom got an AM/AOS award ('Porter's Pink Panther') at the Michigan Orchid Society Show this Spring, and the third to bloom, had a second bloom on the same stem (following the delenatii trait of a terminal bud) but slightly smaller than the original flower.

Additionally, we'll start selling a few of our Lycaste divisions and crosses at the August sale. We have many in the pipeline for the future, as few are offered at shows, and they really are easy to grow.

We hope to see you on August 20!

This is an opportunity to stock up on some really fine orchids at really fine prices.

WTB: Jackie Muster has a lot of seedling plants to pot on and is seeking 2" or 2-1/2" pots. If you have some surplus pots in these sizes (and who doesn't?), please bring them to the August meeting and see Jackie

The Gallery

Some of the fine flowers displayed at
the July 2011 meeting.



**Bc. Richard Mueller x L. Aurea
– Bob Fehn**



**Paphiopedilum Magic Lantern –
Wayne Roberts**



**Cygnorchis pusilla
– Edgar Stehli**



**Paphiopedilum Ice Princess
– Jackie Land**



Paphiopedilum Master Druid – Sharon Harper



**Stellis superbiens
– Bernadette Skalak**