

The Calypso

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The Newsletter of the Greater Lansing Orchid Society

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CALYPSO DEADLINE:

August 21 for the Sept. issue

The purposes for which the Society is organized are to create an awareness of orchid culture; to foster the preservation of native species of orchids; to support research and development of orchid culture; and to hold meetings, lectures, and exhibitions.

JULY 24 : ANNUAL PICNIC & SALE *Saturday!*

This year we are almost back to normal. We will have our usual pot-luck picnic PLUS our Grand Orchid Mart at Granger Meadows Park, Pavilion #1 on Saturday, July 24th between **10am and 2pm**. Guests are welcome.

If you haven't yet renewed your membership in GLOS, this is your chance — Doris will be there to take your renewal. Thank you for staying with us as we transition out of Covid times and into a new way of being.

Please remember to wear your GLOS name tag. If you have lost yours in the last year plus, please let Doris or Dot know so Dot can make you a new one. Doris will have write-on name tags at her table.

Here is our plan for the Picnic/Mart:

GRAND ORCHID MART:

The Orchid Mart is our largest fund raising event of the year. All plants brought to the sale are considered donations to GLOS. Please make sure your plants are pest free.

1. Each table, or section, will be allocated for specific prices as indicated by the color of the labels: i.e.,

- \$2 yellow
- \$5 pink
- \$10 green
- \$15 blue
- \$20 red
- \$25 white

A table for silent auctions. These should be special plants, with opening bids marked accordingly.

Live auction table: There will be a separate table for the live auction of a few selected plants

Continued on p.3



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE -- Pete Ostlund

It's been an "interesting" year so far ("interesting" in the sense of how you use that word when can't really say you really like something or find it good, so it's "interesting"). But finally it appears that some semblance of normalcy is coming. But it will be a new normal for GLOS. We realize that using Zoom gives us a tool to hear from speakers around the country and the world at minimal cost to the society. And we can use Zoom to keep in touch with members that might not otherwise be able to make an in-person meeting. So expect to see the use of Zoom going forward, whether we join a meeting from home or attend a meeting in person.

Our picnic is coming up July 24, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, at the same location as it's been in the past several years. This year we are planning to hold the PICNIC as well as have the plant sale. Please mark your calendars and get plants you plan to donate ready to this fund-raising effort. And while you're at the picnic, pick out a new orchid to try growing; after all they are cheap and if you're not successful, at least you may have learned something for the next time you try a new type of orchid.

Our August general meeting (August 21 at 7 PM) will be another zoom meeting on the topic of Sarcophilus. Alan Koch from Gold Country Orchids in California will be speaking. Then our new normalcy kicks in. Our meetings will generally be held the second Saturday of the month (no longer the third Saturday in order to avoid conflicts with the Great Lakes Judging Center activities), and during the colder months, we'll have meetings at 2:00 PM rather than 7:00 PM (to avoid night time driving and potentially more difficult road conditions). So our September meeting is September 11 at 7 PM, and our November meeting is November 13 at 2:00 PM. These are both meetings are planned to be in-person. Details of these meetings will be provided in future newsletters (Calypso).

And last but certainly not least, we have begun planning for our annual GLOS show at MSU. It will be held February 26 & 27, 2022. Please save the date (and the preceding Thursday and Friday to help with set up if you are able).

I hope you can make it to the picnic. It will be very good to see all of you in person, and be able to share some time together once again.

MEMBERSHIP YEAR DRAWS TO A CLOSE - Doris Asher, Membership Committee

Since the Society's fiscal year runs from July 1 to June 30 of each year, members for the 2020-2021 year who have not yet renewed their membership for 2021-2022 are now in arrears, and this July newsletter is the last one they will receive. Annual dues are \$8.00 for an individual plus an additional \$4.00 for each additional household member. For members who want to save significant money over time, the Society offers a life membership for a one-time payment of \$80.00. Forty-four people have already taken advantage of the life membership.

Please make checks payable to GLOS and send them to Treasurer Doris Asher, 277 N Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, MI 48823. Or, save a stamp and pay Doris in person when you come to our Picnic on July 24th!

So far, 58 households (65 individuals) have already paid their dues for the coming year; we need to hear from 29 members who have not yet renewed. (These numbers accurate as of Wednesday, June 23, 2021.)

(Members who have not yet paid for the coming year have their names highlighted in yellow on the mailing label on this issue. Such members need to pay at this time so they will not miss any issues of The Calypso. The Editor will contact those members receiving their newsletters electronically to remind those who have not yet renewed to do so.)

GLOS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **July 24 Picnic and Grand Orchid Mart** will occur July 24 between 10 am and 2 pm, at the Granger Meadows Park, Pavilion 1
- **August 21, 2021 at 7:00 PM in person at the Obedience Training Club of Greater Lansing, Apollo Dr., Lansing**
- **September 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM in person at OTCGL** – Dr. John Freudenstein – Coralroots and their kin, biology and diversity
- **October - All State Orchid Societies Meeting** -- with Olaf Gruss: "News in Paphiopedilum, Phragmipedium and Selenipedium". The meeting location and format (In Person or Zoom) has not yet been determined.
- **November 13, 2021 at 2:00 PM in person at OTCGL** – John Jaworski – Growing Orchids from Seed.

PICNIC / PLANT SALE INFORMATION, continued from p.1

2. Please predetermine the prices for the plants (etc) you bring for sale, and let the volunteer who greets you know so he/she can give you the appropriate price labels for your plants. If you have your plants all priced before you arrive, it will go more smoothly. Also remember that if you bring something to sell, make sure you take it home if it is unsold (or make arrangements with someone else to do that). Otherwise it will likely be thrown away.
3. Please bring your plants between 9 and 9:30 so sales can begin promptly at 10:00.
4. Silent auction sales will end at 11am.
5. Live auction will begin at 11am, shortly after the close of the silent auction.
6. Before you leave, please settle up with Doris for the purchases you made. Turn in your colored plant labels and any silent auction sheets for plants that you successfully bid on. Doris will track who makes purchases and the amounts during the live auction. Paper/pen will be provided if you wish to track your purchases.

POT-LUCK PICNIC

As in the past, a section of tables will be available for food and drink. GLOS will provide water, ice and hand sanitizer. Please provide your own tableware as well as a dish to share with all of us.

We hope to open the food line sometime after 11am, after plant sales are completed. We don't know what the weather holds for that day, but we have reserved the pavilion earlier than usual in order to escape the heat of the day as much as possible. The pavilion is reserved for us until 2:00pm.

COVID CONCERNS:

We will follow the guidelines promulgated by the State of Michigan: <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/>

SUMMARY**Schedule:**

Before 10:00 am -- If you are bringing something to sell or for the auction, please bring no later than 9:30 am.

9:30-10:00 -- final pricing of sale items -- please predetermine prices for your donations

10:00 am -- official start of sales (Please come early for best selection)

11:00 am -- end of silent auction sales (Any unsold plants will be auctioned or should be taken home)

11:00 am -- live auction begins

We will eat at approximately half-way through the live auction, approximately 11:30

We will have a short GLOS meeting for announcements before finishing the live auction.

Settle your purchases with Doris before you leave.

Clean-up after all sales are completed and we have finished eating

WEAR YOUR SOCIETY NAME TAG TO OUR PICNIC

Your Society's Membership Committee no longer collects and holds members' name tags. Each member keeps his or her own GLOS name badge.

Please remember to wear your badge to our Picnic. Let's help everyone greet everyone by name by wearing a name tag. (If you have lost your name tag, kindly let either Dot or Doris know. Dot will prepare a replacement for you.)

Doris Asher, Chair

Dot Barnett

Remember, you may post your orchid photos on our Facebook page.

We are "Greater Lansing Orchid Society." To become a fan of GLOS, click on "join group" and you are in and can post. If you are not on Facebook but would just like to see our page, you can use this link:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Greater-Lansing-Orchid-Society/202834892618?ref=ts>

You can look around, but in order to become a fan, you need to sign up for Facebook.

If you want, you can send your photos to either Pete or Dot, who can post them for you.

GLOS MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES, May 15, 2021 - Submitted by Becky Thayer, Secretary

Pete Ostlund called the meeting to order at 7:00, there were 36 participants attending the Zoom meeting.

Dr. Bayer introduced himself; he is a Professor of Biology at the University of Memphis. He presented an interesting and informative video entitled Dendrobium: Jewels of Southeast Asia and the South Pacific, Part I Section Calypsochilus. There was a robust Q & A at the end of his video. Dr. Bayer kindly offered to send a link to the video so that members can watch it again (check your email for a link)

Announcements:

The election has been tabulated and the officers were approved by unanimous vote:

President – Pete Ostlund

Vice-President – Ioana Sonea

Treasurer – Doris Asher

Secretary – Becky Thayer

Director – Bill Cadman

Calypso editor – Dot Barnett

Away Show Chair - Jerrie Nichols

The second director, Abby Skinner was not up for election this year.

Awards, The awards committee decided not to award an orchidist of the year but chose to give 2 Special Recognition Awards to Dot Barnett and Ioana Sonea for their efforts above and beyond during this trying time. Dot kept us all connected with the Calypso and additional email information. Ioana supervised the Zoom meetings and organized the virtual plant table. They both put in a lot of time and effort and it is appreciated by us all. They will receive a certificate.

Meetings:

The June meeting will be the Great Lakes Judging Center Annual Seminar June 19 & 20. Doris reported that the agenda is:

Saturday June 19

10:00 to 10:20 Welcome

10:20 to 11:15 “Recent Trends in Complex and Novelty Paph Breeding” with Hadley Cash

11:20 to 11:55 “Paphiopedilum lowii” with Mark Whelan

12:00 to 12:55 “Cypripediums Unmasked” with Wayne Roberts

Sunday June 20

10:00 to 10:10 Welcome

10:10 to 10:45 “Tiny Paphs” with Deb Boersma

10:50 to 11:25 “Paphiopedilum venustum: The Pauper Prince of the Himalayas” with Dr. Leslie Ee

11:30 to 11:55 Slipper Q & A Forum

12:00 to 12:55 “Miniature Phragmipediums and Other Lines of Breeding” with Bill Goldner

This is a free Zoom meeting but you must register on the GLJC website at GLJC.org to attend. There will be limited judging after the Zoom meeting, contact Doris for more information at: asherdoris44@gmail.com

July 24 meeting is our annual picnic and plant sale at Granger Meadows Park Lansing from 10am – 2pm watch the Calypso for more information.

August meeting will be in person at the new site on the Second Saturday of the month, watch the Calypso for more information.

September meeting is yet to be determined

October 9 meeting is the All State Meeting. Ioana reported that it is likely to be a Zoom meeting. Watch the Calypso for more details

There was discussion about meetings going forward, All 3 clubs that have been meeting together have enjoyed this format and we hope to continue in some way, possibly by having 4 in-person meetings (possibly including Zoom), 4 joint Zoom meetings (including with GLJC) through out the year. This is all still in the discussion stage, again watch the Calypso for more information

The Virtual Show Table was well represented and there were lively comments and questions and lots of praise.

The meeting was ended at 8:45pm.

GLOS BOARD MEETING MINUTES, JUNE 3, 2021 - Submitted by Becky Thayer, Secretary

This meeting was held by Zoom and there were eight people in attendance: Pete Ostlund, Ioana Sonea, Becky Thayer, Doris Asher, Bill Cadman, Dot Barnett, Dawn Kittle and Abby Skinner.

Pete called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Treasurer's report: Doris gave the treasurer's report:

- For period (4/ 1/21 – 5/28/21) there was a net income of \$216
- Year to date (7/1/20 – 5/28/21) there has been income of \$4,159, expenses of \$3,094.
- Currently under budget \$1,066
- Total assets \$18,966
- A more detailed report can be found elsewhere in the Calypso

Membership Report: The membership report was given by Doris:

- Currently there are 94 members in 83 households.
- We received 10 renewals and 1 new membership since our April Board meeting.

Old Business:

- We reviewed the past meetings; everyone agreed that they were pleased with the speakers and how the meetings went.
- There were only 2 items that will carry over to the new "To Do" list

New Business:

- 1) Future meeting topics/speakers:
 - a) June 19/20 – GLJC slipper presentations
 - b) July 24, 2021 from 10 to 2 – GLOS picnic or Grand Mart
 - c) August 21, 2021 at 7pm – TBD
 - d) September 11, 2021 at 7:00 PM in person at OTCGL – Dr. John Freudenstein – Coralroots and their kin, biology and diversity
 - e) November 13, 2021 at 2:00 PM in person at OTCGL – John Jaworski – Growing Orchids from Seed.
- 2) Picnic / Grand Mart:

After discussion it was decided that we would have a picnic with a potluck lunch. The society will provide ice, water, and hand sanitizer. Dot will draft a memo with the details and send it to the board for approval.
- 3) Finance Committee:

It is time to select the committee and prepare the annual budget. The committee is the Treasurer, President and a member who has not served as a voting board member in the previous twelve months. It was suggested that Tammy Scherer might be interested in serving; Pete will contact her.
- 4) Zoom meetings with other societies:

Pete drew up a chart for future meetings alternating in-person, joint Zoom meetings and special events. The board approved the plan and we will use the chart as a guide starting in January.
- 5) Zoom meetings for GLOS in future:

There was much discussion about how to incorporate Zoom with an in-person meeting. There are many issues that need research and more discussion before a decision can be made. One important question that needs answering is does the membership want this. Pete will incorporate this question in the member survey. Another issue is lack of internet at OTCGL, Ioana will contact the church and ask if they are available and if they have internet access. It was decided that in-person meetings in the summer months (when we are on daylight savings time) would start at 7:00 PM but in the winter month (when we go off daylight savings time) the meetings would start at 2:00 PM.
- 6) 2022 Show Planning
We are planning on having a show Feb. 26 & 27 2022. Ioana will check with MSU about the facility. Doris will contact GLJC about the date. Pete will start contacting vendors in August.
- 7) Doris' request to divest herself of some GLOS items and duties
Doris has asked for someone to take over the meeting set up duties and storage of meeting equipment and supplies. Doris will write an article for the Calypso explaining the issue and asking for volunteers to take over the duties. It will also be a topic for discussion at the picnic.
- 8) Member Survey
Pete has drawn up a meetings format and topics survey for the membership. He will edit and re-send to the board for approval.

GLOS BOARD MEETING MINUTES - continued

To do list

1. Pete and Ioana will coordinate to assess Zoom options for OTCGL
2. Pete will re-draft the member survey and send to board
3. Dot will draft a picnic memo and send to board
4. Pete will ask Tammy to help with the finance committee
5. Ioana will check with MSU about the show hall availability
6. Ioana will check with the church on its availability and internet,
7. Pete will start to contact vendors in August
8. Doris will contact GLJC about our show dates.
9. Doris will write an article for the Calypso about meeting set up duties and volunteers

The next Board meeting will be August 5, 2021 via Zoom.

The meeting ended at 8:23 PM

GREAT LAKES JUDGING CENTER ORCHID SEMINAR ZOOM WEBINAR 2021

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the Great Lakes Judging Center decided to hold its annual Seminar as a virtual Zoom webinar on June 19-20. 138 people registered and at least 98 of them logged in on either Saturday or Sunday to hear the six hours of presentations on slipper orchids. The event was free of charge to attendees.



Because there was no opportunity for our usual fund-raising auction, the Great Lakes judges offered a set of beautiful note cards featuring award photos submitted by the four photographers from the Center: Lynn O'Shaughnessy, Katie Payeur, Ed Cott, and Mei Ling Clemens. Some of the photographers altered the photographs to add an artistic flair – the set of eight note cards costs \$15, which includes shipping. You can contact Doris Asher for more information or to place an order.

Although we have not yet set the topic for next June, for sure, the Seminar will take place on June 18-19, 2022, and GLOS uses the program in lieu of our regular Saturday meeting. Please plan to join us – put it on your calendar.

Doris Asher

Congratulations to GLOS Members: Bill Cadman & Dot Barnett; to Cincinnati Judge Stephen Benjamin, and to GLJC Chairman Dennis Seffernick for their June 2021 AOS awards!



Bill Cadman:
Paphiopedilum Saiun
'Midsommar'



Dennis Seffernick:
Coelogyne South Carolina
'Matthew's Mind Melt'

Photos courtesy of
Lynn O'Shaughnessy



Dot Barnett:
Paphiopedilum Wossner
Black Wings 'Wacousta'



Stephen Benjamin:
Paphiopedilum
Deperle 'OK'

NOTES FOR TREASURER'S REPORT GLOS JUNE 3rd - Doris Asher, Treasurer

Current period April 1 – May 28

- a. Net income of \$216
- b. Income -- \$922
 - i. Donations -- \$522 (includes bequest from Julie Bishop estate of \$500)
 - ii. Reimbursement of speakers' fees -- \$200
 - iii. Dues -- \$152
 - iv. Bank interest from 9 savings CD's -- \$41
- c. Expenses -- \$706
 - i. Administrative Expenses -- \$406 (includes \$270 for liability insurance, \$50 for copying, \$47 for checks)
 - ii. April and May meeting speakers' fees -- \$300

Year-to-Date July 1, 2020 – May 28, 2021

Note: This report completes most of our fiscal year, which ends on June 30th. We have only the month of June to go.

- a. Net income of \$1,066
- b. Income -- \$4,159
 - i. Grand Orchid Mart -- \$1,156
 - ii. Donations -- \$1,041
 - iii. Dues -- \$844
 - iv. Speakers' Fees (Reimbursement) -- \$360
 - v. All-State Meeting Reimbursement from Societies -- \$328
 - vi. Donations for Paper Calypso's -- \$219
 - vii. Credit Union interest -- \$210
- c. Expenses -- \$3,094
 - i. Speaker's fees (@\$1,325) August, September, October, November 2020, January 2021, March, April, May 2021 meetings: Picnic Pavilion rental)
 - ii. 2021 Show ribbons and trophies -- \$854
 - iii. Administrative Expenses -- \$565
 - iv. Donations -- \$350 (\$150 to GLJC, \$100 to Michigan Nature Association, \$100 to Nature Conservancy)
- d. Total Assets = \$18,966, of which \$12,974 is in 9 CD's with varying maturity dates; checking account has \$5,987

Budget Reconciliation Year-to-Date July 1, 2020 – May 28, 2021

- a. Actual income = \$4,159 (compared with budgeted amount of \$2,411)
- b. Actual expenses = \$3,094 (compared with budgeted amount of \$2,551)
- c. Under budget = \$1,066

VOLUNTEER NEEDED (from Doris Asher)

I am not sure how it happened that I have taken on so much on behalf of GLOS, but I would like to divest myself of one of my GLOS responsibilities.

Specifically, I would like to turn over the responsibility for setting up our meeting room to someone else. This involves storing our meeting equipment and supplies as well as our food supplies, including all of the GLOS food supplies we use at the Show.

I want to continue with my work as our Treasurer and Membership Chair – I would greet everyone as he/she arrives at our meeting, deal with our name badges, sell raffle tickets, and take care of our silent auction.

I would continue to store all of our things relative to setting up our displays at away shows plus things such as skirting for our own Show – just not the things related to our Show's Hospitality function.

Is this a task that you can take on (storage of meeting equipment, storage of food supplies for meetings and our show, and helping set up our meeting room)?

Thanks so much for considering this need. Please phone or email me if you would like more information or if you would like to see how much material you would need to store.

If there is someone who is willing to assume this responsibility, I would be grateful.

Doris Asher – 517-332-0004; asherdoris44@gmail.com

MEET NEW GLOS MEMBER MOLLY BACON

Hi. I am Molly Bacon,

Though I am a very new GLOS member of only a few weeks, I am not new to orchids even though I just finished with a 15 year non-orchid break. About four months ago, I decided to attempt growing orchids again and now I am up to around 40.

I have always loved plants and gardening and even considered majoring in botany for a while. I did not and ended up with a career in my other love, Information Technology (IT). It seems I am always trying to grow something plant related, but mostly unusual items and not "everyone grows it" things. After recently completing my Extension Master Gardener training, I realized I had really been growing things blindly without much good gardening knowledge at all.

My interest in orchids began in the early 1980's when I had a bouquet with Phalaenopsis in it. I was in Southern California and acquired a few orchid plants and grew them on a porch. Unfortunately, I do not remember the varieties. In 1985, my job transferred me to Georgia. The company packed and moved me and flew me to the new location. Consequently, I boxed up my small collection of orchids, included a maximum- minimum thermometer, and sent them on the moving van across the country. Unfortunately, it was December and the van arrived in town on Christmas Eve and sat at the terminal for two days. It was one of the few times a year when the temperature falls below freezing in that part of Georgia. A few plants did survive, and they spent their time in an extra bathroom.

After only a couple years in Georgia, I was transferred to western Tennessee. Here is that same bunch of orchids when I first arrived there.



I then found a local young man who was building and selling small Quonset hut-shaped greenhouses. After considerable reading about greenhouses and growing in them, I pointed out some enhancements I would like in the greenhouse I was purchasing. He obliged me and I had my first greenhouse. I added a thermostatically controlled exhaust fan, a humidifier, a heater, some benches and soon I had a greenhouse full of orchids.



I joined the local orchid society and, of course, through plant swaps and sales, I acquired even more plants, learned a great deal, met orchid people and we still keep in touch.

Six years later, I moved back to Georgia and this time bought a larger, commercially built greenhouse. I was able to grow and bloom some plants that won ribbons at some shows.

Unfortunately, after about 8 years, the surrounding trees of the heavily wooded countryside where I lived had grown and over-shaded my greenhouse, which totally changed the growing environment. Combine that change with spending over a year on a high-profile project where I worked 12-14 hours a day at least 6 days a week, and most of my orchids were neglected and suffered. I decided to give away all the plants, the supplies, and the greenhouse. At that point, I was only growing a small amount of container vegetables in the front yard.



Fast forward to retirement in 2017. I moved "back home". I grew up in Michigan but had been gone since 1965. I currently live out in the country, on a small lake, between Gladwin and Houghton Lake, which is about 100+ miles from most of you in Lansing and the surrounding areas. I am discouraged with the thought of trying or being able to afford and maintain a greenhouse in the cold of Michigan. After a couple of years, I decided I could take this unused room with three small south-facing windows, no added heat or A/C, and create a "garden" room. I would be able to control the temperature, light and humidity using a heater, humidifier, additional grow lights, and an oscillating fan.



While growing orchids in the greenhouses in the past, I also had a few citrus trees in containers. So, I first decided I might try the citrus to see how that would work. I have kept them alive but have not had any real success with setting fruit or even getting blooms on most of them. I also have a couple of fig trees and actually had a fig this year, until I "cooked" it, along with the few lemons I finally had and many of the citrus trees. I was gone for two weeks mid-May during probably the hottest period we've had so far this year. My garden room got up to 90 for 5 days in a row. There was no one around to come open a window or add extra water to the plants. Gee, who would have expected that in mid-May?



After two years of playing with plants in my garden room, I just had to try some orchids. This winter Romence Gardens, in Grand Rapids, got a shipment of orchids and I had to go to buy some. It started with those 6 (a couple of paphs, dendrobiums, oncidium variants, and a phaius) and now, four months later, I have almost 6 times that many.



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MEET GLOS MEMBER PETE OSTLUND

Pete's Orchid Growing Adventure:

I bought my first orchid in 1995 (or a year or 2 earlier) at a GLOS orchid show. It was *Phragmipedium Sedenii* from Owen Neil's Orchids (see pic). I still have that orchid and the original tag. I bought a couple more orchids the following year at the GLOS show, and then started visiting Porter's Orchids in Grand Ledge (they were located not very far from my house). I would go there regularly and always find something new. Dot and Brenda worked there, and they encouraged me to come to the GLOS general meetings. Before too long, I was attending meetings and hooked on orchids.



I grew orchids inside my house until 2016. I was constantly figuring out ways to have more orchids in my living room (I made shelves, moved furniture, etc.). I had an addition built in 2000, and with that I had a room designed just for my orchids. With south and west exposure, 3 shelving units, a humidifier and overhead fan I thought I was all set (see pic). I managed to get around 200 orchids into that growing area. Still there were orchids I would see that I wanted, but I didn't have the space for them.



Dot grew orchids inside too, with orchids crammed into multiple areas. Then she built a greenhouse. Boy, did I envy her! I thought it would be nice if one day I could have a greenhouse. Around 2015 I finally decided my dreams of having a greenhouse had waited long enough. I still had several years of work before I retired, and I knew I could afford it to build it at that time. So I started down that path and soon construction was underway. Not long after that, I got a puppy. Having a puppy and greenhouse under construction was enough for me to say "Time to Retire,f" so I gave my notice at work (2 or 3 years earlier than I planned).



My collection has grown and changed over the years. Cattleyas, phrags and paphs used to be 75% of my collection. In the last year Dendrobiums have clearly taken over the top spot. Most of them are species. I've been rearranging my greenhouse once again trying to find the right balance of space, light and watering for the orchids I have.

I dabble with trying to grow (and hopefully bloom) many genera. To me growing orchids is just a big on-going experiment. I like the challenge of growing something I haven't tried before, or something I failed at before.



And in the process I learn something new. I also like to experiment with growing the same orchid multiple ways. I have dendrobium *canaliculatum* (which I obtained from a flask) mounted on cedar, plastic and tree fern, as well as growing in clay pellets. I think the tree fern and clay pellets have been equally successful.



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MEET MOLLY BACON continued

Though phals first attracted me, I have stayed away from them since they seem to be everywhere. I especially like small species, so I have been mostly buying those lately. Where do I get them? So far, it has been from different online sources, some commercial growers, eBay, and Etsy.

Though I just said I could control the light, it is my biggest challenge. I am trying to figure out what's what and needed in lighting and how to determine what I am actually providing. I even asked a lighting question on the latest AOS Greenhouse Chat and got back, "I cannot really answer it, but the Orchids Magazine will have a 5-part series on lighting starting shortly." So, if anyone out there has some advice on determining lighting with indoor growing, please send it my way. I need something more than my current guesstimate and gut-feelings.

Finally, after watching Jill Wood's Wardian cases presentation on GVOS's virtual orchid show a few months ago, I have acquired a couple of front-opening reptile cases and am trying to create my own cases for the species. Of course, adding those will require rearranging the whole garden room. So, for right now, the orchids are all poorly packed together as seen here.



I want to add, that having a variety of orchids with different growing conditions, made me create a spreadsheet to keep track of all of their needs. This has led to using wooden skewers, which help me to measure moisture in the media, and then adding coded flags with indicators of light, temperature, and water. That way I can keep track of which ones need to be kept moist or dry out, and what light-level they need. Maybe this suggestion will help someone else.

Being so far away, I will have to pick and choose when I will be able to travel and make meetings. However, I do hope to meet some of you soon.

Photos courtesy of Molly Bacon

MEET PETE OSTLUND continued



You should note that I've killed multiple den. canaliculatum in the past, so I'm quite happy with my recent success.

I also took a liking to orchids that go dormant in the winter (catesetums, habenarias, cynorkis, etc.). I have well over 50 of these types. I get a break from taking care of them during the winter, and then I have the anticipation of the new growth starting in the spring. Many of the dendrobiums also need much less care in the winter (many species require a cool and drier winter rest in order to bloom).

In the last couple of years I've been growing orchids from flasks. When I tried growing from flask many years ago, I failed miserably. Lately I'm having good success. I think the greenhouse conditions help with that, but my knowledge about caring for seedlings has improved too.



Phrag. humboldtii 'Fortuna'

Photos courtesy of Pete Ostlund



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Since this year's Great Lakes Judging Center seminar was virtual, they decided that, in lieu of an auction, note cards will be offered for sale to help raise a little money for the Great Lakes Judging Center. Excited? Wait until you see the note cards!

The GLJC center has four photographers (Katie Payeur, Ed Cott, Mei Ling Clemens and Lynn O'Shaughnessy) and each were asked to submit photos to support this endeavor. Two were selected from each photographer. Some are artsy, some are award photos...and all are amazing! Have we tempted you yet?

Ordering:
 There are no order forms. Send your order request to gljc.judges@gmail.com. Include your name, your address, your contact information and whether you intend to pay by U.S. check or by PayPal Friends and Family (sometimes called Gift Donation by PP). You will receive a reply confirming your order and indicating the address to mail your check or the PayPal account. Dave Miller will be keeping track of orders.

AN IN-PERSON ORCHID EVENT!

The Miami Valley Orchid Society and the Cincinnati Orchid Society are putting on their first "Ohio Valley Orchid Fest" in Dayton, OH, on August 27-29. In addition, the Mid-America Orchid Congress is meeting at that time. The website: www.ohiovalleyorchidfest.com is chock-full of information about the event including the registration information and the list of vendors selling there.

If you have questions, please contact Doris Asher (asherdoris44@gmail.com).

Ohio Valley Orchid Fest 2021

August 27-29

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
 4865 Wilmington Pike
 Kettering, Ohio
 (Corner of Rahn and Wilmington)

Join us for a weekend of Orchids, Food and Fun for the Entire Family!

- Orchid Show
- Orchid Sales - Orchids, Supplies and Related Items!
- AOS Judging and Ribbon Judging
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- Auctions
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- Fun Family Activities

Make it a Long Weekend Vacation!
 Other Things to Do While in Town:
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 Email us and we can help with ideas!



Event By:



The End Page

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Please submit this form with your check (payable to GLOS) to Doris Asher, 277 N Hagadorn Road, East Lansing, MI 48823