



ANN ARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2021 / VOLUME 29 / ISSUE 02



IN MEMORY OF ALEXANDER CHALLIS

AAOS member Judy Lobato forwarded the following information on to the club about a donation made to St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Alexander Challis' memory.

She says:

For any new member who did not know Alex Challis, he had a MS in biology from UM, was an AOS judge and president of AAOS when he died unexpectedly in June 2017.

Alex did everything last minute but it was done well and it enhanced our meetings and displays. His knowledge of plants and orchids was extensive. He could do an orchid talk for a missing speaker whenever needed. He loved to shop for plants and knew where to find the best deal anywhere in southeast Michigan. His van was always full of plants and planting supplies.

We all have so many stories about Alex and how he 'helped' us. There have been many times since his death that many of us have thought 'Alex would know what to do or what that plant is.' when we've had a question or problem.

After Alex died his parents gave me many of his orchid supplies. which were sold at our meetings. Money that was collected was sent to his church, St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church in Scio Township, in Alex's memory to be used for their iconography fund. Alex's father Michael heads up the committee for St. Nicolas so it is especially gratifying to send the donation for their fund.

Alex Challis is gone but he is unforgettable.

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September 2021 Meeting Minutes

John Freudenstein gave a great talk about the genus *Corallorhiza*.



- Corms are just underground pseudobulbs and are modified stems.
- Orchids in general are parasites of mycorrhizal fungi; all orchids parasitize fungi as seedlings; some like the *Corallorhizae* continue to do so as mature plants.
- Leaflessness has independently evolved in orchids many times.
- Based on DNA evidence, some orchid populations in Nova Scotia are closely related to others in Mexico and/or Appalachia. One explanation of this is that a long time ago these populations were contiguous, but due to climate change became separated.
- Some *Corallorhizae* photosynthesize and others don't.



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October 2021 Meeting Topic

2021 All State Orchid Societies Meeting

Hosted by the following Orchid Societies:

*Ann Arbor, Grand Valley, Greater Lansing, Kalamazoo/Dunes, Michigan,
Northwestern Michigan, Saginaw Valley*

Oct 9th, 2021 at 2:00 PM



Olaf Gruss
Grassau, Germany

**"News in Paphiopedilum,
Phragmipedium and Selenipedium"**

ZOOM MEETING LINK AND INFORMATION:

LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89812883502?pwd=ZWZKWElSajVCNSszeGI4a25kRWU2Zz09>

Meeting ID 898 1288 3502 Passcode 447220

Olaf Gruss was born in 1948, and after his training as a laboratory assistant studied chemistry and geography for the magisterium at vocational schools. Today he lives in Grassau, southern Bavaria south of Chiemsee between Munich and Salzburg.

Since 1980 he cultivates a wide variety of orchids and is interested in Phragmipedium, Paphiopedilum and Phalaenopsis. He wrote a variety of articles on species and their hybrids in magazines that were published in Germany, USA, Italy, Brazil, Japan, France and the Netherlands. He also wrote eight books about orchids. His last one about the genus Phalaenopsis in cooperation with two Chinese scientists will be published in 2020.

Today he cultivates orchids only on the window sill.



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AAOS Meeting Schedule for 2021 - 2022

PLEASE NOTE! Be sure to check the Day of the Week for the meeting schedule. It may vary from the standard AAOS Sunday meeting day.

MEETING DATE	DAY OF WEEK	TIME	LOCATION	SPEAKER + TOPIC
October 9, 2021 * All State Orchid Societies Meeting	Saturday	2pm	Zoom	Olaf Gruss will speak about "Phragmipediums"
November 14, 2021	Sunday	2pm	Matthaei?	John Jaworski will speak about Habenarias
December 12, 2021	Sunday	Noon - 5pm	Paige's Home	Holiday Party! 8620 Pine Cross Lane Ann Arbor, 48103
January 16, 2022	Sunday	2pm	TBD	TBD
February 13, 2022	Sunday	2pm	TBD	TBD
March 13, 2022	Sunday	2pm	TBD	Eric Sauer, River Valley Orchids, "Maxillaria—more than just tenuifolia"
March 18-20, 2022	Friday - Sunday	AAOS ORCHID FESTIVAL at MATTHAEI BOTANICAL GARDENS (hooray!)		
April 10, 2022	Sunday	2pm	TBD	Orchids 101 - Hands on demonstrations on repotting and other aspects of orchid care
May 15, 2022	Sunday	2pm	TBD	TBD

AAOS meets September - May of each year, excluding December.



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Did You Know? - Learn to Speak Orchid!

There is so much to learn about orchids - one of the reasons I believe the hobby is so enjoyable! Aside from growing culture and supplies, learning to pronounce their names is an art form all itself.

The American Orchid Society has you covered.

On their Orchids A to Z page, you will not only find detailed information about orchids but also an audio clip on how to pronounce it! Very handy for learning to speak orchid!

<https://www.aos.org/orchids/orchids-a-to-z.aspx>

The screenshot shows the American Orchid Society website. The header includes the logo and navigation links. The breadcrumb trail is: Home > All About Orchids > Orchids A to Z > Orchids A to Z - Letter A > Aerangis. The main heading is 'Aerangis'. Below it, the text 'Reichenbach f. 1865' is visible. The 'Pronunciation:' section is highlighted with a red box and contains the text: 'air-ANG-giss (click on the name to hear it spoken)', 'Tribe: Vandeae', and 'Subtribe: Aerangidinae'. A red arrow points from the text above to this section. Below the pronunciation section, there is a paragraph of text starting with 'My acquaintance with **Aerangis** began in the Kenya highlands early in the 1960's. Although I cannot remember the exact date, I can remember the plant that made such a striking impression on me. I came face to face with it growing as a low-level epiphyte in a dense thicket of trees and shrubs near the river at about 8,000 feet above sea level, just north of the Equator. Several inflorescences were in full flower; their pristine white blooms with



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CALL FOR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES AND SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Have something interesting to tell the group? It can be *anything* orchid related!

- Learn something new?
- Have a tip or trick that has improved your orchid growing?
- Have a favorite orchid you are proud of and want to share?
- Know of an orchid event that the group would like to know about?
- Have you finally bloomed an orchid that has been taking up space for years without doing anything?
- Need advice about an orchid?

All of these are great items to include in our newsletter. 😊

Here is the deadline schedule for getting the information to me.
Information can be emailed to lynnkrawczyk@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER MONTH	INFO SUBMISSION DEADLINE
November 2021	November 1, 2021
December 2021	December 1, 2021
January 2022	January 5, 2022
February 2022	February 1, 2022
March 2022	March 1, 2022
April 2022	April 1, 2022
May 2022	May 1, 2022



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PHOTO GALLERY OF THE MONTH

We all take tons of photos of our orchids when they are in bloom! Fellow orchid enthusiasts understand the excitement and thrill when blooms open. This new feature of the newsletter seeks to showcase orchid blooms from AAOS members.

It doesn't matter how old the photo is (or if the orchid has long gone to the big garden in the sky). Send the photo to Lynn at lynnkrawczyk@gmail.com by the



date shown on the newsletter Submission Deadline schedule and it will appear in the next newsletter.

Please provide the orchid's full name if you have it.

Since this is a new feature, the October gallery features AAOS's President Shane Ginnard showing off a new plant he recently acquired. (This photo was posted in the AAOS Facebook group.)

**NOVEMBER'S ORCHID
GALLERY THEME:
DENDROBIUM**

**Send Lynn images of
Dendrobiums you have
bloomed! ☺**



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AAOS ONLINE

Find the Ann Arbor Orchid Society online! Links below:

Website	http://www.aaosonline.org/
Facebook Group	https://www.facebook.com/groups/annarb/orchids/

Please note: The Facebook Group is private. This means that you will have to request to join it.



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AAOS Officers and Volunteers for 2021 - 2022

POSITION	NAME	EMAIL	PHONE
President	Shane Ginnard	sginnard@emich.edu	(734) 882-9999
Vice President			
Treasurer / Membership	Vivian Lin	vivlin1127@gmail.com	(734) 834-4367
Secretary	Paige Hartman	GEHartman1@msn.com	(734) 846-7864
Director	Michael Weber	meweber@bgsu.edu	(734) 429-2034
Director	Cynthia Yao	cyao4742@gmail.com	(734) 436-8141
Past President	Abby Skinner	skinne11@msu.edu	
Hospitality	Michael Weber		
Reception	Dottie Winter & Michael Weber		Dottie: (734) 761-5859
Newsletter	Lynn Krawczyk	lynnkrawczyk@gmail.com	(734) 673 - 4822
Webmaster	Shane Ginnard		
Festival	Abby Skinner		
Shows	Shane Ginnard		
Programs	Vivian Lin		
Publicity/Recruitment			

ANN ARBOR ORCHID SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Check the box for each line that you do NOT want published in
the Membership Directory.

Address: _____ ☐

City/State/Zip: _____ ☐

Phone (home): _____ ☐

Phone (mobile): _____ ☐

Email: _____ ☐

Please check
membership type: ☐ Individual (\$20)
☐ Household (\$25)

☐ Senior* Individual (\$15)
☐ Senior* Household (\$20)
* Senior rates apply to individuals
70 and over

The Newsletter is provided via email to all members at no additional cost. If you would like a printed paper copy mailed to your home, please donate \$10 to help cover costs.

☐ I would like a printed paper copy of the newsletter mailed to me. (\$10)

Membership form and payment can be brought to any in person meeting or mailed to Vivian Lin at 710 Watershed Drive / Ann Arbor, MI 48105. Payment can be made by check or by Venmo.

- Make checks payable to Ann Arbor Orchid Society. Please include a printed membership form.
- Venmo payment option: @AnnArborOrchidSociety. Please email your membership information to Vivian at vivlin1127@gmail.com

AAOS MEMBER SURVEY – To help us provide meetings that are of interest to you, please take a moment to let us know your thoughts on the questions below. You can write your responses on the back of this form or email them to Vivian at vivlin1127@gmail.com. Thank you!

- 1) Would you characterize yourself as a beginner grower, an advanced grower or something in between?
- 2) How long have you been growing orchids? What kinds of orchids do you grow?
- 3) Where do you grow most of your orchids? (For example, windowsill, outdoors in summer, greenhouse, under artificial lighting, etc.)
- 4) What types of orchids would you like to hear more about?
- 5) What other orchid-related topics would you like to learn about?