



The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society,
the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress



Newsletter Editor: Mark Reinke

March, 2012

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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CELEBRATING 65 YEARS 1947-2012

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING

8:00 pm Monday, March 12, 2012
Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

SPEAKER: Harry Phillips, Andy's Orchids

TOPIC: "Marvelous Miniatures, Gems of the Orchid World"

Harry Phillips was born in San Diego, California on July 9, 1953. His father taught him to appreciate plants at an early age. In January of 1963, Harry's brother Andy Phillips (of Andy's Orchids fame) was born, and six years later is when it all started. They were both exposed to exotic plants and flowers at an early age, but when Andy became interested and later obsessed with orchids, Harry somehow resisted becoming involved with them for as long as he could. He assisted Andy in his passion by building his first two green houses, and Andy would reward him with a hybrid that was in bloom, tell him to bring it back when it goes out of bloom, and exchange it for one in bloom. Well this would only last about a year until he decided that he wanted to keep one and get it to re-bloom, the beginning of the end.

In 1986 Harry, with his soon to be wife Leslie moved with Andy and his orchid collection to Encinitas, California. Being constantly exposed to all of Andy's orchids was beginning to have an effect on Harry. Shortly after, Andy left for four months in Costa Rica, and placed Harry in charge of the collection. When Andy returned he found that Harry had not killed too many plants and managed to become even more addicted. Andy, now feeling more confident about leaving his orchid collection under Harry's care, began to plan a cycling trip through South America, which ended up lasting two years. After that it was all over for Harry -- he was completely addicted to orchids.

Harry assisted Andy part time for 10 years, going full time around the end of 1998. His interest in miniature orchids began several years ago while constantly being exposed to Andy's minis. He decided he would try some for himself, and that was the way the story starts. Harry would like to share some of his thoughts on growing and choosing the right mini for your conditions, or creating a growing area with miniatures in mind. Once you get to know and appreciate them, miniatures will be a larger part of your collection.



Leptotes pauloensis is a wonderful miniature Brazilian species, described in 1833, but only recently available in commerce.

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SHOW TIME: ORCHIDS

March is here and it is almost SHOW TIME. Plans are well underway, judges, ribbons, rosettes, and trophies.

Vendors and exhibitors are in gear.

Volunteers have signed up.

You are grooming your plants for their debut or return performance.

Name tags and supplies are being collected.

If you are feeling left out and want to join the fun just volunteer.

Remember you get in the Garden free when you wear your name badge or I will have a volunteer badge for you.

Be sure to tell your friends and neighbors about the show and encourage them to attend.

There will be wonderful exhibits, awesome plants, and goodies to purchase;

Orchids 101, repotting demos, raffles and more Orchids.

To volunteer or for questions please contact Barbara Barnett bkbarnett1@windstream.net.

Time:

3/8/12 –Thursday 9 to 9 set up and bring your plants to Day Hall.

3/9/12 - Friday 9:30 to 5 (exhibits not available until noon)

8 to 9 breakfast for Judges and Clerks

9 Ribbon Judging Starts

12 Judge's Luncheon

1 AOS judging

3/10/12 –Saturday 9:30 to 5

12 AOS Education

1 AOS Judging

3/11/12 –Sunday 9:30 to 4 Daylight Savings Time

4 Break down and you must pick up your plants

Events Out and About

March

Mar 10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

March 12 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Harry Phillips, Andy's Orchids
"Marvelous Miniature Orchids"

April

April 9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Troy Meyers – Meyer's Conservatory
"Conservation Through Propagation"

April 14 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

May

May 5 – Greengrowers visit to Marble Branch Farms, Walhalla, SC. 12:00 noon to 4 pm.

May 12 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

May 14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Ivan Portilla – Ecuagenera
"Native Orchids of Ecuador"

Upcoming Orchid Shows!

Mar 9-11, 2012 – Atlanta Orchid Show
Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Day Hall

Mar 23-25, 2012 – Deep South Orchid Society Show – Savannah Mall, Savannah, GA

Mar 30-Apr 1, 2012 – Greater Pensacola Orchid Society Show, Pensacola, FL

Mar 31-Apr 1, 2012 – Western North Carolina Orchid Society Show – NC Arboretum at Bent Creek, Asheville, NC



NEW SOCIETY LOGO UNVEILED NEW WEBSITE DEBUTS SOON!

Last year the Board of Trustees began looking for a fresh, new logo design for the society, and to revamp our website to make it more current and user friendly. With the help of Sharp Hue Company, both of those tasks are nearing completion! Our new logo appears above and at the masthead of this issue! The new site should be online sometime during the first weekend in March. It is hosted in Wordpress for easy and frequent updating and you will find it vastly improved from the old site, with a great look, easy navigation and much more content. Watch for it soon!

2012 DUES FINAL REMINDER!

Annual membership dues are past due after the March meeting. Dues are \$30 for one member of a household or \$45 includes all household members. Checks may be made payable to "The Atlanta Orchid Society, Inc.", and given to the Treasurer, Clark Weisner

You may also renew online at www.atlantaorchidsociety.org or mail your payment to:

Clark Weisner
 1130 Piedmont Ave. NE
 Unit 707
 Atlanta, GA 30309

(When renewing online choose the "Membership" tab, then click on the "Join/Renew" button)

JOIN THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

12 issues of Orchids, the Society's monthly full color magazine chock full of insightful articles and tempting ads for plants and supplies.

10% off on purchases from the Society's Bookstore and Orchid Emporium. Reduced or free admission to participating botanical gardens.

For a limited time, if you join for two years you will also get a \$30 gift certificate (good on an order of \$100 or more) at any one of 13 commercial growers who advertise in *Orchids*. **JOIN TODAY.**

Single Membership 1 year \$65, 2 years \$125
Student Membership 1 year \$40, 2 years \$75

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

Minutes of the Atlanta Orchid Society February 13, 2012 Monthly Meeting

1. Genie Smith brought the meeting to order.
2. Speaker Mark Reinke gave an informative talk about pests in orchids. Effective products and treatments were presented.
3. David Mellard outlined growing tips for growing in Atlanta. Water, fertilizer and Epson Salt usage were discussed.
4. Lynne Gollob demonstrated the repotting of a *Phaenopsis*.
5. Maureen Pulignano presented a variety of fungicides.
6. Barbara Barnett announced the need for more volunteers for next month's show.
7. Clark Weisner gave the treasurer's report.
-Dues will be late after March.

Jessica Wackerman - Secretary

President's Message

As the orchid show is peeking right around the corner, thanks to everyone for making it possible and running smoothly. Trophies have all been sponsored, and the Show Chair has been working tirelessly so that every detail is on target. There may still be time to pre-order from participating vendors, and it would be wise to do so. Getting ready for the show is hard work and with all of us pulling together, it's guaranteed to be another big success. I'm proud of all of you for being a very important part of the process. See you at the show!

Geni Smith



A panel of experienced members led discussion on orchid culture at the February meeting

Monthly Ribbon Judging Rule Change

At the most recent meeting the ATLOS Board voted to adopt a rule that members should have a plant in their possession for a minimum of 30 days before entering it in our monthly ribbon judging. *No newly purchased plants please!*

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners February 2012

Notes and comments by Mark Alan Reinke

Photos courtesy of Cheryl Bruce

Class I – Cattleya Group



Blue – Cattleya Circle Spirit 'MBF' – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

Cattleya Circle Spirit is a 2003 introduction by Frank Fordyce in the "spirit" of his very successful 1998 cross *C. Circle of Life*. The parentage is very similar, with the earlier cross being *C. Culminant* x *C. coccinea*, and the later one *C. Culminant* x *C. Seagulls Apricot*, which, itself is three-fourths *C. coccinea*. From that species both inherit beautiful full, round flowers with overlapping segments and spectacular color blends, but both also a very weak flower stem, requiring intricate staking and training if the flowers are to present themselves at their best when exhibited. Both are also very compact growers, with flowers quite large for the size of the plant. One trait that *C. Circle Spirit* possesses that is an improvement over *C. Circle*

of Life, is the way the buds develop on new growths. The latter tends to produce buds inside a developing new growth without a bloom sheath, creating an ideal environment for water to become trapped and rot the buds if one does not strip away the encasing bract from around the pseudobulb prematurely. In our greenhouse, with many plants to tend, we often fail to notice developing buds on *C. Circle of Life* until it is too late and rot has already set in. Fortunately, at least, the plants bloom often. But with *C. Circle Spirit*, the buds wait for new growths to mature and normally develop in small bloom sheaths, protecting them until they are large enough to succeed without manual interference. The beauty of the blooms tends to overshadow the plant's faults and we have used this orchid frequently as a parent, trying to choose a mate that will continue the outstanding form and colors, yet bring a better spiking habit, all without losing the ability to bloom twice or more per year. This is not at an easy goal to achieve, I should add!

All hybrids with a large dose of *C. coccinea* tend to have numerous fine roots that are very sensitive to rot in waterlogged media and ultimately succeed best in baskets if you can control the humidity or in pots with very large and open media that is allowed to dry between each thorough watering. Ignore the fact that in the wild *C. coccinea* tends to grow on wet mossy branches in cloud forests and in theory should always stay slightly damp. Try as you might, you cannot duplicate the constant air movement and buoyant air quality they experience in the wild. Here in the muggy Southeast, keeping these hybrids constantly damp will ultimately result in failure. When you choose to grow in a pot, you must re-pot at the first hint of the media breaking down or they will decline quickly and often irrevocably. This applies to direct hybrids of *C. coccinea*, as well as those derived from its primary hybrids such as *C. Beaufort* and *C. Psyche*, *C. Orpetii* and the like.

Red – Cattleya Mango Spice 'MBF Perfection' - Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

White – Cattleya Yellow Warbler 'MBF Cardinal' - Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Ribbons Presented

Class III – Dendrobium Group



Blue – *Dendrobium tetragonum* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

Dendrobium tetragonum, the “Common Spider Orchid,” is native to Southeastern Australia, including habitats in the vicinity of Sydney. It is most often found in moist, shady gullies and ravines with good air movement and these facts should give you clues on how to best grow this fascinating species. The typically slender, pendulous stems thicken just below the leaves to a bulblike portion that is distinctly four angled in cross section, thus the species name. The spidery blossoms are a mix of white, purple, green and yellow, and can be produced a few at a time over an extended winter bloom season. They are often under two inches in total spread, but can exceed four inches in the finest forms. Mounted culture tends to suit this species best, though many discourage the use of tree fern plaques, which tend to hold too much moisture at the roots, causing rot. Plants need plenty of water during the growing season, with somewhat less in the short days of winter, but do not enjoy staying dry for extended periods. The intrigue of this orchid has led to a number of hybrids, though few are available outside its native Australia. The most successful crosses, in terms of showy results, pair it with *Dendrobium speciosum* and related species.

Red – *Dendrobium Andree* Millar – Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

Red – *Dendrobium Mini Snowflake* - Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

White – *Dendrobium thysiflorum* – Laurel Burrows

Class IV – Epidendrum Group



Blue – *Encyclia patens* (*E. odoritissima*) – David Johnston

The current accepted name for this species is *Encyclia patens*. That said, *Encyclia* is a genus containing many similar looking species, and even with the recent work of Withner and others, much remains to be done to fully and correctly sort these plants out. While the plant exhibited looks like many, but not all, of the available photos of the species, it lacks, according to David Johnston, the characteristic strong fragrance. We once had this same form in our collection and spent a lot of time trying to discover what it might be if it is not the true *E. patens*. But we never came up with a satisfactory alternative among the species described. *E. patens* occurs in the coastal mountains of Brazil from Rio de Janeiro to Sao Paulo and vicinity, where the climate is subtropical rainforest, with a somewhat drier and cooler winter season. There is a single hybrid of

E. patens called *E. Red December*, registered in 1998 by Arnold Klehm, which combines it with *E. diota* (possibly *E. atrorubens* given the reference to red in its name) and *E. cordigera*. As a group, *Encyclia* tend to show the best results when grown in baskets that give them perfect drainage, with bright diffused light and good air circulation.

Red – *Epidendrum coronatum* – Lynn Gollob

White – *Dinema polybulbon* – Walter Echols

Class V – *Oncidium* Group



**Blue – *Oncostele* Wildcat 'Bloody Red,'
AM/AOS – Lynne Gollob**

Since its introduction in 1992 most people have known the many fine forms of this famous Rod McLellan hybrid as *Colmanara* Wildcat. *Colmanara* is the genetic combination of *Miltonia* + *Odontoglossum* + *Oncidium*. However, taxonomic research and genetic studies have resulted in two of the species in the background of this orchid being reassigned to different genera, so that now it is classified under *Oncostele*, the combination of *Oncidium* + *Rhyncostele*. Whatever you call it, *Ons.* Wildcat is an outstanding orchid, with dozens of awarded cultivars in spectacular colors, many of which resulted from chance mutations during

mass reproduction via tissue culture. It is not at all unusual to see 40 or more 2 inch+ striking flowers on a single inflorescence, often all facing the same direction for added impact when properly staked. The mix of species in this orchid's background make it quite adaptable to a range of temperatures and light exposure, with dappled shade and intermediate conditions always likely to produce excellent results. As with all the thin leaved Oncidinae, a small pot for the plant size, with well-draining, but somewhat moisture retentive media is best, with repotting into fresh media annually upon the commencement of new growth to keep the well watered roots healthy.

Red – *Oncidium croesus* – Barbara Barnett

**White – *Tolumnia* Golden Sunset 'Waiomao,'
AM/AOS - Laurel Burrows**

Class VI – *Cypripedium* Group



**Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Memoria Larry Heuer –
David Mellard & Sal Marino**

Paph. Memoria Larry Heuer is a primary hybrid between two species that grow near each other in Southwest China, *Paph. maliopense* and *Paph. emersonii*. According to Charles Baker, they both grow in seeps and cracks of northeast facing limestone ledges and rock faces along the eastern edge of the Guizhou Plateau, with the former species growing most commonly at

4,000 to 5,000 feet in elevation and the latter a little lower at 2,000 to 3,000 feet. While summer temperatures are somewhat warmer at the lower elevation, winters are about the same at both, with nights typically dipping to around 50 degrees, so it is beneficial to their resulting hybrid to experience cooler nights for one to two months during that season. The cross was done by Yamato-Noen Orchids, Ltd. of Japan, but registered by Paphanatics Unltd. of Anaheim, California in 1991. It has been widely distributed and has garnered many awards from the American Orchid Society and other orchid societies throughout the world. Very rarely, *Paph.* Mem. Larry Heuer will produce two flowers on a single inflorescence, each ranging from four to sometimes nearly six inches in horizontal spread.

Red – *Paphiopedilum* Nirito Hasegawa – Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

White – *Paphiopedium niveum* – Cora Bell

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Group



Blue – *Doritaenopsis* Yu Pin Lady 'Stones River,' HCC/AOS' – Cora Bell

This orchid is another introduction from Yu Pin Biological Technology Inc. of Taiwan (see *the December, 2011 newsletter*), a firm that specializes in more unusual *Phalaenopsis* breeding. In this case, it is four generations

removed from the seminal "harlequin" parent, *Phal.* Golden Peoker and yet the effect is still very striking. The siblings from this cross showed considerable variation, in background coloration, the type of pattern exhibited, and density of the markings.

Red – *Doritaenopsis* OX Spot Queen x OX Honey – Geni Smith

White – *Phalaenopsis* Timothy Christopher - Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

Class VIII – Vandaceous Group



Blue – *Gastrochilus calceolaris* - Maureen Pulignano

Gastrochilus calceolaris, the "Shoe Shaped *Gastrochilus*," is a small sized monopodial epiphyte that has a widespread native range throughout Southeast Asia and the Philippines, generally growing in warm lowland and mountainous forests up to about 6,000 feet above sea level. Plants may produce several inflorescences at once, each bearing seven to nine cute, small, waxy flowers that are both fragrant and long lasting. This charming orchid prefers somewhat less light than its large *Vanda* cousins, though still bright and diffused. It is adapted to cooler temperatures in the winter months, even surviving brief frosts in some locations, and thus can be grown successfully in

an intermediate greenhouse, with constant good humidity, heavy watering and feeding in summer and reduced water in the winter months. So far, this species has not been used to create any registered hybrids, but it would be interesting to see what could be made combining it with other related genera.

Red – *Ascocentrum garayi* – Laurel Burrows

White – *Renanthera* Ruth Chandler – Cora Bell

Class IX – Miscellaneous



Blue – *Clowesia* Grace Dunn 'Chadds Ford,' AM/AOS - Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

This totally charming orchid is a primary hybrid between *Cl. rosea* and *Cl. warczewitzii* registered back in 1959 by prolific amateur orchid hybridizer W.G.G. Moir. The 'Chadds Ford' clone received its Award of Merit in February of 1970 and was named by the exhibitors after their home town of Chadds Ford, PA. Rarely offered commercially, it has survived in collections for many years and is most often received as a division or back bulbs from a fellow lover of *Catasetinae*. Culture for the plant is typical for the deciduous members of this group, with a distinct, wet growing season from

May to September, and an extremely dry rest season from November to March, with flowers emerging in late winter from near the base of leafless pseudobulbs. During the growth phase, they are heavy feeders and like frequent water and bright, but somewhat diffused light. In fall, watering should be reduced gradually and stopped completely as leaves yellow and fall from the plant. A collection of *Catasetinae* can look very sad at that time of year to the uninitiated! While resting, only enough water to keep the pseudobulbs from shriveling should be applied, erring on the side of caution so as not to invite rot. Repotting is necessary when the media is starting to break down, and many growers repot every year as a matter of routine. This should be done just as new growths appear from the base of the pseudobulb, cutting away all but the previous couple of season's growth, and potting in fast draining, but somewhat moisture retentive media. The back bulbs can be saved and laid out to see if new growths sprout, at which time they can be individually potted up to share with others and keep this beauty available for all to enjoy. Note: when resuming watering in spring, be very careful not to allow water to get down inside the developing new growths as they are easily prone to rot at that time.

Red – *Dendrochilum tenellum* – Cora Bell

Red – *Chiloschista segawai* - Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

White – *Coelogyne flaccida* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1-December 31. Anyone joining in the third quarter will get a 50% discount on the current year's membership.

Anyone joining in the fourth quarter will purchase a membership for the following year. You can join at one of our monthly meetings, contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website:

www.atlantaorchidsociety.org

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org or contact one of our society's officers listed on page 2.

In Class Nine we also had a plant awarded the J.C. Mobley Cultural Award.



JC Mobley Cultural Award – *Pterostylis curta* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

Pterostylis, or greenhood orchids, are found predominantly in Australia, although New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, and New Caledonia have their share of this unusual terrestrial genus. Flowers are usually green and white, hence the name, although some species will also have bronze markings. The dorsal sepal and petals are partially fused towards the base and form a helmet-like structure known as the galea, which takes its name from the Roman soldier's helmet. The galea serves two functions. It protects the reproductive organs—the column, stigma, and pollinia—and more importantly it serves as a trap to ensure transfer of pollinia to the stigmatic surface. The lip is often hinged so that when disturbed by the pollinator, usually small flies, it tilts backwards forming a tube with the column and column wings. As the trapped insect crawls out, it passes the stigma and picks up pollinia as it exits the tube. The pollinia can then be transferred to the stigma of another *Pterostylis*,

provided the hapless insect repeats the process. *Galearis*, *Habenaria*, and *Platanthera* are other well-known genera that often have galea.

Pterostylis curta is the easiest of the greenhoods to grow and readily grows in soil-less (peat-based) mixes, such as ProMix, Fafard, or Metro Mix. The small, potato-like tuber, emerges from its dry, summer dormancy anywhere from July to September, grows during the dull, winter conditions, and flowers from January to March, depending on the growing conditions. Once growth begins, plants prefer constant, moist conditions and frequent, light fertilizing. While the plants can tolerate a very light frost, it's best to grow them in a greenhouse, under lights, or next to a window. As a colony-former, one tuber can easily produce 3 to 5 replacement tubers so that after a few years, one has a pot full of *Pterostylis curta*. As warm weather approaches, usually April and definitely by May, pots should be allowed to completely dry out. Often, the leaves will turn yellow signaling the plant's desire to go into dormancy. If they don't, it's best to just stop watering and force dormancy. The plants can be repotted during their summer dormancy and respond well to fresh mix. It's a good time to share extra plants with friends for this unusual and seldom seen terrestrial.

Written by David Mellard



***Pterostylis curta* 'Mello Spirit,' CCE/AOS
Exhibited by David Mellard & Sal Marino**

GROWING TIPS for March

By **Courtney T. Hackney**

Email: Hackneau@comcast.net



Once again, it is time to repot many kinds of orchids. For new orchid hobbyists, repotting can be a scary task. Once it is done successfully a few times, this gets to be more of a chore than something to be dreaded. Most orchids with bulbs, e.g. cattleyas, dendrobiums, oncidiums, etc should be potted as soon as they start their new growth, which is now. Many species and hybrids have or are about finished flowering, another good time to repot. The biggest issue for many new hobbyists is “How do I know it is time to repot my orchid plant?” Orchids are not like other plants in that they prefer to be left alone and not repotted constantly if the medium they are in is in good shape and not turning into something that looks like garden soil. The following is some basic advice.

Carefully grab the plant (not the pot) and lift gently. If the plant starts to come out of the pot it has either lost its roots or was not well established. Either way, it needs repotting. If the medium has turned to “mush” or looks like potting soil, it is time to repot. If the plant has bulbs that are out of the pot and the medium looks like soil it is time to repot. Never repot because you want to divide the orchid. That may be a consequence of repotting, but never repot for that reason. The larger the plant, the better flowers you will see next year. The following is the process I follow for any orchid that has bulbs.

First, I remove the orchid from the old pot and cut the roots about 2-3 inches from the rhizome. Few roots survive repotting and cutting these off now avoids potential rots later. All roots that are black and clearly dead are removed entirely. Next, I use a fine jet of water

to remove any particles of the old medium from the remaining roots. The same jet of water is used to wash any brown tissue from the bulbs. If you have scale on an orchid, a fine jet of water removes scale and does not harm the plant or spread disease. Be sure to wash under the rhizome, too, because scale can hide there and reappear later on your newly repotted orchid. This is a very effective way to get rid of scale in a small collection. If the rhizome was cut or there are any cut surface, sprinkle the wound with cinnamon or other topical fungicide and let it dry. Set the orchid plant in its new pot without medium and sit it in a relatively dry shady place for a week or two. After your orchid has dried thoroughly, place it in its new pot and add medium. Most growers put some large material, e.g. lava rock, plastic peanuts, etc, on the bottom of the pot to enhance drainage and then add the medium.

The new pot should allow your orchid to grow for two years without growing out of the pot, so place the old growths at the pot edge and new growths in the center. It may seem like the pot is too small for dendrobiums if you follow the two year rule, but dendrobiums like to be pot bound and will grow best if new roots quickly contact the side of the pot. Small wires that attach to the side of the pot (pot clips) and hold the rhizome in place may be necessary if the orchid does not have many roots. My preference is to use a stake and tie one of the bulbs tightly to it and then fill the medium around the orchid and roots, pressing down on the medium to be sure there is tight contact of the orchid with the medium. This is a necessity if your orchid is to grow. If the rhizome wobbles, roots will be damaged each time the plant moves when watered.

Mist the plant lightly until new growth appears. If your timing is right, new roots will begin to appear soon, indicating that your orchid is ready to grow and that it is time to return to your regular regimen of fertilizing and watering. The rule of thumb is; if you are not sure of the proper size pot for your orchid, err on the side of the pot being too small.

Phalaenopsis, paphs and phragmepediums do not have pseudobulbs are treated differently. Repotting orchids without pseudobulbs will be discussed in the next column.



RECENT ACTIVITY AT THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

The following awards were granted at recent sessions of the AOS judging center. They are provisional awards pending publication by AOS. Certificates of Horticultural Merit and Certificates of Botanical Recognition are also provisional pending identification by an AOS certified taxonomist prior to publication of the award.

All photographs are © Maureen Pulignano



C. (Hobcaw x Precious Katie) 'Aileen's Valentine'
AM/AOS (provisional)
Exhibited by Barney & Aileen Garrison



Paphiopedilum tonsum 'Robin's Jungle Ghost',
HCC/AOS
Exhibited by Rick Lockwood



©2012 Maureen Pulignano

*Phalaenopsis KV Golden Star 'Orange Tiger',
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



©2012 Maureen Pulignano

*Doritaenopsis Nobby's Pink Lady
'Laura's Valentine', AM/AOS
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



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*Diuris Earwig 'Mello Spirit', HCC/AOS
Exhibited by David Mellard & Sal Marino*



A typical judging session in progress. The Atlanta Judging Center meets the second Saturday of each month and the deadline for entering plants is 2 pm.