

The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin



Affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress. 2001 Recipient of the American Orchid Society's Distinguished Affiliated Societies Service Award

Newsletter Editor: **Danny Lentz**

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May 2006

MAY EVENTS

The Meeting:

**8:00 Monday, May 8 at Atlanta Botanical Garden
Greg Allikas, Orchid Photography**

Greg Allikas has been a commercial photographer in the Palm Beaches and an orchid grower since 1970. He is awards photographer for the AOS West Palm Beach Judging Center, Florida-Caribbean Judging Center in Miami, and many annual south Florida orchid shows. His photos are regularly seen in numerous AOS publications including the annual calendar and the Awards Quarterly and Orchids magazine. He has written articles for both Orchids magazine and Orchid Digest. Two books ("Orchids", "The World's Most Beautiful Orchids") co-authored with Ned Nash feature many of his photos. Greg also has many photos in the latest editions of the Sunset and Ortho books on orchids. In early 2005 he was honored to consult on, and supply photography for a United Nations postal administration endangered species stamp release featuring 12 endangered orchid species. Greg's web site is www.orchidworks.com

AtLOS members can bring plants to sell at the May meeting. Please remember that 10% of sales should be donated to the society.

Greengrowers: Henry Everett on Sunday May 28, starting at 2:00

Former Atlanta Orchid Society member (and past-president) Henry Everett has invited us to visit his home this month and see how he grows his orchids. He should also have many roses in bloom. For more details see page 4.

Atlanta Orchid Society Auction next month! Our annual auction will be held on Sunday, June 18.

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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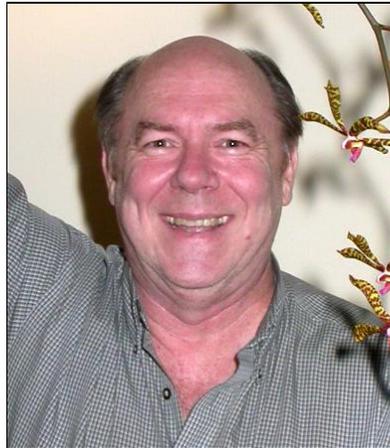
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Librarians - Karen Chandler and Mikie Emerson

Show Chair - David Mellard

Hospitality - Terry Glover

Member Spotlight



Roy Harrow

While I had picked up some orchids around 1974 on a vacation back to Florida, I still have a couple, it wasn't until I went into computer programming and met Bob Martin that I really began to understand some of what Orchids were all about. From him I met and learned a lot from Gavino Rotor, of Crestwood Orchids. Gavino was one of the principal developers of the meristem process with his stem propagation of Phalaenopsis and cutting those budding growths into multiple pieces. I was honored to be the show chairman of the Chattanooga February orchid show (about 1980) in which Gavino received an FCC for his exhibit (most judges only see one of these in their life time) in the Saturday morning judging. The show was closed and everyone sent home just after noon that day as the snow was shutting down the city. Around this time I built my 2nd greenhouse from old window glass with a wood stove for backup heat. It grew nice ascocendas.

When I moved to Atlanta, my third greenhouse was 10 X 20 but 80% underground. While it was difficult to get too hot, it also didn't get as much light, so most of the vandaceous plants did not do well. I had helped Rufus Suggs take down his greenhouses (in his move to Claremont, Florida) and load his orchids into 18-wheeler trailers the first year I came to Atlanta. In gratitude, he gave me the steel from one of the greenhouses that turned out to be the basic structure of my fourth greenhouse (25 X 40 and 25 feet high). This is where I currently grow my orchids along with many other tropical plants. I also grow several citrus and gingers. I try to use less poisonous methods to treat problems.

I've only gotten two AMs, but then I don't care to enter plants and grow for my own pleasure. I was president of the Atlanta Orchid society back in 2001. From our trading orchids between participants at a pig roast first put on at the Birmingham Botanical gardens we developed the auction that eventually went on at Cullman Alabama for 14 years. That auction between orchid amateurs has now been renewed at my place in Smyrna during the hottest part of the year so it doesn't interfere with any other events.

I have been married for 34 years with a daughter and 3-year-old grandchild. I have been a programmer at Assurant for 21 years now. I used to run all the time and my wife even made a quilt out of my 15 Peachtree road race tee-shirts but I don't do that anymore. I participated with the Big Chicken Chorus for 8 - 9 years, back when they were international competitors (3rd in the world in 1998?). I also love to sing with a gospel quartet that performs at nursing homes for free on Sunday afternoons and a church choir that sounds like a Gaither Homecoming.

Events Out and About

May

Monday, 5/8 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m. Greg Allikas will speak on orchid photography.

Saturday, 5/13 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

5/19-5/21 Redland Int'l Orchid Festival Homestead, FL www.redlandorchidfestival.org

5/20 Memphis OS Show, Memphis TN
Contact Michael Rowland (901)458-2922
mrowland@xspedius.net

5/28 Greengrowers at Henry Everett's house. Begins at 2:00. See page 4 for details.

June

Saturday, 6/10 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop. If entering plants, please arrive before 1:30 pm to allow time for research and paperwork.

Monday, 6/12 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 7:00 p.m. Our annual tour of the ABG greenhouses.

Sunday, 6/18 Atlanta Orchid Society Auction, American Legion Hall by Chastain Park. Details will be in the June newsletter.

Please visit our web site at

<http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org>

The Atlanta Orchid Society web site contains recent newsletters and articles, cultural information for growing orchids in Atlanta, as well as a calendar of events and information about our annual shows.

Our webmaster, John O'Connell, has offered to create a classifieds section on our web site that society members can use to sell/swap/seek orchids and orchid supplies.

If you would like to place information on the site please contact John at joconnel@bellsouth.net.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL MEETING

- The Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting was brought to order by President Richard Hallberg. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as written.
- Reba Herzfeld's father is recovering nicely from his recent surgery.
- Richard Hallberg read proposed changes to the bylaws, which had been approved by the board and published in the April newsletter. There was no discussion. The changes were passed by the membership.
 - A. Current by-law: "The full assessed amount of dues shall be payable for one member of a household and half of that amount for each additional member living at the same address."
 - Change: "The full assessed amount of dues shall be payable for one member of a household and an additional half of that amount for other household members."
 - B. Current by-law: "New members voted into the society after July 1 shall be assessed ½ of the prescribed annual dues for that calendar year."
 - Change: "New members voted into the society from July to September shall be assessed ½ of the prescribed annual dues for that calendar year. New members voted into the society from October to December shall be assessed the full annual dues, which shall be applied to the following calendar year."
- Greengrowers will be held at Mark Reinke/Gary Collier's house on April 22. In May, we will visit Henry Everett's house.
- Let Danny Lentz know if you are interested in becoming a back-up photographer for the Atlanta Judging Center.
- David Mellard is finishing the directory. Let him know as soon as possible of any changes to your personal information.
- Bob Martin from Signal Mountain, TN spoke on orchid pollination.
- Our thanks to the orchid judges: Karen Chandler, Alfonso Doucette, Mikie Emerson, Roy Harrow, David Mellard, Rob Rinn, Jeff Wolf.
- Our thanks to those who donated plants to the raffle table: Helen Weil and others.
- Our thanks to those who provided refreshments: Mike and Carol Dufano, Dianne Morgan/Danny Lentz and others.
- Special thanks to Bill Ellenberg of Peach State Orchids, who donated five beautiful orchids for the silent auction and to Ed and AnnaLee Boyett who donated a beautiful Coelogyne for the silent auction.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Sandy Phillips

Greengrowers

When: May 28, 2006, Sunday, 2:00 P. M.

Where: At the home of Henry Everett
2690 Gleneagles Dr.
Tucker, GA 30084

R.S.V.P. 770 938-3134

Greengrowers, please come to the home of Henry Everett on May 28, 2006, at 2:00 P.M. I would like to show you how I grow orchids. I have cattleyas and oncidiums, a few phals and a cymbidium or two. You will see I do things a bit differently than other orchid growers. I grow them in a homemade geodesic dome greenhouse. I don't have benches, I hang the pots from poles with special pot hangers. By late May, I will have my plants outdoors for the summer, hanging from a chain link fence under an oak tree. I'm sure I will have extra plants to share.

I have a large rose garden that should be in bloom for your visit. We can talk about orchids and other gardening interests, see the roses in bloom and have refreshments. I will look forward to your visit.

Please call to let me know you are coming so I will know how many refreshments to prepare.

Directions:

Take I-85 to the Chamblee Tucker Exit.

Turn East (left if you are going South on 85) onto Chamblee Tucker Rd.

When Chamblee Tucker heads left, stay to the right and turn Right at the light onto Mercer University Dr.

Go about 1 mile (to the 2nd light) and turn Right onto Henderson Mill Rd.

Go to the 2nd light and turn Left onto Henderson Rd.

Go just over a mile and turn Right onto Gleneagles Dr.

(note: Do not turn on Gleneagles Lane which comes just before Gleneagles Dr.)

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, or contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application.

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.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit material for the newsletter, or to sign up for the email version of the newsletter, please contact Danny Lentz. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

MAIL TO: Danny Lentz
1045 Wordsworth Dr.
Roswell, GA 30075

EMAIL: DBLGONGORA@BELLSOUTH.NET

Advertising

Advertising is now being accepted for our newsletter. The size and number of ads may be limited at the discretion of the editor. Advertising Rates per issue are: ¼ page \$10, ½ page \$20, full page \$40.

APRIL 2006 EXHIBITION TABLE AWARDS with notes by Mark Reinke



Cattleya skinneri 'Casa Luna'

CLASS 1: CATTLEYA ALLIANCE

Blue	<i>Cattleya skinneri</i> 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS	Collier/Reinke
Red	<i>Cattleya intermedia</i> forma. <i>amethystina</i>	Collier/Reinke
White	<i>Cattleya intermedia</i> forma <i>orlata</i> 'Crownfox' HCC/AOS	Collier/Reinke
Blue	<i>Lc. Rojo</i> x <i>Myrmecophila tibicinis</i>	Collier/Reinke
Red	<i>Potinara</i> William Farrell 'Apricot Orange'	Jacobson

(Blue) *Cattleya skinneri* 'Casa Luna' AM/AOS : This magnificent spring flowering species is from Central America, and is the national flower of Costa Rica. The 'Casa Luna' clone is considered by many to be one of the very finest available for form, color and size. There are also many good pure white forms (alba), as well as white with a dark throat (alba oculata), and very pale blush lavender (albescens). A well grown specimen can remind one of an azalea bush for sheer floral impact! But the way you obtain this lavish bloom gives me opportunity to stress that it is always wise to consult more than one source for good cultural information on a particular species. I once read from a Costa Rican grower that *C. skinneri* can endure considerable drought during *summer*! You would think that someone from its native habitat would be the best source for correct information, yet this advice seemed contrary to what I thought I knew about this orchid. The mystery was solved when we once visited Costa Rica at the beginning of December. Our host declared joyfully "You arrived at the perfect time! Summer began today!" Since I knew I was still in the Northern Hemisphere, I was a bit puzzled. But she went on to explain that the rainy weather of the wet season had finally come to and end today. The sun had come out bright and beautiful and summer began! In this tropical country where the temperatures are nearly constant, *summer* was the dry season from December to May when sunshine was plentiful! And it is during this 'dry' season that you should cut back on water and fertilizer and move your plant to a very bright location to insure that massive burst of bloom in March and April!



Lc. Rojo x *Myrmecophila tibicinis*

(Blue) *Lc. Rojo* x *Myrmecophila tibicinis* : A mere 26 registered hybrids exist between *Myrmecophila* (formerly *Schomburgkia*) *tibicinis* and other members of the cattleya alliance. Our ribbon plant is a beautiful example of some or the better qualities this species can bring out in a hybrid: tall upright spikes, well spaced and evenly arrange flowers, attractive wavy segments and rich colors. Yet the breeder (H&R Nurseries of Hawaii) has chosen not to register it. While plant size may be against many of these hybrids, they are usually far more manageable than the species itself, which can produce inflorescences in excess of 10 feet in length! There is at least one compact hybrid that is worth seeking out: *Myr. tibicinis* x Bl. Richard Mueller = *Brassolaeliophila* Tiger Lily (formerly *Maclemoreara* Tiger Lily). More such hybrids should be attempted to help ease the sameness of so many miniature and compact cattleya hybrids.

CLASS 2: CYMBIDIUM

Red	<i>Cym. Featherhill</i> 'Late Red'	Quattlebaum
White	<i>Cym. Mighty Remus</i> 'Cabernet'	HCC/AOS Rinn

CLASS 3: DENDROBIUM

Blue	<i>Dendrobium thrysiflorum</i>	Frye
Red	<i>Dendrobium aphyllum</i>	Smith
White	<i>Dendrobium hereoglossum</i>	Hallberg

(Blue) *Dendrobium thrysiflorum* : This blue ribbon winner is a beautiful example of this easily grown SE Asian (especially Thailand) species! The pendant, densely flowered inflorescences are produced both on new and old spikes each spring, so that specimens having a thousand or more open blooms are not unusual! They last only about 2 to 3 weeks, but sometimes the timing of each spike can vary enough to extend the bloom season to 6 weeks. From the time the buds are formed until the end of the growing season in late November, it needs regular water and fertilizer. As soon as the newest growths are hardened off and the last terminal leaf has emerged, water only about every 2 weeks or less up to the time buds begin to emerge when it is time to go back to the normal watering and feeding schedule. During the rest period, this species also appreciates night time temperatures around 60° F or a little lower.



Dendrobium thrysiflorum



Dendrobium thrysiflorum

CLASS 4: EPIDENDRUM

Blue *C. Angelwalker* x *Epidendrum stamfordianum* Collier/Reinke

Red *Encyclia cordigera* x *Encyclia randiana* Collier/Reinke

White *Lc. Pixie* x *Encyclia cordigera* Collier/Reinke

(Blue) *C. Angelwalker* x *Epidendrum stamfordianum* : This plant is an unusual example of breeding with *Epi. stamfordianum* with excellent results. Though *C. Angelwalker* does well to produce four flowers on one inflorescence, it did not dominate the bloom count on this attractive hybrid. The full, upright spikes of many good sized flowers (for this pairing) show the lavender tones of the pod parent, but the distinct shape and pattern of the pollen parent. Barely 10 hybrids have been registered between *Epi. stamfordianum* and *Cattleya* or *Laeliocattleya*, but this plant shows that there is plenty of untapped potential there for unusual and beautiful orchids.

CLASS 5: ONCIDIUM ALLIANCE

Blue *Oncidium phymatochilum* Rinn

Red *Tolumnia Sundown Reef* 'Spotted Ewok' AM/AOS Lentz/Morgan

White *Oncidium* (syn. *Psychopsis*) *papilio* Rinn

(Blue) *Oncidium phymatochilum* : This *Oncidium* species produces a veritable cloud of up to 200 or more small, but intricately shaped blooms on each branching inflorescence. A well grown plant can produce several to many spikes, adding to the 'swarm effect' created by the insect-like flowers. It is a relatively dry grower that seems to prefer a basket over a pot, and the large tough bronze shaded leaves and flat, elongated pseudobulbs possess a somewhat decorative effect even when not in bloom. Recently, taxonomists have favored moving this species to the genus *Miltonia*.

CLASS 6: CYPRIPEDIUM ALLIANCE

Blue *Paphiopedilum lowii* 'A.O.C.' HCC/AOS Whitfield

Red *Paph. Mulyk's Macabre* Emerson

White *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum* Wolf

Blue *Phrag. Schroderae* Rinn

Red *Phrag. Ashley Wilkes* Emerson

White *Phrag. Jason Fisher* Rinn

(Blue) *Paphiopedilum lowii* 'A.O.C.' HCC/AOS : This beautiful multifloral species has earned more than 75 flower quality awards from the American Orchid Society, and this particular plant was awarded on April 8th, 2006 at the Atlanta Judging Center.

One cannot help but be drawn to the beautiful color pattern and other-worldly shape of this warm growing *Paph.* It is usually lithophytic or epiphytic in tropical rain forests of Malaysia, Borneo, Sumatra, Java and Sulawesi, and in addition to heavy rainfall during this growing season, receives quite strong light for a *Paphiopedilum*. In cultivation an open, well draining medium is recommended, along with warmth and bright conditions just short of burning the strap-like foliage. Most awarded plants of *Paph. lowii* bore spikes of five or six flowers, though one or two were often still in the bud stage when exhibited, as this species is a sequential bloomer, and frequently all flowers are open together for only a short time before the oldest one begins to fade.



Phrag. Schroderae

(Blue) *Phrag. Schroderae* : *Phragmipedium Schroderae* is a very old hybrid between *Phrag. caudatum* and *Phrag. Sendenii* registered back in 1882. For over a century it was one of the few *Phragmipediums* available that wasn't predominantly green and brown, until *Phrag. besseae* hybrids started to become available in the 1980's. It's showy and large pink and white blooms still command the attention of the AOS judges, and there have been several clones in recent years scoring 85 points or better in spite of all the new and colorful competition!



C. Angelwalker x *Epi. stamfordianum*



Oncidium phymatochilum



Paph. lowii 'A.O.C.'

CLASS 7: PHALAEOPSIS ALLIANCE

Blue	<i>Phalaenopsis lobbii</i>	Hallberg
Red	<i>Doritaenopsis</i> Martha Dolge 'Mendenhall'	Lentz/Morgan
White	<i>Phalaenopsis</i> Brecko Goldsat 'Ruby Dot'	Rinn

(Blue) *Phalaenopsis lobbii* : *Phalaenopsis lobbii* is a very dwarf plant that is found growing on mossy limbs from the warm, usually moist forests of the Piedmont of Burma, Bhutan and extreme NE India. It is often considered a subspecies of *Phal. parishii*. It is unique among *Phalaenopsis* species in that the leaves are semi to completely deciduous in the dry season from November to mid-January in the wild. In cultivation, they are usually given enough moisture during this time to retain their leaves, though careful attention must be paid to not over-water, or they may rot. The small white flowers have a proportionately large lip that is tan with a distinct (often more distinct than our show table example) vertical white strip in the center. There appear to be a scant eight hybrids registered using this species, but that is because prior to the year 2000 they would have been registered under *Phal. parishii* instead.

*Phalaenopsis lobbii**Ernestara Fire Storm***CLASS 8: VANDACEOUS ALLIANCE**

Blue	<i>Ernestara</i> Fire Storm	Collier/Reinke
Red	<i>Renanthera</i> Tom Thumb	Collier/Reinke
White	<i>Paravanda</i> Martin Motes	Hallberg

(Blue) Ernestara Fire Storm : This colorful hybrid combines *Phalaenopsis*, *Vandopsis* and *Renanthera* to excellent advantage. Even in the second generation, *Phalaenopsis* tends to keep the height down, creating a showy *Renanthera*-like inflorescence, but on a much more compact plant. The cross (*Phalandopsis* Arizona Star x *Ren. monachica*) was registered by Sky Island Orchids of Oregon in 1997, and they received, in addition to a number of flower quality awards, an Award of Quality, given to a group of 12 plants in flower that exhibited the floriferousness, intense coloring and uniformity of the cross. Unfortunately, hybrids like this one are not readily available commercially. Perhaps, like their equally spectacular cousins, the *Renanthopsis* (*Renanthera* + *Phalaenopsis*), the slow rate at which they reach

flowering size has discouraged most growers from devoting space to them on their benches. We obtained this plant from an Ebay online auction held by the original hybridizer four years ago and have never seen another one since!

CLASS 9: MISCELLANEOUS GENERA

Blue	<i>Lycaste powellii</i>	Hallberg
Red	<i>Zygonisia</i> Roquebrune	Rinn
White	<i>Dracula exasperata</i>	Doucette

(Blue) *Lycaste powellii* : This flower does closely resemble all existing photographs and descriptions I could find on *Lycaste powellii*, but it is supposed to bloom in summer and fall, not spring. There is a spring blooming species, *Lycaste depepei*, that closely resembles this plant except that the small lip should be entirely yellow with no white visible. I was unable to find any other species that have even a vague resemblance to our ribbon plant, so it is either blooming out of its natural season, or possibly some sort of hybrid in which the species look predominates, but the bloom season has been shifted to spring.

*Lycaste powellii***JOIN THE ORCHID DIGEST CORPORATION**

Don't let the name fool you, the Orchid Digest is a non-profit membership-based organization dedicated to orchids. Designed to appeal to the mid-range to advanced grower nothing beats the *Orchid Digest*. For just \$32/year you get 4 issues of full-color, in-depth articles about orchids. The magazine is large format and the fourth issue of the year is always an extra-special issue devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact Fred Missbach (404-237-1694)

Recent Blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, April 2006

Photos © Danny Lentz

While looking through the greenhouses this month it was interesting to run across a bench with a half-dozen *Phalaenopsis* species in flower and realize that they were all fragrant, even a plant of *Phal. equestris*. With the large numbers of non-fragrant phal hybrids on the market it's easy to forget that there are many species and hybrids in the genus with pleasant fragrances. Here are some that were in bloom during April. [One cultural note: With the big white or pink hybrids many of us will put them in cooler temperatures (50's F) during the fall to help stimulate blooming. Some of these species don't like to drop below 60 degrees. Ever. Some of them may require 65 degrees. As with all orchid species it's a good idea to check out the needs of the plant before you try growing it.]



Phal. amboinensis is from Indonesia (Molucca Archipelago and Sulawesi).



Phal. fimbriata occurs in Indonesia (Java, Sarawak, and Sumatra). It is very fragrant.



Phal. lueddemanniana 'Woodlawn'

Phal. lueddemanniana var. *ochracea* 'Greenfinch'

Phal. lueddemanniana is endemic to the Philippines. It has long lasting and very fragrant flowers.

(continued on next page)

Phal. floresensis is endemic to the island of Flores in Indonesia.



Phal. tetraspis is from the Andaman and Nicobar Islands in India and from Sumatra in Indonesia.



Phal. tetraspis 'Orchid Man'

Chiloglottis, the Bird Orchids

[Last spring I began a series of articles on Australian orchids using photos from some online acquaintances I've made. I will be continuing those articles over the next few months]

Chiloglottis is a genus of about twenty species that occurs in Australia and New Zealand. They are small terrestrial plants that generally have drably colored flowers, but they can have very interesting arrangements of calluses on the lip. Robert Brown described the genus in 1810. The common name of "bird orchid" comes from the resemblance some flowers have to baby birds waiting to be fed.

The *Chiloglottis* plants have two basal leaves that may hug the ground or be held erect. They can form dense colonies of plants, propagating both vegetatively and by seed. They grow in moist woodlands and open forest where they are shaded by grasses and shrubs, at a wide range of altitudes from lowlands to sub-alpine habitats. The inflorescence has a single flower. Some species have a mobile lip that will move in the wind, while others have a fixed lip. The lips have a collection of dark shiny calluses,



Chiloglottis jeanesii

some stalked, that can resemble an insect in some species. The flowers produce a pheromone-like chemical from the sepals and the calluses that attract male wasps who pollinate the flower while attempting to copulate with the labellum. After the flower is pollinated the inflorescence will elongate before the seed is dispersed.

Many of these species can be cultivated in a terrestrial mix with good drainage. They will have a dormant period, mostly in the summer. Some of the species flower in spring and others in the fall. -Danny Lentz

References:

Native Orchids of Australia by David L. Jones, 1988

Field Guide to the Orchids of New South Wales and Victoria (Second Edition) by Tony Bishop, 2000

Australian Native Orchids in Colour by Leo Cady and E.R. Rotherham, 1970

Posts on the alt.binaries.pictures.orchids USENET Newsgroup and personal communications by:

Reiner Richter, Victoria (<http://orchids.rnr.id.au>)

John Varigos, Melbourne

Dave Gillingham, Brisbane

Eric Hunt, San Francisco

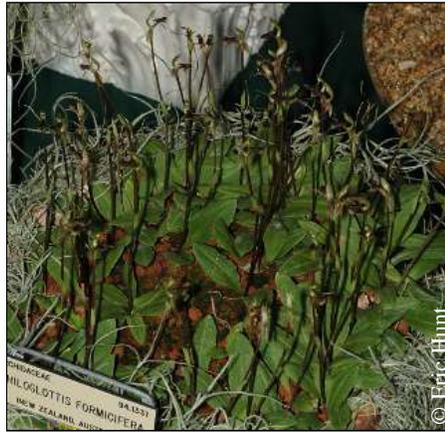


© Reiner Richter

Chiloglottis cornuta is distributed from SE New South Wales to SE South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand. It grows in very moist conditions and it is the only species that is known to commonly self-pollinate. The flower is about an inch across. This plant was photographed by Reiner Richter in Sherbrooke Forest.



© Eric Hunt



© Eric Hunt

Eric Hunt photographed this plant of *Chiloglottis formicifera* which was exhibited by the UC Berkeley Botanical Gardens. The flower spikes were about six inches tall. This species is found in SE Queensland and New South Wales, with a reported occurrence in New Zealand.



© Dave Gillingham

Chiloglottis sylvestris occurs in SE Queensland and New South Wales. The flower is about half an inch across. This plant was photographed by Dave Gillingham in Bellthorpe State Forest.



© Reiner Richter



© Reiner Richter

Chiloglottis trapeziformis

Chiloglottis reflexa

Do you have any ideas for newsletter articles? Any questions you would like answered? Information you'd like to share with the rest of our members? Let me know. I always need content for the newsletter. -Danny



Chiloglottis valida, the Common Bird Orchid, is found in New South Wales and Victoria in a wide range of habitats. The flowers are a little more than an inch across. These plants were photographed by Reiner Richter.

Collector's Item : *Taeniophyllum biocellatum* J.J. Smith

Tribe: Vandaeae Subtribe: Aeridinae
Etymology: refers to the ribbon-like roots

It's fun and very educational for us to bring our blooming plants to the meetings so that others can see them. Unfortunately some of our plants may never be in bloom for a meeting. This is one of them. The flowers on my *Taeniophyllum biocellatum* are open for less than a day and have been closed for a couple hours already by the time our meetings start.

Taeniophyllum is a genus of more than 150 species distributed from India to Australia and occurring throughout much of East and Southeast Asia and the Pacific islands. The name comes from the flat ribbon-like roots. These leafless epiphytes do all of their photosynthesis in the roots. They germinate and grow to flowering size very quickly so that they can colonize twigs in favorable environments. *T. biocellatum* is endemic to Java and can be found all over that island on both native trees and in plantations and gardens at elevations from 300-1000m. The roots can grow to 40-cm long. My plant in cultivation has much shorter roots, and the roots do not branch so you need to be careful not to damage those root tips. The flowers are a few millimeters across, with a relatively large spur. They are quite fragrant (it is much easier to smell if you can get a couple of the flowers open at the same time.) The consecutive-blooming inflorescences can grow to 2-3cm long and have more than a dozen flowers all together, although there will usually only be one flower open at a time on each inflorescence.

If you find leafless orchids interesting there was an article by Jim Watts in the March 2003 issue of "Orchids" magazine that gives an overview of many different leafless orchids (and has a picture of a much better bloomed plant of *T. biocellatum*.)

If you have a plant with ephemeral blooms that we will never see at the meeting, send me a picture sometime so we can share it with the rest of the society. You can also send pictures to our webmaster, John O'Connell, to put up on the Atlanta Orchid Society web site. This would be a great way to let people see some of those plants you aren't able to bring in person.

-Danny Lentz

Reference: "Orchids of Java" by J.B. Comber



Photos © Danny Lentz

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

The following awards were granted at the March session of the AOS Atlanta Judging Center. They are provisional awards pending official publication in the *Awards Quarterly*. 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.



Doritaenopsis Martha Dolge 'Soft Kiss'

AM 81 pts (Martha Dolge '#1' x Martha Dolge '#2')

Natural Spread: 12.0cm H x 10.7cm V

Ten flowers and three buds well-arranged on one arched inflorescence; sepals and petals stark white; lip white overlaid amaranth centrally, side lobes lighter amaranth marginally; column white; substance firm; texture crystalline.

Exhibitor: Stones River Orchids



Phragmipedium Inca Fire 'ORCHIDbabies'

HCC 77 pts (Andean Fire x besseae)

Natural Spread: 10.3cm H x 7.9cm V

Two flowers and six buds well-presented on one branched inflorescence; dorsal sepal and petals fire engine red; synsepal yellow with sparse red pubescence; pouch canary yellow heavily overlaid carmine, interior spotted carmine; staminode yellow with carmine pubescence; substance firm; texture velvety.

Exhibitor: ORCHIDbabies, LLC



Oncidium splendidum 'Brewton Gold'

HCC 77 pts

Natural Spread: 5.3cm H x 4.2cm V

One hundred five flowers nicely arranged on two arched and branched inflorescences to 192-cm; flowers mimosa yellow; sepals and petals spotted and barred light rust-brown; column green; anther cap yellow; substance firm; texture matte.

Exhibitor: Joe F. Gordy



Platyrrhiza quadricolor 'Vic's Butterflies' CCM 87 pts.

Natural Spread: 1.1cm H x 0.9cm V

Eighty-six flowers and 68 buds on 15 inflorescences to 7.5-cm; plant 5-cm x 5-cm, mounted on tree fern attached to cork; sepals and petals light green; lip and pointed side lobes yellow with three small mahogany spots centrally, green basally; column green, mahogany basally; anther cap yellow; substance firm; texture matte; fragrance of honeysuckle.

Exhibitor: Vic Taylor

**Oncidium bracteatum 'Lauren'****CHM 81 pts** (provisional)

Natural Spread: 1.9cm H x 2.7cm V

Fifty-five flowers on two upright 55-cm inflorescences coronally displayed on a 62-cm x 45-cm plant grown in bark in a 14-cm clay-pot; sepals and petals green-yellow heavily blotched and spotted brown; lip and side lobes bright yellow apically, isthmus brown, callus white with fine brown markings; column yellow-green with two distinct brown spots basally; anther cap yellow; substance firm; texture matte; commended for floriferousness, floral arrangement and breeding potential.

Country of origin Panama and Costa Rica.

Exhibitor: Myron & Teresa Palmer

**Phragmipedium Ashley Wilkes****'ORCHIDbabies' HCC 79 pts**

(Eric Young x warscewiczianum)

Natural Spread: 8.0cm H x 17.9cm V

Two flowers and one bud on one 41-cm inflorescence; dorsal sepal and petals cream-colored overlaid ruby red, darkening distally to beet purple on petals; synsepal cream-colored suffused ruby red; pouch darker ruby red, interior bright yellow spotted ruby red; substance firm; texture matte.

Exhibitor: ORCHIDbabies, LLC

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**Sophrolaeliocattleya Bright Circle 'Lydia Merkle'****HCC 78 pts** (Bright Angel x Circle of Life)

Natural Spread: 8.9cm H x 8.1cm V

Two flat flowers on one inflorescence; sepals and petals brilliant red-orange; lip bright yellow basally, heavily overlaid dark red-orange apically, darker centrally; substance very firm; texture crystalline.

Exhibitor: Ed Merkle

**Doritaenopsis (Phal. Berries 'n Cream x Dtps. Mountain Sweetheart) 'Blueberry' HCC 78 pts** (provisional)

Natural Spread: 7.0cm H x 5.9cm V

Twelve flowers and four buds slightly crowded on one inflorescence; sepals and petals pristine white faintly blushed magenta centrally; lip blue heavily overlaid magenta; column and staminode white, crest yellow with minute magenta spots; substance firm; texture sparkling.

Exhibitor: Stones River Orchids



Maxillaria sp.

Plant grown by the Atlanta Botanical Garden