



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: Danny Lentz

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www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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JUNE EVENTS

The Monthly Meeting:

Topic: ABG Greenhouse Tour

7:00pm Monday, June 11

at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Our June meeting will start an hour early so that we will have daylight available for our tour of the Atlanta Botanical Garden's backup greenhouses and the Fuqua Orchid Center.

This is a great opportunity to see more of ABG's plant collection and meet some members of the ABG staff:

Becky Brinkman, ABG's Orchid Curator & Greenhouse Manager; Mike Wenzel, ABG's Plant Recorder; and Matt Richards, ABG Orchid Center Horticulturist. They will be there to guide us and answer any questions you might have.

The greenhouse tour will be followed by a short business meeting and ribbon judging at 8:00.

Please remember to have your entries for ribbon judging in place by 7:50.



Laelia purpurata, grown at the Atlanta Botanical Garden



A different color form of Laelia purpurata, grown at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

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Member Spotlight



Rebecca Henson & Norman Bray

One of the first flowers Norm Bray gave his wife Rebecca Henson was a cutting of three inflorescences of a large cymbidium, still one of Rebecca's favorite orchids. Before they were married in 2001, Norm grew orchids for several years under lights in his condominium on Red Mountain in Birmingham, Alabama. After they were married, they moved to Chapel Hill, North Carolina and bought a house that came with a small (4' x 8') sun room with two skylights that Norm used as a greenhouse. In 2005 Norm and Rebecca moved to Lake Claire and the orchids went back under lights in one corner of the garage. This last fall, Norm purchased a small mini-greenhouse (2' x 6') and it seemed that the 60 orchids in his collection were going to live happily on Norm and Rebecca's back patio. This all changed, however, when the temperature dropped to 28 degrees and the power went out for two nights in a row. Now Norm has about 30 orchids, many of which are not looking very healthy. This orchid story, however, is not going to end with the somewhat sickly orchids now on bakers racks in Norm and Rebecca's back yard. With the able assistance of Richard Hallberg, Norm is preparing to build an 8' x 12' greenhouse that will have a gas heater that does not require electricity. Hopefully, the greenhouse will be up and going by next fall and Norm's current orchids will recover and be joined by many other healthy newcomers.

So what do Norm and Rebecca do when they are not worrying about Norm's small orchid collection? Norm is a retired professor, having taught Experimental Psychology and Developmental Psychology for 29 years at the University of Cincinnati, University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa), and University of Alabama at Birmingham. Norm has been a hospice volunteer and is very involved at the Shambhala Meditation Center of Atlanta. Rebecca is a consultant for Leadership Forward, a firm that provides leadership training for executives, executive coaching, and other business development services. Between them, Norm and Rebecca have four sons and two of their sons have two sons each. This makes Norm and Rebecca the proud grandparents of four little guys from 1 month to 6 years old. One of their delights will be seeing their youngest grandson for the first time this June in an upcoming trip to California.

Events Out and About

June

Saturday, 6/2 International Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting at Lines Orchids in Signal Mountain, TN.

Saturday, 6/9 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Monday, 6/11 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 7 p.m.
Tour of the ABG greenhouses.

July

Monday, 7/9 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m.
Panel discussion on orchid growing.

Saturday, 7/14 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Saturday, 7/28 Orchid Auction at Roy Harrow's house. This auction is for people to sell their own plants. Details will appear in the July newsletter. This is not an AtIOS sponsored event and everyone is welcome to attend. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to orchid groups/botanical gardens chosen by the sellers.

Welcome to our New Members:

Eva & Philip Lausier – Canton
Cecelia Turbyville – Atlanta

Orchid lover downsizing

14x22 foot greenhouse full of orchids (in spike - Paphs, Phrags, Vanda); large part of collection is Paphs. Long list of books, Fitch Orchid Album original botanical orchid lithographs; old hummingbird with botanical orchid prints. Slatted wood baskets 2/\$5; treefern logs or pots, \$1; fluorescent light fixtures \$5; new fluor. bulbs \$1; flasking bottles with rubber stoppers \$1; Paph-Pots 25 cents; used plastic pots free.

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Minutes of the May 14th Meeting

The Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting was brought to order by President Mark Reinke.

- o The society's current balance is \$10,556.73. The April auction was very successful, bringing in \$3359.
- o The minutes from the last meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.
- o The June meeting will start at 7 instead of 8 because of the annual tour of the botanical garden greenhouses. There will be no speaker.
- o The International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA) will meet at Lines Orchids near Chattanooga on June 2nd.
- o Jeff Wolf announced a new book available in the AOS library titled "Angraecoid Orchids".
- o The speaker was local AOS member Jeff Whitfield of The Atlanta Orchid Company. He gave an informative presentation on growing nobile type dendrobiums.
- o Our thanks to the orchid judges: Jeff Wolf, David Mellard, John O'Connell, Gary Collier, Don Reinhard, and Liz Wyman.
- o Our thanks to those who donated plants to the raffle table: Helen Weil, Margo Brinton, Eldon Park, Roy Harrow, Lynne Gollob, and others. Thanks to Peach State Orchids for the silent auction plants.
- o Our thanks to those who provided refreshments: Don Reinhard, Marianne Gilman, Mary Helen Reinhard, Gary Collier, Barbara Dampog, Cathy Caine, and others.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Quattlebaum

Member Announcements

We would like to express our condolences to Reba Herzfeld, whose mother passed away on Friday, June 1 in Augusta, Georgia. The funeral will be held on Sunday, June 3 at Elliott's Funeral Home on Telfair and 12th in Augusta. Information can also be obtained from Dressler's Jewish Funeral Home in Atlanta at 770-451-4999. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to her parents' synagogue: AVS, 935 Johns Road, Augusta, Ga. 30904. Reba's contact information can be found on page 2.

If you have any news you would like to share with the society please send me a short announcement. -danny

MAY 2007 EXHIBITION TABLE AWARDS

with notes by Mark Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Alliance

Blue- *Laelia reginae* – Collier/Reinke : See the notes under *Laelia milleri* from the May 2007 newsletter on some tips for growing the ‘rupicolous’ Laelias successfully. One thing to add to those comments is to always look for seed grown plants, rather than imported plants collected in the wild. It can be a slow process to re-establish one of these miniature orchids after it has been ripped off its natural setting, become desiccated during shipping, and sent to a hemisphere in which its growth cycle must then adapt to opposite seasons. Maintaining healthy roots is vitally important with these orchids since new ones grow only slowly so the loss of roots in transit will often be fatal. *Laelia reginae* grows on rock ledges in the states of Minas Gerais and Belo Horizonte in Brazil. There is only one registered hybrid made using this species (with *C. intermedia*) and only one AOS award, a Certificate of Botanical Recognition (CBR) awarded here at the Atlanta judging center in May of 1986.



Laelia reginae

Red – Lc. Marcia Foster ‘Picotee’ - Whitfield

White – *Cattleyopsis lindenii* – Collier/Reinke

Class II – Cymbidium Alliance

Blue – *Cymbidium devonianum* – Gilmore : *Cymbidium devonianum* is unlike most Cymbidiums in that it prefers less water and feeding in winter to bloom well. It has been used extensively as a parent and figures into the background of several hundred modern hybrids. The pendent inflorescence is inherited to some degree, but not always apparent since nursery raised plants sold in bloom are staked to economize on space. If you have the room to allow the spikes to arch out naturally, the presentation will be more graceful as each flower ‘tiles’ beautifully down the stem and faces outward and slightly upward. Any hybrid with this species in the background is more susceptible to browning of the leaf tips caused by salt buildup in the media, so be sure and thoroughly flush the plant with clean water periodically.



Cymbidium devonianum

Class III – Dendrobium Alliance

Blue – *Dendrobium Nora Takunaga* – Mellard/Marino : *Dendrobium Nora Takunaga* is a primary hybrid between two smaller growing ‘Latouria’ species, *Den. atrovioleaceum* (see notes from last month) and *Den. rhodostictum*. As mentioned in my notes last month, these species from New Guinea like year round moisture and some shade, and are therefore easier than most Dendrobiums for home culture. If grown well, the show of long lasting bloom will improve each year.

Red – *Dendrobium macrophyllum* ‘Rock’ - Wolf

White – *Dendrobium eriaeflorum* - Gilmore



Dendrobium Nora Takunaga

Class IV - Epidendrum Alliance

Blue - *Epidendrum polyanthum* – Collier/Reinke : *Epidendrum polyanthum* is a Mexican species, but not well known and not much is written about it. Our experience shows that it likes moisture, moderate light, and will bloom heavily in late spring and then sporadically at other times of the year. Each growth produces a leafless stem at its apex that extends at least several inches and is covered in brown clasping bracts. It does not produce flowers immediately, but usually waits until the next flowering cycle to produce several pendent and densely flowered inflorescences from side nodes, but never from the actual tip of the stem. To me, the soft brownish orange flower color is best described as ‘fawn.’ The slightly acrid fragrance is much like fermenting hay that was bailed when still too wet! Our specimen came from Andy’s Orchids several years ago and it has become taller with each new growth, so the ultimate height may be 4 feet or more. Even very old stems continue to produce flowers and the show becomes more impressive each year. There are no known hybrids from this species and in our own efforts we have been unable to produce a fertile pod in many attempts.

Red - *Epicyclia Serena* O'neil – Collier/Reinke

White – *Encyclia parviflora* ‘Evets’ – Whitfield

White – *Encyclia bractescens* – Collier/Reinke

Class V – Oncidium Alliance

Blue – *Wilsonara Aloha Sparks* ‘Pete’s Glow’ - Whitfield

Class VI – Cypripedium Alliance

Paphs.

Blue – *Paphiopedilum bellatulum* – Gilmore : The species name of *Paph. bellatulum* means ‘enchanting’ and most will agree that it was well chosen! The beautifully mottled foliage, with purple undersides, needs fairly low light to stay attractive. The small plants produce a very short inflorescence so that the comparatively large white, purple spotted flowers seem to rest right on top of the leaves. These qualities add up to an orchid perfectly suited for home culture under lights, or on a bright north facing windowsill. There are over 250 first generation hybrids made using this species, some with pairings of extreme contrast, such as *Paph. stonei*, for striking results!

Red – *Paphiopedilum Oberhausens* Diament - Brand

White – *Paphiopedilum Lynleigh* Koopowitz – Lentz/Morgan

Phrags.

Blue – *Phragmipedium wallisii* – Lentz/Morgan : Based on several characteristics of this plant, it appears to be *Phragmipedium wallisii*, which was once listed as a variety of *Phrag. caudatum*, but is generally accepted as a separate species now. The two most obvious differences are the smaller size of the plant as a whole compared to *Phrag. caudatum*, and the shortly, stiffly upright, yellow-green leaves. Both species bear up to 4 simultaneously opening flowers per inflorescence, most often in spring, which can last up to two months. The petals continue to grow after the flowers open, and if they do not touch a surface, they can extend to about 2 feet. This species is found growing on exposed steep slopes of volcanic clay covered in moss in Columbia and Ecuador. It likes to grow bright, and always slightly moist, but not as wet as most Phragmipediums.

Red – *Phragmipedium Schroderae* ‘Coos Bay’ AM/AOS – Lentz/Morgan

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Alliance

Blue – *Phalaenopsis Dotty Woodson* – Lentz/Morgan

Red – *Phalaenopsis tetraspis* – Lentz/Morgan

Class VIII – Vanda Alliance – no ribbons awarded

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Non -pleurothallids

Blue – *Coelogyne pandurata* – Emerson : *Coelogyne pandurata* is a warm and bright growing orchid from Borneo that can be quite large and rangy, with considerable distance between each large pseudobulb. But the flowers are showy, displaying green sepals and petals and a lip that overlays green with such dark purple that it appears black for a truly striking appearance. The inflorescence emerges out of the center of new growth before the leaves are fully expanded. For greenhouse culture, a basket is normally used to help contain its unruly growth habit. There is a hybrid between this species and *Coel. burfordiense* that is called Coel. South Carolina. It has almost identical green and black flowers, but has less space between the growths and blooms more frequently, so would be a better choice if you can find it!

Red – *Maxillaria tenuifolia* – Collier/Reinke



Epidendrum polyanthum



Phragmipedium wallisii



Paphiopedilum bellatulum

Pleurothallids

Blue – *Alaticaulia infracta* (syn. *Masdevallia infracta*) – Mellard/Marino : The pleurothallids are currently undergoing considerable taxonomic reorganization, and the Masdevallias are no exception. To quote Lynn O'Shaunassey's pleurothallid website: "*Alaticaulia* (ah-lah-teh-CALL-ee-ah) is a large genus of small to large plants with thickly coreaceous leaves, a successively or simultaneously-flowered raceme with a terete or triquestrous peduncle (round or triangular cross-section). The sepals form a cup or tube with tails. The petals are usually callus along the lower half with a rounded callus at the base, with a few exceptions (*A. odontopetala*). The species moved to this genus used to reside in sections *Alaticaulis* and *Polyanthes* of subgenus *Polyantha*." This particular species grows from 3000 to 5000 feet above sea level in southern Brazil and therefore does well with intermediate culture.

Red – *Pleurothallis tarantula* – Wolf

White – *Acinopetala wendlandiana* (*Masdevallia wendlandiana*) – O'Connell



Masdevallia infracta



Phalaenopsis Dotty Woodson

Do you have any ideas for newsletter articles? Information you'd like to share with the rest of our members? Suggestions for the Collector's Item column? If so, you'd make a wonderful editor or co-editor for the newsletter! Anyone interested in helping out should let me know.
-danny

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.

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
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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, 1/8 page text only \$5.

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

The following awards were granted at recent sessions 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.



Phragmipedium Ashley Wilkes 'ORCHIDbabies'
AM/AOS 84 pts. (Eric Young x warscewiczianum)
 Natural Spread: 12.0-cm H x 20.0-cm V
 Five flowers and one bud on three inflorescences; flowers creamy yellow overlaid ruby red; petals darker ruby red distally; pouch darker ruby red, interior bright yellow spotted ruby red; staminode blushed ruby red with darker red cilia; substance firm; texture satiny.
 Exhibitor: ORCHIDbabies, LLC

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For \$60.00/year, you reap the following benefits:

- 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 (\$108) 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.** For information, contact Evan Dessasau (404-241-4819)



Paphiopedilum Harold Koopowitz 'David's Jade Jewel'
AM/AOS 81 pts. (malipoense x rothschildianum)
 Natural Spread: 19.0-cm H x 13.2-cm V
 One Flower on one 30cm upright inflorescence; sepals and petals apple green veined mahogany, color more intense at center; pouch apple green veined light mahogany; staminode deep mahogany; substance firm; texture polished.
 Exhibitor: David Kessler



Promenaea Colmaniana 'Gold Rush'
AM/AOS 82 pts. (xanthina x Crawshayana)
 Natural Spread: 5.5-cm H x 3.8-cm V
 Sixteen flowers and two buds on 18 inflorescences symmetrically arranged around base of plant; sepals canary yellow distally, mimosa yellow proximally; petals and lip canary yellow densely spotted maroon; column canary yellow with solid maroon nearly covering entire underside; substance hard; texture waxy.
 Exhibitor: Fred Missbach



Cattleya schilleriana 'Palmetto Star'
HCC/AOS 79 pts.

Natural Spread: 10.5-cm H x 11.4-cm V

Three flowers on one recumbent inflorescence; sepals and petals light mahogany with deep burgundy spots; lip white with slightly raised magenta venation, pale yellow centrally, side lobes white with purple overlay apically; substance hard; texture waxy.

Exhibitor: Fred Missbach



Phragmipedium Demetria 'Kathy Ann'
HCC/AOS 79 pts. (caudatum x sargentianum)

Natural Spread: 12.0-cm H x 19.5-cm V

Two attractive flowers and one bud held well above foliage on one inflorescence; sepals chartreuse with faint carmine stripes; petals chartreuse striped carmine centrally and marginally; pouch light bronze, side lobes mimosa yellow; hirsute staminode chartreuse with dark carmine picotee; substance firm; texture matte.

Exhibitor: Dennis Billings



Bulbophyllum cornutum 'Robin's Purple Craze'
AM/AOS 81 pts.

Natural Spread: 3.4-cm H x 3.5-cm V

Nine flowers and eight buds on 17 inflorescences on a well-grown plant encompassing a 10cm plastic net pot; sepals and petals chartreuse overlaid with intense dark maroon markings, more intense on lateral sepals; velvety lip dark purple; column chartreuse; substance firm; texture lacquered.

Exhibitor: Rick Lockwood



Coelogyne xyrekes 'Palmetto Gem'
HCC/AOS 79 pts.

Natural Spread: 9.5-cm H x 6.3-cm V

Three flowers and one bud plus four developing buds on four pendent inflorescences; sepal and petals pale salmon; lip pale salmon, solid dark brown centrally, side lobes heavily overlaid brown, prominent sinuous keels dark brown; column light salmon basally, pale yellow apically; substance firm; texture crystalline.

Exhibitor: Fred Missbach



Doritaenopsis Yu Pin Butterfly 'Raspberry Swirl'

AM/AOS 81 pts. (Ever-Spring King x Taisuco Pixie)

Natural Spread: 5.1-cm H x 4.3-cm V

Twenty-two flowers and ten buds on three upright, branched inflorescences; sepals and petals white with dark raspberry blotches; lip dark raspberry; column white overlaid raspberry; anther cap white; substance firm; texture satiny; a charming combination of harlequin and multifloral breeding lines.

Exhibitor: Stones River Orchids



Phalaenopsis bastianii 'Laura'

AM/AOS 81 pts.

Natural Spread: 3.9-cm H x 4.1-cm V

Five flat flowers on one 10.5cm inflorescence; sepals and petals white suffused light green with brick red blotches; lip amethyst; column white suffused pink; substance firm; texture waxy.

Exhibitor: Stones River Orchids



The ABG bog gardens were beautiful in May. The *Calopogon* flowers went well with the *Sarracenia* pitchers.

Recent Blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, March 2007



(above left) *Epidendrum ilense*

(above right) *Epidendrum anceps*

(below left) *Cymbidium chloranthum*

(below right) *Vanda luzonica*





Maxillaria cacaoensis 'Napa Valley'

Photo © Eric Hunt, <http://www.orchidphotos.org>

Do you have any ideas for newsletter articles? Information you'd like to share with the rest of our members? Suggestions for the Collector's Item column? If so, you'd make a wonderful editor or co-editor for the newsletter! Anyone interested in helping out should let me know. - danny