



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

September, 2012

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

Volume 53: Number 9

CELEBRATING 65 YEARS 1947-2012

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

ANNUAL ORCHID AUCTION & POT-LUCK DINNER

*Note early time - Pot-Luck Starts at 6:00 PM
Auction Begins at 7:00 PM
No Ribbon Judging*

NOTE NEW LOCATION!

**Rock Springs Presbyterian Church
1824 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta, GA
30324**

**Fellowship Hall – Park Free & Enter Behind
Main Church**

[Map Rock Springs Presbyterian Church](#)

This is your opportunity to get terrific plants at great prices. We also have a lot of fun nibbling on our always excellent pot-luck buffet while keeping an eye on the auction. Greg Smith and our good friend from Nashville, Steve Burger, have obtained beautiful plants from regional, domestic and international suppliers.

Don't miss this opportunity to add to your collection. Tell all your orchid friends to come join us!

Pot-luck Dish Assignments:

**A thru B - Side Dish
C thru E - Main Dish
F thru J - Drinks
K thru O - Dessert
P thru Z - Salad**



The familiar façade of Rock Springs Presbyterian Church at the intersection of Piedmont Ave. and Montgomery Ferry Rd. approx. 1 mile north of the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. The driveway to the rear parking area is to the left (south side) of the building and most easily accessed when traveling South on Piedmont Avenue.

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

Officers

President

[Geni Smith](#) 678-817-1915

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[Maureen Pulignano](#) 404-402-5897

Secretary

[Jessica Wackerman](#) 678-521-1869

Treasurer

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1130 Piedmont Ave #707

Atlanta, GA 30309

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[Greg Smith](#) 770-765-6170

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[Barbara Barnett](#) 706-579-2670

[David Mellard](#) 404-310-9899

[Laurel Burrows](#)

[Hal Morrison](#) 678-297-2705

[Terry Glover](#) 678-705-7387

[Lynne Gollob](#) 770-704-6432

Other Volunteers

AOS Rep – Maureen Pulignano

Greengrowers – Maureen Pulignano

Librarian – Ken Ramborger

MAOC Rep – [Doug Hartong](#)

Meeting Hospitality – Open

Membership Chair – Jessica Wackerman

Mentoring Coordinator– Laurel Burrows

Plant Raffle – Terry Glover

Monthly Ribbon Judging –

[David Mellard](#)

Newsletter – [Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep– [Fred Missbach](#)

Show Chair 2011 & 2012 – Barbara Barnett

Telephone – [Lynne Gollob](#)

Webmaster – [Keith Coleman](#)

August 2012 Meeting



Events Out and About

September

September 08 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

September 10 - Atlanta Orchid Society ANNUAL FUNDRAISING PLANT AUCTION
Rock Springs Presbyterian Church
Pot Luck starts at 6 p.m.
Auction begins at 7 p.m.

September 21-23 – Alabama Orchid Society Show, Birmingham Botanical Gardens, Birmingham, AL

October

October 08 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Ray Barkalow – Hydroponic and Semi-Hydroponic Orchid Culture

October 13 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

November

November 3-4 – Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee Show, Cheekwood Botanical Gardens, Nashville, TN

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

November 12 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Paul Storm – Meke Aloha Orchids
“Schomburgkia” Species and Hybrids

December

December 08 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop

December 10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Annual Holiday Banquet
Rock Springs Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall

President's Message

Fall is fast approaching and there's a lot going on this month. First, I would like to remind members that our meeting on September 10th is the fundraising auction. Remember that we will start the auction at 7:00pm., so I encourage everyone to come by 6:00pm for our pot-luck dinner and brief business meeting. Also, bring a guest, and check the main page article in this newsletter to see what type of dish to bring based on your last name. We have great selections of orchids for bidding.

Greg Smith, Steve & Ginny Burger will be on hand to run the auction smoothly. Every year we all look forward to this event, it's a lot of fun. Members & guests get to view the orchids before the auction, so come early!

We are again participating and doing an orchid exhibit at the Birmingham Orchid Show which will be held at the Birmingham Botanical Garden on September 21, 22, & 23. Please contact Maureen Pulignano (404-402-5897) or Geni Smith (678-817-1915) if you have plants for the exhibit. Start looking at your collections & grooming them before bringing them to us no later than September 19th. Thank you in advance.

One more thing, our thanks to Mark Reinke for the wonderful program (“Honey, I Shrunk the Or-Kids !”), presented last month..Great job!!!!!!

In closing, please note the new location and directions for the auction. See you there!

Geni Smith

Hospitality Volunteer Needed!

We are seeking a new person to coordinate the refreshments at our monthly meetings. If you can help, please contact Geni Smith.

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

AOS Corner

Lynn Fuller, Chair

AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

I hope your summer has been going well. Gearing up for the upcoming fall season, I thought I would focus on a few news items and reminders from AOS Headquarters.

1. The special supplement this year is on the genus *Cycnoches*, its species and hybrids. This special supplement is becoming a favorite tradition and extra benefit of being a member of the American Orchid Society. The supplement is underwritten by a combination of advertising and members' donations. More information about the supplement, its costs and your opportunity to underwrite some of the expense of its publication and distribution may be found on the AOS website

(<http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=226>). Donations of any size are appreciated. The continuation of this supplement on an annual basis will be dependent on its appeal to and the support of AOS members. Please be generous in your support of these special supplements.

2. Did you know that liability coverage for your meetings and shows is available through the AOS at a competitive fee? We are pleased to announce that we are again able to offer this benefit of affiliation for \$250. As last year, a single fee can now cover both your society meetings and your show. More information about this benefit and the procedure for

procuring it may be found on the website under the Affiliated Societies tab

(<http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=44>).

3. Another benefit of being an affiliated society is that your society can host one of the two meetings per year of the American Orchid Society's members and trustees meetings. Hosting the AOS as part of your annual show can be a rewarding experience for your society as well as taking your show to the 'next level' having international or national prominence. AOS is looking for locations for upcoming meetings starting in the Fall of 2014 and beyond. Other orchid Alliances that often join the AOS at many of these shows are the Orchid Digest, the Slipper Orchid Alliance and the Phalaenopsis Alliance. These joint meetings are an incredible opportunity to learn about the fascinating world of orchids.

4. As fall is approaching, the AOS is getting this year's Orchid Source Directory ready for printing. Each affiliated society will be listed at no cost with the information on file with the AOS. If your society has changed your meeting locations, dates, times, addresses, website or email, please let Membership Services (theAOS@aos.org) at AOS know so the most up-to-date information is printed. In addition if you have an orchid related business and want to be included in the directory contact John Wrench at AOS (jwrench@aos.org) for the form. The cost for a business listing is \$150 and includes both the printed listing as well as our online directory. August 31 is the deadline for these listings.

5. Do you know what your society's renewal date is? Starting three months prior to expiration, a renewal notice for all membership levels is included in the magazine polybag. If you or your society happened to have missed these, we'd love to have you back. Please contact the office at theAOS@aos.org or by phone at 205-740-2010 to inquire about expiration dates.

A Special Thanks!

THANK YOU to the following members who donated plants to the monthly raffle:

Barbara Baines, Ellen Brand, Lynne Gollob & Linda Miller

Minutes of the Atlanta Orchid Society August, 2012 Monthly Meeting

1. Geni Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm.

- The Annual Fundraising Plant auction will be held September 10th.
- A hospitality volunteer is needed.
- Last month's minutes were approved.

2. Maureen Pulignano introduced the speaker, Mark Reinke of Marble Branch Farms.

3. Mark Reinke gave a presentation about miniature and compact cattleya orchids titled "Honey I Shrunk the Orchids."

4. The treasury report was given by Clark Weisner. The silent auction brought in \$253.00.

5. The meeting was closed by Geni Smith.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessica Wackerman
Secretary

Mid-American Orchid Congress Fall Show



While nursing your orchids through this hot, hot summer, pause to contemplate a cool break October 27-28 for the Haunting Beauty Orchid Show and Mid-America Orchid Congress Fall Meeting in Kansas City.

Registered attendees will enjoy lectures by noted orchid authorities including:

- **Dr. Ed de Vogel**, who participated in the New Guinea Orchid Project to catalog the island's nearly 3,000 species. He will give his keynote talk on the

Bulbophyllums of New Guinea and another on the Dendrobiums.

- **Dr. Mary Gerritsen**, co-author with Ron Parsons of "Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World" will speak on "Masdevallias: Selected Species and How to Grow Them."
- **Tom Mirinda**, orchid collection specialist for the Smithsonian Institution and regular columnist for Orchids, will be the main attraction for the banquet Saturday evening, speaking on "Orchid Travels in Costa Rica."

In addition to the hundreds of orchids displayed in the show themed for the Halloween season, you will peruse the offerings of seven orchid vendors from across the country. You can also tour the cave full of orchids that is Bird's Botanicals. And if you're planning to attend, consider also entering a display.

Go to the show website, <http://kcorchidshow.org/> for more information, to download registration forms, or to register online.

Doris Asher, Editor, MAOC The Mid-American

South Metro Orchid Society Auction and Picnic

South Metro Orchid Society's annual Picnic/Auction is October 20, 2102 at the residence of Mike and Mary Cawthon. Set up begins at 11 a.m., the picnic at noon and the auction proper at 1 p.m. It is both a fund raiser for the society and a fun time to cookout and enjoy the ending of the summer. We would like to extend an invitation to the Atlanta Orchid Society members to attend, and offer them the opportunity to donate plants for the auction. All proceeds from the auction go to the society (SMOS). For detailed directions please email Bill White at flaskman@theatlantaorchidco.com or map it at:

Mike and Mary Cawthon
135 S. Mount Carmel Rd.
McDonough, GA 30253-6322
678-583-4096

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners August 2012

Notes and comments by Mark Alan Reinke

Photos courtesy of Cheryl Bruce

Class I – Cattleya Group



Blue – *Cattleya bicahoi* (formerly *Laelia dayana*) – David Johnston

This sweet little miniature from the mountains around Rio de Janeiro in Brazil, which had been known for many years as *Laelia dayana*, creates one of the more complicated situations in the reassignment of Brazilian *Laelia* and *Sophranitis* to the genus *Cattleya*. The problem stems from the fact that in addition to this species, Mr. Day lends his name to two natural hybrids of Brazilian species that have nothing at all to do with this particular one, but under the new nomenclature would both be called *Cattleya Dayana* or *Cattleya x dayana* (the common way to signify a hybrid that occurs in nature). There is the one which formerly was *Laeliocattleya Dayana* (*C. velutina* x *L. crispata*) and the one always known as *Cattleya Dayana* (*C. forbesii* x *guttata*). The solution The RHS adopted involved creating an entirely new name for the species, which honors H.D.Bicalho, who published a detailed account about the differences of this species in relation to *C. pumila* and *C. praestans*. *Cattleya balcalhoi*

grows on moss and lichen covered tree trunks in humid environments with bright diffused light usually near streams. It likes to be well watered and perfectly drained year round, with perhaps less water in winter as long as humidity can be maintained at high levels. The individual flowers are large for the plant size, borne one per inflorescence. Their tendency toward somewhat droopy segments is offset by a striking dark purple lip with a white throat highlighted by raised keels of the same dark purple. A few selected varieties have much better form and are worth seeking out. Rare semi-alba and cerulean forms are occasionally available commercially as well and both of these types display better than average form.

Red – *Cattlianthe Fireball Beauty* – David Johnston

White – *Cattleya Mini Purple 'Blue Hawaii'*, AM/AOS – David Johnston

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group



Blue – *Dendrobium bullenianum* – Maureen Pulignano

This beautiful species comes from mainly low elevations of Western Samoa and the Philippines (some sources also include Vietnam) and is easy to grow given warm, bright conditions. It receives regular rainfall year round in its natural habitat so doesn't require a rest period to flower, but does prefer excellent drainage and may be grown mounted in a controlled humidity environment. While the individual flowers are not large, their bright color and larger numbers make well grown plants quite showy. Each flower, borne in clusters at the nodes of older leafless canes in late summer and occasionally at other times as well, is bright yellow to amber with red or purple stripes. They are generally long lasting. Five hybrids have been registered between it and other *Dendrobium* that have similar growth and blooming habits. For the most part they create variations in the color palette but are otherwise very similar to the parent species. It is reportedly tolerant of temperatures in the mid-50's at night in winter and therefore should be grown more often alongside cattleya types and vandaceous orchids.

Red – *Dendrobium oligophyllum* – Geni Smith

White – *Dendrobium bracteosum* – Greg Smith

Class IV – Epidendrum Group



Blue – *Epidendrum diffusum* – David Johnston

This highly unique reed-stem type *Epidendrum* lives up to its name with clouds of tiny flowers borne on branched inflorescences that can be several times larger than the compact growths from which they arise. The intricate, but not brightly colored flowers are semi-translucent with narrow, spreading segments, usually tinged reddish-brown in contrast to the triangular, yellow-green lip. It is an extremely widespread species found in varied habitats and elevations throughout the Caribbean basin and responds well to bright intermediate to warm conditions in cultivation. Give it frequent water with only slight drying during the growing season, and much less during the shorter, cooler days of winter. There are no registered hybrids made using this orchid. If it is genetically compatible with other members of the genus, some interesting results might occur!

Red – *Prosthechea rhyncophora* – Maureen Pulignano

White – *Hexesia bidentata* – David Johnston

This interesting species from Central and South America should have been entered in Class I as it is allied with *Cattleya* and not with *Epidendrum* despite having a vaguely reed-stem like growth habit. It is entered under class 16, "Cattleya allied genera species other than above" in the Mid-America show schedule.



The J.C. Mobley Cultural Award was given to this enormous *Dendrochilum magnum* grown by Cora Ramborger and entered under Class IX.

Class V – Oncidium Group



Blue – *Miltonia moreliana* - Maureen Pulignano

Kew and the RHS give this Brazilian orchid separate species status, while others consider it a variety of *Miltonia spectabilis*. That species is a common species in the rain forests of the states of Rio de Janeiro and Espirito Santo, while *Milt. moreliana* is restricted to a smaller area in Espirito Santo only. Its flowers are a deeper and richer purple than the typical form of *Milt. spectabilis*, but otherwise the flower size and plant habits are essentially identical. There are, however, more improved forms of *Milt. moreliana* commercially available therefore a higher number of flower quality awards, including an FCC for 'Hartford's Ebony Star' exhibited in August, 1995. This is a very easy and forgiving orchid to grow and bloom, doing well under a variety of light conditions and warm to intermediate temperatures. Under bright light, the foliage and pseudobulbs will have quite a bit of yellow and this is normal, usually resulting in stronger growth and more flowers. The large showy flowers and easy cultivation have made this species a popular parent, despite the fact that there is rarely more than one bloom per inflorescence.

Red – *Oncostele Catatante* 'Pacific Sun Spots' – Lynne Gollob

White – *Aliceara Hilo Ablaze* 'HOF' – Greg Smith

Class VI – Cypripedium Group



Blue – *Mexipedium xerophyticum* – Maureen Pulignano

Mexipedium xerophyticum is an extraordinary miniature orchid related to *Phragmipedium* and found growing on rocks in a limited area of the Caribbean slope in the state Oaxaca, Mexico. Small, tough fan shaped growths, resembling a much reduced strap-leaved *Paphiopedilum* arise from a somewhat wandering underground rhizome. From these growths arise a pubescent inflorescence a few inches high that typically bears two branches and can produce up to 4 or 5 tiny slipper flowers that are also pubescent and rather short lived. They have a charming elfin quality and are pure white with a touch of pink in the column. The name implies that it is a dry grower, but this is not entirely accurate. The climate in its area of natural distribution receives an average of almost 100 inches of rain per year, 85% of which occurs from June through November, with the remainder of the year much drier, but a humidity of at least 80% is maintained year round. This means that plentiful dew occurs even when there is no rain. A fairly moisture retentive, but fast draining mix is recommended in relatively shallow and broad container that can accommodate the wandering growths.

Red – *Phragmipedium After Glow* – Cora Ramborger

White – *Paphiopedium glaucophyllum* var. *moquetteanum* – Barbara Barnett

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Group



Blue – *Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* – Geni Smith

See last month's newsletter (August, 2012) for information about this species.

Red – *Phalaenopsis Lucifer 'Crestwood'* – Roy Harrow

White – *Phalaenopsis Darling Taiwan 'Casablanca Smile'* – Geni Smith

Class VIII – Vandaceous Group



Blue – *Paravanda Mecca's Candy 'Sweet Tooth,'* HCC/AOS – Nancy Newton and in memory of David Glass

This beautiful and unusual cross between *Paraphalaenopsis laycockii* and *Vanda teres* was made by Ron Ciesinski of Taylor Orchids in Monroe, Michigan and registered in 1992. Luckily, the 'Sweet Tooth' variety was mericloned by Carter & Holmes and made available to a wider group of hobby growers. It is not included in their current price list so they may have sold out by now. If you were lucky enough to obtain one, you would want to grow it bright, in a basket, in warm to intermediate temperatures and with regular watering, preferably daily during the warm months when it is actively growing. A well grown plant can bear two or more inflorescences of up to 6 attractive pink flowers with orange and yellow markings in the lip.

Red – *Angraecum Lemförde White Beauty* – Bob Grzesik

Red – *Ascocenda Motes Burning Sands 'Mary Motes,'* HCC/AOS – Nancy Newton and in memory of David Glass

White – *Angraecum subulatum* – Cora Ramborger

Class IX – Miscellaneous



Blue – *Ornithocephalus inflexus* – Cora Ramborger

There may be as many as 50 species of *Ornithocephalus* spread across tropical areas of the Americas, generally growing in humid, shady locations with warm to intermediate conditions. The genus name refers to the column to a birds head. This particular species is named for the bent or sharply turned flower parts. The fan shaped plants grow from southern Mexico to Panama in areas that receive plentiful rainfall most of the year. It does best mounted with daily watering in summer and somewhat less in winter. Well grown specimens may have many flowers at once and at least two cultural awards have been given by the AOS for plants bearing well over 1000 flowers. There have been no registered hybrids produced from this orchid.

Red – *Stanhopea* ssp. – Cora Ramborger

White – *Bulbophyllum carunculatum* x *mandibulare* – Greg Smith

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.

RECENT ACTIVITY OF 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 award photographs are © Maureen Pulignano



Bulbophyllum *Levyae* 'Chasus,' CHM/AOS
Exhibited by Charles and Susan Wilson



*Cattleya Callistoglossa 'Palmetto Red Star,' AM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Missbach*



*Dendrobium sarawakense 'Chasus,'
CHM/AOS
Exhibited by Charles and Susan Wilson*



*Doritaenopsis Peter Blue Sky 'Stones River,'
AM/AOS
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



*Paphiopedilum Irish Lace 'Oxford's
Buttercup,' HCC/AOS
Exhibited by David Kessler*

**8th Annual
Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium
October 26th & 27th**

Speakers

Alan Koch - Gold Country Orchids

David Off - Waldor Orchids

Roy Tokunaga - H & R Nurseries, Inc.

Marguerite Webb - J & L Orchids

AOS Judging Forum headed by Rob Griesbach

Vendors

*Gold Country Orchids, H&R Nurseries, Inc., J&L Orchids,
Orchid Enterprise, Inc. and Waldor Orchids*

EVENT SCHEDULE

Friday, October 26th

7:00pm Welcome - Rob Griesbach

7:15pm - 8:15pm Roy Tokunaga

8:15pm - 9:30pm Roy Tokunaga and Alan Koch

Saturday, October 27th

8:45am Welcome - Rob Griesbach

9:00am - 10:30am Dave Off

10:30am - Noon Marguerite Webb

Noon - 1:00pm Buffet Lunch and Plant Sales

1:00pm - 2:30pm AOS Judging Forum

2:30pm - 4:00pm Alan Koch

4:00pm - 6:00pm Plant Sales - Open to Public

Location:

Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel

42nd Street & Atlantic Avenue

Virginia Beach, VA

Website and Registration: mhsvposium.org