



# 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, 2013

[www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org](http://www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org)

Volume 54: Number 9

## SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

## ANNUAL AUCTION AND POT LUCK DINNER

September 9, 2013

*Note early time - Pot-Luck Starts at 6:00 PM*

**Auction Begins at 7:00 PM  
No Ribbon Judging**

Rock Spring Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall  
1824 Piedmont Ave.  
Atlanta, GA 30324

Enter Behind Main Church

[Map to Auction Location](#)

Pot-luck Dish Assignments:

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

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!

Some of the highlights of this year's auction include:

A large number of Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium from the collection of Dr. Walter F. Cain of Birmingham, AL, including the



*A sampling of some of the hard to find orchids that will be auctioned*

sought after *Phragmipedium kovachii*.

Established divisions of awarded and/or unusual and scarce Cattleya hybrids from Marble Branch Farms.

A selection of Bulbophyllum including divisions from award plants.

Stanhopea from the collection of Julie Walkosky.

Plus a wide range of additional plants including vandaceous and botanicals from Steve Arthur Orchids, Jewell Orchids, R.F. Orchids, Motes Orchids, KeikiPro, Gand's Greenhouse, & the estate of Gene Gadilhe.

### In This Issue

#### Page

- 2 ATLOS Volunteer Listing
- 3 Events Calendar  
President's Message
- 4 Minutes from the August Meeting
- 5 Monthly Ribbon Winners For August
- 9 Julie Walkosky in Memorial
- 10 Notes on Linda Wilhelm's Talk on Stanhopea
- 11 AOS Award Photos

## THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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[Terry Glover](#) 404-719-6897

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

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

[Ellen Brand](#) 770-518-8425

### Other Volunteers

AOS Rep – Maureen Pulignano

Greengrowers – Mark Reinke

Librarian – Walter Echols

MAOC Rep – [Doug Hartong](#)

Meeting Hospitality – [Ellen Brand](#)

Membership Chair – Geni Smith

Mentoring Coordinator–  
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Plant Raffle – Terry Glover

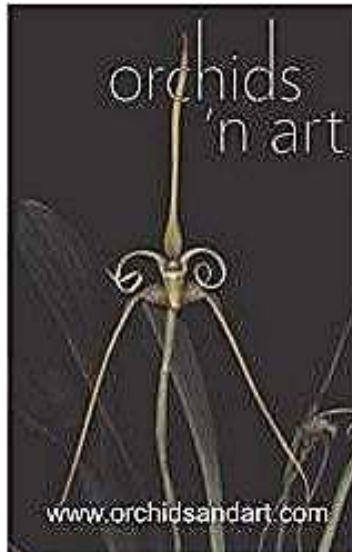
Monthly Ribbon Judging –  
[David Mellard](#)

Newsletter – [Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep– [Fred Missbach](#)

Show Chairs 2014  
Danny Lentz & Roy Harrow

Website Committee  
Maureen Pulignano  
Mark Reinke  
& Jan Spenard



OCTOBER 19-20, 2013

The Dayton Art Institute  
456 Belmonte Park North  
Dayton, Ohio 45405

Special Events:  
Friday Night Preview Party

Saturday Night Gala Banquet,  
Auction & Keynote Address by  
Angela Mirro

Sunday Only Tripod Photo Time  
& Orchid Photography Lecture

Spouse Tours:  
Dayton Art Institute  
&  
Museum of the  
United States Air Force

Host Hotel:  
Crown Plaza Hotel  
33 East Fifth Street  
800-593-5447  
Show Room Rate: \$109 + tax.

The Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society  
and the  
Miami Valley Orchid Society  
in partnership with  
The Dayton Art Institute  
Welcome you to the

## FALL 2013 MID AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS

### ORCHID SHOW & SALE

#### SPEAKERS SATURDAY

#### Chris Purver

Eric Young Orchid Foundation, United Kingdom  
"Oncidiinae at the Eric Young Orchid Foundation"

#### Erich Michel

Michel Orchid Nursery, Indiana  
"The Genus Phalaenopsis in the 21st Century"

#### Holger Perner

Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology, China  
"Paphiopedilum- Their Culture and Propagation"

#### Angela Mirro

Botanical Artist, New York  
"Orchids in Art and Illustration"

#### SUNDAY

#### Holger Perner

Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology, China  
"Dendrobiums of China"

#### Lynn O'Shaughnessy

American Orchid Society Judge  
& Photographer, Michigan  
"Orchid Photography"

Maxillaria fractifera 'David Sauer' HCC/AOS  
Photo by: James E McCulloch



When you're serious about Orchids

### 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 \$39/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 edition devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact [Fred Missbach](#) (404-237-1694) or visit [www.orchiddigest.com](http://www.orchiddigest.com) to join online

## Events Calender

### September

#### 9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Annual Fundraising Auction/ Pot Luck  
Rock Spring Presbyterian Church, 6 p.m.

#### 14 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta

Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

#### 20-22 – 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Alabama Orchid Society and Sale.

Birmingham Botanical Gardens  
2612 Park Lane Rd, Birmingham, Alabama

### October

#### 5 – Greengrowers outing to Marble Branch Farms,

Walhalla, SC. Many members have requested an opportunity to see the carnivorous plant bog in its full glory just before frost.

#### 12 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta

Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

#### 14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.

Thanh Nguyen – Springwater Orchids, FL  
“Paphiopedilum”

### November

#### 9 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta

Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop

#### 11- Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.

Larry Mayse – Nature Glassworks, Alpharetta, GA  
“Kool-Logs are the result of over 30 years of experience in growing cooler climate orchids in the difficult climate of the Southeastern United States. “

## President's Message



I am certain many of you have looked at names on the roster – names that do not bring a face readily to mind – and noticed that several of them have been members for many years. Some have been members of the Atlanta Orchid Society for decades. Although you may not have seen them at our functions, you should know who they are. We are very fortunate to have nationally, indeed world renowned members. Here are a few of them:

**Gail & Peter Furniss** - Each has served multiple positions on the AtIOS board, including president. Gail has served the American Orchid Society in many capacities. Pete has served AOS at many levels including president and currently as Treasurer. Gail & Pete are both Accredited AOS Judges with the Atlanta Judging Center.

Pete's service on the World Orchid Conference Trust began as Trustee in 1992 and he has been President twice – 1996 to 1999 and 2005 to 2012. The Organizing Committee of the 17th World Orchid Conference presented him with a Gold Medal of Appreciation in Shah Alam, Malaysia, in 2002. From 1995-2007, he was an Honorary Advisor to the Asian Pacific Orchid Conference Main Committee and served on the International Orchid Commission from 1993 until 2008. He was a Vice Chairman for the last 6 years of that service.

Pete also serves on the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) Orchid Committee as well as the RHS Advisory Sub-Committee on Orchid Hybrid Registration. In April of this year Pete was honored with the prestigious RHS Veitch Memorial Medal.

**Aileen & Barney Garrison** – Aileen and Barney have been members of the Atlanta orchid Society since 1974. They have each served AtIOS in many capacities, with Aileen serving as president in 1982. Both are Accredited AOS Judges. Aileen has served multiple terms as President of the Atlanta Judging Center. She Chaired the AOS Judging Committee and has held positions on the American Orchid Society Board of Trustees. Aileen currently is currently of President of the Mid-America Orchid Congress.

**Lowell Jacks** – Lowell has also been a member of AtIOS since 1974 and served as president in 1981. He is an Accredited AOS Judge who will once again chair the Atlanta Judging Center in 2014. Lowell has also served on many levels with AOS, including treasurer.

**Fred Missbach** – Fred joined the Atlanta Orchid Society in 1993 and served as our president in 1999. Fred is most famous for his many, many years as chair of our annual auction. Fred has served on the AOS Board of Trustees, including his current position of Vice President. In addition to his AOS duties, Fred is currently President of the Orchid Digest Corporation. You are likely to find these members in regular attendance at the Atlanta Judging Center on the second Saturday of each month. Stop by, introduce yourself and say, “Thank you!”

*Maureen Pulignano*

## Minutes of the August 2013 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Date: August 12, 2013, 8:00 pm

Location: Day Hall, Atlanta Botanical Gardens

The meeting, attended by 40 people, was called to order by the president, Maureen Pulignano.

Six guests were introduced – Kelly and Bill Pierce, David Ketcham, Paul Eaton and Emily Burroughs with her infant son Ethan. Maureen announced that Roger Butler and Kevin Holcomb joined the society in the last month.

Mark Reinke introduced the speaker Linda Wilhelm who gave a talk entitled "The Magnificent Stanhopea". She gave an excellent, educational talk with a mix of cultural requirements and pictures of the beautiful flowers of the various Stanhopeas.

Maureen Pulignano announced that a plant belonging to the late Gene Gadilhe would be available for bidding at the silent auction.

Members and guests enjoyed refreshments that Ellen Brand, hospitality chair, organized with donations by Geni Smith, Barbara Dampog, Laurel Burroughs and others.

Doug Hartong, Barbara Barnett and David Mellard performed the ribbon judging during the refreshment break.

After the break, the president asked for approval of the minutes from the meeting of July 8, 2013. There was a motion to approve the minutes as published in the newsletter. This was seconded and accepted.

Announcements:

- ❖ There was a \$139.90 donation to the society from the auction held at Roy Harrow's house.

- ❖ Maureen Pulignano announced that Gary Collier would be chairman of the committee to nominate a slate of officers and trustees for 2014. The Board of Trustees appointed Greg Smith and Jan Spenard to the committee. The society members in attendance are required to elect another member from among the members of the current board of trustees. Those present elected David Mellard.

- ❖ David Mellard asked Jason Mills to take a picture and submit a short write-up of the cold case he uses for his cool-growing orchids. David felt this would be an interesting and educational item.

Mark Reinke and David Mellard announced winners of the monthly table judging.

Greg Smith and Bob Gzesik donated plants for the monthly raffle that was conducted by Terry Glover. The plant from the estate of Gene Gadilhe was in the silent auction.

Maureen Pulignano adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

*Nancy Newton, Secretary*

### INVITATION FROM South Metro Orchid Society To their

#### Annual Picnic and Auction

September 21, 2013

Lunch at 1:00pm Auction follows  
(Covered dish, canned drinks, plant donations accepted, 10% to SMOS)

Home of Mary Cawthon  
135 South Mt. Carmel Rd  
McDonough, GA 30253

Information: Bill White, Sec.  
404-202-9131

[flaskman@TheAtlantaOrchidCo.com](mailto:flaskman@TheAtlantaOrchidCo.com)

#### From Fayetteville:

Hwy 54 North to McDonough Road – Turn RIGHT

McDonough Road to Tara Blvd

Cross Tara Blvd – Cross Bridge

[McDonough Rd changes names to

Jonesboro Rd aka Truett Cathy Rd]

Turn LEFT onto Jonesboro Rd

Second traffic light – Turn RIGHT onto North Mt Carmel Rd

Turn LEFT onto Mt Carmel Rd

Turn RIGHT onto South Mt Carmel Rd

3<sup>rd</sup> House on LEFT – 135 South Mt Carmel Rd 678-583-4096

#### From I-75 South:

Exit # 221

Turn RIGHT – Jonesboro Rd

1<sup>st</sup> traffic light – Turn LEFT onto Mill Rd

At 4-way stop – Turn RIGHT – Mt Carmel Rd

Go through next 4-way stop – crossing

Chambers Rd

1<sup>st</sup> paved road on LEFT – South Mt Carmel

Rd – Then 3<sup>rd</sup> house on the LEFT

3<sup>rd</sup> house on LEFT – 135 South Mt Carmel Rd



## American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

### 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.

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Student Membership 1 year \$40, 2 years \$75

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

## Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners August 2013

Comments by Mark Alan Reinke  
Photos by Cheryl Bruce

### Class I – Cattleya Group

**Blue** – *Cattleytonia* Flying Colors  
'Mendenhall,' HCC/AOS – Gary  
Collier & Mark Reinke

*Cattleytonia* Flying Colors  
'Mendenhall,' HCC/AOS is  
comprised of just three species,  
one of which will surprise anyone  
looking at the plant. Those  
species are *Broughtonia*  
*sanguinea*, *Cattleya* (syn. *Laelia*)  
*breigeri*, and *C. bicolor*. The two  
dwarf species all but obliterate any  
trace of the latter species, which is  
a tall and narrow growing bi-foliolate.  
The resulting plant is very small,  
very tight growing, and very slow  
to increase in size. But when  
mature (such as this example  
which took a decade to reach its  
present size) it can put up several  
showy spikes of flowers at once,  
two or more times per year. Each  
bloom is about two inches across,  
with a bright yellow background,  
very lightly overlaid with purple on  
the petal tips and heavily overlaid  
with the same color on the lip.  
They last in good condition for up  
to two months. Our attempts to  
breed with this charming orchid



*Ctna.* Flying Colors 'Mendenhall'

have been unsuccessful, although  
we have *one* seedling only from a  
cross that takes it back to the *C.*  
*breigeri* parent. It is a shame it  
isn't more fertile since the strong  
flower spikes are a big plus in  
miniature breeding, which is often  
dominated by the weak spike of *C.*  
*coccinea*. Given the parents of  
this cross, it needs perfect  
drainage and should dry out  
completely between watering. It is  
difficult to grow it *too* bright, and it  
is comfortable in a temperature  
range between 50 and 95  
Fahrenheit.

**Red** – *Guariton* (syn.  
*Cattleytonia*) Why Not – Geni  
Smith

**White** – *Cattleya harrisoniana* –  
Danny Lentz

### Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

### Class III – Dendrobium Group

**Blue** – *Dendrobium laevifolium* –  
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

The "Shiny Leaved Dendrobium"  
is a totally enchanting species  
that rarely exceeds a few inches  
in height, yet can be covered for  
months in relatively large flowers

that are typically pink or purple,  
though a pale peachy yellow form  
also exists. It is native to a  
number of islands in the southwest  
Pacific Ocean, from just east of the  
mainland of Papua New Guinea to  
Vanuatu, and grows in thick moss  
at the base of trees, or among  
dense mosses and lichens on  
stunted trees in misty forests  
where the near constant moisture  
is punctuated by brief bursts of  
bright sunshine. Ranging from  
about 1700 to 7700 feet above sea  
level, it is a cool to intermediate  
grower. Often considered difficult  
to cultivate, it needs to be  
constantly moist, yet not soggy,  
and receive both high humidity and  
constant air movement, and would  
prefer to stay below 80 degrees  
during the day and in the 50's or  
60's at night. While these  
conditions are difficult to achieve  
with most growing environments  
inside the home, they are possible  
in a greenhouse where  
evaporative coolers and shading  
can keep this orchid happy though  
our hot summer months. Anyone  
who grows *Masdevallia* or  
miniature Pleurothallids would  
have no problem with this plant.  
One of our members, Larry Mayse,  
who is our upcoming November  
speaker, has developed a product  
he calls Kool-Logs; porous ceramic  
vessels designed to hold water  
*inside*, with a cool loving orchid  
mounted on the *outside*, where  
evaporation is taking place as  
water wicks through the ceramic,  
keeping the roots cool. We have  
tried *Dendrobium laevifolium* on  
Kool-Logs and the plants are  
flourishing, so this could be a  
solution for growing this species  
more easily here in the South.  
Blooming can occur at any time,  
with a preference for summer to  
fall, and occurs mostly from older  
growths that are partially or fully  
leafless. The shiny leaves on the  
newer growths make a wonderful  
backdrop for the sparkling flowers.

**Red** – *Dendrobium bracteosum* –  
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke



*Dendrobium laevifolium*

## Class IV – Epidendrum Group

**Blue** – *Epidendrum ciliare* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

This night fragrant species is widespread throughout the Caribbean basin, Mexico, Central America and parts of South America as far south as Brazil and it often forms large colonies on rocks and trees. Years ago, Gary and I came across an extensive population clambering over rocks near a small waterfall on the island of St. John, US Virgin Islands. Out of bloom, the plant resembles some type of unifoliate cattleya, but when in flower it is unmistakable, with widespread, narrow, greenish-white starry segments and a unique deeply 3-lobed lip whose outer portions are finely lacinated. These irregular filaments are what inspire the specific name. As would be expected from such a widespread species, there is quite a bit of variation in plant size, as well as flower size and quality from population to population. The bloom season is also quite variable and can occur at any month depending on the particular plant. This example has always flowered in mid to late summer, while another clone growing next to it flowers in spring. Typical “cattleya” culture: bright, diffuse light, intermediate to warm temperatures, excellent drainage, with regular watering while in active growth and somewhat less when not, will produce good results with this species. Though its curious looking flowers have inspired many hybrids, most seem to fail at producing exciting results. One exception was a cross that paired a very high quality form, *Epi. ciliare* ‘Vivian,’ FCC/AOS with *Rlc. Toshie Aoki* ‘Pizazz,’ AM/AOS. Two seedlings from that cross, which is now registered as *Rhyncatdendrum* Doctor Rafael Sobrino, went on to receive Awards of Merit from the AOS, bearing striking flowers nearly five inches across.



*Epidendrum ciliare*



*Rnd. Dr. Rafael Sobrino 'Paraiso,'*  
AM/AOS

**Red** – *Prosthechea* (syn. *Encyclia*)  
*vitellina* – Jason Mills

**White** – *Prosthechea* Green  
Hornet – Geni Smith

## Class V – Oncidium Group

**Blue** – *Lockhartia imbricata* –  
Carson Barnes



*Lockhartia imbricata*

In March, *Lockhartia acuta* received a blue ribbon in Class V, making this the second species of this unusual genus to receive a first place honor this year. Looking at the flowers alone, it is not difficult to place them among the Oncidinae. But the plant itself is quite another matter, with curious, elongated growths clasped by fleshy triangular leaves that resemble a braided belt. Successively blooming inflorescences emerge from leaf axils near the tip of each growth, and mature plants can be in flower most of the year. This particular species ranges across northern South American from Ecuador to French Guiana, and onto the island of Trinidad, and grows from near sea level up to over 5000 feet above. The plants are fairly adaptable and can make a clump quickly. While they don't like being disturbed, older plants with many stems tend not to bloom as well, so when they begin to slow in their performance it is best to divide them and repot in spring. There is no true winter rest for this species, so water only slightly less in winter in conjunction with cloudy, damp weather. Good drainage is essential with pot culture, while mounted culture is best only where humidity levels can be controlled and frequent summer watering is possible.

**Red** – *Miltonia* Lake Sammamish – Carson Barnes

**White** – *Brassia arcuigera* 'Pumkin Patch' – Carson Barnes

### **Class VI – Cyrtopidium Group**

**Blue** – *Phragmipedium longifolium* var. *gracilis* – Carson Barnes

See last month's newsletter (August, 2013) for a discussion about this unusual form of a Central and South American species.

### **Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group**



*Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica* variety *alba*

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica* var. *alba* – Bob Grzesik

*Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica* was so named because the pattern of intricate red markings on the flowers might suggest rows of Egyptian hieroglyphs. In this unusual color form the red pigment is entirely absent and the markings are a pale, clear green on a nearly white background, offset by a chevron of deeper yellow on the lip callus. The species is native to shady, humid, warm environments in the Philippines and grows well under lights with even conditions year round. It is frequently recommended that the temperature for the water used on *Phal. hieroglyphica* be 70 degrees Fahrenheit or warmer, and that a bit of crushed limestone in the mix is beneficial. As with related species, the inflorescences continue to grow and produce flushes of flowers in season for several to many years, so do not remove them unless they are obviously dead. This species has been used little as a parent in the



*Phragmipedium longifolium* var. *gracilis*

past, but more crosses have been registered recently, with 13 of the 15 first generation hybrids added in just the last decade.

**Red** – *Phalaenopsis* (syn. *Doritaenopsis*) Tying Shin Blue Jay – Geni Smith

**White** – *Phalaenopsis* Dottie Woodson – Bob Grzesik

## Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

**Blue** – *Vanda tricolor* var. *suavis* 'Bali Bottlerocket,' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

This same plant received the blue ribbon at our May, 2013 meeting on a different inflorescence, so you can read my write up on the species in the June, 2013 newsletter. Comparing photos, I would say that the markings are even more boldly expressed on the current flowering than they were when the plant received its Award of Merit in May. I post both photos here so you can judge for yourself.

**Red** – *Vanda roeblingiana* – Carson Barnes

**White** – *Aeranthes grandiflora* – Carson Barnes

## Class IX – Miscellaneous

**Blue** – *Catesetum* Dragon's Teeth 'Rolf's Flight of Fancy,' AM/AOS – Danny Lentz

This 1991 introduction from the now closed JEM Orchids of Delray Beach, FL is a primary hybrid between *Ctism. fimbriatum* and *Ctism. saccatum* and displays the best qualities of both parents. At least four separate plants from the cross have received an Award of Merit from the American Orchid Society. 'Rolf's Flight of Fancy' is in reference to Rolf Wilhelm of Woodland Orchids in Charlotte, NC, which received the award in August of 1997. It is interesting that our August speaker was Linda Wilhelm, Rolf's wife and partner in the business! While both species



*Vanda tricolor* var. *suavis* 'Bali Bottlerocket,' AM/AOS  
(Photo taken August, 2013)



*Vanda tricolor* var. *suavis* 'Bali Bottlerocket,' AM/AOS  
(Photo taken May 2013)

represented in this orchid are from warm lowland climates in South America that are seasonally dry in winter, their natural ranges come close, but do not overlap. *Catesetum*, along with related genera such as *Cycnoches*, and *Mormodes* are not difficult to grow but are deciduous, and a dry winter rest must be strictly followed or they will easily rot. New growth emerges quickly from the base of the previous year's pseudobulbs in spring and watering should not begin until it is several inches high and new roots are about an inch long, since any water trapped inside the new shoot can easily cause rot and set the plant back. Once that growth is well underway, water and fertilizer should be given regularly and often, but drainage must be excellent so that the roots do not remain soggy. Growth matures by mid-summer and flower typically begins shortly thereafter. These plants can produce both male and female flowers, usually on separate inflorescences. The male flowers are typically the showiest and are said to be more likely if plants are kept slightly more shaded in the middle of summer. But some sources repudiate this idea and assert that larger, healthier growths are more likely to produce female flowers regardless of culture. As fall approaches, watering should be reduced. The leaves normally will yellow and fall off naturally by late fall. If they are still present on the plant by December, then watering should



*Catesetum* Dragon's Teeth 'Rolf's Flight of Fancy,' AM/AOS

be withheld completely to force the plant into dormancy. Water only enough to prevent excessive shriveling of the bare bulbs until, once again, spring growth is well underway. Most growers repot plants every year or two as they are resentful of stale or broken down media. Excellent air movement will help reduce the possibility of the nemesis of Catesinae, spider mites.

**Red** – *Oeceoclades petiolata* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

**White** – *Liparis nutans* – Roy Harrow



## Julie Walkosky –in Memorial

*Fred Missbach and David Mellard*

As most of you already know, Julie Walkosky passed away on August 15, 2013. She joined the Atlanta Orchid Society in 1994 and regularly attended meetings until the last couple of years when illness prevented her getting out. We remember her as someone with a kind and gentle spirit and especially remember the warmth that she greeted everyone.

From the time she joined, Julie was extremely active in all aspects of the society and supported the success of the club and its members. She actively supported the Mid America meeting in Atlanta in the late 1990s and was one of the first to volunteer for many committees. She solicited garden centers leaving handouts about the meeting. For one of our auctions she gathered many items from plants to art work. She also supported our auctions, making significant purchases to benefit the society. She loved cooking and tried to establish a recipe exchange within the society with the idea of a society cook book as a gift to members and as a way to promote camaraderie within the club.

In particular, Julie was adept at growing cool-growing orchids and frequently walked in with masdevallias and draculas for the judging table. The ribbon judge announcer would frequently ask, "Jules, how did you do this – grow these really temperature-sensitive orchids in Atlanta!!!!" She cheerfully explained that she had set up an air conditioner in her greenhouse and thus created the microclimate that these orchids need. Some will remember her bringing blooming orchids to meetings and judgments in a Styrofoam box, which contained frozen 2 liter plastic bottles to keep them cool. That's dedication to your orchid craft. She gave a talk to a southern California orchid club

on this system that was very well received.

Julie's plants received two awards from the American Orchid Society, both at monthly judging at the Atlanta Judging Center at the garden: *Stanhopea hernandezii* 'Jules', AM/AOS (9/13/2003) and *Stanhopea ecornuta* 'Julie', CHM/AOS (8/9/1997).

Julie also attended many orchid events, including numerous Redland shows to further expand her collection. She freely offered whatever available space she had in her greenhouse to those who needed some extra space to park plants for a while as well as hosting at least two GreenGrowers meetings.

What many might not know is that Julie was an accomplished artist, painting orchids as well as other plants. She also contributed original cover artwork for our membership roster when she issued a print edition. Those that still have these will remember the quality of her work. She also was even a better photographer and her work was not only awarded here but was also accepted at the Tokyo Dome Show where it was very well received.

Many years ago, the society organized a *Cypripedium acaule* rescue in Gwinnet County on a small parcel of land that was scheduled for development. About 15 members showed up, including Julie and her husband, George. By their interactions, you could tell that George loved her very much as we all did. Everyone that attended had a wonderful time and learned a lot about this common but difficult to grow native slipper. We all left with a bucket full of plants and tried to establish them in garden. Jules was particularly excited about having this opportunity to learn and to try her hand at rescuing orchids. It's how she approached her love for orchids and the many friends she had in the society. We will miss her.



*Stanhopea hernandezii*  
'Jules,' AM/AOS



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## Notes from Linda Wilhelm's Talk on 'The Magnificent Stanhopeas'

David Mellard

Linda Wilhelm gave a wonderfully informative talk on stanhopeas at the July meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society. It's the first time I've seen a talk organized where the speaker interspersed culture among a review of the species and hybrids in the genus. What a great idea. What follows are highlights from the talk and in particular the information she provided about culture.

1. Linda started by explaining how to pronounce *Stanhopea*. The most common pronunciation in the US is Stan-hope-ee-ah. There's some controversy over the correct pronunciation because the genus was named after the Earl of Stanhope (pronounced as it's written: Stan-hope). When an orchid is named after a person (or place), the standard *Latin* pronunciation of enunciating every vowel is not used but rather the pronunciation follows how the person pronounces their name (or place). So, in this case, you will hear some folks say Stan-hope-ah. This generated a lot of good-humored laughter and ribbing and we all agreed that both are acceptable.....but only one is correct.
2. In addition to sepals, petals, and a column, which are common to all orchids, Linda reviewed the parts of the lip, which are unique to stanhopeas. The lip is made up of
  - a. a hypochile (closest to the base of the lip where it meets the column),
  - b. the mesochile in the middle of the lip,
  - c. two horns towards the apex of the lip, and
  - d. the epichile, which is the apex of the lip.
3. Speciation within the genus is determined largely by the shape and length of these exaggerated components. The sepals and petals are largely ornamental and the petals are swept back so as not to impede the pollinator when it arrives.
4. As Linda showed photos of various species and provided some facts, she began to cover the basics of culture.
5. Light:
  - a. Stanhopeas generally prefer bright, indirect sun, although they will do quite well in shady conditions, too. If the leaves are burnt at the tips, this may indicate too much sunlight.
6. Temperature:
  - a. Stanhopeas adapt to a wide range of temperatures from the 50s to the 90s F. They can handle mid to high 90s for brief periods. Most species are warm to intermediate growers and flower throughout the year but particularly during the warmer months.
7. Water:
  - a. Stanhopeas cannot be overwatered, particularly during their spring to fall growth period. They want lots of water when actively growing. Brown leaf tips can also be a sign that the plant is too dry, particularly during active growth periods.
  - b. Linda suggests not to use a mix of 100% long-fibered sphagnum moss.
8. Humidity:
  - a. Stanhopeas prefer 40 to 75% humidity.
  - b. Good air movement is a plus.
  - c. Brown spots on the leaves can result from the combination of too high humidity and too little air movement.
  - d. A brown or black spot with a yellow halo indicates a bacterial infection.
  - e. A brown or black spot without a halo indicates a fungal infection.
9. Fertilizer:
  - a. During the winter semi-rest, use a very dilute fertilizer solution
  - b. During spring to fall when most plants are actively growing increase the fertilizer concentration and frequency and in particular choose a fertilizer with calcium and magnesium added.
  - c. Linda recommends the Michigan State Reverse Osmosis Fertilizer.
  - d. Author's note: if you use the MSU RO fertilizer, ½ tsp per gallon gives a nitrogen concentration around 125 ppm nitrogen. Studies in the nursery trade have shown that this is a good nitrogen concentration for



*Stanhopea Bird of Prey*  
'Chandelier,' AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Karen Chandler  
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actively growing plants. For most granulated fertilizer, ½ tsp per gallon is a good rule of thumb for most orchids. Heavy feeders light cymbidiums can tolerate higher fertilizer concentrations.

#### 10. Potting:

- a. The best time to repot is right after the plant blooms.
- b. Most stanhopeas grow year-round, although growth may be slowed during the winter months.

#### 11. Baskets:

- a. Stanhopeas send bloom spikes out of the bottom of the pot, thus requiring pots with openings in the bottom that are large enough to allow the inflorescence to emerge.
- b. Slat-wood baskets are ok but sometimes the spike will hit the wood and not be able to emerge from the mix.
- c. Wire baskets are better but the mesh should not be too small.
- d. 8-12 inch pots are easy to find but may be too large, especially for small plants or plants that are just getting established. 4-6 inch pots are the best but they are difficult to find.
- e. Stanhopeas will produce air roots. Soak the roots in water before re-potting to make them more pliable.

#### 12. Mix:

- a. Use fiber coconut to line the basket. This will allow the inflorescence to easily emerge from the mix.
- b. The thick matted coconut fiber that is often available at nurseries is too thick and will block the inflorescence.
- c. A mix of bark, charcoal, sponge, rock, and lava rock is a good one for stanhopeas. The mix should be very open.
- d. Top the mix with sphagnum moss, which keeps the mix from being flushed out.

#### 13. Slab mounting:

- a. Tree fern is probably one of the better mounts to use because it retains some moisture.
- b. Avoid cork because it dries out too fast.
- c. Sphagnum moss between the cork and the plant will help.

#### 14. Hybrids

- a. The first *Stanhopea* hybrid was Spindlerian in 1890.
- b. There are fewer than 100 *Stanhopea* hybrids.
- c. *Stanhopea oculata* and *Stanhopea tigrina* are the most often used.
- d. Woodlands produced one of the more famous hybrids: *Stanhopea* Bird of Prey, registered in 2003. It's a cross of *Stan. (jenischiana x nigroviolacea)*.

15. Stanhopeas are in the Tribe Maxillarieae, Subtribe Stanhopeinae. Within this subtribe are several other familiar genera: *Sievekingia*, *Coryanthes*, *Embreea*, *Paphinia*, and *Gongora* to name a few.

16. Bugs are usually not a problem for stanhopeas. Cinnamon can be used on cut leaves. The most common problem is bacterial and fungal infections of the leaves. These are usually not fatal but the plant looks like a hot mess but will still flower.

### ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER AUGUST AWARD



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

### THANK YOU

Thank you to all who brought food and donated money at the August meeting. September's auction is pot luck. Please bring something according to the following alphabet list:

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

Hospitality Chair  
Ellen Brand