



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 Editors: Mark Reinke & Valorie Boyer

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

November, 2015

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NOVEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, November 9, 2015
Atlanta Botanical Garden
Day Hall - 8pm

Speaker: Ron Midgett
New Earth Orchids

"Multifloral Paphiopedilums"

Ron Midgett began growing orchids in 1969 in the orchid-rich environment of Southern California. Since then, he has grown orchids in many different regions of the US and in the Caribbean for 3 years. Currently, he resides in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He is a breeder with an emphasis on Cattleyas, Paphiopedilums, and Oncidinae. Several cultivars from his crosses have received AOS awards.

In 1990, Ron founded the New England Orchid Company in Franklin, MA. In 2003, he moved his orchid business to New Jersey and changed the name to New Earth Orchid Co., aka New Earth Orchids. In 2010, New Earth Orchids was moved to Santa Fe, NM.

In addition to Ron's activities in the orchid business, he has been very active in the local orchid societies wherever he lived. This includes serving as an officer, chairing orchid shows, and



Paphiopedilum Mount Toro is a classic example of a multi-floral hybrid, in this case a cross between Paph. stonei and Paph. philippinense. Ron Midgett of New Earth Orchids will be speaking about this type of breeding at our November meeting.

running the New England Orchid Fair for 3 years. Before leaving New Jersey, Ron founded the Jersey Highlands Orchid Society.

Ron is an accredited AOS judge currently serving in the Rocky Mountain Region. He has served as chairperson for AOS judging for the 2011 and 2012 New Mexico Orchid Guild Shows. In 2011, Ron was invited to participate in judging the Taiwan International Orchid Show.

Ron has authored articles

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Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1st - December 31st. 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 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 website at www.AtlantaBotanicalGarden.org



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Events Calendar

November

**09 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall**
- 8 p.m.

Ron Midgett - New Earth Orchids,
Santa Fe, New Mexico
"Multifloral Paphiopedilums"

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

**21-22 - Triangle Orchid Society
Show**

Duke Gardens, Duke University,
Durham, NC

December

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

**14 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting & Annual
Holiday Season Banquet - 7 p.m.**
NOTE EARLY START TIME

Rock Spring Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall (rear of building)
1824 Piedmont Ave
Atlanta, GA 30324

January

**09 - 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.

February

**05-07 - South Carolina Orchid
Society Show**
**Riverbanks Botanical Gardens,
Columbia, SC**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

First, let me say a big thank you to Barbara Barnett for handling the October meeting for me on such short notice. I had to leave town pretty quickly.

Luckily, I made the decision to bring my orchids back into my basement plant area last month. It would have been impossible to bring in and set up nearly 175 (yes, I counted) orchids in that short a time. I was able to water some of the dryer plants, fill the koologs and move all I could into my plastic covered, tented shelving units in hopes they will survive while I am away.

It's my understanding that some orchids actually like a dryer winter rest. Well, they will be getting just that this year. Actually, I decided to call this survival of the fittest. My little homage to Darwin.

Bringing in my plants when I did gave me the time I needed to scrub off mealybugs and scale with my trusty toothbrush that always develop in my basements dry air. I am hoping my husband is filling the humidifier, as that will be all the moisture they will have until I get home again. And, I had time to look around my basement for frogs. It never fails that a frog or two will sneak into my basement hiding in a orchid pot. It is always fun trying to catch a befuddled frog with my hands in order to carry it back outside.

Our next meeting will be held on November 9, at 8PM in Day Hall of the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Our speaker is Ron Midgett of New Earth Multifloral Paphiopedilums.

Hope to see you there.
Ellen Brand, President

published in Orchids and most recently in the Orchid Digest. He was given the prestigious Ernest Heatherington award from the Orchid Digest for his article, "Beyond Sc. Beaufort—A 20 Year Odyssey in Cattleya Breeding". Ron feels a special honor in receiving this award because Ernest was one of his first mentors.

Ron will be speaking to Our society on Mulifloral Paphiopedilums. He will be selling plants and of note are his Green Cattleya hybrids

Minutes of the October 2015 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Date: October 12, 2015

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Day Hall

Attendance: 34

The meeting was started at 8:04pm by Vice President Barbara Barnett due to President Ellen Brand being out due to illness in the family.

On motion and second the minutes of the September 2015 meeting were approved as published in the October newsletter.

Jason Mills-Shoulta covered the September auction's proceeds and reviewed the Birmingham show.

Maureen Mckovich covered the status of the open chairs and committee changes, and announced the nominations for 2016 as follows:

President - Barbara Barnett
Vice President - Michael Sinn
Treasurer - Jason Mills-Shoulta
Secretary - Valorie Boyer
Trustee - Rick Martinez
Trustee - Jared Wilson

Michael Sinn presented his "Orchid Hunting in Venezuela" program at 8:19pm.

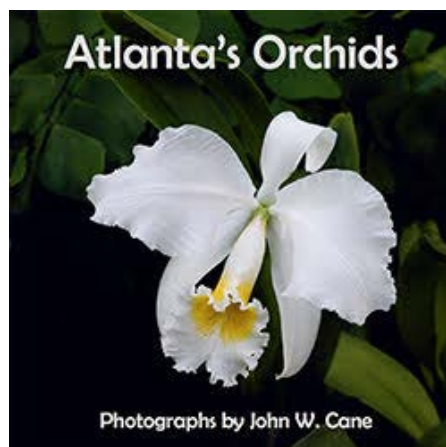
Jack Cane presented his book, Atlanta's Orchids, just before the break.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:51pm

*Minutes compiled by
Valorie Boyer*

Jack Cane's book, "Atlanta's Orchids"

Jack Cane is placing his book, "Atlanta's Orchids", for sale at several Atlanta book stores, one of which has asked for a critical review of the book, about 50 words in length. If one or more of you would like to undertake such a review, please email Jack at jwcane@icloud.com with your mailing address(es), so that he can send you a complimentary copy of the book for this purpose. Or if you will be at the November ATLOS meeting, he can just give you the book(s) at that time. Thank you in advance.



Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners October 2015

Notes by Mark Alan Reinke

Photos of the ribbon winners for October were not available in time for publication.

Class I – Cattleya Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – Cattlianthe Portia – Lynne Gollob

Cattlianthe Portia is a primary hybrid between *Cattleya labiata* and *Guarianthe bowringiana* originally registered by Veitch in 1897. While today it is most commonly found in bluish-mauve shades as the offspring of the coerulea forms of each species, the original versions were done with good dark lavender parents and one can still find occasional plants of 'Appleton,' AM/AOS and 'Gloriosa,' AM/AOS in collections and even sometimes offered commercially. A virus-free plant of one of these outstanding forms is worth cultivating if space allows. A well grown plant can produce multiple spikes of 7 to 10 flowers approaching four inches across and lasting well for 6 to 8 weeks each fall. However, the plants are robust in size, as are many *Gur. bowringiana* hybrids, and their stature has led to a decline in their popularity as fewer hobby growers elect to maintain roomy greenhouses.

This cross can be quite easily confused with the eponymous *Cattlianthe Porcia*, registered in 1927 as a cross between *Gur. bowringiana* and *C. Armstrongae*. The most famous variety of this orchid is 'Cannizaro,' FCC/AOS

which scored an impressive 94 points in October, 1988. One slight difference is that *Ctt. Porcia* almost always has a solid yellow throat, whereas *Ctt. Portia* has some purple lines or a zone of purple on top the yellow. Otherwise the growth habits and flower presentation of the two are nearly identical. Both are easily grown and adaptable to a range of conditions as long as light levels are strong and drainage is excellent.

Red – *Cattleya Sallieri* – **Lynne Gollob**

White – *Guarianthe bowringiana* 'Pinky' – **Maegan Brass**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Cattleya pumila* – **Larry & Linda Mayse**

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Dendrobium thrysiflorum* – **Darrell Demeritt**

While there are a few records of this handsome species flowering in October, its primary bloom season is spring, peaking in May. The late flowering is likely a response to some atypical environmental stimulus, such as an unusual dry period or cooler temperatures during the summer when the plant expects warmth and plentiful moisture. It is a member of the Callista section of *Dendrobium*, a group of evergreen species native to mountainous regions of

Southeast Asia with a pronounced monsoonal climate. During the growing season of May to October it is not uncommon for more than 100 inches of rainfall to occur and clear days are extremely uncommon. The balance of the year may see 6 inches of rain or less, with many days that are sunny, particularly in February and March just before the rainy season returns.

To produce a plant that flowers spectacularly (if briefly) each year, plants should be given well drained conditions at the roots, but be kept moist, with almost daily watering during that May to October growing season. Fertilizer should be given regularly until growths are fully formed, the withheld for the balance of the year. Water should be reduced in fall and limited to light watering or morning misting from January to March. Plants need at least a month of nights in the 50's to stimulate buds, so windowsill growers should leave them outdoors until a freeze is predicted. In the wild, light freezes do occur and plants will tolerate them well if kept dry.

With good care, plants can become quite large, so it is important to consider whether the promise of showy blooms, which last only about 10 days, outweigh the space requirements for maintaining the plant the balance of the year.

Red – *Dendrobium lamyiae* – **Jason Mills-Shoulta & Ed Shoulta-Mills**

White – *Dendrobium oligophyllum* – **Lynne Gollob**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Denbrobium bracteosum* -

Larry & Linda Mayse

See the August 2015 newsletter for details about this species and how to grow it.

Red – *Dendrobium* (syn. *Cadetia*) *infortunatum*

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Encyclia atrorubens* – **Roy Harrow**

Encyclia atrorubens is a late flowering species that comes from mountain slopes facing the Pacific in the states of Guerrero and Oaxaca in Southwest Mexico. The medium sized plants produce long, branching spikes of rather widely spaced flowers that are deep purple with a brighter purple lip, often with spreading side lobes that frame a bright white column. It is somewhat unusual for the genus in that the inflorescence begins to develop before the growth has fully matured, possibly because the wet season often starts and ends later in this region than zones further north and south. It has been in commerce for years as a variety of *E. diota*, which is normally more ochre to brown colored with slightly more spatulate shaped segments and occurs mostly southward along the Pacific slope from *E. atrorubens*. Only two hybrids have been registered using this species, yet it seems to offer some potential with its saturated color and widely spaced flowers for pleasing results. We have attempted a couple crosses, but the plants refused to develop in the flasks, so it could be genetically difficult to work with.

Red – *Prosthechea rhynchophora*
– **Geni Smith**

Class V – Oncidium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Brassidium* Golden
Gamine – **Lynne Gollob**

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Pinocchio's
Song – **Geni Smith**

Red – *Phragmipedium* Barbara
LeAnn – **Barbara Barnett**

White – *Paphiopedium* Magic
Leopard x *liemianum* – **Roy
Harrow**

Commercial Winners

Red – *Paphiopedilum henryanum*
– **Larry & Linda Mayse**

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica*
– **Geni Smith**

This beautiful Philippine species is a peak flowering in October. The origin of the species name is obvious when the star shaped flowers are seen up close, revealing an intricate pattern of markings that reminded the describer of ancient Egyptian hieroglyphics. Several flowers are normally open at once and the inflorescences continue to produce blooms for several years, so well grown plants can have a

dozen or more spikes in bloom at once. The flowers are a creamy white to pale yellow background color and the intensity of the overlying purple "hieroglyphics" varies from plant to plant.

While known since at last the end of the 19th Century, *Phal. heiroglyphica* was considered a variety of *Phal. lueddemanniana* for much of the intervening decades and only given separate species status in 1969. So, while only a handful of hybrids are registered using it, most in this century, it is possible older crosses exist that employed as a parent under the older name.

This orchid thrives in bright shade, high humidity, warmth and regular water year round.

Red – *Phalaenopsis fasciata* –
**Jason Mills-Shoulta & Ed
Shoulta-Mills**

White – *Phalaenopsis* Mitou King
Bellina 'Blood' – **Jarad Wilson**

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Holcoglossum wangii* –
Barbara Barnett

This is my first introduction to this recently described (1998) and captivating species from southern China and Vietnam. It is hard to imagine such a charming and showy orchid evaded discovery for so long! However, when out of flower, the thin, semi-terete leaves on a short stem could easily blend into their surroundings and be overlooked. While described as bearing three to five white flowers with red shadings in the lip, each about 1.5 inches across, the plant obviously responds well to good cultural practices as

there are several photos showing a dozen or more flowers on a single inflorescence.

This is a vandaceous species that requires a cooler winter, with reduced watering to do well so probably, along with most the other dozen or so members of the genus, is better suited to an intermediate greenhouse than windowsill culture.

So far, 4 registered hybrids have been made with *Holc. wangii*, two using other *Holcoglossum* species and two paring it with *Phalaenopsis*.

Red – *Trichoglottis atropurpurea*
(syn. *brachiate*) – **Geni Smith**

White – *Aerides Pulchinello* –
Lynne Gollob

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Gastrochilus somai* – **Larry
& Linda Mayse**

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Bulbophyllum* Louis
Sander – **Geni Smith**

This cross between *Bulb. longissimum* and *Bulb. ornatissimum* can have a strong resemblance to the famous *Bulb. Elizabeth Ann* which utilizes *Bulb. rothschildianum* in place of the latter parent in this cross. *Bulb. rothschildianum* apparently comes from Sikkim in Northeast India, the same area as *Bulb. ornatissimum*, but details of its discovery are shrouded in mystery. This is only speculation on my part, but I wonder if in fact they are in fact same species? The "Roths" seem to hold a few more flowers to the stem when mature, but they could be

descended from an individual selected for this trait. It is human nature to collect the plant that stands out among others in the wild.

While most members of the genus are warm growers, *Bulb. ornatissimum* comes from a region with cool winters and so this cross should be adaptable to temperatures as cool as 50F at night in winter. Plants should be watered heavily and regularly during the growing season, but allowed to dry in between during the resting season. Plants are best accommodated in baskets with a moisture retentive, yet freely draining media.

Red – *Ceratostylis retisquama* –
Greg Smith

White – *Angraecum calceolus* –
Roy Harrow

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Masdevallia fractiflexa* –
Larry & Linda Mayse

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 © Jason Mills-Shoulta



Cattleya maxima 'Dark Princess', AM/AOS, 82 pts.
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



Rhyncholaeliocattleya {(*Rlc. Miya's Passion* x *Rlc. Carolina Splendor*) x *Rlc. Red Glo*} 'Lauren', AM/AOS, 82 pts.
Exhibited by Fred Missbach