



# 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

February, 2016

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

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## FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING Monday, February 8, 2016 8:00 PM Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall "Show Preparation"

Our February presentation will be a member-led meeting devoted to preparing for our annual show, coming up March 11-13, 2016.

Chairs for the show are Danny Lentz ([dblgongora@bellsouth.net](mailto:dblgongora@bellsouth.net)) and Jan Spenard ([jan.spenard@metrobrokers.com](mailto:jan.spenard@metrobrokers.com)).

The show will be held from Friday March 11th through Sunday the 13th with setup on Wednesday and Thursday. As always we will need people to pitch in and help with the event. We will have sign-up sheets for volunteers at the February meeting. Things we'll need help with include show setup/takedown, exhibit setup, clerks to assist with Friday morning's ribbon judging, staffing society tables throughout the show to answer questions and recruit new members, and various other activities. If you're interested in helping with things like plant registration or show publicity please let us know.

We look forward to working with everyone to put on another great show this year.

### Volunteer Needs

#### Clerks

- We need quite a few clerks on Friday morning to help with judging. Clerks help find the plants that the judges need to look at in each class, record the



*Atlanta Orchid Society Main Display in the 2015 show*

winners and place the ribbons. This can be a good way to learn more about what judges look for in the plants. You don't need to be very experienced to help with this.

- Clerks will be coordinated by Terry Glover ([adreidese@msn.com](mailto:adreidese@msn.com))

#### Membership Tables:

- We will have two membership tables this year, one in Day Hall and one in the Visitor's Center. For those in the Visitor's Center we will need to direct people up to the show in Day Hall. In Day Hall we need people to promote society membership and take membership applications and payment. We really need to get a lot of our members to help out with this, with coverage from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon.

#### Setup:

- On Wednesday afternoon we will need a few people to help set up

the tables, mark out exhibit areas, and get the room ready for the show.

- On Thursday we will need more people to help out. We will have 2 displays (in Day Hall and the Visitor's Center) to set up, plant entry to take care of, our vendors will need help bringing their stuff

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into Day Hall (a slightly longer path this year) and getting set up, and there are always a couple miscellaneous errands to run.

- If you have any questions about setup contact Danny.

#### Takedown:

- On Sunday afternoon we will need help clearing out the room. This is the glamorous stuff: helping vendors load their vehicles, putting away tables, sweeping the floor, taking out the trash.

#### Other:

- *Hospitality:* We will need a few people to help coordinate lunches and dinners from Thursday through Sunday.
- *Education:* During the show we will have a few Orchid 101 type talks. The talks will be in Day Hall this year. If you're interested in helping out let us know.
- *Publicity:* We need everyone to help get the word out about the show. We will have flyers (postcard sized) available at the February meeting. Please try to recruit a few people to visit the show. If everyone gets a couple more visitors to come it can make a big difference for our vendors.
- *Registration:* We always need a person or two to help cut out/distribute name tags as plants are entered, and maybe help with plant entry if you are good with nomenclature.

#### Displays

We will need lots of blooming plants to fill in our two displays this year.

- We will have our normal large society exhibit in Day Hall. This exhibit will be judged, and all plants must be identified.
- We will have another non-judged exhibit down in the Visitor's Center. This will be more informal, and the plants do not need to be identified. If you have a nice plant without a name this would be a great place to show it off.

#### Plant Registration

We will be doing electronic entry again this year. The weekend before the show we will send out blank entry forms that you can fill out and email to us for pre-entry. You will be able to fill it out and email it back to us anytime up until Thursday afternoon.

If you can get us your entries a day or two ahead of time it will help greatly with the process of checking all of the names. Of course we will still enter any other plants that you bring on Thursday, pre-entry is not required.



*Atlanta Orchid Society Visitors Center Display 2015*



*Jason Mills and Valorie Boyer volunteering at the membership table at the 2015 show.*



## THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

### Officers

#### President

**Barbara Barnett**

706-579-2670

#### Vice-President/Programs

**Michael Sinn** 941-773-2940

#### Secretary

**Valorie Boyer** 678-822-1594

#### Treasurer

**Jason Mills-Shoulta**

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**Ellen Brand** 770-518-8425

### Trustees

**David Kessler** 404-468-8678

**Carson Barnes** 650-879-0982

**Jan Spenard** 770-294-7867

**Danny Lentz** 770-640-0112

**Rick Martinez** 678-583-8695

**Jarad Wilson** 706-308-1300

### Other Volunteers

**AOS Rep** – Barbara Barnett

**Greengrowers** – Mark Reinke

**Librarian** – Valorie Boyer

**MAOC Rep** – Doug Hartong

**Meeting Hospitality** – Ellen Brand

**Membership Chair** – Geni Smith

**Mentoring Coordinator** – Lynne Gollob

**Silent Auction**– Michael Sinn

**Monthly Ribbon Judging** – David Mellard

**Newsletter** – Mark Reinke

**Orchid Digest Rep** – David Mellard

#### Show Chairs 2016

Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

#### Website Committee

Maureen Mckovich, Mark Reinke & Jan Spenard



## 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.

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](http://www.aos.org)

## TIME TO PAY 2016 DUES

It's time to renew your membership in the  
Atlanta Orchid Society!

Individual Membership is \$30

Household Membership is \$45

You can pay our Treasurer, Jason Mills, in person at the January meeting or mail a check to him at the address on the left.

Even simpler – you can renew using PayPal on our website [www.atlantaorchidsociety.org](http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org)

Click on the “Join/Renew” button on the revolving banner on the home page or the appropriate button on the “Membership” page.

**Orchid Digest**



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 [David Mellard](mailto:David Mellard) (404-237-1694) or visit [www.orchiddigest.com](http://www.orchiddigest.com) to join online.

## Events Calendar

### February

**08 - Atlanta Orchid Society  
Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall  
– 8 p.m.”

Get Ready for the 2016 Atlanta  
Orchid Show and Sale

**12-14 – South Carolina Orchid  
Society Show**  
**Riverbanks Botanical Gardens**  
**Columbia, SC**

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

### March

**11-13 – Atlanta Orchid Show**  
**Day Hall & Hardin Visitor's**  
**Center**  
**Atlanta Botanical Gardens**  
**Atlanta, GA**

**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.”  
Stephen Champlin – *Floralia*  
Orchids, Brazil

### April

**2-3 – Heart of Dixie Orchid  
Show, Holiday Inn Research**  
**Park, Huntsville, AL**

**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.”  
Helen Blythe-Hart – “Successful  
Windowsill Growing”

**15-17 – Western NC Orchid  
Show and Spring AOS Meeting**  
**NC Arboretum at Bent Creek**  
**& Hilton Biltmore Park**  
**Asheville, NC**



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Happy Valentine's Day!

Which Orchid do you consider a "Sweetheart"?

For some of us, it is a matter of: "I have never seen an Orchid that I didn't Love"; for others Orchids just enchant us; some are a passing flirtation; maybe it is one that tickles your fantasy, and then makes you nuts with its care and upkeep.

What do you consider your perfect Orchid? Characteristics such as free flowering and grow with abandon in my house; low care; insect resistant; awardable, and able to be, "the best of show" .....All of these things are in my Dreams. Where do you find this Jewel?

I used to shop by color, when building my collection, one year it would be yellow Cattleyas. There were none to be had that year. I didn't realize how hard it was to come by a good, large, yellow Cattleya. Then I had my "red" year, all of those charming Spohronitis hybrids that didn't like the heat in sunny South Florida. The Show is coming and with it *Buying Season*. Do you know your ideal plant for your growing space?

It took me awhile to figure out what would love my green house. I used to look at the **labels** on *Andy's Orchids'*. I would buy "intermediate to warm growing plants".....that helped. Next was figuring out the water needs. Watering you have to practice and work it out for yourself with guidelines of the needs of specific plants and you growing areas.

Now it is time to do your home work and find your "Perfect" plant for this year. Good Luck finding that Sweetheart and Happy Growing. If all else fails, purchase one of the many orchids with *Sweetheart* in its name.

*Barbara Barnett*



*R/c. Newberry Sweetheart*

## Minutes of the January 11, 2016 Monthly Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The meeting was held in Day Hall at the Atlanta Botanical Garden and began at 8:00 pm with 35 people in attendance.

President Barbara Barnett presided over a short monthly business meeting.

The minutes for the December meeting were approved as written in the January newsletter without changes. The Treasurer's report was seconded and approved.

Barbara, with the assistance of Treasurer Jason Mills, presented checks to the members who received the highest number of ribbon points for each quarter in 2015, and also for the overall winner for the entire year. The recipients were: First Quarter – Lynne Gollob with 57 points, Second Quarter – Dan Williamson with 27 points, Third Quarter – Jason Mills-Soulta with 31 points, Fourth Quarter – Geni Smith with 38 points, and for the year – Lynne Gollob with 103 points.

Show Chair Danny Lentz pointed out

his new Co-Chair for 2016, Jan Spenard, and asked for volunteers for the various tasks required throughout the show schedule.

Michael Sinn went over the silent auction details, and introduced the speaker for the evening at 8:20 pm.

Tom Harper of Stones River Orchids in Franklin, TN gave a presentation on "Micro-Mini Phalaenopsis," including a detailed look at the various miniature species in nature and how each has been used so far in the breeding of very small sized hybrids. Tom had plants for sale as well as a book with photos and descriptions of all of the miniature Phalaenopsis species, which he was selling for \$18, or \$20 including a \$2 donation to the International Phalaenopsis Alliance.

The program ended at 9:30 pm and was followed by a refreshment break.

Mark Reinke and David Mellard presented the monthly ribbon winners from the show table, and the meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

*Valorie Boyer, Secretary*



### 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 3) for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website:

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

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at [www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org](http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org)

### Margaret Ann Holder – March 15, 1944 – January 4, 2016

It is with a sad heart that we report the passing of Margaret Holder, who died unexpectedly just after the first of the year at her home in Birmingham, Alabama.

Margaret was a longtime member of the Alabama Orchid Society and the Chair of their annual show for a number of years. Those who have participated in that event will remember her warmth and hospitality fondly.

Anyone wishing to make a memorial gift in her name is asked to kindly donate to the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, 2612 Lane Park Rd. Birmingham, AL 35223. Mark the gift "In Memory of Margaret Holer."

Until the ABG, the Birmingham Botanical Gardens is open free to the public and relies on gifts and sponsorship for support.

## Orchid Growing Classes will Begin with the April 11th Meeting

7:15 – 7:45 pm

Plan on Attending!

We look forward  
to you joining us!



## Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners January 2016

Notes by Mark Reinke  
Photos by Cheryl Bruce

### Class I – Cattleya Group

#### Amateur Winners

**Blue** – *Rhyncattleanthe* Dan O'Neil  
'Jubilee,' AM/AOS – Lynne Gollob

This attractive cluster flowering winter blooming orange cattleya is just one of a long list of outstanding hybrids made with *Rth.* Orange Nugget. There are 125 first generation crosses registered with that parent in total, and 429 that have it included as part of their family tree. *Rth.* Orange Nugget was originated by Miyamoto Orchids of Waianae, Hawaii and is just one of a constellation of famous *Cattleya* hybrids they produced that have had considerable influence on modern breeding. Two that many will recognize are *Rlc.* Toshie Aoki and *Rlc.* Waikiki Gold, each with more than 200 registered offspring.

*Rth.* Dan O'Neil is less known, but thanks to mericloning of the 'Jubilee,' AM/AOS variety, is available now through at least three different orchid suppliers and worth acquiring. Like so many other crosses descended from *Rth.* Orange Nugget, it is a tough and dependable grower that will flower nicely even without optimal conditions and will really make a show when grown well. While the blooms come only once a year, they have good lasting ability. I would recommend bright light and excellent drainage for this orchid. It should have regular water, with some drying in between while producing new growth in spring and summer, then somewhat less in winter. Crosses like this are often making new roots at the time of or just after flowering and this is the best time to divide to establish the plants quickly.

**Red** – *Laelianthe* Meadow Gold –  
Fran Carter



*Rhyncattleanthe* Dan O'Neil 'Jubilee,' AM/AOS – Lynne Gollob



*Cattleya coccinea* – Larry & Linda Mayse

**White** – *Brassocattleya* Yellow Bird  
– Dan Williamson

#### Commercial Winners

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

Without question, this species from Brazil has had the largest influence in the development of miniature *Cattleya* orchids. There are more than 350 first generation offspring and well over 7,500 crosses in total

that are descended from it. A tiny plant with relatively large, flat and vivid orange to red flowers is highly desirable not only for breeding showy miniature hybrids, but also for cultivation in its own right. But all who have attempted would agree it is a challenge to grow this elfin wonder in hot summer climates such as ours. In its native habitat, several thousand feet above sea level on the slopes of coastal mountains which receive a near constant onshore flow from the

Atlantic, the air is cool and buoyant with near constant mist punctuated by bursts of bright sunshine. Night time lows are in the 40's and 50's most of the year and daytime highs in the 70's to low 80's. The plant exhibited was growing on a Kool-Log, which is likely the best means by which to attempt *C. coccinea* in the Southeast.

The most important offspring of *C. coccinea* is *C. Beaufort*, originated by Casa Luna Orchids of Beaufort, SC about 50 years ago. It marries this species with *C. luteola*, a warm growing miniature from the Amazon basin. The combination of the two is much easier to grow, and will flower off and on throughout the year. In the 1980's tetraploid versions of *C. Beaufort* were developed, vastly improving the results when used as a parent. An explosion of outstanding compact and miniature hybrids have resulted, with more than 1,200 registered to date that descend from it.

## Class II – Cymbidium Group

### Amateur Winners

#### Blue – *Cymbidium Pastoral* – Lynne Gollob

Both the blue ribbon winners in Amateur and in Commercial entries are heirloom Cymbidium hybrids with *Cym. Pastoral* having been introduced by Orchid Gardens of Glendora, CA in 1956 and *Cym. Flirtation* by Stewart's of San Gabriel, CA in 1955. The first represents a step forward in the production of standard sized pure whites while the second is one of the earliest miniatures. The fact that both are still in collections today attests to the toughness and lasting ability of this orchid group.

Both hybrids descend from species that are all cool growers, coming from climates that generally are no warmer than the upper 70's at the height of summer and drop to near or just below freezing in winter. Yet these two have shown to be highly adaptable to our summer heat, as are many other good choices out there that are equally tolerant.



*Cymbidium Pastoral* – Lynne Gollob



*Cymbidium Flirtation* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

When growing Cymbidiums it is important to remember that they are primarily terrestrial orchids with large, aggressive root systems and require somewhat different cultivation practices from typical epiphytic types. They like deep pots with a richer media. We like to take orchid bark and mix it with Perlite, chopped tree fern and a generous amount of well-rotted compost, but many different mixes would work as long as they

allow good drainage, moisture retention and plenty of nutrients.

Growing spectacular specimens with many spikes doesn't require a greenhouse. Find an outdoor location with about 4 to 5 hours of direct sunshine during the frost free months, water the plants copiously, and feed regularly. Some protection from midday sun is best if there isn't good air movement. Don't bring the plants inside until a freeze is predicted. By then spikes are often



already initiated and flowering is almost assured. Even in winter, do not let the pots become totally dry.

The *Cym. Flirtation* exhibited came to us about 10 years ago as a small division in a 4 inch pot from a local garden center where they had been propagating and dividing their mother plant for at least three decades. In 2014 this plant had grown so large that it was divided into 10 six inch pots plus a larger center section. The six inch pots sold within a couple months of being offered. That center section is what was exhibited this month, with 18 spikes in bud or bloom! This is exactly why it is still around 60 years after being introduced!

#### Commercial Winners

**Blue – *Cymbidium Flirtation* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

#### Class III – Dendrobium Group

##### Amateur Winners

**Blue – *Dendrobium Kokomo* – Lynne Gollob**

##### Commercial Winners

**Blue – *Dendrobium Hsinying Stocker* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

See the July, 2014 newsletter for a detailed discussion of this orchid.

**Red – *Ceratostylis incognita* – Larry & Linda Mayse**

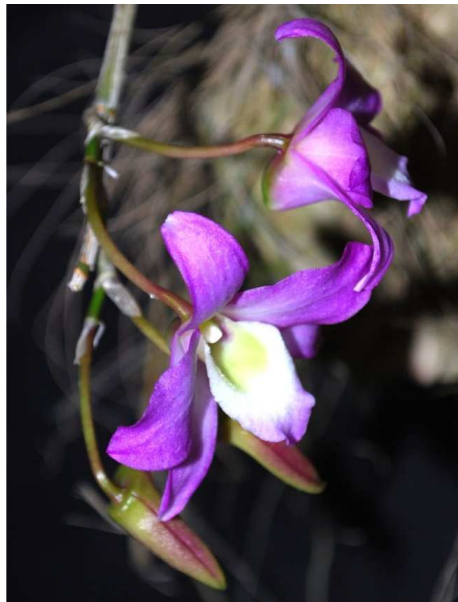
**White – *Dendrobium alexandrae* – Larry & Linda Mayse**

#### Class IV – Epidendrum Group

##### Amateur Winners

**Blue – *Epidendrum magnoliae* – Roy Harrow**

*Epidendrum magnoliae* competes with two Asian species, *Vanda falcata* and *Dendrobium moniliforme*, for the title of the northernmost occurring epiphytic orchid in the world, growing wild as



*Dendrobium Kokomo*  
Lynne Gollob



*Dendrobium Hsinying Stocker*  
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke



*Epidendrum magnoliae*  
Roy Harrow



*Epicanthe Butterfly Kisses*  
'Mendenhall,' AM/AOS  
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

far north as Bladen County, NC. This location is at the same latitude as the Southern Appalachians in Georgia! However, the habitat rarely extends more than about 75 miles inland from the coast as it expands south and westward into peninsular Florida and along the Gulf Coast to western Louisiana. There are no records of this species in Texas, but it picks up again across the border in the mountains of Northeast Mexico.

There it can be found as far south as the state of Sun Luis Potosí, but at elevations above 3,000 feet where the climate is more temperate than the latitude might suggest. *Epi. magnoliae* is a protected species in most states so plants in collections are usually seed grown, collected in Mexico, or rescued after storms have knocked them to the ground. It is quite slow growing and seedlings



need five or more years to reach flowering size.

Despite the wide range, plants in flower often go unnoticed due to their small stature, inconspicuous color and fondness for growing in mats of resurrection fern (*Pleopeltis polypodioides*) along the tops of horizontal limbs of large trees such as Live Oak and Magnolia, especially in humid locations overhanging rivers. In a few rare locations in South Georgia they can also be found growing on sandstone crevices.

The normal bloom season for wild plants in this region is summer into fall, but it will flower at odd times in cultivation based on various cues from its growing conditions. Inflorescences usually develop along with a new growth as it is maturing. Robust plants can produce about two dozen simultaneously opening flowers on a single spike, which can have a couple of small branches.

While the tiny flowers represent a challenge to hybridizers, there are 48 registered crosses in which *Epi. magnoliae* is one parent, including our blue ribbon commercial entry in this class, *Epicatanthe* Butterfly Kisses (x *Ctt.* Trick or Treat). None of the hybrids seem to have inherited the cold tolerance of the species, and not all of them are particularly satisfying aesthetically. Those using strong yellows and oranges as the other parent seem to produce more pleasing results.

It is almost imperative that *Epi. magnoliae* be grown mounted rather than potted. Even seedlings straight out of the flask are not likely to survive unless handled this way and coddled until established. Once mature, however, this is a very tough little orchid with no special needs.

**Commercial Winners**

**Blue - *Epicatanthe* Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall,' AM/AOS – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

**Red – *Encyclia polybulbon* – Larry & Linda Mayse**

**Class V – *Oncidium* Group**



*Paphiopedilum* Druid Spring – Dan Williamson



*Paphiopedilum venustum* var. *album* – Larry & Linda Mayse

**Commercial Winners**

**Blue – *Oncidium chrysomorphum* – Larry & Linda Mayse**

**Class VI – *Cypripedium* Group**

**Amateur Winners**

**Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Druid Spring – Dan Williamson**

The registered name of this primary cross is a play on the names of the two species involved, *Paph. druryi* and *Paph. primulinum*. The former species is from extreme southwestern India and grows under harsher conditions than most *Paphiopedilum*, living in almost full sun and enduring a six month dry season where it survives on dew and mist. It seems to be the more dominant parent for flower color and pattern of *Paph. Druid Spring*, while the latter species provides the ability to produce two or three blossoms in succession from the same inflorescence.

Given this background, I would suggest growing this orchid a bit brighter than what is typical for the genus. Since both species grow on limestone in the wild, the application of crushed oyster shells or agricultural lime once or twice a year would probably produce stronger growth and better bloom.

#### Commercial Winners

**Blue** – *Paphiopedilum venustum forma album* – Larry & Linda Mayse

#### Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

##### Commercial Winners

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis Sogo Grape* – Larry & Linda Mayse

*Phalaenopsis Sogo Grape* was a breakthrough hybrid when introduced two decades ago. The best of this cross have deep saturated red-purple tones combined with a glistening texture and good overlapping form, such as had never been seen previously. Sadly, while highly awarded and very desirable, it has proven to be a dead end for the most part in passing these qualities along to future generations. While it is a parent to a baker's dozen first generation registered hybrids, none of them have been awarded and none have led to any further breeding thus far.

However, the parents used in this cross: *Phal. Super Stupid* and *Phal. Princess Kaiulani* both have been

very successful breeders themselves, with nearly 2,500 additional registered crosses descending from them. A few of these have qualities similar to *Phal. Sogo Grape*, but a consistent line of improved solid reds has remained an unrealized dream.

While grown beautifully on a Kool-Log, this orchid has 15 different species in its background, so should be adaptable and respond well to more typical cultural practices. Its ideal environment would be somewhat shaded and humid with warm to hot temperatures.

#### Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

##### Amateur Winners

**Blue** – *Aerangis luteoalba* – Lynne Gollob

Many sources list this species from equatorial Africa by the longer name of *Aerangis luteoalba var. rhodosticta*. The varietal name is descriptive of the most distinguishing feature of the flowers: the bright orange-red column, which contrasts well with the white or near white of the rest of the bloom. While this sets it apart from other members of the genus, there does not seem to be a form of this actual species that has anything other than a red column, so the use of the varietal name is redundant and not required by the current accepted taxonomy. The natural range is quite large and all plants observed in the wild bear the same bright center coloring.

While *Aer. luteoalba* will grow in a pot with a very open medium, it normally is at its best when grown mounted and attended to on a frequent basis. It enjoys shade or filtered light, high humidity, good air movement and regular watering, which can mean at least daily in hot dry weather. Blooming peaks in both spring and fall and seems to be a result of the conditions under which it is grown. Well cared for plants may produce 3 or 4 spikes of blooms from each growth, and bear as many as



*Phal. Sogo Grape* – Larry & Linda Mayse



*Aerangis Luteoalba* – Lynne Gollob

15 or 20 or more neatly arranged and long lasting flowers on each. This orchid does not seem to be particularly long lived and can seemingly bloom itself to death. However, it is fairly easy to obtain new plants when the time comes, and the strains currently available have much fuller flowers than typical wild plants.



**Red – *Vanda* Bigness x “Fukunaka”  
– Lynne Gollob**

While this former *Ascocenda* cross is clearly out in commerce under the entry name and references to it are easy to find, there is no actual registration for a *V. Fukunaka* so the exact background of this hybrid is currently a genetic mystery.

**Class IX – Miscellaneous**

**Amateur Winners**

**Blue – *Ancistrochilus rothschildianus*  
– David Mellard & Sal Marino**

This is an African native epiphytic orchid that is not common in cultivation and it is a treat to see it in person! It is apparently one of only two known species in the genus. The showy flowers are described as fragrant and long lived, and are fairly large sized for the plant, which produces relatively small conical pseudobulbs with a wrinkled appearance, topped by a pair of thin textured leaves that are usually deciduous at the time of flowering. A fairly long rhizome connects each growth resulting in a somewhat rambling habit.

If you are fortunate enough to acquire this orchid, you will want to know that it is usually grown in a rather fine, moisture retentive mix in a shallow pot that accommodates the growth habit. While making new growth in spring through summer, the plants should be kept evenly moist, but in fall water should be gradually reduced with only occasional light watering or misting in winter. Light levels should be moderate, humidity kept high and good air movement provided at all times.

In recent years a cross between the two species was registered as well as one between this species and *Phaius tankervillei*. It came as no surprise to me that both of these were registered by Leon Gilcenstein, formerly of Hoosier Orchids. He has made something of a career out of producing unusual and even downright bizarre orchid hybrids.

**Blue – *Calanthe cardioglossa* –  
David Mellard & Sal Marino**



*Ancistrochilus rothschildianus* – David Mellard & Sal Marino



*Dendrochilum cootesii* – Larry & Linda Mayse

## Commercial Winners

### Blue – *Dendrochilum cootesii* – Larry & Linda Mayse

This month we were treated to an exceptionally well grown example of this recently described (1997) species from Luzon in the Philippines. The showy plant is mounted on a Koo-Log, which perfectly suits its compact growth habit and arching inflorescences while at the same time providing ideal growing conditions. Plants in the wild occur at elevations between 6,000 and 8,000 feet above sea level so the evaporational cooling at their roots is beneficial in this climate.

The two-toned flowers are larger than those of many other *Dendrobilum* and present an especially showy appearance. The only cultural award given by the AOS for this species was in 2004 when a specimen was exhibited at the Pacific South Judging Center in California. It had 50 inflorescences and over 1400 flowers, so this plant will need a few more years of continued expert care to be a contender in the judges' eyes.

### Red – *Mormolyca hedwigiae* – Larry & Linda Mayse

### White – *Bulbophyllum ambrosia* - Larry & Linda Mayse



*Mormolyca hedwigiae*, exhibited by Larry and Linda Mayse, is from Central America and not often seen cultivated.



Clark Weisner and Rick Martinez check out the *Phalaenopsis* for sale by Tom Harper at the January meeting.



As President Barbara Barnett announces the winners and Jason Mills hands out the checks, Lynne Gollob receives two for being both the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter and yearly winner of ribbon points during the course of 2015.



*Calanthe cardioglossa* – David Mellard & Sal Marino