



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

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www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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MAY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, May 9, 2016
8:00 PM

Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

“*Paphiopedilum hangianum* and its Hybrids”

Helen Blythe-Hart
Student Judge – Atlanta
Judging Center for the
American Orchid Society

Helen Blythe-Hart has been growing a variety of intermediate orchids from Phrags to Phals on her windowsills for the last 28 years. She specializes in Paph species and their hybrids but also grows Cattleyas, Oncidiums and a few oddballs. She has been an internationally collected Metalsmithing artist and educator for over 28 years. She creates strikingly original jewels opulently encrusted with colorful gemstones inspired by the fantastical forms of her orchids.

Her May 9th program will be on *Paphiopedilum hangianum* and its hybrids.

This is a fairly recent species to cultivation, having been botanically described in 1999. Its species name is derived from Mr. Hang, the Vietnamese



Paphiopedilum hangianum 'Bear' received a Silver Medal from the Taiwan Orchid Grower's Association in 2004 with a flower spread greater than 6.5 inches!

exporter who brought this plant to the attention of the orchid growing public.

While coming from Northern Vietnam and growing open shade in limestone pockets filled with humus and covered in moss, the exact location of the habitat has been kept secret and is believed to be close to the Chinese border. It needs a distinct cooler and drier winter rest in order to produce its huge, nearly 6 inch flowers. These giant blooms are having a profound effect on current breeding in the genus.

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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

Did You Know?

The Atlanta Orchid Society is a member of the **Mid-America Orchid Congress** and as a delegate who signs in to our Sunday business meeting either at the Spring or Fall Congresses all of your expenses for attending are tax deductible. We are a 501(c) 3 non-profit charitable organization which makes this deduction possible. The Mid-America Orchid Congress is a regional organization dedicated to the preservation of orchids in their natural habitat, the propagation of orchids by seed and cuttings, and the development of new and better plants through breeding. Our purpose is to promote the improvement of orchids; to support conservation of all orchids; to oversee development, revision and publication of the Mid-America Show Schedule; to make awards in the form of certificates, medals or ribbons for excellence in the development and/or culture of orchids; and to promote the knowledge, production, use and appreciation of orchids of all kinds. By attending one of our congresses you have the opportunity to attend lectures by internationally known speakers and shop with vendors you will not likely hear or see at our monthly meetings. Come join us!

Doug Hartong
President, Mid-America Orchid Congress



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@orchiddigest.com) (404-237-1694) or visit www.orchiddigest.com to join online.

Events Calendar

May

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

14 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fugua Orchid Center, ABG

20-22 – Memphis Orchid Society Show, Memphis Botanical Garden, 750 Cherry Road, Memphis TN

June

11 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fugua Orchid Center, ABG

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

24-26 – Breezy Hill Orchid Festival, Steve Arthur Orchids, 23 Glass House Road, Graniteville, SC

July

09 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fugua Orchid Center, ABG

11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Rock Spring Presbyterian Church (activity hall in rear) – 8 p.m.

August

08 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Rock Spring Presbyterian Church (activity hall in rear) – 8 p.m.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

March and April has been a very interesting and busy time. There have been so many Orchid Shows with Judging, exhibits, education, and buying opportunities. There was Huntsville, Cincinnati, Ohio, Asheville, and Savannah. Those all had shows and Vendors. The Mid-America Orchid Congress and the AOS Member's Meeting both had sharing of ideas for societies and fabulous speakers.....these are really great learning opportunities.

As members of the Atlanta Orchid Society and the AOS you are invited to both. If you are looking for more Orchid activities consider all of these possibilities. Coming up this month is the Redland Orchid Festival in Homestead, Florida.....a tremendous event!

In June, Steve Arthur Orchids will present the Breezy Hill Orchid Festival S.C. near Augusta, Ga. What a nice day trip. There are numerous events available, The Cattleya Symposium in August in Fort Pierce, Florida. Another show in our area is the Alabama Orchid Show in Birmingham in September. Look for more upcoming opportunities

Keep all of these events in mind and widen your outlook on the wonderful world of orchids.

*Please read Doug Hartong's article "Did You Know" on the Mid-America Orchid Congress. The group is something we talk about frequently but this gives you better insight to the organization.



Minutes of the April 11, 2016 Monthly Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The first orchid class was held, starting at 7:30pm, covering greenhouses and led by Rick Martinez.

The meeting itself started at 8:15pm and had 29 people attending.

President Barnett called for a vote on the previous newsletter's minutes to be approved, it was seconded and approved as printed.

Jason Mills-Shoulta gave the treasury report and his review of the Huntsville show.

President Barnett reminded everyone that members need to own a plant for at least one month before can be submitted for ribbon judging.

President Barnett also proposed the idea of doing a Plant Challenge, where everyone who wants to participate gets a seedling from the same batch of plants and the first to bloom it gets a prize. The proposed plant is a mini cattleya.

Danny Lentz is taking over the Green Growers organizing and is asking for volunteers to host/show off their own growing areas. He is looking for

amateur set ups to show how everyone else grows their orchids.

President Barnett introduced David Kessler from Willowbrook Orchids for his talk, titled "White & Yellow Phragmipediums Breeding".

Break and judging were held at 9:22pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 10pm.

Valerie Boyer
Secretary

**Orchid Growing
Class will be on
cultivating Paphs
and Phrags led by
David Kessler**

**7:15 – 7:45 pm
Prior to 8 pm
meeting**

Plan on Attending!



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

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at

www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org



ATLOS exhibit for the Heart of Dixie Orchid Show in Huntsville, AL last month

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners April 2016

Notes by Mark Reinke
Photos by Cheryl Bruce

Class I – Cattleya Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Cattleya intermedia* variety
alba 'Breckenridge Snow' – **Rick
Martinez**

The alba form of this Brazilian species is the closest to pure white of any *Cattleya* species, with only the barest hint of pale yellow or green in the center of the lip. It grows mostly at low elevations near the coast from Rio de Janeiro southward for several hundred miles. Plants can range from medium to large sized, and each pseudobulb carries two to three stiff, leathery leaves.

There are numerous color forms and variations in cultivation, with mature plants usually bearing three to five flowers per inflorescence, though sometimes more. Plants generally respond best to being grown in high light with good humidity and continuous air flow. They should not be given any distinct winter rest, though less water is best during cool, damp spells. This species can tolerate brief, light freezes and is grown outdoors in Southern California near the coast.

Red – *Jackfowlieara* Appleblossom –
Rick Martinez

The current accepted name of this grex is Appleblossom, written as a single word. While originally registered as *Iwanagaara*, three species in its background have been re-assigned to different genera: *Diacrium bicornutum* is now *Caularthron bicornutum*, *Brassavola glauca* is now *Rhyncolaelia glauca*, and *Cattleya aurantiaca* is now *Guarianthe aurantiaca*. In addition to these three, the cross also includes *Laelia* and *Cattleya*, and the combination of these five genera is a *Jackfowlieara*. So now is a good time



Cattleya intermedia var *alba* 'Breckenridge Snow' – Rick Martinez



Cattleya luetzelburgii – Carson Barnes

to write a correct tag for this commonly grown and reliable orchid!

White – *Jackfowlieara* Appleblossom
– **Sondra Nierenberg**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Cattleya luetzelburgii* –
Carson Barnes

This Brazilian species was previously known as *Laelia bahiensis* for the state in which it is found, growing in the mountains on rock ledges amongst grasses and stunted shrubs. When all the Brazilian *Laelia* were reassigned to *Cattleya* in 2009, it was given a new name to avoid confusion with the already existing *Cattleya Bahiensis*, one of

the names for a natural hybrid between *C. velutina* and *C. warneri*.

Class II – Cymbidium Group

Blue – *Cymbidium* Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit, AM/AOS – **Geni Smith**

While the inflorescence of this iconic hybrid was exhibited staked, the normal habit is decidedly pendant, taking after the two species, *Cym. devonianum*, and *Cym. madidum*, which together make up over 50% of its genetic makeup. Well grown specimens will produce many inflorescences, whose color and habit are reminiscent of clusters of overripe grapes. Numerous plants have been awarded that bore hundreds, and in some cases more than a thousand, open flowers.

Give this orchid a deep pot with a well-draining mix fortified with compost and feed heavily while in active growth. Keep the media at least slightly moist at all times and provide the plant with bright to very bright light. A fall chill, leaving the plant outside until danger of frost, will help insure prolific blooming. Several west coast growers sell blooming size divisions of this captivating orchid by mail order.



Cymbidium Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit,' AM/AOS – Geni Smith

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Dendrobium thrysiflorum* – **Rick Martinez**

This species is widespread in Southeast Asia in mountainous locations at between 4000 and 6000 feet above sea level. As these areas experience a warm, very wet summer and a cool, dry winter, these conditions must be somewhat duplicated in cultivation to insure flowering. Blooms last a scant 7 to 10 days in perfection, but older growths repeat flower from year to year, so that specimen size plants can be spectacular when flowering.

Red – *Dendrobium unicum* – **Geni Smith**



Dendrobium thrysiflorum
Rick Martinez



Aliceara Tropic Lily 'Hilo Space Ship'
Karl Harden

White – *Dendrobium* Micro Chip – **Geni Smith**

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

No Entries

Class V – Oncidium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Aliceara* Tropic Lily 'Hilo Space Ship' – **Karl Harden**

The white background color of this showy hybrid comes from *Onc. alexanderae*, which until recently was known as *Odontoglossum crispum*. The current accepted nothogenus is *Aliceara* (named after a person named Alice, so pronounce it that way), which comprises a combination of *Miltonia*, *Brassia*, and *Oncidium*. Grow this orchid in dappled light, with good air movement and keep well-watered while in active growth. It is a mix of cool and warmer growing

species, but when above 95F it should be kept shaded or moved indoors to avoid stress.

Class VI – *Cypripedium* Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Paphiopedilum delenatii* 'Mr. Big,' AM/AOS (provisional) - **David Mellard & Sal Marino**

Paphiopedilum delenatii is an enchanting species native to the mountains of northern Vietnam, generally growing from between 2500 and 5000 feet above sea level. The growth habit is quite small considering the size of the flowers, with beautifully tessellated dark foliage, flushed purple on the underneath. The clonal name of this particular plant bears a double meaning in that it playfully refers to a character (more spoken of than seen) in the TV series "Sex and the City", and also points to the fact that it is the second largest flower ever awarded for this species.

This orchid prefers moderate light levels and resents hot temperatures, so is best grown in a controlled environment that allows for plenty of water while making new growth, but a somewhat drier and decidedly cooler rest period in winter to flower well. Repot into fresh media every one to two years. Almost 400 registered hybrids have this species included in their genealogy, making it an important parent.

Red – *Paphiopedilum* "Monsoon Summer Girl" – **Danny Lentz**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum* 'Thank You Margaret,' HCC/AOS – **Carson Barnes**

This is a fairly robust grower that produces a large flower on a rather short stem, which as the species name implies, is fringed in short hair-like projections. It was used widely in early *Paphiopedilum* breeding, then ignored for the most part for decades until a revival in interest that



Paphiopedilum delenatii 'Mr. Big,' AM/AOS – David Mellard & Sal Marino



Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum 'Thank You Margaret,' HCC/AOS – Carson Barnes has grown in intensity from the 1990's until present.

Coming from regions in northeast India and surrounding areas with a distinct monsoonal climate, *Paph. hirsutissimum* needs ample water while growing, but a pronounced

drier and cooler rest period in winter in order to flower well.

Red – *Phragmipedium pearcei* – **Carson Barnes**

White – *Paphiopedilum* Prime Child – **Carson Barnes**

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Phalaenopsis inscriptosinensis* - Danny Lentz

This species is native to the island of Sumatra and while described in 1983 by Jack Fowlie, it is still uncommon in cultivation. The distinct markings on the flowers inspired the species name, which is literally translated “Chinese writing.”

It is an intermediate grower, being most common around 3000 feet above sea level, in shaded locales where rainfall is abundant in all months. It is interesting for its unique qualities, but rather few flowered and none of the attempted hybrids have achieved anything that might be considered a breakthrough in breeding within the genus.



Phalaenopsis inscriptosinensis – Danny Lentz

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Aerangis fastuosa* – DannyLentz

This is a really nicely flowered example of a dwarf species native to the eastern slope of Madagascar at about 3000 feet above sea level. It prefers shaded or filtered light conditions, with intermediate temperatures, and regular watering accompanied by excellent drainage. It is difficult to keep mounted plants moist enough for most growers, so pots or baskets filled with a fast draining medium are preferred.



Aerangis fastuosa – Danny Lentz

Red – *Vanda tricolor* variety *suavis* – Dan Williamson

White – *Vanda falcata*– David Mellard & Sal Marino

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Vanda tricolor* variety *suavis* ‘Missy’ – Carson Barnes

This form of the species native to Java and Bali can have 15 or more colorful flowers on a single

inflorescence. It apparently has benefitted from the actions of man by colonizing the open areas on the edges of tea plantations, where the exposure is tempered somewhat by heavy cloudiness in summer. It prefers mild to moderate temperatures and copious water from about May to November, with less in winter, especially in February and March when only sparing amounts should be given. Nearly 5000

registered hybrids have this species lurking in their family tree.

Red – *Oeonina rosea* – Carson Barnes

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Stenolexia* Red Bird – David Mellard & Sal Marino

This stately orchid is a cross between two terrestrial species from South America, *Stenorrhyncos albidomaculatum* from Colombia and Venezuela and *Pelexia laxa* from Peru. The cross was registered in 2007 by Hoosier Orchids. Both parents grow in fairly low light conditions with warm, but not hot, temperatures.

Red – *Lycaste lasioglossa* x *macrobulbon* - **Geni Smith**

White – *Pleione limprichtii* – **David Mellard/Sal Marino Morgan**



Stenolexia Red Bird – David Mellard & Sal Marino



Oenobia rosea
Carson Barnes

An unusual and infrequently seen species from Madagascar and Réunion island.



Vanda tricolor v. suavis 'Missy'
Carson Barnes



Geni Smith with the ATLOS Exhibit at the Deep South Orchid Society Show in Savannah last month.

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



Paphiopedilum delenatii 'Mr. Big,' AM/AOS 84pts
David Mellard & Sal Marino



Vanda javierae 'Tweety,' HCC/AOS 79pts
Carson Barnes



Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum 'Thank You Margaret,'
HCC/AOS 78 pts
Carson Barnes



Cattleya Wei-Ling Ting 'Virginia Anne,' AM/AOS 80 pts
David Kessler