



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

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JULY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, July 11, 2016, 8pm

TEMPORARY LOCATION CHANGE
Georgia Pacific Classroom -
Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

Speaker: Laura Newton
AOS Awards Registrar



Laura has been growing orchids for the past 11 years and grows a huge variety of genera, currently having around 3,000 plants in her collection. Her favorite being the *Bulbophyllum* that was named for her, it is perfectly odd looking, stinky, and expensive!

Laura's love of orchids led her into the judging program where she is currently a certified Probationary Judge in the Florida North-Central Judging Center. She has also just finished her first year as the American Orchid Society (AOS) Awards Registrar. Along with serving on four committees for the AOS, Laura is also a member of five local societies.



Bulbophyllum Laura Newton

Laura will be speaking on the current status of the AOS, what their plans are for the next couple of years, including a peek at the new library, and also a basic primer on Orchid Judging and what it all means.

Laura is a charming, enthusiastic and knowledgeable speaker and it will be a real pleasure to have her give us an update on the American Orchid Society and its plans for the future.

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Silent Auction– Michael Sinn

Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Mellard

Newsletter – Mark Reinke

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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

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JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

Up-Date: Orchid Challenge

At the July meeting you will have another chance to sign-up for the challenge, the plants will be coming soon.

Orchid Growing Class

July 11, 2016

7:15 - 7:45pm pre-meeting

Learn From A Pro, Cattleya Potting
with Michael Sinn



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

Events Calendar

July

**09 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Judging**, Atlanta Judging
Center, 2pm, Georgia Pacific
Classroom - Fuqua Orchid Center,
ABG

**11 - American Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting**, Georgia
Pacific Classroom - Fuqua
Orchid Center, ABG - 8pm
Speaker - Laura Newton

August

**08 - American Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall
- 8pm
Speaker - TBA

**13 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Judging**, Atlanta
Judging Center, 2pm, Georgia
Pacific Classroom - Fuqua Orchid
Center, ABG

September

**12 - American Orchid Society
Annual Auction and Pot-Luck**,
7pm at Rock Spring Presbyterian
Church, 1824 Piedmont Ave NE,
Atlanta GA 30324

October

**10 - American Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall
- 8pm
Speaker - TBA



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

How are you enjoying summer? I am amazed at all the growth from this spring. The trees are encroaching on my sun. The tree trimmers came last week, now the sun is back and is wonderful. I am finally getting to the green house and starting to repot!

Oh my, those crazy bifoliate Cattleyas, 18 to 24 inches across and have not been repotted in 6 years. Thank goodness for our auction bench and "Roy's Auction". If not for those two things, I would not be able to close the green house door this fall. I think I should have been repotting all spring as the new roots showed up.

If you are wondering about the joys of repotting Cattleyas, you have the great opportunity to learn from a Cattleya pro, Michael Sinn, at the orchid growing class pre-meeting next month. Come and learn. Another terrific resource that I have enlisted is Tom Harper's culture article in Orchids, Vol.84, No6, June 2015. This is a great article on how to pot Phalaenopsis species; open mixes, mounted, or sphagnum moss. It is a terrific reference piece.

Our next meeting will be held on July 9th, at 8PM in Day Hall of the Atlanta Botanical Gardens and our speaker will be Laura Newton, AOS Awards Registrar.

Hope to see you there.
Barbara Barnett, President

Minutes of the June 2016 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Date: June 6, 2016

Time: 8:00 pm

Location: Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Day Hall

Attendance: 25

The previous meetings minutes were seconded and approved.

President Barnett reminded us that next months meeting would be held in the Georgia Pacific classroom in the Fuqua Orchid Center.

It was also announced that the August 20th Green Growers would be held at President Barnett's house in Big Canoe. Details will be in the next newsletter.

The Growers Challenge was discussed, detailing how it was a group challenge where everyone started with small plants from the same group and the first one to bloom theirs would win a prize. Sign up for the Growers Challenge will be held at the meetings.

A reminder was given that Roy Harrow's last plant auction will be July 30th and participants are welcome to come a buy as well as sell their own plants. A percentage of all proceeds will go to the sellers chosen orchid society.

Carson Barnes and Michael Sinn went over the plants available on the Silent Auction table, providing descriptions of what was there this month.

Michael Sinn's program started at 8:25pm on Japan Grand Prix,

International Orchid Festival 2016, and ended at 9:20pm.

Ribbon Judging announcements started at 9:35pm and the meeting was adjourned at 10pm.

Minutes compiled by
Valorie Boyer

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners June 2016

Notes by Mark Alan Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Cattleya*. Hsinying Excell 'DB', HCC/AOS x *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Rubescence 'SVO', AM/AOS – **Bob Grzesik**

This as of yet unregistered hybrid by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids undoubtedly reflects an attempt on his part to create a hybrid that takes advantage of



Cattleya. Hsinying Excell 'DB', HCC/AOS x *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Rubescence 'SVO', AM/AOS – **Bob Grzesik**

the beauty of both parents while hopefully correcting some of the faults in presentation and growth habit of *Rlc.* Rubescence. That parent is a cross between the famous large flowered *Rlc.* Oconee 'Mendenhall,' AM/AOS and the charming miniature, *C.* Seagulls Apricot. It has intense ruby red flowers of beautiful form, but they are often held on a weak stem and the leaves can sometimes be twisted and ill placed. *C.* Hsinying Excell combines a large flowered peloric hybrid with the rock dwelling species, *C. briegei*, which brings a strong upright stem and good flat flower form to the mix.

The result, as best I can tell from the photo, definitely blends the look of both parents, and the growth habit looks neat and clean, but I'm unable to see if the flower spike is sturdy or requires staking. It is a lovely flower and the plant should have the ability to bloom more than once per year while remaining compact and manageable.

Red – *Cattleya* Sierra Doll – **Danny Lentz**

White – *Cattleya harrisoniana* – **David Mellard & Sal Marino**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Brassavola cucullata* – **Carson Barnes**

Brassavola cucullata is an interesting species that comes from Mexico, Central America, and across the northern tier of South America. It is usually found in coastal rainforest environments, but can occur as high as 6,000 feet above sea level. It is often growing on the undersides of large limbs, sometimes hanging over water. The growth is narrow



Brassavola cuculatta – Carson Barnes

and terete in nature, and is best accommodated on a mount or in a basket. We have had good success with plants mounted on the underside of a wooden basket to mimic a more natural growing situation.

The flowers can be borne several to a growth in succession over an extended bloom season that runs from summer into fall, sometimes with more than one per growth open at once. The segments are long and trailing and can be greenish, yellowish, or in the most desirable forms, tinged red. The white fringed lip extends into a long midlobe that somewhat mimics the segments in color and form.

The unusual look of this species has inspired a number of attempts at hybridization with other members of the Cattleya Alliance. The results range from charming to curiously strange, to even spectacular in a few instances, depending on the other parent used. We have found that hybrids made from this species can be very slow

growing, so require patience. They also tend to flower well for several years and then go into gradual decline. One of the most amazing results I have seen was in a cross using the famous *R/c*. Ocone 'Mendenhall', AM/AOS as the other parent. The cross was named *Rby*. Only CuCu, and one plant from that grex, 'Solstice Sunrise' had wonderful full starry form and extraordinary warm coral-peach coloring. Sadly, it too flowered well and then gradually declined until it was lost to its owner several years back. You can still find an online photo that attests to its singular beauty.

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

No Entries

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

No Entries

Class V – Oncidium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Psychopsis* Kalihi – Liz Wyman

This is an above average example of the primary hybrid between *Psychopsis papilio* and *Pyp. krameriana* originally registered in 1945 and remade numerous times with selected parents. The charm of *Psychopsis* is hard to resist, with flamboyant flowers resembling butterflies borne on long wiry stems that repeat bloom, offering one flower at a



Psychopsis Kalihi – Liz Wyman

time for several to many years. The foliage is an added bonus as it is usually tigered purple on the top surface and extensively flushed the same color on the underside. That said, growers seem to either do very well with these seductive orchids or not, and there is no clear cut set of cultural practices that are universally successful. The best *Psychopsis* collection I have seen was grown on a kitchen counter that took advantage of numerous windows and skylights for good light, but had broad overhangs and shade trees filtering its intensity. All of these plants had multiple active inflorescences and were full of flowers. Yet, under my own greenhouse conditions I have been much less successful!

In the wild, *Psychopsis* species are found in humid forests at low to middle elevations where rainfall is plentiful much of the year, but with a pronounced drier winter. They grow in filtered light that falls somewhere in



Bratonia Shelob 'Webmaster'
– Carson Barnes

between "Phalaenopsis" and "Cattleya" levels, but will tolerate higher levels if accompanied by greater air movement. Their beauty makes them worth a try no matter what your conditions and experience level. If they do well for you, be happy!

Red – *Miltoniopsis* Lee Harold Fister, Jr. – **Danny Lentz**

White – *Tolumnia* "Pretty 'n' Pink"
– **Danny Lentz**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Bratonia Shelob 'Webmaster'* – **Carson Barnes**

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Amateur Winners

Phragmipediums

Blue – *Phragmipedium Charleston Sunrise* – **Danny Lentz**

This orchid is a 2004 introduction by H.P. Norton, a well-respected breeder of *Phragmipedium* and *Phalaenopsis* from Monck's

Corner, SC, now retired. In this hybrid the genes of *Phrag.* Memoria Dick Clements are recycled on both sides, along with a dose of *Phrag.* Sorcerer's Apprentice. The form and coloration of the exhibited flower is very similar to one other image I was able to find posted online in an amateur orchid forum, with a pleasant blend of red and yellow and rather horizontal petal placement. The one awarded example, 'Kathy's Valentine,' AM/AOS, 82 pts., fittingly received its award on Feb. 14th, 2004 and may have been the impetus for registering the cross. It has a more saturated red over yellow color and fairly long and broad down swept petals. Such variations are expected when mixing the three disparate species in the background of *Phrag.* Charleston Sunrise.

Seedlings can be a more affordable way to enjoy orchids and *Phragmipedium* grow and flower more quickly from seed than many types of orchids. If you enjoy the thrill of seeing an orchid plant flowering for the first time, you should also be prepared for outcomes that neither you nor the breeder anticipated, for better or for worse. If, on the other hand, you have a definite and very specific thing in mind, it can be worth the



Phragmipedium Charleston Sunrise –
Danny Lentz



Phragmipedium Charleston Sunrise –
Danny Lentz

extra money to buy a plant in flower that better matches your criteria.

The *Phragmipedium* are water loving orchids, and are often grown in fairly deep pots to accommodate the large root system, which, in the wild, frequently works its way into cracks and crevices seeking moisture on dripping banks and ledges or along roadside ditches.

Red – *Phragmipedium Schroderae*
– **Danny Lentz**

Paphiopedilums

Blue – *Paphiopedilum Moon Stone* – **Ellen Brand**

This 2012 introduction from Lehua Orchids in Hawaii was entered under the parents' names, so it's time to update the label! However, don't confuse it with *Paph.* Moonstone (one word) registered 92 years earlier and with which it has little in common.

The near white color effect of this flower may have been expected by an experienced breeder, but is the result of a hidden color blocking mechanism not obvious in the parents. *Paph.* Deperle, the pod parent, is primarily pink while *Paph.* Stone Lovely, the pollen

parent, is mainly citron yellow. Discovering how orchids such as these can be used to create white *Paphiopedilums* helps advance breeding in directions that may have seemed outside the realm of possibility in the past.

Red – *Paphiopedilum* Armeni-White – **Dan Williamson**

White – *Paphiopedilum* Nimit – **Danny Lentz**

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Phragmipedium* Memoria Ann Stucky 'Straight Arrow,' AM/AOS – **Carson Barnes**

This delicately beautiful hybrid takes the pink and white colors of *Phrag. schlimii*, and combines it with the more elongated look of two primarily green species. One of those, *Phrag. pearcei*, is smaller growing and was probably used with the intent of bringing the plant size down to more



Phragmipedium Memoria Ann Stucky 'Straight Arrow,' AM/AOS
– **Carson Barnes**



Phalaenopsis tetrapsis '#C1' – **Danny Lentz**

manageable dimensions.

As far as I can tell, this is the first award out of the cross, which was originally registered in 2006. Its well-balanced vertical orientation and intricate features obviously won the hearts of the judges.

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Phalaenopsis tetrapsis* '#C1' – **Danny Lentz**

This fragrant species is from hot, humid swamps in Sumatra and the islands which trail off to the north of it. The starry two-inch flowers are mainly white, but often exhibit small random markings of bright purple. In some forms one or more of the segments will be almost entirely red or purple. The effect is charmingly quirky. The exhibited plant seems to be free of the above described markings but does have an unusual amount of saturated purple in the middle of the lip.

The lower portion of the midlobe has the characteristic "bristle brush" effect of the species.

As should be obvious by the description of its habitat, *Phal. tetrapsis* demands warmth and high humidity year round, with ample water most of the year and somewhat less in the short days of winter. It is best grown in a basket or hanging pot to accommodate the decumbent inflorescences.

Red – *Phalaenopsis* Dragon Tree Eagle 'DT31' – **Bob Grzesik**

White – *Phalaenopsis* Su's Milk Puff x *cornu-cervi* var. *chattaladae* – **Bob Grzesik**

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Stenorchis fragrans* – **Dan Williamson**

Sns. fragrans is a very miniature species from eastern India, Myanmar and Thailand, growing at a variety of elevations in areas with seasonally dry conditions in winter. Most of the plants in



Stenorchis fragrans – Dan Williamson

cultivation originate from stock collected in lower elevations of Thailand, and are usually grown warm, but the species also occurs in areas where winter lows are in the 40's for an extended period.

The entire plant of this monopodial orchid is typically less than an inch tall. Mature plants can have several stems in a small clump, each producing an inflorescence of up to a dozen tiny, bright purple flowers offset by a contrasting yellow anther cap. The flowers all face the same direction creating a crowded appearance. Multiple examples with well over 200 flowers and buds have received cultural awards from the American Orchid Society. No offspring have been registered with this species as a parent, and one could imagine the complex logistics of hand pollinating such tiny blooms and sowing the very small seed pod!

While *Sns. fragrans* endures fairly tough conditions in its native habitat, such tiny growers as this require an advanced level of dedication to perform well in cultivation.

Red – *Vanda falcata* 'Kin ro Kaku'
– David Mellard & Sal Marino

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Vandachostylis* Lou Sneary
'McLellan's M2598,' AM/AOS –
Carson Barnes

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Bulbophyllum annamense*
– Bailey Santwire

This species also received a blue ribbon in the miscellaneous category last month. See the June, 2016 newsletter for details about it.

Red – *Acanthephippium mantinianum* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

White – *Stanhopea graveolens* –
David Mellard & Sal Marino

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Thunia marshalliana* –
Carson Barnes

Thunia marshalliana is a beautiful, but infrequently seen terrestrial species that is widespread in the mountains of Southeast Asia. It grows in areas with a distinct dry and cool winter period and the plants

respond to this season by dropping most or all of their leaves. When dormant, they look like short, leafless stalks of bamboo. Growth is rapid with the onset of warmth and rain in spring and by summer each 2 foot tall stem is topped by a nodding cluster of showy white flowers with ruffled lips filled with fringed yellow keels. A clump of plants in bloom can be quite spectacular.

If you are able to obtain *Thu. marshalliana*, grow it in a fairly good sized container filled with a well-drained, but moisture retentive terrestrial mix, such as would commonly be used for *Cymbidium*. Wait until new growth is well under way and showing new roots in spring before beginning the generous watering and feeding this orchid wants during the growing season. As leaves begin to yellow in fall, gradually withhold water, giving little to none by the beginning of winter. Nights in the mid-50's or lower are required to give the requisite chill. Many growers repot into fresh mix yearly at the onset of new growth.

Red – *Anguloa clowesii* – Carson Barnes



Thunia marshalliana – Carson Barnes

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



*Rhyncholaeliocattleya Oconee Circle 'Palmetto's Majestic',
AM/AOS, 83 pts., Exhibited by Fred Missbach*



*Phragmipedium Memoria Ann Stuckey 'Straight Arrow',
AM/AOS, 81 pts., Exhibited by Carson Barnes*



*Paphiopedilum Victoria's Passion 'Summer Surprise',
AM/AOS, 80 pts., Exhibited by David Kessler*