



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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MAY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2017
Atlanta Botanical Garden
Day Hall - 8pm

This month we will have a review of the awarded orchids from our 2017 show. **Carson Barnes** has organized this program to encompass the breeding, history, and nomenclature of the awarded plants. He will also discuss what was so good about each plant, as well as why these particular genera and groups were seen as trophy worthy.

Society members have been invited to show their winning plants, or a photograph, and to tell us any secrets they may have for the exemplary culture they provided their plants to receive their award.

The 2017 Orchid Show had 10 trophy winners, two plants got two awards each. A few of the orchids to be reviewed are:

- Best Flower in Show,
Phalaenopsis Taisuco Anna,
Kool-Logs

- Best Specimen Plant, Cattleya
intermedia var. orlata 'Crownfox'
AM/AOS

- Best Vanda, Vanda A.F.
Buckman, Dan Williamson



A beautiful example of one of the awarded orchids that Carson Barnes will be covering during the May meeting

So, please join us on May 8, in Day Hall at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens.

Minutes of the April 2017 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The April 10th, 2017 was called to order at 8:00PM at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Jason Mills-Shoulta, President, presided.

The minutes of the March meeting were read and approved with no revisions. The Treasurer, Dan Williamson provided the financial report. New and visiting members were welcomed and introduced.

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- 1 Previous Meeting Minutes
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- 3 Events Calendar & Monthly Ribbon Winners
- 8 Recent AOS Awards from the Atlanta Judging Center

THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Lynne Gollob

Silent Auction– Carson Barnes

Monthly Ribbon Judging –
David Mellard

Newsletter – Valorie Boyer,
Mark Reinke

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Pre-Meeting Orchid Class (7:15 to 7:45)

**Jason Mills-Shoulta will
present a class on Plant
Mounting. Join us and learn!**

Upcoming Orchid Shows

Memphis Orchid Show

May 6 - 7, 2017

Memphis Botanical Gardens
Memphis, TN

2016 Plant Challenge

Have you looked at your 2016 Challenge plant this spring?
How is it doing? Is it growing? Does it have new roots?
In this beautiful weather it is time to fertilize it. You could even put it outside in medium mottled light. Don't let it get burned! It could bloom this year if it is happy. Remember the winner is the first to bloom with more than one flower; you will need it bring it to the meeting or be sure to take a dated picture if it will not last.

Good Growing and Good Luck!



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

Events Calendar

May

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

13 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom - Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

June

10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom - Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

12 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Ice Cream Social and Silent Auction

July

8 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom - Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

10 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Bill Thoms - Bulbophyllums

August

12 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom - Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Mark Reinke

There was a silent plant auction with proceeds benefiting the Atlanta Orchid Society, as well as plants for sale by the speaker.

The evening's program was presented by speaker and guest Barry Wolfe, who presented "Care and Culture of Chinese Cymbidiums". Many of these plants were offered for sale to members.

Following the program the results of the monthly ribbon judging were announced after which, with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

*Minutes compiled by
Darrell Demeritt*

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners April 2017

*Notes by Mark Reinke
Photos by Daryl Wattley*

Class I – Cattleya Group

Amateur Growers

Blue – *Cattlianthe* Fire Dance x Trick or Treat – **Lynne Gollob**

The genealogy of this as of yet unregistered hybrid assures several traits that probably governed the intentions of the breeder of the cross. At about 50% *Guarianthe aurantiaca*, it would be a sturdy grower, tolerant of a range of conditions, and produce good clusters of bright flowers that last well even though they will come but once per year. A mature specimen plant would be capable of producing a substantial showing. While there are bits of 13 other species in the background, their

combined effect is only to increase flower size and improve form over the dominant species involved.

Given than many other hybrids, including the parents of this cross have already achieved the aforementioned goals in decades past, and have their share of AOS awards, we may never see a registration for this hybrid that has already passed through the pipeline at this point, so to speak. However, if a plant of this cross receives a provisional AOS award, then registration is required in order to make the award official and permanent. If the award recipient can trace the cross back to its originator, then that person has the priority in giving it a name. But sometimes the breeder cannot be deduced, or is no longer in the orchid business and the RHS will accept, with explanation, a name chosen by the award recipient.

Give crosses like this bright light, excellent drainage and regular water while new growth is underway in the summer months, with somewhat less once growths have hardened off in fall. Typically, new growth will not commence again until after the winter/spring flowering season is over.

Red – *Laeliocatanthe* Newberry Lava Burst – **Roy Harrow**



Cattlianthe Fire Dance x Trick or Treat –
Lynne Gollob

White – Bullara Redland Sunset –
Darrell Demeritt

(Bullara = Cattleya + Encyclia +
Guarianthe + Rhyncolaelia)

Class II – Cymbidium Group

Blue – *Grammatocymbidium*
Memoria Nathan Newman 'NN' –
Rick Martinez

Many orchid growers are likely not aware that *Cymbidium* and *Grammatophyllum* can be hybridized together but a good crop of this example has made it into the trade recently, no doubt raising awareness of this possibility. In the case of *Grcym.* Memoria Nathan Newman, while there are seven different *Cymbidium* species in its genealogy, they make up only 25% of the total background. The resulting plant and flowers are highly reminiscent of *Gramm. scriptum* var. *citrinum*, which contributes the other 75% of the family tree. The biggest difference being that the individual blossoms more closely resemble a *Cymbidium* in form and are a slightly more delicate color than the dominant species.

Not a small plant to begin with, this orchid is likely capable of becoming a specimen of considerable proportions with reasonable care, bearing many spikes of 40 or more long lasting flowers. It will require bright, warm conditions (above 60F at night) to do well and can easily take several hours of direct sun each day. A large pot filled with a well-draining media is best suited to housing the strong root system. Water should be applied on a regular basis and more frequently when plants are actively growing, but the



Grammatocymbidium Memoria Nathan
Newman 'NN' – Rick Martinez

conditions at the roots should not be allowed to become stale or soggy.

Red - *Cymbidium wenshanense* –
David Mellard

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Blue – *Dendrobium unicum* –
Vinh Nguyen

This enchanting, small growing species from Thailand, Laos and Vietnam is one that I have struggled to do well with over time. A well grown plant can be covered with up to several hundred, nonresupinate flowers, which are large for the size of the plant. They have bright orange recurving segments set off by a spoon shaped buff colored lip that is accented with deep red veins. The fragrance, when present, reminds many people of "orange blossom scented Crayola crayons." Flowers normally occur in spring on the previous season's growths which after maturing in

autumn, shed most or all of their leaves in the winter months.

Den. unicum definitely needs quite bright light to flower well, and lots of water during the growing season from about May to October. But it is highly subject to rot and also should get perfect drainage so that it doesn't stay soggy. In the winter months, the nights are cool and the days warm to hot in the areas where it grows, and while rainfall is scant, there is likely frequent dew caused by the wide temperature swing, so watering should probably be done in a sparing matter and applied early in the day, but the plants cannot sit bone dry for days on end or they will suffer. Still, even following this advice I haven't succeeded in keeping my plants going for more than a few years, so there may be factors in my growing environment that I cannot fully control that are not to this orchid's liking.

The more recent batches of *Den. unicum* to make it into the market seem a bit more robust than those of the past and I've seen plants grow up to 12 inches or more tall which is well above



Dendrobium unicum – Vinh Nguyen

the official description of the species. It certainly is a beautiful orchid worth trying for yourself!

Red – *Dendrobium sanderae* variety major – **Lynne Gollob**

White – *Dendrobium bullenianum* – **Darrell Demeritt**

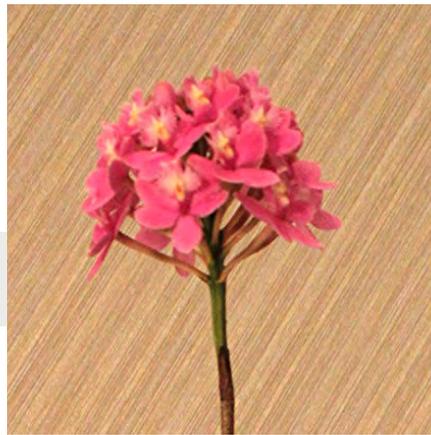
White – *Dendrobium kingianum* – **Lynne Gollob**

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Epidendrum* Candy Valley – **Roy Harrow**

Epidendrum Candy Valley is one of a long line of hybrids whose names end with “Valley” produced by Moriaki Inamine in the Kanagawa prefecture of Japan, on one of the hilly peninsulas that form the mouth of Tokyo Bay. It appears that Mr. Inamine has been doing his work for the better part of the last three decades, essentially selectively mixing the genes of three species back and forth to achieve desired effects. In the wild, all three: *Epi. radicans*, *Epi. cinnabarinum*, and *Epi. secundum*, are rangy “roadside weeds” of tropical America, beautiful, but nonetheless ill-suited for windowsill culture. In the case of *Epi.* Candy Valley, seven generations of careful breeding have produced a more compact growing plant with fuller, more neatly arranged flowers that is still free blooming and can be present in almost any month. Similar results from these efforts offer essentially the same plant in a wide range of colors from white through pink, purple, yellow, orange and red.

As a group, these *Epidendrum* hybrids prefer high light just



Epidendrum Candy Valley – **Roy Harrow**

short of full sun, excellent drainage, cool to warm temperatures and regular water and light fertilization. In our hot summer season, afternoon shade is probably best to compensate for temperatures above 90F which are uncommon where all these species grow wild.

Red – *Prosthechea chacaoensis* – **Dan Williamson**

White – *Epidendrum* “Lakeview Red” (probably a trade name) – **Lynne Gollob**

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – *Tolumnia* Jairak Rainbow ‘Princess’ – **Danny Lentz**

In reviewing my notes for ribbon winners throughout the years I was able to find eight previous instances when various clones of *Tol.* Jairak Rainbow was so recognized, attesting to the popularity of this colorful and compact hybrid introduced in 2004. Its family tree extends back to the 1950’s when W.W.G. Moir began doing extensive work in *Tolumnia* breeding and was instrumental in bringing their charms to the attention of

orchid growers everywhere. Here’s additional notes I wrote in 2015 about this orchid:

“The grex name of this colorful hybrid aptly describes the typical results of breeding in this *Oncidium* sub-group, which typically yield offspring of considerable variation, making efforts to produce color specific hybrids an exercise in futility. Each seedling is unique in color and pattern, with every combination of white, red, yellow and purple imaginable. For this reason, most plants purchased are either genetic copies of a specific clone, or in flower at the time of the sale so that they grower knows what to expect.

A full ten generations of mixing, for the most part, just two species, *Tolu. triquetra* and *Tolu. pulchella* create this hybrid. Three other species have a combined total contribution of just five percent, and provide the yellow tones that are expressed in the ‘Florida Sunset’ variety and a few others out of the cross (but not so apparent in the ‘Princess’ clone).

All the species involved are native to the Caribbean, where they occur as twig epiphytes in humid, bright locations. Their need for frequent water with perfect drainage, good air movement and high humidity make them challenging subjects for culture inside the home, but



Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow ‘Princess’ – **Danny Lentz**

easy in the right greenhouse environment.”

Red – *Oncidium sphacelatum* –
Andrew Dott

White – *Cyrtorchilum angustatum*
– David Mellard

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum* –
Danny Lentz

In the nearly 12 years that I have been writing the notes about the ribbon winners for our newsletter, *Paph. rothschildianum* has received a red or white ribbon three times, but this is the first time it has been given a blue ribbon. This is certainly *not* because it can't be a magnificent thing! Indeed, I could find at least 32 FCC/AOS awards given to it and my current update of Orchidwiz lists an astounding 260 awards given by all the worldwide orchid societies that supply their judging information to that program.

That being said, a well grown specimen of *Paph. rothschildianum* requires a higher level of attention to detail and dedication than do the many hybrids created from it, and far more than the popular complex and Maudiae type crosses. There are volumes of advice from growers that have been successful with this species, including some that seems to contradict the climate data from its restricted natural range on the lower slopes (2000-4000ft) of Mt. Kinabalu in Borneo, a World Heritage Site that tops out at 13,345 feet above sea level. Down where the plants grow, nights average about 60F and days in the low 80's year round and rainfall is regular and evenly



Paphiopedilum rothschildianum –
Danny Lentz

distributed throughout the year. Still, some growers find a month of nights between 50F and 55F in fall or spring, accompanied by less water, helps initiate bud development. Plants also need brighter light than many species, but preferably reflected or diffused enough so that there is some yellow in the leaves, but they don't overheat and burn.

The awarded examples averaged four flowers per inflorescence, each just over 10 inches from tip to top of the horizontally held petals. To score 90 points or higher and receive the coveted First Class Certificate, the petals need to be as straight as possible and the dorsal should stand as vertical as possible. All four open flowers should be either perfectly spaced in a vertical column or evenly staggered in alternating fashion, one over the other. The colors should be intense and the markings even and clear. Though our monthly judging doesn't aspire to such exacting standards, kudos to Danny for being the first to score a blue

ribbon on this species at any of our meetings in the 21st Century!

Red – *Paphiopedilum hookerae*
(syn. *volonteanum*) – Danny Lentz

White – *Paphiopedilum* (Via Quatal x Robert de Veer) x *farrieanum* –
Danny Lentz

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Blue – *Phalaenopsis Nagasaki* –
Dan Williamson

This is a primary hybrid between two species that were until recently both included in other genera besides *Phalaenopsis*. One parent began as *Aerides japonica* when described in 1863, then became the monotypic *Sederia japonica* (note that the genus name is the reverse spelling of the original) in 1974, and was transferred into *Phalaenopsis* in 2014. The other parent started out as *Vanda parishii* var. *marriottiana* in 1880, became *Stauropsis marriottiana* in 1919, *Hygrochilus parishii* var. *marriottiana* in 1987, *Hygrochilus marriottiana* in 2005 and was also moved into *Phalaenopsis* in 2014 with the name changed to *Phal hygrochila*. I am assuming that the latest changes of both of these plants were a result of DNA studies – something earlier taxonomists did not have the ability to



Phalaenopsis Nagasaki –
Dan Williamson

evaluate. Still, given that plants have DNA that is genetically complex (they are organisms that date back nearly half a billion years, after all), one has to wonder where taxonomists are drawing the lines when deciding what goes in which genera. I admit, other than speculating about the complexities of these decisions, I am in no position to question their choices!

The cute, spotty flowers on smallish growing plants may not be plentiful on plants of *Phal.* Nagasaki grown as traditional *Phalaenopsis*, as both of these species occur where winter nights are chilly and that may be a required stimulation for plentiful blooming. Medium bright light is suggested as is a slight decrease in watering during the cooler months, always making sure plants are dry by nightfall to avoid fungal and bacterial rots.

Red – *Phalaenopsis* Yu Pin Lady – Rick Martinez

White – *Phalaenopsis* Sogo Yukidian – Rick Martinez

White – *Phalaenopsis* “Pink Spot Floyd” (apparent trade name) – Jon Crate

White – *Phalaenopsis* ‘Shu Long Big Lip” (apparent trade name or name not yet officially registered) – Geni Smith

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – *Vanda miniata* ‘Koi Gold’ – Lynne Gollob

The genus *Ascocentrum*, which had been in use since 1913, was merged into *Vanda* just shy of a century later in 2012. As with our *Phalaenopsis* winner, the reason



Vanda miniata ‘Koi Gold’ – Lynne Gollob

appears to be genetics studies based on DNA. While the species name of this small growing orchid refers to vermilion or rusty red coloring, more often than not, flowers of available plants are in shades of orange. Well grown, mature plants can produce many of them, with more than a dozen awarded specimens carrying more than a thousand of them when judged. R.F. Orchids once exhibited a plant that had an estimated 4200 of them, earning it a well deserved cultural score of 92 points!

Widely used in breeding to bring down the plant size, add vibrant color to the flowers and good upright stance to the inflorescences, almost 600 registered vandaceous hybrids are based on this species. It also adds a degree of temperature tolerance, especially for cooler nights that some of the larger hybrids dislike, and less of a need for very bright light to flower well. Plants are best grown in freely draining baskets with frequent water in summer and somewhat less in winter, especially when nights are chilly in your growing area.

Red – *Vanda christensoniana* – Vinh Nguyen

White – *Aerangis* LOC Cardinal Gem – Danny Lentz

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Cynorkis angustipetela* – David Mellard

Look for the notes on *Cynorkis angustipetela* in next month’s newsletter!

Red – *Sudamerlycaste locusta* – Geni Smith

White – *Acanthophippium sylhetense* – David Mellard

White – *Stenosarcos Vanguard* – David Mellard



Vanda miniata ‘Koi Gold’ – Lynne Gollob

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.

Look for photos of these award winners in next month's newsletter!

*Cattleya forbesii 'Mocha',
HCC/79 pts., Barney & Aileen Garrison*

*Paphiopedilum moquetteanum 'Nosy Girl',
AM/80 pts., Carson Barnes*

*Stenosarcos Vanguard 'Mello Spirit',
HCC/78 pts., David Mellard*

*Renanthera imschootiana 'Parachute Pants',
HCC/78 pts., Carson Barnes*



The Atlanta Orchid Society expresses their condolences for Arthur Moore, April 28, 1932 - April 22, 2017

Arthur D. Moore Jr., age 84, passed away on April 22, 2017 at Northeast Alabama Regional Center. Funeral services were held at First United Methodist Church in Anniston on Tuesday, April 25, 2017. Born in Pell City, Alabama, Art was married to his college sweetheart, Elizabeth Scruggs Moore, for 61 years. Art and Libba met while attending Auburn University where he was a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon Fraternity, Spades, and was the 1954 Student Body President. An eagle scout, Art served his country following college graduation, from 1954-1957, as an Air Force navigator. After 41 years with Alcoa Aluminum, Art retired and moved home to Alabama. He was able to pursue his loves of fishing and gardening. An avid orchid grower, he served as president of the American Orchid Society and was a Master Judge of Orchids. His greenhouse was a testament to his mastery of growing orchids and anyone who visited always left with a plant and instructions. In addition to hobbies, Art was an active and beloved member of his community. He attended First United Methodist church where he was involved in all missions of the church, specifically Camp Lee, where he was a member of the board. As a patron of the arts, Art was devoted to ensuring the community had the support and facilities for others to enjoy various performances. He worked with Knox Concert Series in many capacities, but will forever be remembered for ensuring local school children were able to attend The Nutcracker Ballet. He was also a dedicated supporter of Oxford Performing Arts Center and Longleaf Botanical Gardens. Art is survived by his wife, Libba Moore; his daughters, Kathryn Moore Bowen (Jack) and Anne Moore Lawless; his grandchildren, Jennifer Bowen Winford (Alex), Lindsay Bowen Hall (Justin), Brittany Lawless Chandler (Will), Emily Kathryn Bowen, and Houston Taylor Lawless; and six great grandchildren. Art was preceded in death by his father and mother, Arthur D. Moore Sr. and Alice M. Moore of Pell City, Alabama. Pallbearers will be Stan Nelson, Justin Hall, Alex Winford, Will Chandler, Houston Lawless, Rick Westbrook, Phil Webb, Steve Vinyard and Stephen Lafollette. Honorary pallbearers will be Mark Chestnut, Joe Chestnut, Pete Furnace, and Dick Ray. As he impacted many lives, Art was dearly loved by his family and community. In lieu of flowers the family asks for donations to Camp Lee Chapel Fund at 70 Camp Lee Main Rd Anniston AL 36207; Longleaf Botanical Gardens at 920 Museum Drive, Anniston, AL 36207; or your favorite charity. Online condolences may be made to the Moore family at www.klbrownmemorychapel.com. K.L. Brown Memory Chapel, 620 Golden Springs Road, Anniston, AL 36207 256-231-2334