



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

June, 2017

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## JUNE MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, June 12, 2017  
Atlanta Botanical Garden  
Day Hall - 7pm

**Please note the earlier than  
usual start time of 7pm!**

Our June 12 orchid meeting will be a return of our ABG greenhouse tour, ice cream social, and members donated silent auction with proceeds to benefit our society.

We will meet in Day Hall at the Gardens at an earlier time of 7 pm. First, we will tour the greenhouse areas which are not open to the public. After returning to Day Hall, we will have ice cream from Cold Stone Creamy as we view the silent auction donations.

There will be a short business meeting and ribbon judging.

Those members who have items to donate can send a list of items to our treasurer, Dan Williamson. You can receive a letter from the society to file the value of your donations towards your taxes.

Your donation can be anything orchid related; plants, potting supplies, artwork, books, etc. Please look through your plants and orchid items for donations on which others will be interested in bidding.



JOIN US  
FOR OUR ANNUAL  
ABG GREENHOUSE TOUR  
& ICE CREAM SOCIAL!

### Minutes of the May 2017 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

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

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

The evening's program was

### In This Issue

- 1 Previous Meeting Minutes
- 2 ATLOS Volunteer Listing & Upcoming Orchid Class
- 3 Events Calendar & Monthly Ribbon Winners
- 9 Recent AOS Awards from the Atlanta Judging Center

## THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

### Officers

#### President

**Jason Mills-Shoulta**  
678-383-2936

#### Vice-President/Programs

**Ellen Brand** 770-518-8425

#### Secretary

**Darrell Demeritt** 404-307-6035

#### Treasurer

**Dan Williamson**  
301-717-0939  
142 Superior Ave  
Decatur, GA 30030

#### Immediate Past President

**Barbara Barnett** 706-579-2670

### Trustees

**Jan Spenard** 770-294-7867

**Danny Lentz** 770-640-0112

**Rick Martinez** 678-583-8695

**Jarad Wilson** 706-308-1300

**Helen Blythe-Hart** 770-656-4054

**Jody Gomez** 678-613-1449

### Other Volunteers

**AOS Rep** – Barbara Barnett

**Greengrowers** – Danny Lentz

**Librarian** – Valorie Boyer

**MAOC Rep** – Doug Hartong

**Meeting Hospitality** – Ed  
Shoulta-Mills

**Membership Chair** – Geni  
Smith

**Education and Outreach** -  
Lynne Gollob

**Silent Auction**– Carson Barnes

**Monthly Ribbon Judging** –  
David Mellard

**Newsletter** – Valorie Boyer,  
Mark Reinke

**Orchid Digest Rep** – David  
Mellard

#### Show Chairs 2017

Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

#### Website Committee

Maureen Mckovich, Mark Reinke,  
Jan Spenard, Valorie Boyer



## 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 purchases from the Society's Brookstone 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)**

**There will not be an orchid class this month  
due to the early start time, greenhouse tour,  
and ice cream social.**

**Please check back next month!**

### 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@aos.org) (404-237-1694) or visit [www.orchiddigest.com](http://www.orchiddigest.com) to join online.

## Events Calendar

### 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

presented by Carson Barnes, who provided an interesting and informative talk highlighting the care and culture of 2017 Show Awarded Plants. He also provided a selection of plants offered for sale to members and guests.

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.

The next monthly meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society will be held on June 12th. This meeting will feature the annual Ice Cream Social and a tour of the Atlanta Botanical Gardens Orchid Pavilion. Please note that June's meeting will start earlier than usual – at 7:00 PM. See you there!

*Minutes compiled by  
Darrell Demeritt*

### Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners May 2017

*Notes by Mark Reinke  
Photos by Daryl Wattley*

#### Class I – Cattleya Group

##### Amateur Growers

**White** – *Brassocattleya* Maria Hatnay – **Roy Harrow**

##### Commercial Growers

**Blue** – *Cattleya purpurata* – **Carson Barnes**

*Cattleya purpurata* is one of the Brazilian species that was formerly under *Laelia* before being reassigned to its current

genus in 2009. For many, it is the premier orchid from that country, being a robust plant with large impressive flowers that come in more color variations than almost any other orchid. The plant exhibited is usually known as “roxo-violeta” type – meaning it has white segments and a strong violet color in the lip. It is not uncommon for the lip color to “fade out” near apex of the mid lobe as in this example.

Often a meter tall, the strong, tough unifoliate plants grow along the Southeast Coast of Brazil from near São Paulo southward to near Porto Alegre, which is very near the Tropic of Capricorn (22.5 degrees south of the Equator). They are tolerant of a wide temperature range from near freezing to over 100F. Plants used to be vastly abundant in their range, but due to habitat destruction, collection and over development, they are now mostly in very tall trees or difficult to reach swampy areas. With the numerous varieties of seed grown plants now in cultivation, hopefully the urge to remove from the wild is diminished.

The flowers are large at 6 to 8 inches across and even larger in some well grown plants, with up to 5, sometimes more, quickly emerging all at once from the sheaths of recently matured growths to flower in late spring. While the petals do not always have exhibition form, the large trumpet-like lip is very showy. It would take pages to list the many color forms, but many of the most outstanding ones have white segments contrasting with vivid color in the lip, ranging from salmon pink, through rose purple, to violet. Some forms have additional contrasting veins in the petals and are usually described as “striata” types. Brazilians prize this orchid and have identified as



*Cattleya purpurata* – Carson Barnes

many as 150 different color types. The most popular varieties have been line bred for better color and form.

One important cultural consideration for *C. purpurata* is that while excellent drainage is essential, there is no distinct dry season in its natural habitat so it should be watered regularly year round for the healthiest plants. Once we learned this, the plants in our collection have all improved dramatically, and one large specimen is currently exhibiting 14 spikes with four or five flowers each, growing in a 12 inch clay pot on a hanger. Bright light is recommended, but the air movement must be excellent if the plants receive direct sun. It should come as no surprise that almost 20,000 registered hybrids include this showy species in their ancestry.

**Red** – *Rhyncolaeliocattleya*  
Carolina Picard – Carson Barnes

**White** – *Cattleya mossiae* forma  
*coerulea* – Carson Barnes

## Class II – Cymbidium Group

**Red** – *Cymbidium* King Arthur –  
Roy Harrow

Introduced in 1963, *Cym.* King Arthur was one of the early compact growing hybrids that combine the small and floriferous *Cym. floribundum* with larger standard types. Most plants from the cross flower with tan, green or bronze colored segments contrasting with a



*Cymbidium* King Arthur – Roy Harrow

white lip heavily marked purple, but one unusual plant called 'Painted Warrior' displays a rust red flare on each segment and was given a Judges Commendation by the AOS in 1987. There is a hint of that same color pattern in the exhibited plant.

All the species in the background of this orchid are considered cool growers and therefore should be heavily watered and shielded from direct midday sunshine during summer in our climate. Keeping the plant outdoors until frost can aid in stimulating bloom spikes to initiate. A large and deep pot filled with a rich mix of terrestrial media and compost will enhance the growth of this and most other *Cymbidium* which are heavy feeders.

## Class III – Dendrobium Group

**Blue** – *Dendrobium cuthberstonii*  
– Jason Mills-Shoulta & Ed  
Shoulta-Mills

Upon seeing a well grown example of this miniature species, covered in large, brilliantly colored, long lasting flowers, it is easy to understand why someone may go to great lengths to try to grow it in our climate, which is totally unlike its native range. The wild habitat is in the alpine regions of New Guinea, most commonly from 6,000 to 11,000 feet above sea level, where moisture and air movement are constant, nights are in the 40s' to 50s'F year round and 85F would be a major heat wave! In bright locations, the plants may be no more than one inch tall, with tufts of tiny pseudobulbs extending into short stems that bear several



*Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* – Jason Mills-Shoulta & Ed Shoulta-Mills

rough textured leaves. In shadier conditions, the stems are a bit more sprawling and may reach three inches in length. Each inflorescence carries a single non-resupinate flower that can be over an inch long, and sometimes even two inches. There is a wide range of color from bright red shades, through purple, pink, orange, yellow and white, with some rare plants produce distinctly bi-colored flowers. They can last up to 10 months each.

Jason as adapted the gimmicky “ice cube” method of growing grocery store Phalaenopsis as an effective way of simulating the cool, damp nights of the habitat for *Den. cuthbertsonii*, by placing two ice cubes in the small clay pot every night. I met an equally obsessed couple in Memphis who grow this species along with high elevation *Masdevallia* in a modified chest freezer programmed to chill into the 40’s each night and warm during the day. If you are lucky enough to live in the Pacific Northwest where chilly nights are the norm year round, you could grow *Den. cuthbertsonii* in a less specialized

growing area, though still not without more than a casual degree of attentiveness.

The flower and growth habit of this species is very dominant in its hybrids so that warmer growing species can be combined with it to make more tolerant plants that still have “the look.” I am currently trying one that is 75% *Den. cuthbertsonii* and 25% *Den. glomeratum*, a large, warm growing species from the low elevations of New Guinea and Sulawesi. In the cross, the plant still looks nearly identical to its more temperamental parent. I have it on a Kool-Log in a spot where it gets daily attention. But after hearing about Jason’s method I might add a couple ice cubes to the container each evening!

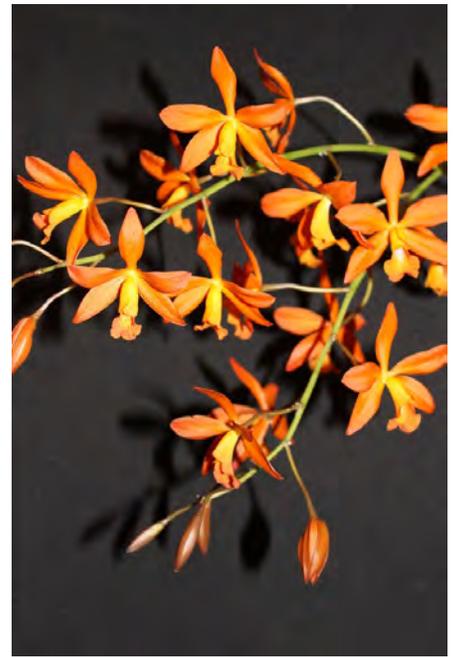
**Red** – *Dendrobium farmeri forma aureum* – Vinh Nguyen

**White** – *Dendrobium infundibulum* – Vinh Nguyen

#### Class IV – Epidendrum Group

**Blue** – *Epicatanthe Highland Canary* – Roy Harrow

This entry was listed by the parents, which are *Cattlianthe Trick or Treat* and *Encyclia incumbens* (formerly *aromatica*). The latter species is from Southwest Mexico and produces clouds of small, pale, but delightfully scented flowers. Occasionally, this lovely perfume comes through in its hybrids, but *Ctt. Trick or Treat* is made up of four species that are dominant for lack of scent, so it is unlikely any *Eny. Highland Canary* are fragrant. However, the multitudes of colorful flowers on branched inflorescences, that last well for two months or



*Epicatanthe Highland Canary*  
– Roy Harrow

longer, combined with tolerance for a wide range of conditions make this a rewarding cross to grow when you can find one. For me *E. incumbens* always blooms two months later than *Ctt. Trick or Treat*, but as I write this, my plant is bursting out with four magnificent inflorescences, each with more than 50 flowers, so I need to look for something with similar qualities to *Ctt. Trick or Treat* that I can use to attempt a cross reminiscent of this one.

#### Class V – Oncidium Group

**Red** – *Tolumnia “Genting Orange”*  
– Danny Lentz

**Red** – *Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow ‘Florida Sunrise’* – Danny Lentz

**White** – *Tolumnia Hybrid Unknown* – Danny Lentz

#### Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Single Flowered Entries



*Phragmipedium* Peruflora's Spirit – Danny Lentz

**Blue – *Phragmipedium* Peruflora's Spirit – Danny Lentz**

*Phrag.* Peruflora's Spirit is *Phrag. kovachii* x *Phrag.* Eric Young and was one of the first dozen crosses registered in 2007 using that sensational new species discovered in Peru in 2002. Considering the typical form of *Phrag.* Eric Young this cross is a marked improvement, and the flower size can be an impressive six inches or greater in width. But the color intensity of this, and many of the other first generation *Phrag. kovachii* cross was less than expected, with flowers often being more pastel than vivid.

*Phrag.* Peruflora's Spirit has generated five Awards of Merit and six Highly Commended Certificates from the AOS and has led to a couple of additional crosses that are generating awards. But the most impressive *Phrag. kovachii* cross so far has been *Phrag.* Fritz Schomburg (x *Phrag. besseae*). While the flowers are somewhat smaller in

this hybrid, they have better form and some have beautiful glowing color intensity as well. To date, at least 20 Awards of Merit, 11 Highly Commended Certificates and one First Class Certificate have been given by the AOS to it. Still, even this success has not yet generated subsequent crosses that have created much excitement. Perhaps that breakthrough introduction is just around the corner.

Generally speaking, the colorful *Phragmipedium* hybrids need fairly cool conditions to perform at their best and are better suited for growing under lights or in front of evaporative coolers in our area. They prefer relatively deep pots and should never fully dry out between watering cycles.

**Red – *Paphiopedilum delenatii* – Vinh Nguyen**

**White – *Paphiopedilum Catherine Briois* (album form) – Clark Weisner**

**Multifloral Entries**

**Blue – *Paphiopedilum Temptation* – Ellen Brand**

As with our blue ribbon example in the previous judging group of slipper orchids, this one of the very first crosses made with the then newly available *Paph. kolopakingii*. The other parent in this case was *Paph. philippinense*. However, this cross, and the one between *Paph. kokopakingii* and *Paph. rothschildianum* called *Paph. Bel Royal* were two of just a small number of pairings that proved to be truly successful embodiments of the potential of the newly discovered large and dramatic species. This should have been a tempering influence in the later discovery of *Phrag. kovachii* and the buoyant anticipation of the great things that could come from it, but in orchid breeding like many other endeavors, hope springs eternal!

This example of *Paphiopedilum Temptation* has a total of 10 flowers on two inflorescences. The average of the awarded



*Paphiopedilum* Temptation – Ellen Brand

examples is six per inflorescence, though a good number of them only had a single spike when exhibited. Like many of the other large multifloral types, flowering is better on plants that are grown bright enough that the foliage is rather yellow-green. They are warm growers, preferring to stay above 65 degrees at night and wanting consistent moisture and regular feeding with no specific rest season.

**Red** – *Paphiopedilum Memoria Miguel Medina* – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Paphiopedilum philippinense* – **Danny Lentz**

### Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis Pumpkin Gold* – **Roy Harrow**

Apparently the registered name of this orchid is a misspelling of the word Pumpkin as I have indicated above. The cross was made by Lines Orchids of Signal Mountain, TN, but registered by



*Phalaenopsis Pumpkin Gold* – **Roy Harrow**

Stones River Orchids of Franklin, TN after receiving an Award of Merit from the AOS on a plant exhibited at the show in Huntsville, AL in 2003.

**Red** – *Phalaenopsis KS Gelb Trekkie* – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Phalaenopsis Be Tris 'Newberry'* – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Phalaenopsis javanica* – **Danny Lentz**

### Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

**Blue** – *Vanda Somsri Thai Spot* – **Jon Crate**

Until *Ascozentrum* was merged into *Vanda* recently, this hybrid registered in 2010 was known as an *Ascocenda*. When dealing with any of this group, it is helpful to know the specific species that make up the larger part of its genetic makeup, as some are capable of tolerating cooler winter temperatures and some are not.

In the case of *V. Somsri Thai Spot*, a "pie chart" of its breeding shows that 75% of the species are hot growers, and the other 25% prefer cooler temperatures in winter, so while it may be tolerant of some occasional chill, readings in the 40's and 50's F should be avoided whenever possible. It will also do best grown in a basket with high light short of full sun and daily watering in summer (twice a day in hot dry weather) and just a bit less in winter when conditions are cooler and damp.

**Red** – *Vandachostylis Lou Sneary 'Pinky'*, AM/AOS – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Vanda Pachara Delight* – **Jon Crate**



*Vanda Somsri Thai Spot* – **Jon Crate**

### Class IX – Miscellaneous

**Blue** – *Masdevallia graminea* – **David Mellard**

This inhabitant of the cloud forests of Ecuador is unusual for a *Masdevallia* species in that it carries a cluster of flowers open at the same time. Many other species either bear only a single flower, or bear several in succession but not open together. It undoubtedly went unnoticed for some time in the wild as it was only botanically described in 1979. The location information indicates it lives at elevations of 8,000 to 10,000 feet above sea level and is a cool grower. David got the plant from Ecuaflo-A when they were at our annual show and has been growing it in front of the evaporative coolers in his greenhouse.

By fortunate accident, I discovered that many *Masdevallia* will grow much better in our climate if they are actually sitting in a shallow amount of water at all times. While this sounds somewhat contrary to epiphytic orchids,

species such as this one are in a continually wet environment in the wild and they respond with better growth, larger roots and more flowers when given what seems to be an excessive amount of water. Several other growers have had similar results so it is worth giving it a try yourself. Some of my plants that were underperforming have improved markedly in just a few months once their toes were kept in water constantly.

**Red** – *Eulophia adamanensis* –  
Vinh Nguyen



*Masdevallia graminea* – David Mellard  
(Photo is of an example plant, not plant awarded)

### **Mid-America Orchid Congress - Save the Date! Meet us in Cincinnati, OH, for the Fall MAOC, Oct 21-23, 2017**

We hope to see you in Cincinnati at the Mid-America Orchid Congress meeting, October 20-22, 2017. Mid-America registrants will have the opportunity to hear programs by two outstanding orchid experts, George Hatfield and Tom Harper. We'll meet in conjunction with the popular Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Orchid Show & Plant Sale. Krohn Conservatory, the Art Deco glasshouse in Eden Park near downtown Cincinnati, offers a spectacular backdrop for the orchid show. The Mid-America lectures and meetings will be located at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash, a short drive from the conservatory. Mid-America will provide transportation for registrants between the hotel and the orchid show.

We're very pleased to welcome George Hatfield to Mid-America! George is the current President of the American Orchid Society and the owner of Hatfield Orchids in Oxnard, CA, where he specializes in developing high quality and award winning Cymbidiums. He is a well-known speaker, and an accredited judge for both the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America. George will present a Saturday afternoon program on "Pendulous Cymbidiums," a topic that he is eminently qualified to address since he has produced some of the best pendulous Cymbidiums in the country. At our Saturday evening dinner, he will update us on what's new with the AOS.

We're also pleased to welcome back Tom Harper! Tom is a long-time supporter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, having served as our President, Vice-President and Mid-American Editor. Tom owns Stones River Orchids in Franklin, TN, and is a Senior Judge for the American Orchid Society. He's also a founding member of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance and has held many responsible positions in the IPA. Most of us know Tom as a terrific speaker and author on various aspects of Phalaenopsis, and this Mid-America weekend will be no exception as he presents a Saturday afternoon program on "Big Lip Phalaenopsis."

Join us for an entertaining Saturday evening at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash beginning with the ever-popular Mid-America auction, our main fund-raising event. After the auction we'll celebrate Cincinnati with our "Queen City Buffet" featuring Cincinnati chili and other local favorites. The Mid-America meeting will wrap up Sunday morning with the Affiliated Societies Breakfast and the Mid-America Business Meeting.

For more details and to register, please visit the Mid-America website, [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org). Registration forms will be available on the website soon.

## 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

## APRIL 2017



*Cattleya forbesii* 'Mocha',  
HCC/AOS, 79 pts.  
Exhibited by Barney and Aileen Garrison



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



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



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

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All award photographs are © Jason Mills-Shoulta

## MAY 2017



*Cattleya purpurata* var. *werckhauseri* 'Marina and Giacomo',  
AM/AOS, 80 pts.  
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



*Cattleya purpurata* var. *werckhauseri*  
'Memoria Elaine Francis S. Durn Herr', AM/AOS, 82 pts.  
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



*Paphiopedilum* Ho Chi Minh 'Mello Spirit',  
HCC/AOS, 78 pts.  
Exhibited by David Mellard