



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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FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, February 12, 2018
Atlanta Botanical Garden
Day Hall - 8pm

Preparations for the 2018 Orchid Show

Danny Lentz, Show Chair, David Mellard, Atlos President, and Barbara Barnett, Past President will discuss the important things needed from Society Members to help make our show work. Remember, our members make the show great! Are your plants ready to look their best? They will also cover what you need to register your plant so that it can be exhibited and judged correctly. Save the date so you will be available to volunteer! The Orchid Show & Sale is March 9 - 11. We will be discussing the important volunteer jobs, when, where, and times that we'll be needing assistance. There is something for everyone!

Minutes of the January 2018 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The January meeting was held on January 8, 2018 at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. The meeting was presided by President David Mellard.

There are several upcoming shows, including the Atlanta Orchid Show, which will be on

March 9th – 11th at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Others include:

- Gautier, MS: January 26-27
- Mobile, AL: February 17
- ABG Flower Show: February 23-25

The Society is in need of volunteers to help in the following areas. Please see David Mellard if you are interested:

- Librarian
- Monthly Hospitality
- Silent Auction

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The Atlanta Orchid Society

OFFICERS

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OTHER VOLUNTEERS

AOS Rep - Barbara Barnett

Green Growers - 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 - Mark Reinke, Valorie Boyer

Orchid Digest Rep - David Mellard

Show Chairs - Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

Website Committee - Maureen Mckovich,
Mark Reinke, Jan Spenard, Valorie Boyer



American Orchid Society

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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

Orchid Growing Class (7:15pm – 7:45pm, Pre Meeting)

"Keikis"
with David Mellard

Amazon Smile

You can help out the Atlanta Orchid Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. To do this simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> every time you want to shop at Amazon. When you go to checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. If you type Atlanta Orchid Society in the search bar, we are the only result that comes up. Select that one. You can change the charity at any time, by following the directions on the About page. All of the details of the Amazon Smile program can be found on the Amazon site at: <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/>



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 to join online.

Events Calendar

February

10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 1pm, Basement Workshop next to Day Hall, ABG

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

March

9-11 - Orchid Show & Sale, Atlanta Botanical Gardens

10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 1pm, Basement Workshop next to Day Hall, ABG

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

- Website
- Monthly meeting photographers

Danny Lentz will be hosting Green Growers on February 24th. More information to follow.

The next monthly meeting will be held on February 12th at 8:00 PM at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. The program will be on topics relating to preparing to enter plants in the show.

Hope to see you there!

Minutes were prepared and respectfully submitted by President David Mellard and Secretary Darrell Demeritt.

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners January 2018

Notes by Mark Reinke
Photos by Danny Lentz

Class I – Cattleya Group

Blue – *Brassocattleya* Yellow Bird
– Dan Williamson

Brassocattleya Yellow Bird was first introduced around 1990, but has stayed popular with hobby growers and so has been recreated a number of times since then. It combines *Bc. Richard Mueller* with one of its parents, *B. nodosa*, resulting in a flower that resembles a well-shaped version of that species with yellow color. Many have a peppering of purple spots on the lip, and they frequently open with a reddish tinge that becomes sunny yellow as the flowers mature.

This is an orchid that prefers bright to very bright light, and does better in a basket than a pot in most situations, due to the preferences of the species



Brassocattleya Yellow Bird
– Dan Williamson



Cattleya labiata forma *semi-alba*
– Madlen Wilmes

involved. Well grown plants can produce a couple of flushes of blooms per year and many awarded plants have had hundreds of flowers at once. A young plant may produce only two or three flowers per inflorescence, but as it matures that can increase to as many as nine, with several of those often carried on a small side branch.

While there have been a few crosses made with *Bc. Yellow Bird*, I haven't seen one yet that improves upon it for color and sheer volume of blossoms.

Red – *Cattleya labiata* forma *semi-alba* – Madlen Wilmes

This plant is a beautiful example of the semi-alba color form of this species from northeast Brazil. It was described in 1824 and considered the "type" species of the genus. Peak bloom season is October and November in the northern hemisphere, so this plant is flowering unusually late. Normally the shortening hours of daylight of late summer, heading into fall, stimulate budding, but the specific conditions of one's own growing area can result in occasional out of season blossoming. The flowers are wonderfully day fragrant with a heady perfume that is similar to Kudzu blossoms.

As one of the foundational species in our modern large flowered hybrids, it is no surprise that almost 19,000 registered hybrids are descended from *C. labiata*. Many of the wild collected plants have naturally good form, and there are several distinct color forms, such as this one, which can take breeding lines in many directions.

This species does well in intermediate conditions, with winter night time temperatures above 55F and prefers to be watered regularly when actively growing, then given a bit of a drier rest after flowering. It will flower in moderately bright conditions, but can tolerate very bright light if introduced gradually. Mature plants should have a very open medium that allows the roots to dry fairly quickly after watering. Many forms of *C. labiata* are more compact growing than the modern hybrids descended from them.

White – *Rhyncattleanth* Hsinying Catherine 'Hakucho' – Dan Williamson

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

No Entries

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Prosthechea* Green Hornet – Bob Grzesik

While the tag on this entry had become a bit confused, it is almost certainly the plant listed above, which is *Psh. cochleata* x



Prosthechea Green Hornet
– Bob Grzesik

Psh. trulla (syn. *Psh. lancifolia*). At the time of its registration in 1995, both were listed as *Epidendrum* species. It can be distinguished from being straight *Psh. cochleata* by the smaller plant and flower size, and by the smaller amount of black-purple on the inside of the shell like lip. As can be seen by the photo, both of its parents are nonresupinate (lip upwards) in their bloom habits.

The inflorescences on this orchid are sequential, so that a vigorous growth can produce a spike that keeps growing at the apex, producing flowers for many months, with several always open at once. One awarded example from 2010 had 13 inflorescences with over 100 open blooms plus additional buds visible! While it is capable of flowering any time of the year, *Psh. Green Hornet* should receive more frequent water in summer and somewhat less in winter to mimic the pattern its parents experience in their native ranges. Medium to bright light and intermediate to warm temperatures should produce the best results.

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – *Oncidium* Twinkle (Yellow Form)– Dan Williamson

Oncidium Twinkle is a primary hybrid between *Onc. sotoanum* and *Onc. cheirophorum*, smaller growing species from Mexico and Central America, the former being typically pink flower and the latter yellow. In the pairing of the two, a wide range of colors are produced, from pale yellow, to various shades of pink and white. The cross was done originally by the prolific amateur hybridizer, W.G.G. Moir of Hawaii and registered in 1958. He produced many hybrids that were thought eccentric at the time but have gained in appreciation through the years. This one has been reproduced many times since and is still hard to beat for floral profusion, fragrance and compact growth habit.

To produce plants with thousands of flowers, such as the nearly dozen that have received



Oncidium Twinkle (Yellow Form)
– Dan Williamson

cultural awards, you need to water this plant frequently, never allowing it to go totally dry. Give it bright diffused light, good air movement, regular feeding, and repot into new mix every two years. The mix should offer drainage but hold moisture. If you don't want to become so involved, you can still have a respectable example of this fairly forgiving orchid with a more laissez-faire approach.

Red - *Oncidium Twinkle* (Yellow Form) – **Karl Harden**

White - *Oncidium Twinkle* 'Pink Profusion' (Pink Form) – **Karl Harden**

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – *Paphiopedilum Hsinying Wolf* (Formosa Lady x *glanduliferum*) – **Dan Williamson**

This unusual, dark and striking multifloral hybrid is newly registered in 2017 and combines three species: *Paph. glanduliferum*, *sanderianum* and *rothschildianum*. Three flowers



Paphiopedilum Hsinying Wolf (Formosa Lady x *glanduliferum*) – **Dan Williamson**

on one inflorescence on this first blooming seedling is a good showing, as the maximum likely based on the parents is four, though may reach five in exceptional situations.

The large multifloral paphiopedilums are not quick to reach blooming size from seedlings, and are usually a higher price range than other hybrids in the genus. But the wait can be worth it given their extraordinary size and character. They are generally warm to hot growers with a dislike for temperatures below 60F for long periods, and like rather high humidity, with regular water and feeding to do well. In the case of this cross there may be more tolerance for slightly cooler nights as *Paph. glanduliferum*, which makes up over 60% of the background, is described as occurring as high as about 5,000 ft. above sea level on New Guinea, where the record lows may be below 50F.

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

No Entries

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – *Vandachostylis Deep Blue Seas* – **Bob Grzesik**

The plant was entered under the parent names (*Van. Charm* x *V. christensoniana*), but had since been registered in 2015 with the name given above. Originally, this cross would have been classed as a *Darwinara* (*Ascocentrum* + *Neofenita* + *Rhycostylis* + *Vanda*), but now the first two genera have been moved into *Vanda* resulting in the current accepted name.

This orchid is a mix of cool,



Vandachostylis Deep Blue Seas
– **Bob Grzesik**

warm and hot growing species that take medium to high light, so it should be adaptable to a fairly broad range of growing environments, as long as excellent drainage is provided accompanied by fairly frequent watering, with a bit less in winter.

There are already four awards listed for it and they show that well grown mature plants can have about two dozen flowers per inflorescence. Given time, it is likely that it will grow into a compact specimen with several spikes in bloom at once. The awards were all given in different months from summer to winter so it likely can flower more than once per year.

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Coelogyne Unchained Melody* – **Karl Harden**

As David Mellard pointed out in the meeting, *Coel. Unchained Melody*, a primary hybrid between *Coel. cristata* and *Coel. flaccida*, is frequently found in this part of the county under a variety of incorrect names. I



Coelogyne Unchained Melody
– Karl Harden

have a plant that was labeled as *Coel. mossiae*, and as David noted, some plants are labeled *Coel. cristata* or *Coel. intermedia*.

Though it is none of those species, it does carry a refreshing charm that many people find very appealing. At the end of a recent show I happily shared cuttings of the plant I had in my exhibit with members of the sponsoring society who were eager to have it.

While I have to admit my plant has been generous in spite of my benign neglect, if well cared for, this orchid is capable of becoming a specimen with hundreds of flowers. Both parents come from middle elevations of the mountains in northeast India eastward into Thailand, China and adjacent countries in Southeast Asia, where they experience an extremely wet summer and comparatively dry and cool winter. Give *Coel. Unchained Melody* heavy watering when actively growing, followed by less frequency as growths mature, along with nights in the 50's F in the cooler months to help stimulate flowering. Light can be

bright, but should be filtered from direct sunlight, and be accompanied by good air movement.

2018 Orchid Show

Our annual show is coming up at the beginning of March. Chair for the show is Danny Lentz (dblgongora@bellsouth.net). The show will be held from Friday March 9th through Sunday the 11th with setup on Wednesday and Thursday. As always we will need as many people as possible 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, clerks to assist with Friday morning's ribbon judging, staffing society tables to answer questions and recruit new members, exhibit setup, 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, and will be sharing more details at the February meeting and next month's newsletter.

Orchid Show Volunteers

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, place 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)

Membership Tables:

At our membership table we need people to answer questions, 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. We could use someone to coordinate the staffing of the membership table.

Setup:

On Wednesday afternoon we will need some people to help set up the tables and put on table skirts, 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 into Day Hall and getting set up, and there are always a couple miscellaneous errands to run. If you have any questions about setup contact Danny Lentz.

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: Ellen Brand and Ed Shoulta-Mills will be coordinating hospitality at ABG throughout the show. They will need some help setting up breakfast and lunch on Friday. JoJo Stickney and Carl Quattlebaum will be hosting a dinner at their house on Friday evening.

Education: During the show we will have a few Orchid 101 type talks in Day Hall. 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 some flyers (postcard sized) available at the February meeting.

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.

Orchid Show 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. Paul Thurner will be coordinating the society exhibit. 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. We need someone to be in charge of the installation for the visitor center exhibit.

Orchid Show 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. The process will be covered at the February meeting. Danny Lentz will be coordinating plant registration, with assistance from Carson Barnes.

Orchid Show and Sale Vendor List

Equaflor-A (Cuenca, Ecuador)
<http://equaflor-a.com.ec>
 Email: glbculture@gmail.com

Marble Branch Farms (Walhalla, SC)
www.marblebranchfarms.com

Odom's Orchids (Ft. Pierce, FL)
www.odoms.com

OFE International (Miami, FL)
 Orchid growing supplies
www.ofeintl.com

Owens Orchids, Etc. (Pisgah Forest, NC)
<https://www.facebook.com/orchidheights2>

Peach State Orchids (Woodstock, GA)
www.peachstateorchids.com

Steve Arthur Orchids (Graniteville, SC)
www.stevearthurorchids.com

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

**No awards this month,
 please check back next time!**

Greengrowers Outing

The next Greengrowers Outing will be at the home of Dianne Morgan and Danny Lentz, Saturday February 24, from 11:00am - 2:00pm.

1045 Wordsworth Dr., Roswell, GA 30075.

770-640-0112 (home),
770-362-0575 (Danny's cell)

"We invite you to visit our house to discuss orchid growing and see how we are growing our plants. Most of our several hundred orchids are under lights in the basement, with some others spread around through the sunroom and kitchen. A few plants get put out on the deck for the summer but most stay inside year round. The house number painted on the curb is a bit hard to see, but we should have a sign out front."

If anyone else would like to host a Greengrowers outing at their home in the future, please contact Danny Lentz.

