

atThe 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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Volume 51: Number 12

DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

7:00 pm Monday, December 13, 2010 at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Our Traditional Holiday Celebration!

PLEASE NOTE EARLY START TIME – 7:00 PM This month's meeting will include our potluck dinner, gift exchange, volunteer appreciation and installation of our new Board of Trustees. We will also have wonderful classical music provided by Paul Thurner and his double-reed trio partners.

Come ready to eat well and have fun! Bring your favorite recipe to share. So we don't end up with mostly desserts, please follow these quidelines:

A thru B - Drinks

C thru E - Dessert

F thru J - Salad

K thru O - Side Dish

P thru Z - Main Dish

Our annual gift exchange is always a big hit! (Participation is not required – but, you will likely regret it if you sit out!) Join in the fun by bringing a wrapped gift worth \$15. Everyone who brings a gift will receive a raffle ticket. After dinner and the meeting, tickets will be drawn randomly. When your number is called, select a present. Most gifts are orchid related. In the past folks have brought in plants, pots, books, artwork and much more. It is always surprising and fun.

We will have regular Ribbon Judging.

Members may also sell plants at this event.

We look forward to seeing everyone at this fun event!



Cattleya percivaliana forma semi-alba 'Jewel'

A beautiful form of this Brazilian species that is sometimes known as the "Christmas Cattleya" since its main bloom season is the month of December in the Northern Hemisphere.

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY Officers

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Vice-President/Programs - Greg Smith 770-654-6170

Secretary -

Roy Harrow 770-639-7052

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Fred Missbach 404-237-1694

Geni Smith 678-817-1915

Barbara Barnett 706-579-2670

David Glass 404-377-4187

Other Volunteers

Auction Chair - Fred Missbach

AOS Rep - Maureen Pulignano

Greengrowers - Greg Smith

Librarian - James Van Horne

MAOC Rep - Doug Hartong

Meeting Hospitality - Geni Smith

Membership Chair – Barbara Barnett

Mentoring Coordinator— David Glass

Plant Raffle - Terry Glover

Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Kessler

Newsletter - Mark Reinke

Orchid Digest Rep- Fred Missbach

Show Chair 2011 – Barbara Barnett

Show Hospitality 2011 - open

Telephone - Lynne Gollob

President's Message



In my final message to you it seems appropriate to talk a bit about those things that we, your leaders, and we, the membership, have accomplished together this year.

In a project that began with a Sub-committee and carried through the Board of Trustees, the Membership last month approved comprehensive changes to our Bylaws. One of the most obvious changes that needed to be addressed was the previous requirement that prospective members be voted upon by the membership, but much more was accomplished. Overall, the changes provide more clarity to guide us. One change in particular may be apparent to long-time members: Renewals are now clearly stated to be due in January and delinguent in March, so we have not been asking for your dues in November and December this year. This will be important for two reasons: we will no longer spend five months of the year asking for your renewals; and, perhaps more importantly, renewal dues will now be booked in the year to which they apply, which will aid future boards in preparing their budgets.

Finances have been a major concern within the Board of Trustees this entire year. Although too early for final numbers, we can see that we'll end the year with a surplus, which was a critical goal for us to achieve this year. It is important for you to know we have taken the necessary steps to insure the future financial health of The Atlanta Orchid Society. It is equally important that we acknowledge your help in this effort with your support of our annual auction, silent auction, your greatly increased participation in our monthly raffles and the donations we received from you from Roy's auction.

Early this year your Board of Trustees invested in a rebuild of the Society's website, providing a separate area for members only as a specific benefit of membership, and to add PayPal as an online payment mode. This change may or may not account for the truly amazing increase in membership we have seen via the website this year. There will likely be tweaks in content that we keep behind the membership wall as future boards continue to assess ways to provide greater...

Continued page 3

Events Out and About

December

Saturday, 12/11 – American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Monday, 12/13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m. Annual Holiday Celebration

January

Saturday, 01/08 – American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Monday, 01/10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m.

Future Shows:

Jan. 14-15, 2011 – North Carolina Piedmont Orchid Society Show, Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden, Belmont, NC

Feb. 24-27, 2011 – **Deep South Orchid Society Show**, Savannah Mall, Savannah, GA

Mar. 11-13, 2011 – Atlanta and South Metro Orchid Show, Day Hall, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Atlanta, GA.

Mar. 26-27, 2011 - Western North Carolina Orchid Show, NC Arboretum at Bent Creek, Asheville, NC

Nov. 14-23, 2011 - **20th World Orchid Conference**, Singapore.

President's Message Continued....

....greater benefits of membership, while also serving needs of the greater community. It may seem that I have mentioned only monetary concerns and it does look that way, doesn't it? It is far easier to speak of bottom line results, particularly in an economic climate such as we have seen. But, it would be foolish to think that any of this success could have happened without the dedicated work of many volunteer hours and contributions. You are many and you know who you are — so, to our great volunteers, on behalf of all of us, may I say "Thank you!" to each of you.

Maureen Pulignano

Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting Minutes November 8, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Maureen Pulignano.

One new member was acknowledged. We had 39 people present and 36 plants on the display tables.

Continuing with our success of having the speaker talk first, Mike Wenzel, from the Atlanta Botanical Gardens, talked about the species Phalaenopsis. Notes on his talk are in another article of this bulletin.

After the break for refreshments, the motion and second to approve the minutes of the October 11th meeting was passed.

Our exhibit at the Tennessee Valley Orchid Society show in Chattanooga was put in with David Mellard in charge and with assistance from Geni Smith and Maureen Pulignano. The show was VERY nice with at least 11 exhibits, 4 vendors and 11 AOS awards. It was their first show in 17 years. If you didn't go to see it, you really missed a great opportunity. (Secretary note: these 'local' shows make wonderful one-day vacations to expand your orchid experience.)

The election of the slate of officers for next year was accomplished by a vote of acclimation. They are President, Greg Smith, Vice President Geni Smith, Treasurer Danny Lentz, Secretary

David Mellard and our new Trustees, Laurel Burrows and Hal Morrison.

Our meeting in December will be the installation of our next officers and the pot-luck dinner. The bulletin will have the recommendations of which food to bring. There will not be a raffle because of the gift exchange. You do not have to participate but are recommended to limit the gifts between \$10 and \$15. There will still be ribbon judging of plants. While acknowledging the difficulty that some members have of getting home from work and then back down to the gardens for a meeting, a vote was taken and passed to move the starting time from 8 PM to 7 PM.

While the planning committee for our 2011 show has met twice already, there was no report from it, the AOS, Mid-America, or the Orchid digest representatives.

Acknowledgement was given to the Hicks for filling the vendor vacancy at our next show in March 2011 and for their having come tonight and sell their very attractive orchid supplies.

After the ribbon winners were announced, there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and the raffle was held

Respectfully submitted, Roy Harrow, Secretary Atlanta Orchid Society



Welcome New Members!

Joining the Atlanta Orchid Society in November

Joyce Ford & Timothy Floyd

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 Joint Membership 1 year \$80, 2 years \$155 Student Membership 1 year \$40, 2 years \$75

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

November Meeting Highlights

Atlanta Orchid Society
Roy Harrow's Notes from Mike Wenzel's Talk
November 08, 2010

Mike has been with the ABG for 9 years. He has 25 years experience (growing orchids, as a profession 15 years,) starting at Castle Rock Orchids (which no longer exists) in Minnesota.

He showed a world map of the distribution of 60 +/- *Phalaenopsis* species from India / Burma, north thru China, East thru Indonesia and South to Australia. He said we seem to think of most of them coming from the Philippines. He seemed to show a personal preference to the Aphyllae sub-group from a cool high elevation

that often lose leaves in the winter (like *wilsonii*)*.

He then pointed out that most *Phalaenopsis* identification occurred mainly by a compilation of several characteristics, with the lip and column being important ones. His example was mannii (with a spade lip) that had several varieties of petal coloration but always the same lip. Then he showed some that were easily confused except for specific unique features like stuartiana that has a lip that points down, not out, and parishii (that likes to grow cool in the summer) that has a hinged lip. He then contrasted basteanii (vertical spikes, susceptible to crown rot (unusual ABG experience- typically not a problem) to mariae (pendulous spikes with hairy lips). He also explained that some of the identification was still going on with bellina and violacea being divided and natmataungensis just being discovered in March 2010.

He explained that ABG works with the IPA (International Phalaenopsis Association) in being a center for species collection and then thanked Marianne Gilmore for her contribution of the *reichenbachiana* to the collection. **

He pointed out that we do not know the exact pollinators for most Phals. But he went out of his way to recommend and commend Katherine Norton for her interest in species *Phalaenopsis*. He even recommended that we visit H.P. Norton's in Monk's Corner (near Charleston, S.C.) if we ever got the chance.

- (*) while he did not mention it, some recognize the other sub-groups as Parishianae, Proboscidiodes, Doritus and Kingidium. While he did not recommend any one site http://www.phals.net/Species.html has 53 rather good images for a basic understanding.
- (**) From a list I got from Matt about a year ago, the following are 9 species that they still do not have: gibbosa, hainanensis, honghenensis, lamelligera, maculata, malipoensis, pantherina, robinsonii and speciosa.



Roy Harrow, Ken Ramborger & Greg Smith



Helen Weil, Sondra Nierenburg, and Marianne Gilmore sample the refreshments and snacks.



Cora Ramborger and Hal Morrison peruse the raffle plants. This month featured a different raffle format, allowing members to put their tickets into the individual cups to try and win the plants they were most interested in.



Danny Lentz, Bob Greszik and Heidi Landau check out the items brought in by Hicks orchid supplies. .

2011 Atlanta and South Metro Orchid Show update from Chairperson Barbara Barnett

SAVE the DATES: Thursday March 10, Set up; Friday March 11, Judging and start of Show; Saturday, March 12, full show day, and Sunday, March 14, show break down at 4 p.m.

There are 9 vendors confirmed for the show, which for the first time will feature guided tours of the exhibits. There will also be an orchid raffle and educational classes.

Barbara Barnett, Show Chair Jeff Whitfield, Judging Chair David Mellard, Consultant Maureen Pulignano, Trophies and Signage Geni Smith, *Daily Hospitality* Greg Smith, Publicity

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 \$34/year you get 4 issues of fullcolor, in-depth articles about orchids. The magazine is large format and the fourth issue of the year is always an extra-special issue devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact Fred Missbach (404-237-1694)

AOS Corner

by Lynn Fuller

The AOS Members Meeting held the end of October in conjunction with the Merritt Huntington Symposium in Virginia Beach was a big success. The speakers were fabulous, AOS Committees met, the Board of Trustees meeting was open to all members, the Affiliated Societies Breakfast was well attended, 'town hall' meeting was held where many of the current AOS topics

were discussed, there was a live demonstration of the new upgrade of AQ Plus, a successful auction and banquet were held. It was a busy, wonderful experience and I hope some of you will have the opportunity to attend one of the AOS bi-annual members/trustees meetings. Are you looking for a special 'orchid' gift this holiday season? Try these AOS products and services:

The American Orchid Society's 2011

Calendars. To order on line, go to www.aos.org

"Shop." The 2011 calendar is 24 pages long, has 13 color photographs, is shrink-wrapped with heavy card stiffener and measures 11 x 22 inches when open. Orders for shipment within the United States are \$12.50 (includes shipping and handling). For orders shipped to addresses outside the United States, call 561-404-2025 or email Shop@aos.org Order No. CL919N or call 561-404-2025 Monday-Friday 8:30AM to

American Orchid Society membership or a gift of renewal. Visit www.aos.org – "Join" where the many benefits and the costs of various memberships are noted. Indicate that it will be a gift membership. You can also find a membership form on the Affiliated Societies Blog at http://aosaffiliates.blogspot.com.

4:00PM Eastern Time.

• AQ Plus or AQ Plus Renewal. May be ordered on line at www.aos.org – Shop – AQ Plus.

Best wishes to you all for a safe and happy holiday season.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit material for the newsletter, or to sign up for the email version of the newsletter, please contact Mark Reinke at markreinke@att.net. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

Advertising

Advertising is now being accepted for our newsletter. The size and number of ads may be limited at the discretion of the editor. Advertising Rates per issue are: ¼ page \$10, ½ page \$20, 1/8 page text only \$5.

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners November, 2010

With notes by Mark Alan Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Group



Blue – *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* George King 'Serendipity' AM/AOS – David Glass / Nancy Newton

Rlc. George King was a cross done at the hand of an amateur breeder of the same name from Sacramento, CA, who registered it 40 years ago in 1970. He went on to register and handful of other orchid hybrids, but this cross is far and away the one with the most commercial success. Two well-known orchids of the day were brought together here: the nearly perfect white C. Bob Betts and the attractive clear yellow *Rlc.* Buttercup. His hopes in creating this hybrid were likely that he would bring improved form to yellow cattleyas. However, while the 'Serendipity' clone was the best result in terms of ideal shape and carriage, purple pigment genes that had been mostly blocked in the parents, came through in their offspring and blended with the yellow to create a pale 'salmonpeach' background color instead. Interestingly, about 25 years later in a meristem tissue culture of this popular orchid, one plant turned out to be a mutation that blocked the purple pigments in

the background color, resulting in the pale butter yellow 'Southern Cross' AM/AOS form! (See photo below) Both this color variant and the original have proved to be valuable parents in breeding further generations of cattleyas with fine form and color, with over 100 registered hybrids in existence today that have descended from them. They both also possess a lovely fragrance that has strong overtones of anise that carries well throughout the greenhouse.



Rlc. George King 'Southern Cross' AM/AOS – a mutation of 'Serendipity' that shows no lavender in the sepals or petals.

Red – *Cattleya* Bonnie Temperly – Doug Hartong

White – *Cattleya* Bright Angel 'OC' – David Glass / Nancy Newton

Class II - Cymbidium Group

No Entries

THANK YOU!

Special thanks to all the members who brought refreshments and snacks to the November meeting:

Bill Applegate, Marianne Gilmore, Lynne Gollob, Doug Hartong, Nancy Newton, Sondra Nierenburg, and, Ken & Cora Ramborger – who also served as Hospitality-Chairs-Pro-Tem for ailing Geni Smith

Class III - Dendrobium Group



Blue - Dendrobium Sairung (unregistered) – Hal Morrison

Not only is Dendrobium Sairung an unregistered hybrid out of Thailand, there are several distinct color forms being marketed with no way to know if they are really siblings from a single cross or not. As best as I can gather, Sai Rung means "rainbow" in Thai, and is also the name of a wellknown waterfall in southern Tak province in that country. One thing not in doubt is that Den. Sairung belongs in the 'hard-caned' group descended from Den. phalaenopsis and would respond to culture tailored to that group: bright light, warm temperatures, good air movement, plentiful water during the summer growing season, but much less in the winter resting period, and a preference for a small container relative to the plant size, with fast draining medium.

Class IV – Epidendrum Group No Entries

Class V - Oncidium Group



Blue – *Oncidium* Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' AM/AOS – Sondra Nierenberg

Oncidium Sharry Baby has four different species in its background, three of which have pronounced fragrance, but none of which smell like 'chocolate' as this hybrid does, so it must be the unique combination of those fragrance genes that creates that memorable scent. Perhaps the greatest influence on scent is Oncidium ornithorhyncum, which has a fragrance mostly perceived as 'vanilla.' I have noticed that several orchids whose scent reminds me of 'chocolate' seems more like 'vanilla' to others, so the two fragrances must be very closely related. This type of Oncidium flourishes in good light, intermediate temperatures and good humidity and likes to be well watered and fertilized while in active growth, but with attention paid to good drainage at all times. They generally do not resent disturbance and can be repotted as needed to accommodate growth or renew the mix. In fact, it is advisable to perform this procedure an annual basis just as new growth commences, since like most Oncidinae, it is highly resentful of broken down mix, which will quickly lead to root rot and decline of the plant. Although produced in great numbers as a 'pot plant' often to be discarded when blooming is over, with good cultural practices they can be grown into impressive specimens with multiple inflorescences bearing hundreds of flowers.

Red – *Psychopsis* Kalihi – The Ramborgers

White – *Oncidium* Green Valley Honey 'Sweet Lady' – Lynne Gollob

Class VI – Cypripedium Group



Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Laser x *charlesworthii* – Doug Hartong

From the hybridizer's own listing for this as of yet unregistered cross: "These are going to be very smooth glossy flowers from dark mahogany to light pink with huge dorsal sepals and a contrasting white staminode." In the case of this particular seedling we certainly see the glossy, smooth texture and plenty of dark mahogany fading to a pinky purple on the sides of the dorsal and synsepal. Whether or not it is any improvement upon the parents could be debated, but it certainly carries on the long line of vinicolor hybrids descended from Paph. Maudiae, an 'antique' cross from the firm of Charlesworth, Ltd. registered in 1900. The addition of the species, Paph. charlesworthii, would indicate that our ribbon winning cross would prefer to be more under potted than is typical for this group, with a drier winter rest after flowering.

Red – *Paphiopedilum spicerianum* – Cheryl Bruce

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group



Blue - *Phalaenopsis* Spica 'Crestwood' AM/AOS - Roy Harrow

Phal. Spica is a primary hybrid between Phal. fasciata and Phal. lueddemanniana registered by amateur breeder W. Vernon Osgood of Orange, TX in 1969. The 'Crestwood' clone received its Award of Merit here at the Atlanta Judging Center on October 9, 1976, and was exhibited by Crestwood Orchids of Signal Mountain, TN. Now sadly gone, that firm, headed by Dr. Govino Roto, was a force to be reckoned with in its heyday, and the repository for some of the most celebrated orchids of that time. Many of those plants live on in various private and commercial collections across the country. This orchid is a deceptively modest charmer, which produces many persistent inflorescences over time, each carrying one to three open flowers during the blooming season that runs between late summer and middle autumn. It has, however, found its place as one of the more important parents in modern Phalaenopsis breeding, with 90 first generation, and more than 6,300 registered hybrids currently descended from it. One cross in particular pairs it with a traditional white hybrid to create the well-known Phal. Golden Buddha, which is an important ancestor in a large portion of today's vellow, red and art shade phalaenopsis.

Red – *Doritenopsis* Taida Pearl – Maureen Pulignano

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group



Blue – *Perrieraara* Motes Leprechaun 'Haiku Mint' HCC/AOS – Doug Hartong

Perrieraara is the genetic combination of Aerides +Rhyncostylis + Vanda. Prra. Motes Leprechaun is one of the few examples commercially available and 'Haiku Mint' received its Award of Merit from the AOS at the National Capital Judging Center in July of 2008. Despite the diversity of the five species in its background, the overall form and color of this orchid is strongly reminiscent of *V. cristata*, which is a grandparent in the family tree. The other species have enhanced both flower count and the presentation somewhat to create the charming qualities that makes this hybrid popular. Grow *Prra*. Motes Leprechaun in high light with good air movement and humidity, preferably in a basket with coarse medium, and provide daily watering during sunny weather, along with heavy feeding while actively growing. It should be able to take hot weather very well. and also short periods of time in the mid to upper 50's in winter.

Red – Angraecum eburneum – Doug Hartong

Class IX – Miscellaneous



Blue - Maxillaria splendens - Doug Hartong

While the flowers of this species are indeed showy as the name infers, they are borne on short stems close to the pseudbulbs and can be nearly hidden by the exuberant foliage of mature specimen plants. Previously, it had been given synonymy with *Max. buchtienii*, which has a wide range in South America, but recent studies of the two have confirmed that *Max. splendens* should have separate species status and is confined in natural distribution to cool, wet montane forests of Peru only. A few exceptional specimens have had flowers nearly four inches in natural spread, but they are typically closer to 2.5 inches, white, with a contrasting orange midlobe on the small lip, and pleasantly fragrant.

Red – *Bulbophyllum lilacinum* – Lynne Gollob

White - Maxillaria luteo-alba - Doug Hartong

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 2) 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 or contact one of our society's officers listed on page 2.

2009 Herbert Hager Phalaenopsis Award given to plant grown by Bob Grezsik!



The AOS Trustees recently chose *Phal*.

Dragon Tree Eagle 'Dragon Tree'

AM/AOS for this the prestigious award.

The plant was exhibited at the Atlanta

Judging Center on April 11, 2009.

Congratulations, Bob!

Here Are Your 2011 Officers and Trustees!

The following were elected by a membership vote at the November meeting and will be officially installed at December holiday social.

President - Greg Smith

Vice President - Geni Smith

Secretary - David Mellard

Treasurer - Danny Lentz

Trustees for 2011-2013

Laurel Burrows

Hall Morrison



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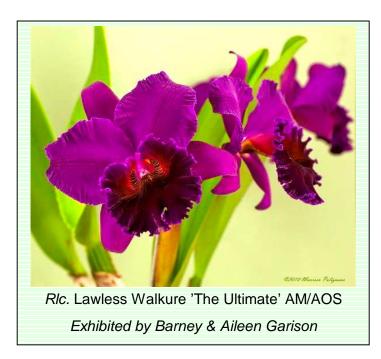
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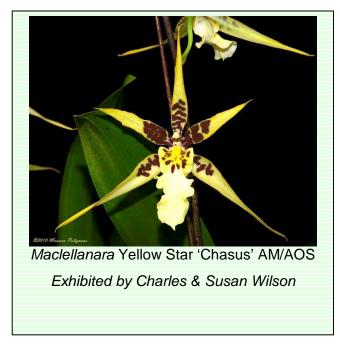
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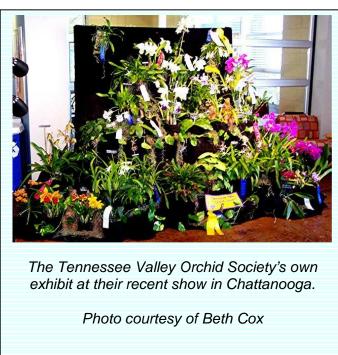
RECENT ACTIVITY AT THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

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 photographs this pags 12-14 are © Maureen Pulignano except as noted.









AOS AWARDS FROM THE TENNESSEE VALLEY ORCHID SHOW IN CHATTANOOGA



Coelogyne ovalis 'Mem. Helen Hardin' CCE/AOS
Exhibited by Memphis Botanical Garden
Also received 'Best in Show' award given in honor of
the memory of Bob Martin.

