



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 Editor: Mark Reinke

May, 2011

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

Volume 52: Number 5

MAY MONTHLY MEETING

**8:00 pm Monday, May 9, 2011
at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall**

PROGRAM: "Miniature Orchids"

Cordelia Head, J&L Orchids, Easton, CT

Cordelia will do a presentation on Miniature Orchids. This presentation covers a wide range of species. It will be informative, colorful, amusing and suitable for both the beginner and the experienced grower. She will bring plants to sell and offers a 10% discount to any pre-orders to be delivered to the meeting. Orders can be placed through the shopping cart at

www.jlorchids.com Please mention the Atlanta Orchid Society under Special Instructions. The shopping cart will not reflect the discount, but we will subtract it when we process the order.

Cordelia Head is one of three owners of J&L Orchids. She has been growing orchids for more than thirty years. Cordelia is on many international orchid committees involving orchid conservation and orchid judging. She is an American Orchid Society accredited judge and sits on the AOS Judging Committee.

Cordelia has been fortunate to travel extensively throughout Central and South America in search of orchids. She has discovered many new species and has three named for her.

She has lectured both nationally and internationally including the World Orchid Conferences in Miami, France, Malaysia, Vancouver, Glasgow and many others.



***Dendrobium dichaeoides* is one of the miniature species currently featured in the online catalog of J&L Orchids. It is a species that doesn't require a winter rest to bloom and they are offering mature plants in bud for \$35.**

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Events Out and About

May

May 1 – ATLOS BOARD MEETING

Rescheduled from April 17th, begins at 5 p.m. at the home of Maureen Pulignano just off Peachtree Rd. in Brookhaven.

May 7 – Greengrowers visit to Marble Branch Farms, Gary Collier and Mark Reinke – 155 Marble Branch Trl, Walhalla, SC 29691 (864)718-0152 – R.S.V.P. requested 12 Noon – until. Covered Dish Lunch

May 9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.

Speaker: Cordelia Head, J&L Orchids Easton, Connecticut

May 14 – American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

June

Jun 11 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Jun 13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.

July

Jul 9 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Jul 11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m. Summer Social and 'Behind the Scenes' tour of the ABG Greenhouses.

Future Shows:

Nov. 13-20, 2011 - **20th World Orchid Conference**, Singapore.
www.20woc.com.sg

A Note from the President

Hello Everyone,

I would like to invite everyone to our May meeting. This month our speaker is Cordelia Head from J&L Orchids who will be talking about miniature orchids. I understand she has a great presentation and she will be bringing plants to sell at the meeting. We have been working on our website this week and it was temporarily down for several days, but we now have it back up and running, hopefully with new and better features

Don't forget to visit Marble Branch Farms Sat May 7 and I think The new Athens society have been invited so maybe we can meet some of their members. We gained new members at the last meeting I hope we can keep up this momentum for the rest of the year. Hopefully they will all come to the meetings and get involved in our group.

That's enough for now hope to see you at the meeting!

Gregory Smith

PARKING AT ATLANTA BOTANICAL GARDENS

While you can pay hourly for parking at ABG for the society meetings, discounted parking rates are available either by visiting the ABG gift shop during regular business hours or by purchasing them online at

<https://onlinesales.atlantabotanicalgarden.org/public/show.asp>. There's a one-time \$5 charge to get the parking card and if you are a member of the garden, you get an additional discount. Parking rules are explained in the website and here are a few important reminders. The multi-visit parking pass is good for one year. If you renew before the year expires, the unused remaining parking visits are added to what you buy. Be sure to swipe the card when you enter.

Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting Minutes April 11, 2011

1. The meeting was called to order by President Greg Smith at 8 P.M.
2. The society has several upcoming events
 - a. Green Growers at David Glass's Greenhouse on April 16th, from 1-3 P.M.
 - b. Green Growers at Marble Branch Farms on May 7th,
 - c. IPA (International Phalaenopsis Alliance) meeting at Lines Orchids on the first Saturday in June. Ron McHatton, VP Education/AOS, will be the speaker,
 - d. Roy's Auction is July 30.
 - e. More information on these events will be in the newsletter.
3. Danny Lentz has M.S. fertilizer at \$3.50 a bag.
4. The April speaker was David Johnson from Jewel Orchids in Winterville, near Athens, Georgia. He talked about the parentage and breeding of blue cattleyas. During the break, he offered plants for sale, many produced in his own lab.
5. After the break and judging a motion and second to approve last month's minutes was passed.
6. Danny Lentz gave a summary of this month's financial status of the society. We made about \$600 on the show.
7. Maureen Pulignano told us that:
 - a. The orchid world lost two great supporters: Fred Hillerman and Dr. Eric Christenson.
 - b. Membership has reached what the budget estimated it would be at the beginning of the year.
 - c. **Several new members were acknowledged: Mary Allison-Rand, Priscilla Pope, Al Rutel.**
8. About 35 people attended the meeting and the show tables were absolutely full of plants.

9. The Judging results were announced and the meeting was adjourned to the raffle.

*Respectfully submitted,
Roy Harrow, filling in for David Mellard,
Secretary, Atlanta Orchid Society*

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.



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AOS Corner

by Lynn Fuller

Chairperson, AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

As many of the societies take a summer hiatus, here are some suggestions to help keep your orchid experience going through the summer. As an example, as you are repotting (either individually or as a society), perhaps you could solicit the assistance of new members of your society, give them some hands on experience and share divisions with them....a win-win for everyone. Visit commercial orchid firms listed on the AOS web site and in the Orchid Source Directory (I've heard of some members who keep theirs in their car so they can check while traveling on whose nearby). As you are planning your summer vacations or outing take advantage of reciprocal garden admissions AOS members enjoy. Use some hot lazy summer days exploring the members only section of the AOS web site.....lots of hidden nuggets to enrich your orchid journey and improve growing or spark a new or renewed interest in a particular variety. Check out some of the summer orchid events (listed in *Orchids* as well as on the AOS website – keep checking for new additions) including Redland Orchid Festival, Shore Orchid Festival, Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Fair, Central Iowa Orchid Society Speakers Day, Houston Orchid Society Summer Workshop or Phalaenopsis Symposium.

As I write this, I'm preparing to go to the Spring AOS meeting in Shreveport, LA. The Affiliated Societies Committee will be holding their committee meeting as well as its traditional Affiliated Societies breakfast. I'll do a brief report next month on those meetings as well as forward along any information from the Trustees meeting. I would like to also remind all affiliated society representatives to let us know when any changes take place in any contact information for your society including, but not limited to the AOS Representative (who also must be a member of AOS), any newsletter editor and the President. Current email and snail mail information would be appreciated. You can send that information to affiliated_societies@aos.org.

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 full-color, 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](mailto:Fred.Missbach@orchiddigest.com) (404-237-1694)



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Orchid Show Video

A quick video presentation about our recent show, featuring AOS judge and ATLOS member Pete Furniss and scenes from the show can be viewed online at: <http://vimeo.com/20960319>

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners April, 2011

With notes by Mark Alan Reinke

April Judging Team: Doug Hartong, Marianne Gilmore, Barbara Barnett, Barbara Dampog

Class I – Cattleya Group



Blue – Cattleya Walkerinter – David Johnston

As the hybrid grex name implies, *C. Walkerinter* is a cross between *C. walkeriana* and *C. intermedia*, and although it seems like the type of hybrid that would have first been done many years ago in the early days of experimentation with various species, it wasn't registered until 1985. While this example is a 'blue' version of the cross, combining the coerulea forms of both parents, it is not a species and therefore it isn't correct to refer to it as *C. Walkerinter forma coerulea*. Instead, it should simply be noted as being derived from the coerulea forms of the parents, or given a clonal name that makes the association to the 'blue' parents obvious. Given the many color forms and varieties of each parent, this hybrid could exist in many different colors and flower styles, depending on the specific plants used to breed with. These species both like bright light, excellent to extreme drainage, good humidity and good air movement and are adapted best to intermediate conditions with cooler winters.

Red – Cattleya G. S. Ball – Hal Morrison

Red – Leptotes bicolor – Doug Hartong

White – *Cattleya Tangerine Jewel* x
Cattlianthe Rojo – David Johnston

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group



Blue – Dendrobium purpureum forma album – Lynne Gollob

Dendrobium purpureum is an unusual and showy species from New Guinea and a number of smaller Equatorial Pacific islands that grows at lower elevations with fairly even conditions year round, therefore not requiring a winter rest to come into flower. Given the species name, it is obvious that the typical form is purple, while the plant exhibited is the more uncommon pure white variant. Both color forms always have green tips to the small flowers, which occur on lateral nodes of older, normally leafless canes in densely clustered, nearly spherical inflorescences. Though peak flowering is in spring, there are records of this species blooming in almost every month of the year. Ideal growing conditions would be fairly strong light, high humidity, good air movement, and regular water year round enough to keep the plants moist but not soggy. Although this species has been cultivated for well over a

century, there are no registered hybrids made from it.

Red – *Dendrobium unicum* – Laurel Burrows

White – *Dendrobium scheutzei* – Geni Smith

White – *Dendrobium macrophyllum* – David Glass & Nancy Newton

Class IV – Epidendrum Group



**Blue – *Guaricyclia Epiorange* 'My O My,'
HCC/AOS**

Originally registered as *Epicattleya* by Rod McLellan Co. in 1967, this orchid is a cross between *Encyclia alata* and *Guarianthe aurantiaca*, and is therefore now listed as *Guaricyclia*. The 'My O My' form is something of a "latecomer" to the party since it received is Highly Commended Certificate just three years ago in 2008. The plant that was awarded had 109 open flowers and 12 additional buds on 7 inflorescences, attesting to the ability of this cross to make showy specimen plants. The encyclia type growth habit is strongly dominant in this and most crosses made with the genus, which generally helps to keep the plants compact, but can confound identification when they aren't in bloom, sometimes even for several generations. Such is the case with *Maumenara Queen Adelia*, which despite having *Encyclia alata* only as a great-grandparent and no other members of that genus in its family tree, could easily be mistaken for a plant of that species when not in bloom. There have been relative

few new introductions of hybrids between *Encyclia* and cluster flowered cattleyas in recent years, but when you find one, it is worth obtaining, as they are both easy to care for and showy. One of my personal favorites, introduced in 2006, is *Enanthleya Jackie Bright* (*Encyclia randii* x *Cattlianthe Gold Digger*). It is very compact and nicely floriferous with bright yellow flowers in the *Encyclia* mold, highlighted with purple markings on the lip. Another favorite would be the Red Ribbon winner this month, *Enanthleya Banana Split* (*Encyclia cordigera* x *Cattlianthe Pixie*) which has been recently reintroduced by H&R Nurseries in Hawaii. (We will have both of these crosses available for purchase at the May 7th Green Growers outing to Marble Branch Farms.)

Red – *Enanthleya Banana Split* – David Glass & Nancy Newton

White – *Encyclia bractescens* – David Glass & Nancy Newton

Class V – Oncidium Group



Blue – *Psychopsis Kalihi* – Cora Ramborger

Psychosis Kalihi is a primary hybrid between *Pyp. papilio* and *Pyp. krameriana* that was originally registered in 1945, but remade in recent years with select line-bred forms of the species. The plant exhibited appears to be the result of one of these recent efforts to improve the cross, exhibiting a nice full form, though at least at the time it was exhibited, the petals reflex back a little too much to be considered first quality. However, this habit can vary from bloom to bloom on the same plant. *Psychopsis* is a genus of up to five species, occurring from Peru, northward to Panama and eastward to Trinidad, in mainly lower elevation, humid tropical forests. They have the unique characteristic of producing persistent, wiry, arching inflorescences that generate one fascinating flower at a time for many years, each flower lasting about a month. Anyone who sees them in bloom is drawn to their unusual beauty and the urge to possess one is high. However, a large volume could be written on the successful culture of these somewhat finicky orchids, and much of the information out there is confusingly contradictory. It seems there are just as many ways to keep this orchid alive as there are to kill it! When one finds a routine that works for their plants, they should stick with it. Unfortunately, a recent flood of mass produced plants that have been grown in plastic pots with a peat moss and perlite mix under very controlled conditions have only made matters worse since it is very difficult for the hobby grower to maintain them using this media and type of container. The basics for healthy *Psychopsis* would include: maintaining evenly warm conditions year round, providing high humidity combined with good air movement in filtered shade, growing in a long lasting and well-draining mix that also will retain some moisture, in a container that allows the plants to just dry out between each watering and will allow for minimal disturbance in the future. The habitat these orchids are from receives heavy rainfall in summer, considerably less in winter, but still approaching the dewpoint on a nightly basis and therefore providing some moisture in the form of dew and mist.

Blue – *Oncidium bifolium* - Cora Ramborger

Red - *Odontocidium Catatente* 'pacific Sunspots,' AM/AOS – Lynne Gollob

White – *Oncidium Sphacelatum* – Roy Harrow

Class VI – Cypripedium Group



Blue – *Phragmipedium Grande* – Geni Smith

Phragmipedium Grande, a cross between *Phrag. caudatum* and *Phrag. longifolium*, could well be called the "Grande Dame" of its class, having been registered by Veitch in 1881. Our blue ribbon winner this month seems to rival some of the best examples, which often have petals around or even a little greater than two feet in length! The highest scores, however, are generally reserved for plants that have at least 3 open flowers at once. As might be expected by such an eye catching hybrid that has been around so long, the cross has racked up more than 80 awards from the AOS to date. This

orchid does well in a relatively deep plastic pot filled with a moisture retentive, but well drained medium and given bright diffused light, especially in winter, with intermediate to cool temperatures. In the wild both parents almost always occur in wet seepage areas so it should never be allowed to dry out completely.

Red – *Paphiopedilum delenatii* – Keith Coleman & Jessica Wackerman

White – *Paphiopedilum* Deperle – Cora Ramborger

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Group



Blue – *Doritaenopsis* Martha Dolge 'Mendenhall' – Lynne Gollob

Though it has not yet been awarded, *Dtps.* Martha Dolge 'Mendenhall' is a superb example of breeding for a pure white background with a contrasting 'red' lip (really better described as amaranth purple over a white background). It is an imposing plant that can have a leaf span of two feet and a dozen or more flowers up to five inches across per inflorescence. This is a vast improvement over examples of this breeding I was able to obtain when I first started growing orchids around 1970. Still I must admit those

slightly smaller and less full, but still high contrast flowers, seemed breathtaking, and were a huge sensation at the time! Certainly, well grown examples of this orchid are award quality, so the lack thereof must simply be a case of missed opportunities. Another clone, 'Soft Kiss,' was exhibited by Stones River Orchids at the Atlanta Judging Center in March of 2006 and received an Award of Merit, with a score of 81 points. At least one seedling from the cross, appropriately called 'Apricot,' has a soft orange lip instead of the usual red-purple.

Red – *Doritaenopsis* Sogo Smile – Lynne Gollob

White – *Phalaenopsis* Tying Shin Cupid – David Glass & Nancy Newton

White – *Phalaenopsis* Mini Mark 'Holm' – David Glass & Nancy Newton

Class VIII – Vandaceous Group



Blue – *Sedirea japonica* – David Glass & Nancy Newton

Most people familiar with this species know that *Sedirea* is *Aerides* spelled backwards, a cute little word trick invented when it was decided this species differed enough from others in the latter genus to justify being separated from it. Like another miniature member of the Vandaceous

group, *Neofinetia falcata*, this orchid grows well north of the typical habitat for epiphytic orchids in Asia, inhabiting the forests of coastal Japan, Korea and nearby islands where it is sometimes subjected to temperatures at or below freezing in winter. It is often short lived in cultivation and many speculate that while it adapts in the short term to warmer winter conditions, it may grow itself into exhaustion after several years if it does not receive this very cool rest period. Growers report that the plants need high humidity and good air movement year round, and grow best in filtered shade in a shallow pot with a fast draining and aerated media that still retains some moisture. Plants should dry off rapidly after watering, but receive frequent water when actively growing, and less in the cooler, short days of winter. Just over a dozen unusual hybrids have been registered between this species and related genera, but to my eyes, at least, none so far are as charming in flower as the species itself.

**Red – *Vanda Goodwin's Pink Sapphire* –
Maureen Pulignano**

**White - *Aerangis fastuosa* – Maureen
Pulignano**

Class IX – Miscellaneous



**Blue – *Chysis bractescens* 'Lydia Merkle,'
AM/AOS – Doug Hartong**

This large and somewhat coarse New World orchid is not frequently seen in collections but is generally considered the most beautiful species in the genus, with relatively large, waxy and long lasting flowers. It is found growing primarily on the Caribbean slope from the state of Veracruz, Mexico southward to Nicaragua, but also occurs on the Pacific slope in El Salvador, always in wet forests at lower elevations. These areas are not subject to an extended dry period in winter, and thus, water should be maintained year round, but still with somewhat less in winter to compensate for the darker, shorter days common in our temperate climates. The inflorescence is enclosed in numerous bracts (hence the species name) and emerges from the base of a newly developing growth, often before the leaves have formed. The plants tend to grow in a pendulous fashion and are best accommodated in a hanging pot or basket filled with an open and fast draining medium that allows the roots to dry quickly after watering. Because this species does not respond well to being disturbed, it is worth putting some thought into the type of container and medium used. A particularly beautiful hybrid using this species was registered by Veitch in 1896 and is called *Chysis Langleyensis*. It has received numerous flower quality awards, including two within the past decade.

**Red – *Maxillaria tenuifolia* – David Glass &
Nancy Newton**

**Red – *Ornithocephalus bicornis* – Cora
Ramborger**

**White – *Masdevallia wendlandiana* – Greg
Smith**

THANK YOU!

The following members donated food
for our April meeting:

Doug Hartong, Lynne Gollob, Marianne
Gilmore, Barbara Dampog & Cora
Ramborger.



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JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

21' x 14' Professional Quality Hoop Greenhouse - \$500

Due to house move I am selling my greenhouse and all supplies. This greenhouse is currently fully operational, electrified and has natural gas. You just need to disassemble the structure and transport. I'll take care of the electricity/gas disconnection. Buying this new with all supplies will cost over \$3,000. The frame is hoop style, so you can make the length longer or shorter depending you're your needs. I set up the greenhouse structure myself in one weekend so I am very familiar with setup/take down and can explain the process in detail, no instructions needed!

Since the greenhouse is now 8 years old, you'll need new poly cover, pressure treated baseboards (or you could use cinder blocks) and some miscellaneous supplies like screws and probably new shadecloth. I replaced the exhaust fan and both thermostats 2 years ago, so they are almost new. The fan alone costs almost \$400. The structure and all supplies were purchased from Growers Supply, which specializes in large scale, professional greenhouses and equipment. This greenhouse has operated 24/7/365 for 8 years with no issues and now, just needs a new home.

Contact me with questions/photo requests:

Tom Kaschak

404-966-4921

zhivago97@aol.com

Greenhouse comes with:

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5. Motorized aluminum intake vent
6. Indoor, round circulation fan (I run this 24/7 sitting on a bench)
7. 2 Durostat brand thermostats (2 years old) to control the overhead exhaust and vent system
8. 24/7 fan to keep the poly covers inflated
9. Aluminet shadecloth (could use replacing, but it still functions fine)
10. Plant racks, plastic pots, cinder blocks. You can have everything!

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 Atlanta Judging Center photographs shown are © Maureen Pulignano.



Dendrobium Nestor
'Rosadan,' AM/CCM/AOS
(*parishii* x *superbum*)
Exhibited by Rosalie Peters



Eulophia quineensis
'Dash Rosalie,' HCC/CCM/AOS
Exhibited by Rosalie Peters



Paphinia posadarum
'Palmetto Star,' CHM/AOS
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



Dendrobium Aussie's Chip
'Willowbrook,' AM/CCM/AOS
Exhibited by David Kessler