



# 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

December, 2012

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

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## CELEBRATING 65 YEARS 1947-2012

### DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

7:00 pm Monday, December 10, 2012  
**Rock Spring Presbyterian Church**  
**Fellowship Hall off rear parking lot**  
**1824 Piedmont Ave. NE, Atlanta, Ga 30324**

#### ***Our Traditional Holiday Celebration!***

**PLEASE NOTE EARLY START TIME – 7:00 PM**  
This month's meeting will include our pot-luck dinner, gift exchange, and installation of our new Board of Trustees.

**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 guidelines:**

**A thru B - Salad**  
**C thru E - Side Dish**  
**F thru J - Main Dish**  
**K thru O - Drinks**  
**P thru Z – Dessert**

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 v. 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

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**Terry Glover** 678-705-7387

**Lynne Gollob** 770-704-6432

### Other Volunteers

**AOS Rep – Maureen Pulignano**

**Greengrowers – Maureen Pulignano**

**Librarian – Ken Ramborger**

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**Mentoring Coordinator – Laurel Burrows**

**Plant Raffle – Terry Glover**

**Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Mellard**

**Newsletter – Mark Reinke**

**Orchid Digest Rep – Fred Missbach**

**Show Chair 2011 & 2012 – Barbara Barnett**

**Telephone – Lynne Gollob**

**Webmaster – Keith Coleman**

# SAVE the DATE

And Tell your Orchid Friends!!

## The Atlanta Orchid Show

March 8 thru 10, 2013,  
set up the 7th

The Atlanta Botanical Gardens,  
Day Hall

Look for Volunteer Opportunities  
in January

## Vendors for 2013

Andy's Orchids

Hick's Orchid Supplies

KeikiPro

Marble Branch Farms

Michel Orchid Nursery

Orchid Inn

Orchid Gallery

Peach State Orchids

Steve Arthur Orchids

## ***Events Out and About***

### ***December***

December 08 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop

**December 10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Annual Holiday Banquet**  
**RockSprings Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall**  
**1824 Piedmont Ave. NE, Atlanta, GA 30324** [MAP IT](#)

### ***January***

January 12 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

**January 14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.**  
**Alex Maximiano – OrchidWiz**  
**Uses of Orchids Through the Ages**

### ***February***

February 09 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

**February 11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.**  
**Speaker: Steve Arthur**

### ***March***

**March 8-10 – Atlanta Orchid Show, Day Hall, Atlanta Botanical Gardens**

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

**March 11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.**  
**Speaker: Erich Michel**

**March 23-24 – Western North Carolina Orchid Society Show**  
**NC Arboretum at Bent Creek**  
**Asheville, NC**

## ***President's Message***

Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving.

Realizing that this is my last President's message, I can't thank you enough for all the support and kindness this past year. As my term is about to end, I have been fortunate enough to work with officers and trustees in our society whose goals are to offer the best programs and camaraderie among us.

It takes a lot of cooperation and input. When I ask members before each meeting to help out, they always do it willingly and for that thank you so much.

The December meeting is our Holiday Party, potluck style, and I encourage members and guest to come and have a great time.

It's been an honor serving the society as your president.

See you December 10.



***Geni Smith***



## 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  
Student Membership 1 year \$40, 2 years \$75

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org)

## 2013 Dues Reminder

2013 membership dues may be paid starting January 1 and need to be in by March 31<sup>st</sup> at the very latest to be included in the membership roster.

You can pay online using Paypal on our website [www.atlantaorchidsociety.org](http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org) by clicking on the appropriate "Join/Renew" button on the Membership tab.

You can also mail a check to our Treasurer, Clark Weisner, (see address under volunteer listing page 2) or pay him in person at the January, February or March meeting.

## Minutes of the Atlanta Orchid Society November 12, 2012 Monthly Meeting

1. Geni Smith called the meeting to order at 8:00 pm. Forty-nine people were in attendance.

-Announcements: The December annual banquet will be held at Rocksprings Presbyterian Church in the fellowship hall.

-Last month's minutes were approved.

2. Maureen Pulignano, vice president, introduced Paul Storm of Meke Aloha Orchids.

3. Paul Storm presented information about "Schomburgkia" orchid species and hybrids.

4. The meeting was adjourned by Geni Smith.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Jessica Wackerman*  
Secretary



*Our November speaker, Paul Storm, and his wife Mary, brought an impressive array of unusual Plants for sale.*

## **Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners November 2012**

*Notes and comments by Mark Alan Reinke*

*Photos courtesy of Cheryl Bruce*

### **Class I – Cattleya Group**

*This group was split into “Cattleya types” and “Laelia types” for judging purposes this month.*

#### **Cattleya types:**



**Blue – *Cattleya jenmanii* var. *coerulea* – David Johnston**

*Cattleya jenmanii* was originally described by Rolfe in 1906 from plants collected in Guyana, close to the Venezuelan border. However, it was essentially lost to cultivation for more than 60 years until rediscovered in remote areas of southeast Venezuela. It has since been located sporadically throughout the region that borders the two countries. This orchid grows on the edge of dense forests surrounded by more open savanna in regions that experience a wet summer and much drier winter, but have little seasonal variation in temperature. Because it was unavailable during the years of intensive breeding with large flowered *Cattleya* in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, it does not factor into the heritage of our modern large flowered hybrids. It is however, a lovely species to grow in its own

right, usually flowering in the gap between the late summer species like *C. dowiana* and *C. warscewiczii*, and the late fall to winter blooming species of *C. trianae* and *C. percivaliana*. The fairly compact, unifoliate plants typically produce up to five buds from a rather elongate sheath, that open into gracefully shaped lavender flowers with a lip marker with deep purple, white and yellow in an attractive pattern. The fragrance is outstanding and often compared to that of lilacs. Despite their delicate looking appearance, they can last up to eight weeks under good conditions. The “coerulea” form exhibited is still very uncommon in collections, as is the exceptionally rare “alba” form. Eight registered hybrids exist, but none seem to offer any special qualities the species doesn’t already possess. Grow *C. jenmanii* warm to intermediate with bright filtered light, good air circulation and excellent humidity. It needs a very open mix when grown in a pot and will fail to produce new healthy roots if plants don’t dry out quickly and thoroughly between each watering. Water less in winter, but since the habitat is subject to heavy dew at night, do not keep the plants dry for extended periods of time.

**Red – *Cattlianthe* Molly Tyler, FCC/RHS – Roy Harrow**

**White – *Cattleya* Jungle Eyes – Roy Harrow**

#### **Laelia types:**



**Blue – *C. cernua* x *L. anceps* var. *alba* – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**



This cute little miniature hybrid is blooming for the first time, but already shows exciting promise. The flat, somewhat star shaped blooms blend several shades of bright coral pink and are accented by a prominent yellow throat. At over two inches in size, they are quite large considering those of its pod parent, *C. cernua*. We only were able to successfully raise a few seedlings out of this cross and all that have bloomed have produced similar results. Some, however, have shown distinct violet overtones that further enhances their beauty. Unfortunately we have lost the very compact form of *L. anceps* used in this hybrid so we will have to try selfing or sibbing to produce more of these beauties. As we have seen in other crosses made using it, the short spike of *C. cernua* is dominant. The plants are staying between 3 and 4 inches tall, and make multiple leads quickly, so should result in showy specimens when mature. We love the results from *C. cernua* hybrids and *wish* they were easier to create and grow to flowering size. Once mature they are vigorous, but the tiny seedlings aren't easy to manage when just out of the flask and only the most well developed survive.

**Red – *Laeliocattleya* Anneliese – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

**White – *Laelia* Finckeniana – David Johnston**

### ***Class II – Cymbidium Group***



**Blue – *Cymbidium mastersii* – Cora & Ken Ramborger**

The arching spikes of white, or nearly white flowers that are accented by yellow in the lip and do not open fully might appear to be some species of *Coelogyne* at casual glance, rather than a *Cymbidium*. They are said to be scented like almonds. This terrestrial orchid is usually found in densely shaded forests from Thailand and Burma across to northern India where the annual monsoon provides copious rainfall and dense cloud cover from May to September, with little more than dew or mist the balance of the year. Like many other members of the genus it grows at fairly high elevation and is accustomed to chilly nights and cool days in winter and mild temperatures in summer. Growers living in coastal Southern California would be able to cultivate this species out of doors year round in a shady, well drained location with supplemental watering in summer, while the rest of us will have to do our best to give it something close to the conditions described above if we would expect it to thrive for us.

**Red – *Cymbidium* Chen's Ruby 'Golden Tiger,' HCC/AOS – Cora & Ken Ramborger**

### ***Class III – Dendrobium Group***



**Blue – *Ceratostylis retisquama* – Lynne Gollob**

More than 60 (some sources indicate as many as 148) species of *Ceratostylis* inhabit the lowland tropical forests of Southeast Asia, and especially the Philippines, which is where our blue ribbon winner comes from. It is one of the showiest of the genus, and though the individual flowers are not long lived, plants bloom off and on throughout the year. Terete leaves with a pronounced channel along the top superficially resemble a vandaceous species, and arise from a wandering rhizome encased in papery brown sheaths, out of which the single flowered inflorescences emerge carrying bright red-orange or salmon red blossoms about one inch in spread. The flower in the photo is not yet fully expanded. Plants enjoy being mounted but need frequent water during the summer growing season. They need less water in winter, but fairly high humidity must be maintained. Curiously, not one single species of *Ceratostylis* has a registered hybrid to its name! They are not closely related to any other genera, and apparently will not even cross within each other.

**Red – *Dendrobium* hyb. - Cora & Ken Ramborger**

### ***Class IV – Epidendrum Group***



### **Blue – *Epidendrum peperomia* – Maureen Pulignano**

There is disagreement among taxonomists as to whether or not *Epi. porpax* and *Epi. peperomia* are the same, or two separate species, with some insisting the former comes only from Colombia and Venezuela, and has a lip that is wider than long. Kew currently accepts all the similar looking plants found in a broken, but widespread range from Mexico to Ecuador as *Epi. peperomia*. For cultivation purposes, it matters little which name is on the plant label, as these somewhat tolerant plants will grow under a variety of conditions, but truly thrive to become impressive specimens when grown in mild temperatures with moderately bright light and given frequent water and perfect drainage. With this care, the creeping, miniature plants will branch freely and produce many apical, single flowered inflorescences at once. The comparatively large flowers are about one inch from top to bottom, primarily green, with a shiny dark purple to maroon lip. There are but seven registered hybrids made from this species and we find it to be an extremely reluctant parent. In the crosses produced so far, it is highly dominant even when paired with something as dissimilar as a traditional miniature *Cattleya* in the case of *Epc. Newberry Elf* (x *C. Tangerine Jewel*) registered in 1996.

### **Red – *Epidendrum peperomia* – Cora & Ken Ramborger**



*Jessica Wackerman and Walter Echols examine the *Cattleya* entries for November ribbon judging.*



## Class V – *Oncidium* Group



**Blue – *Cischweinfia pusilla* (syn. *sheehaniae*) – Maureen Pulignano**

*Cisch. pusilla* is the current accepted name by Kew for this, the type species of a genus of small sized epiphytic orchids considered closely related to *Trichopilia*, and containing between seven and nine recognized species, depending on the source. The name honors the American botanist Charles Schweinfurth. This particular species comes from Costa Rica and Panama, where it grows at elevations between 2000 and 3300 feet, and thus has a preference for mild temperatures year round. The cute sprays of three to five flowers arise from a newly matured growth consisting of a small, laterally compressed pseudobulb topped by a single leaf

and enveloped in several leafy bracts. As our blue ribbon winner illustrates, a well grown example can form a delightfully compact specimen with many flowers open at once. The blooming season is variable from April to December depending on the specific growing conditions it receives. Although *Cischweinfia* are related to the many genera in *Oncidinae*, hybrids made from them are rare at present. *Cisch. Pusilla* itself has but one registered hybrid, *Schweinfurthara Nova Star*, which combines *Cischweinfia*, *Brassia*, *Rodriguezia*, and *Oncidium*. It was registered in 2002 by amateur breeder Leslie Hertenstein of Columbus, OH and further honors Mr. Schweinfurth. The small size of this species holds promise for further breeding. Growth this species in dappled or highly diffused light, with warm, but not hot temperatures and give ample water and fertilizer from April to December, but only light misting or infrequent watering from January through March to prevent the plants from drying out too much during this rest period.

**Red – *Trichopilia fragrans* – Maureen Pulignano**

**White – *Oncidium* Dianne Feinstein 'Red Ruby,' AM/AOS – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

## Class VI – *Cypripedium* Group



**Blue – *Paphioedilum Delophyllum* – Maureen Pulignano**



The origin of this primary hybrid between *Paph. delatanii* and *Paph. glaucophyllum* takes us back into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century England and Black and Flory Orchid Nursery of Buckinghamshire, the same firm to originate the famous white *Cattleya* Bow Bells. It was registered in 1940, but it has been remade multiple times over the years as select forms of the parents have become available. The color and habit of this particular incarnation are especially good, and it exhibits the sequential flowering trait of *Paph. glaucophyllum*, which opens one blossom at a time over an extended period lasting many months. Both parents of this cross come from warm climates with heavy rainfall in summer into autumn and much less the balance of the year. However, the plants grow in dappled shade where humidity remains high and nightly dew is frequent, so while plants should receive less water in winter through spring, they should not remain dry for extended periods. A fine, moisture retentive media that is also well drained should be used and changed regularly before it has a chance to become stale or laden with mineral deposits. *Paphiopedilum* are preferred hosts to mealy bug and should be examined carefully periodically to make sure they have not become infested. Safari™ is one of a new class of super systemic insecticides that are highly effective in eliminating this and other insect pests from your orchid collection in one or two applications. As always, used in accordance with the directions and precautions on the label.

**Red – *Paphiopedilum hermanii* x Olympian Paradise – Geni Smith**

**White – *Phragmipedium Grande* – Cora & Ken Ramborger**

## ***Class VII – Phalaenopsis Group***



**Blue – *Phalaenopsis Kuntrarti Rarashati* – John Schlachter**

This charming, compact grower is a primary hybrid between *Phal. equestris* and *Phal. venosa* registered in 1986 by Atmo Kolopaking of East Java, Indonesia. While only two cultivars have received awards, and both with scores barely enough to achieve the Highly Commended Certificate (HCC), this orchid has been an important parent in breeding sunset colored, miniature *Phalaenopsis* and several of its offspring have shown stunning outcomes resulting in numerous awards. *Phal. Kuntrarti Rarashati* should flourish in moderately low light, with high humidity and warm temperatures, watered regularly with just slight drying in between.

**Red – *Phalaenopsis celebensis* – John Schlachter**

**White – *Phalaenopsis equestris* 'Soroa Firewings' – Roy Harrow**

## Class VIII – Vandaceous Group



**Blue – *Gastrochilus dasypogon* – Laurel Burrows**

The genus *Gastrochilus* (literally “stomach-lip,” referring to its pouch-like shape) was established in 1825, but over the years it’s species were transferred first to *Aerides* and then to *Saccolabium* before being restored in the 1960’s to the original genus. Out of flower, the plants can strongly resemble those of *Aerides*, but in bloom, the tight clusters of small flowers are unmistakable. The species name translates as “with dense beard” and refers to the many small projections that encircle the mid-lobe of the lip. *Gastrochilus* are generally warm to intermediate growers and require high humidity to prosper, along with moderately bright light and good air movement. There are no registered hybrids made from this species, and only four that I could locate for the entire genus. In theory at least, some interesting intergeneric pairings should be possible.

**Red – *Ascocentrum pumilum* – Cora & Ken Ramborger**

**White – *Acampe papillosa* – Laurel Burrows**

## Class IX – Miscellaneous



**Blue – *Bulbophyllum medusae* ‘White Magic’ – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

When seen in flower, the origin of the name of this Southeast Asian species is readily apparent. It has a large natural range, inhabiting humid lowland forests from Thailand and Malaysia, and across Indonesia to Borneo. While considered a hot grower and reluctant bloomer, this plant has done reasonably well for us hanging with our other *Bulbophyllum* in front of evaporative cooling pads where days are usually never warmer than 80 degrees and winter nights are allowed to fall into the mid-50’s. Perhaps it was the onset of cooler night temperatures in fall that stimulated it to produce ten showy inflorescences at once. Under our conditions it has been a rather slow grower and has taken about 8 years to develop from a small blooming division to a nearly specimen size. It pales in comparison to the ‘Miami’ cultivar exhibited by the now defunct, Jones and Scully, Inc. of Miami, FL at the Gold Coast Unlimited Orchid Society Show in October, 1981. That plant bore 110 inflorescences carrying approximately 5500 open flowers! Like most members of the genus, *Bulb. Medusa* loves moisture and should be

watered frequently and grown in a well-drained, but moisture retentive media under moderately shady or diffused light conditions. A handful of unusual hybrids have been made from this species, but the look of the plant it is mated with, no matter how different, is usually swamped by its Medusa-like qualities.

**Red – *Bulbophyllum ovalifolium* ‘Red’ – Paul Thurner**

**White – *Bulbophyllum longissimum* – Cora and Ken Ramborger**

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

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at [www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org](http://www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org) or contact one

## Atlanta Orchid Society 2013 Officer and Trustees

President	Maureen Pulignano
Vice President	Mark Reinke
Secretary	Nancy Newton
Treasurer	Clark Weisner
Trustees	David Mellard
	Ellen Brand

The above slate of officers and trustees will be sworn in at the December meeting.

## Orchid Pronunciation Guide

*In this new column we will provide helpful hints each month to the correct pronunciation of orchid botanical names.*

### General Pronunciation Rule:

In the absence of specific guidance otherwise, the accent of a botanical name should be placed on the penultimate (second to the last) syllable. A common exception is for names ending in “ium” or “eum” which should be accented on the antepenultimate (third to the last) syllable e.g. “den-DRO-bee-um.”

### -phyllum:

a suffix that refers to the leaves, seen both at the genus level, such as *Bulbophyllum* (literally “bulb-leaf”), and at the species level as in *Den. monophyllum* (meaning “single leaf”). Always with two “l’s” and pronounced with a short “y” – sounds like: “Phil’-um.” Not to be confused with phylum, with a single “l”, which is pronounced with a long “y” and is the term for a taxonomic rank below kingdom and above class.



November's speaker, Paul Storm



## 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 © Maureen Pulignano***



*Epidendrum criniferum* 'Sweetbay' CCM/AOS  
Exhibited by Peter and Gail Furniss



*Doritaenopsis* I-Hsin Black Jack 'KHM 1861'  
AM/AOS  
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids



*Phalaenopsis* Hans Christiansen 'Gayle's Jubilee'  
HCC/AOS  
Exhibited by George Kilgore



*Phragmipedium* Praying Mantis 'Green Ghost'  
AM/AOS  
Exhibited by David Kessler



*Doritaenopsis I-Hsin Spot Leopard 'KHN 1499' AM/AOS*  
*Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*

***In Bloom at Marble Branch Farms***



*Cattleya José Cousineau*  
 (Final Touch x Circle of Life)  
 A promising first blooming seedling with  
 glowing color!

***In Bloom at Marble Branch Farms***



*Cattleya percivaliana var. semi-alba 'Jewel'*

Only one or two flowers to the spike and they are not large, but they are so beautiful!  
 25 flowers this year on a plant that we have grown from a single lead division to specimen in 8 years.