



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: Margie Kersey



January 2008

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

Volume 49: Number 1

JANUARY MEETING

The Monthly Meeting:

Topic: Mini Catts!

Speaker: Mark Reinke

Marble Branch Farms

8:00 pm Monday, January 14

Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall



Marble Branch Farms is the dream of two lifelong horticulturists, Gary Alan Collier and Mark Alan Reinke, who share a mutual passion for unique and unusual plants. Our goal as orchid hybridizers has been to produce something a little different from the same old hybrids that everyone seems to sell these days. We have looked at the current trends in compact *Cattleya* breeding and have noticed several voids between breeding lines being developed in places like Hawaii, the Caribbean and elsewhere that we hope to fill with new, beautiful and more temperature tolerant hybrids. We also have an eye for something unique, charming, and a little different. To this end we offer the results of our breeding program in the tradition of cutting edge hybridizers of the past such as W.G.G. Moir, whose wonderful creations using *Encyclia*, *Schomburgkia*, and other less known members of the *Cattleya* alliance were somewhat ahead of their time. We believe that you, the orchid hobbyists of today, are ready for what we have to offer. So, with this in mind, we ask you to enter our world, and fall in love with orchids all over again!

Watch the February issue for Part 2 of:
The History of Orchids

New Officers Inducted



L to R: Roy Harrow, Danny Lentz, Carl Quattlebaum, Jeff Whitfield, Reba Herzfeld, Terry Glover and Richard Hallberg at the lectern.

Dues Are Due

Now is the time of year to renew your membership to the Atlanta Orchid Society, only \$30.00 individual and \$45.00 family. Dues are to be payable to AtIOS and sent to:

Reba Herzfeld, Treasurer
4798 Summerset Lane
Dunwoody, GA 30338



Dues must be received by March 1 so you can be included in the 2008 Member Directory. This is also the time to make sure we have your current contact information - address, phone and email address.

Inside This Issue

Page

- 2..... AtIOS Officers
- Minutes of the October AtIOS Meeting
- 3 Member Spotlight - David Glass & Nancy Newton
- 4 Events Out and About
- Article - Inevitable, Dreadable Name Changes
- 5-9.... Table Awards
- 12 The Gallery

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting Minutes December 10th, 2007

The Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting was brought to order by President Mark Reinke. Visitors were welcomed and introduced. The minutes from the last meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.

The Atlanta Orchid Society has some day passes to the upcoming World Orchid Congress in Miami. Contact Mark Reinke if you are interested.

Reba Herzfeld is now accepting payments for 2008 memberships. Cost is \$30 for an individual and \$45 for a family.

Roy Harrow said that the society needs volunteers for the Southeastern Flower Show at the World Congress Center during the first week of February to hand out information on the orchid society. He also encouraged people to sign up to bring orchids for display, and to register ahead of time online. Contact Roy Harrow for details.

The treasurer's report said that the current balance is \$8912.08.

2008 officers were installed. Officers for 2008 are President, Jeff Whitfield; Vice-President, Danny Lentz; Treasurer, Reba Herzfeld; and Secretary, Carl Quattlebaum. New trustees are Terry Glover and Roy Harrow.

Mark Reinke was presented with a vase, and thanked for his year of society leadership.

Mark Reinke reported on the recent board meeting. The primary topic of discussion was the possibility of moving next year's orchid show to a different venue due to the construction at the botanical gardens. He also reported on the donations that the society made.

The Christmas party was held in lieu of a speaker.

Our thanks to the orchid judges: David Mellard, James Van Horne, Paul Thurner, Doug Hartong, Jeff Whitfield, and others.

Our thanks to those who donated plants to the raffle table: Roy Harrow, Helen Weil, and others.

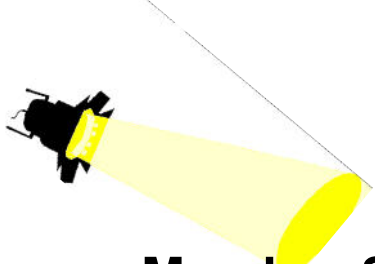
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Quattlebaum

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, or contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application.

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.



Member Spotlight

David Glass and Nancy Newton

Just over five years ago, I was looking for a present for what was our 29th wedding anniversary. I heard about Peach State Orchids, made the drive up there, and purchased 7 or 8 random orchids in bud or in bloom. As I drove home, I thought 'Nancy will know what to do with them.' Since we were Atlanta Botanical Garden members, she suggested that I take their class on beginning orchid care. These two classes were presented by Ron McHatton and Richard Hallberg. The classes were excellent, but I only later learned how really knowledgeable these two gentlemen were about orchids. Encouraged by this introduction, I continued to read about orchid culture and, over the next year or so, actually got some of the original plants to survive and re-bloom. I still have four of them. I then added a number of phalaenopsis, paphiopedilums, and oncidiums that I thought might fair well on windowsills. These plants came from numerous sources including vendors at the annual Orchid Show.

At the urging of Barbara Dampog, I finally attended my first Atlanta Orchid Society meeting in late 2005 and joined that night. Nancy, who is an avid gardener, found that she also enjoyed the meetings, especially all of the spectacular plants blooming on the show table, so she joined also. Of course, with this monthly inspiration and source of new plants, even more orchids made their way into our home. Our rather diverse collection currently stands at nearly 100 orchids – all still being grown on windowsills and under skylights, a nearly untenable situation as far as adequate light and ease of care. Thus, after more than a year of planning and construction, we have just had a 15' x 28' greenhouse installed in our backyard. This project also included a terraced perennial garden for Nancy. As I anticipate a greater ease of watering and a



more humid growing environment, I have become more interested in exploring the huge variety of plants in the genus *Bulbophyllum*. I wish to thank all of the members of the Atlanta Orchid Society for being so encouraging and for freely sharing their expertise about orchids and their cultivation.

In addition to the time spent caring for orchids, I am a life-long bird watcher and maintain a single digit golf handicap. Nancy and I have enjoyed ballroom and Latin dancing together for the past ten years. Another of her hobbies is cooking, and I am extremely fortunate in that she is, by far, the best cook I know. We live in Druid Hills in an overgrown bungalow, the only house that we have ever owned. I am a retired professor, having taught Pharmacology and Biochemistry and run a research laboratory at Emory University School of Medicine for 25 years. Nancy is still in full-time medical practice as a Pathologist at Southern Regional Medical Center, but she looks forward to semi-retirement later this year. We have one son who lives with his new wife in New York City. She and her lovely family are from Rio de Janeiro, so we look forward to learning more about Brazilian orchids first hand!

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 \$32 per 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 (404-237-1694)***

The Inevitable, Dread-able Name Changes!

by Mark Alan Reinke

Inescapable, I should also add, as these changes have been adopted by the Royal Horticultural Society as the correct names for all official orchid registrations past, present and future! So no use hiding under a rock and hoping they will go away! It's time to understand why the changes took place, what they are, and how they effect the every day names we know our orchids by!

The recent scientific advances that allow taxonomists to study orchids on the genetic level has led to a better understanding of which species are closely related and which are not. Research within *Laelinae*, the family of orchids we commonly refer to as the 'cattleya alliance,' has led the RHS to adopt four specific changes that require the creation of three new genera, as well as the reassignment of some species to an existing genus different from the one under which they had become familiar to us. Now, if all this meant was getting used to calling a handful of species by new names, we would probably adapt to the changes fairly readily, as we have with many others in the past. But, the ease at which species in the cattleya alliance are willing to cross with other members outside of their particular genus has led to the creation of 'man-made genera' to botanically describe the hybrids that have been created. If you change the genera of one or more of the species in the background of a particular hybrid, you must also then change the man-made genus name for that grex so that it continues to accurately reflect its ancestry. So here is where a lot of un-learning and re-learning will have to be done!

First, let's take a look at the four changes that were adopted by the RHS. Some of the changes simply brought the names for registration purposes up to date with taxonomy that had been in common use for a while, but others are new and still not widely adopted until now. I will present them in order of least to greatest impact on number of registered orchid hybrids.

Continued on page 10

Welcome Our Newest Members

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evening: 770 945-4461

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jilmor3@bellsouth.net



*Be sure to greet our newest members
and make them feel at home.*

EVENTS OUT AND ABOUT

January

January 12 AOS Atlanta Monthly Judging

January 14 AtLOS Monthly Meeting

January 22-27 WOC in Miami

January 30-Feb 3 SE Flower Show

www.flowershow.org

1. We need your plants! This show always gets new members for us.
2. ***It is critical that plants be registered on-line.*** They need to be delivered to the WCC on Monday Jan 28th, preferably in the late afternoon or evening. They should be picked up Sunday evening. It is possible to get someone to deliver them for you, just ask around. But you will need to get your pass to the show back from them. When you register on-line you don't have to fill out all that duplicate paperwork.
3. We need people to stand by the orchid exhibit and answer questions, hand out society cards and provide minor security. The exhibit will only have three sides this year. We have Friday, Feb 1st covered with helpers but we need Saturday, Sunday very much and to a lesser extent Thursday. To answer questions for two hours gets you into the show for free. Sign up at the AtOS meeting on Jan 14th or email Roy at Roy.Harrow@Assurant.com

Table Awards

Class I – Cattleya Alliance

Species

Blue- *Laelia rubescens* – Collier/Reinke

Wow, a *Laelia* that is still a *Laelia* species! (Chuckle!) This charming orchid is one of the 9 or 10 species that are native to Mexico and have remained in the genus in the recent nomenclature changes. This particular species also extends its range into neighboring Guatemala. The flower color from plant to plant of *L. rubescens* is variable, from white to pale pink to lavender, but with the exception of the very rare alba form, the dark spot in the throat is a constant. There is also a yellow form that some taxonomists consider a separate species, *Laelia aurea*, and others simply a variety of *L. rubescens*. It too, bears the characteristic dark purple spot in the throat. The plants are quite compact with round, laterally compressed pseudobulbs that grow close together forming large clumping specimens with time. The long wiry inflorescences begin to grow in summer as new bulbs are forming, and continue to lengthen until they form buds in the late fall or early winter. Plants require perfect drainage, so a clay pot, basket or mount is preferable, and they should not be watered in cool damp weather to avoid rot. Beyond this requirement, *L. rubescens* is quite tolerant of a wide range of temperature and humidity levels, as long as it is grown bright. Water it well during the warmer months while in active growth and somewhat less in winter. Some very charming hybrids have been made using this species and most exhibit the characteristic dark throat.



Laelia rubescens

Red – *Cattleya percivaliana forma semi-alba* ‘Jewel’ – Collier/Reinke

White – *Sophronitis cernua* – Hartong



hyncolaeliocattleya (previously *Bc.*)
Pink Debutante ‘First Love’ HCC/AOS

Hybrids

Blue - *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* (previously *Bc.*) Pink Debutante ‘First Love’ HCC/AOS – Harrow

R/c. Pink Debutante was registered in 1969 by Armacost & Royston of Los Angeles, who not only made many well known large flowered cattleya hybrids, but was also first introduced the African Violet to commercial sales in the U.S. in 1927! Seven of the large flowered *Cattleya* species are part of the ancestry of this orchid in addition to *Rl. digbyana*, which was an important species not only for the contribution of heavy ruffling of the lip, but also for its ability to even out and soften the color of the flower overall. Despite coming from celebrated parents, only one of the offspring of this hybrid has ever to achieve an AOS award, *Rhyncatlaelia* Night Moves (x *L. anceps*), which interestingly is the last registered grex made using *R/c.* Pink Debutante! This cross was registered by Cal-Orchid Co. in 2000, and *Ryc.* Night Moves

‘Fantasy’ received a High Commendation Certificate in 2005, which was upgraded to an Award of Merit last year when we exhibited a well flowered example of it at the Atlanta Judging Center in January.

Red – *Thwaitesara* (previously *Blc.*) Guess What ‘Dubloon’ AM/AOS – Collier/Reinke

White – *Lawrenceara* (previously *Lc.*) Blue Kahili ‘Delft Beauty’ – Harrow

Lawrenceara = *Cattleya* + *Guarianthe* + *Laelia* + *Sophronitis*. This cross is *L. anceps* x *Gsl.* Blue Boy and was registered in 1970. Some clear hallmarks of *L. anceps* that show up in this flower are the prominent dark parallel lines in the throat, the front lobe of the lip separated from the side lobes by ‘cuts,’ and the pointed tips of both the sepals and petals. *L. anceps* also tends to reduce the flower count of the other parent, but in exchange provide a long upright inflorescence that can add much appeal to the presentation.



Cymbidium lancifolium

Class II – Cymbidium Alliance

Blue – *Cymbidium lancifolium* – Ramborger

Cymbidium lancifolium is a delightful miniature species that should be grown more often! Its natural habitat spans from the Western Himalayas across S.E. Asia all the way to the islands of Borneo and New Guinea and it is well suited for warm to intermediate culture. The look of this plant is quite unlike typical cymbidiums, with small lance shaped foliage that is much wider than typical species and thin textured, looking more like some tropical foliage plant than an orchid. The flowers are small, but in proportion to the plant, and borne several to the inflorescence. They are a delicate tan or pale green, with a red stripe running down the midrib of each petal, and red spots of the lip. The two petals nearly touch each other and grow forward over the lip, forming a 'hood.' There are but a scant six registered hybrids made with this species and I could find no photos to show how the results might look.

Class III – Dendrobium Alliance

Blue – *Dendrobium auriculatum* – Ramborger

See the December, 2007 newsletter for more details on this species.

Red – *Dendrobium* Bill Takamatsu – Collier/Reinke

This appealing *Dendrobium* is composed of two species from New Guinea, *Den. atrovioleaceum* and *Den. johnsoniae*. All of the New Guinea species and their hybrids require less light than the 'phalaenopsis' and 'antelope' types and are therefore easier for most people to grow. Their flowers are extremely long lasting, and over time the plants will become large, showy specimens. The upright spikes of this clone of *Den.* Bill Takamatsu insure that the flowers are held nicely above the foliage for an even more appealing display. Grow this and other New Guinea types intermediate to warm year round, with ample water and fertilizer while in active growth, and somewhat less in winter until new growth begins. They prefer pots that are small for the plant size and a quick draining medium.



Dendrobium auriculatum

White – *Dendrobium* hybrid - Harrow

JOIN THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

For \$60.00 per year, you reap the following benefits:

- 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 (\$108) 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.** For information, contact Evan Dessasau (404-241-4819)

Class IV - Epidendrum Alliance

Blue - *Prosthechea cochleata* (syn. *Anacheilium cochleatum*) – Collier/Reinke

Please refer to the December, 2006 newsletter where this fascinating species is discussed in detail.

Red - *Barkeria scandens* - Hartong

White – *Bardendrum* Nanboh Pixy ‘Cherry Moon’ – Hartong

This plant was entered as *Bardendrum* Bamboo Dance, which was registered as a cross between *Barkeria cyclotella* and *Bardendrum* Terusan in 2004. However, the latest accepted taxonomy by the RHS makes *Bark. cyclotella* a synonym for *Bark. scandens*. Since *Bard. Nanboh Pixy* is a cross between *Bark.*



***Prosthechea cochleata* (syn. *Anacheilium cochleatum*)**

scandens and *Bard. Terusan*, and predates *Bard. Bamboo Dance* by three years, its name must take precedence as the correct registered name for this hybrid. The plant tag included the clone name ‘Cherry Moon’, which is the only cultivar of *Bard. Nanboh Pixy* in general circulation, so I am applying it as the clone name of this entry as well. We grow *Bard. Nanboh Pixy ‘Cherry Moon’* and it is identical to this plant. With time, plant and inflorescence can be over 5 feet tall, with more than 30 flowers on the main spike, and often with secondary spikes in the fashion of *Bark. scandens*. Although a reed-stemmed *Epidendrum* species makes up one quarter of the background of this hybrid, it is best given typical barkeria culture. Grow mounted or in a basket with little or no media so that their large fleshy spreading roots can dry quickly. They like bright to very bright light, high humidity, good air circulation, intermediate temperatures, and little if any water after flowering when they typically go partially to entirely deciduous until spring. *Barkeria* species and their hybrids may produce keikeis on the inflorescence that can be detached and grown separately once they have formed their own set of roots.



Psychopsis Memoria Bill Carter

Class V – Oncidium Alliance

Blue – *Psychopsis Memoria* Bill Carter – Collier/Reinke

See the November, 2007 newsletter ribbon notes for information on successful culture of *Psychopsis*.

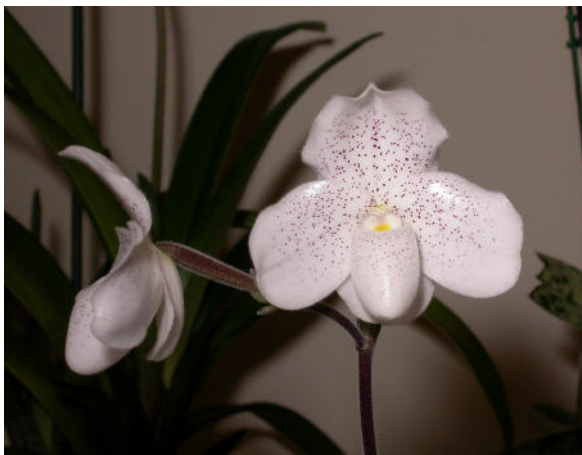
Red – *Odontocidium* Wild Willie ‘Pacific Plunge’ - Hartong

White – *Oncidium* Twinkle - Ramborger

Please visit our web site at

<http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org>

The Atlanta Orchid Society web site contains recent newsletters and articles, cultural information for growing orchids in Atlanta, as well as a calendar of events and information about our annual shows.



***Paphiopedilum* Doctor Jack**

Class VI – Cypripedium Alliance

Phragmipedium

Blue – *Phragmipedium* Les Dirouilles – Harrow

Once again, members who own this popular hybrid between *Phrag.* Sorcerer's Apprentice and *Phrag.* Grande please make sure your tags are spelled correctly. It is French, of course, and should be pronounced with four syllables total: "Lay Dear-oo-ee'." Neither 's' is pronounced!

Red – *Phragmipedium grande* (4n) x *walissii* - Ramborger

White – *Phragmipedium* Charleston Sunrise – Kiss

Papiopedilum

Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Doctor Jack – Lentz/Morgan

The parents of *Paph.* Doctor Jack are *Paph. concolor* x *niveum*, both species of the Brachypetalum group and the cross was registered in 1975. See the ribbon notes of the July, 2007 newsletter for tips on the culture of this group of species and their hybrids.

Red – *Paphiopedilum gratixianum* – Lentz/Morgan

White – *Paphiopedilum* Norito Hasegawa - Hallberg



***Phalaenopsis* Yolanda x Carmela's Gem**

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Alliance

Blue – *Phalaenopsis* Yolanda x Carmela's Gem - Harrow

This *Phalaenopsis* is an unregistered hybrid between two well awarded grexes of the 1980's, and its round, flat form hides the fact that there is a good amount of both *Phal. amboinensis* and *Phal. leuddemanniana* in its background. Both of those species have smaller, starry shaped flowers with heavy substance and bars of strong color running across the petals. In this example their influence is apparent mainly in the deep orchid pink veins and 'diamond dust' texture of the flower, whose shape and bloom habit otherwise follows that of the large white flowered species sharing its lineage. Its attractive qualities leads you to wonder why the originator of the hybrid chose not to register it.

Red – *Doritenopsis* Newberry Parfait 'Picotee' AM/AOS - Harrow

January 2008



***Phragmipedium* Les Dirouilles**

Class VIII – Vanda Alliance

Blue – *Neostylis* hybrid – Ramborger

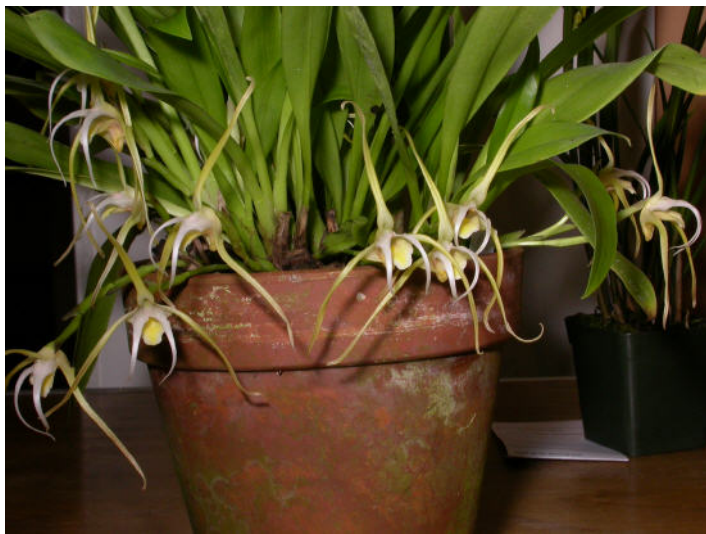
More than likely this orchid is *Neostylis* Lou Sneary (*Neofenetia falcata* x *Rhyncostylis coelestis*) based on the look of the plant and flower. There are only six registered *Neostylis* hybrids, and this is the only one that has had any sort of real commercial availability. There are several other widely available intergeneric hybrids made with *Neof. falcata*, most notably *Ascofenetia* Cherry Blossom (x *Asctm. ampullaceum*), *Ascofenetia* Peaches (x *Asctm. curvifolium*), and *Darwinara* Charm (x *Vascostylis* Tham Yuen Hae), but of all these possible options, the size, coloration and inflorescence habit of our blue ribbon winner is clearly most like *Neost.* Lou Sneary. All of these hybrids grow best in a basket with some moss added for moisture retention. They do well in moderate light and intermediate to warm temperatures with good humidity and air movement a must. Under ideal conditions, many keikeis can develop, increasing the show of long lasting flowers and the intensity of the heavenly fragrance they produce!



Neostylis hybrid

Red – *Vanda lamellata* var. *remediosae* – Van Horne

White – *Vanda* Yuuko Iso-Sumida ‘Ted Sumida’ - Pulignano



Maxillaria arachnites

Oops!

Last month in Orchid Vocabulary, I made a mistake! Here is the correct information and spelling thanks to Ron McHatton:

Tessallation (tess-sel-LAY-shun) -- The checkered patterns found on some orchid flowers as in *Vanda sanderana*.

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Maxillaria arachnites* – Hallberg

Maxillaria is a large genus of new world orchids in which new species are still being discovered regularly. They occur in a diverse range of habitats with a wide variety in individual plant morphology as well, with several complexes of species showing strong similarities. It seems only a matter of time before taxonomists split these out into separate genera. *Max. arachnites* is in the group of species that has small or nearly absent pseudobulbs hidden by inflated basal bracts, the uppermost of which bears a fairly soft textured and wide leaf, resembling a tropical foliage plant when not in bloom. Other species with similar growth habits and flower form include *Max. arachnitiflora*, *Max. longipes*, and *Max. rodrigueziana*. They all do well in a sphagnum filled basket kept fairly moist, with good humidity, air movement, intermediate temperatures and fairly shaded conditions. Several to many unusual, long lasting flowers arise from the base of developing new growths, borne one per inflorescence, but in great total numbers on well grown specimens.

Red – *Masdevallia* Maui Queen – Mellard/Marino

White - *Catasetum* Susan Fuchs – Lentz/Morgan

1. The genus *Schomburgkia* has been dissolved and its species assigned to one of two genera depending on genetics that are clearly evident in their growth habits. The species with 'fusiform' shaped pseudobulbs (tapered at both ends and wider in the middle) were included in the *Laelia*. These species have growth and flowering habits very similar to the Mexican laelias such as *L. anceps*. The other species, which have 'cow horn' shaped pseudobulbs were put into the new genus *Myrmecophila*, which means 'ant loving.' All of these species have hollow, fluted pseudobulbs that are usually the home of aggressive biting ants. These species had been recognized by many as a separate genus for at least a decade. Since *Schomburgkia* hybrids are not that common, this change doesn't have a big impact on your plant tags!

2. The three Central American bi-foliate species that had been in the genus *Cattleya* have been moved to *Guarianthe*. They are *Gur. aurantiaca*, *Gur. bowringiana*, and *Gur. skinneri*. These species, especially *Gur. aurantiaca*, have been used extensively in cluster flower cattleya hybrids, so the impact on orchid names is fairly high.

3. Two species formerly listed under *Brassavola* have been officially moved to *Rhyncolaelia*, where most taxonomists had placed them for quite some time. They are *Rl. digbyana* and *Rl. glauca*. This change has extensive impact on large flowered cattleya hybrids in particular, since the 'B' in their Blc. designation was most often *Brassavola digbyana*.

4. All species native to Brazil formerly included in *Laelia* have been moved to *Sophranitis*. This change has been somewhat more controversial. It is easy to see that these species are not that much like the Mexican laelias, but less clear, without genetic research, that they are very closely related to the miniature species that were the members of *Sophranitis* prior to the change. Many argue that the groups of species involved that have similar characteristic, such as those that are like large flowered cattleyas, or those that have terete leaves and grow on rocks, should be separated into distinct genera that had already been proposed by taxonomists in the past. But undoubtedly, the RHS felt that adding

Orchid Lover Down-Sizing

(help, save my plants!)

I still have 300 sq ft of orchids and other house/greenhouse flowering plants; large part of collection is Paphs, several in bloom, also Miltonias, Oncidium, Phrags, etc.; also in spike: many Phaius species and hybrids, a Maxillaria. ALSO Orchid art including double-matted Fitch Orchid Album original botanical orchid lithographs \$70. ALSO supplies including slatted wood baskets, treefern logs, treefern pots, new fluorescent bulbs, flasking bottles with rubber stoppers Paph-Pots; used plastic pots free. ALSO Books - about 2 dozen

Linda Wish 404-252-5872

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three or four *additional* genera to the mix would cause the number of required new man-made genus names to go up exponentially, making a difficult transition far worse! Still this change has the greatest single impact on orchid names since, more often than not, the 'L' in hybrids designated by Lc. or Slc. was one of the species that has been moved to *Sophranitis*. Easily, tens of thousands of registered hybrids are affected by this single change.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this article, the future is already here in that these changes are already in effect in all official RHS registration data. If you go to the RHS website and navigate to the section on orchids (http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/plant_groups/orchids.asp), you will find a "Grex Name Search" where you can look up details on every one of the more than 180,000 registered orchid hybrids to date. The 'grex name' refers to the specific name the orchid was registered with, such as 'Richard Mueller' or 'Goldenzelle.' Looking at the tag of one of your cattleya hybrids, you see that it says 'Blc. Toshie Aoki.' The 'Blc.' stands for *Brassolaeliocattleya*, which is the man made genus for the combination of *Brassavola* + *Laelia* + *Cattleya*. It became a part of this orchid's official name when it was registered in 1980 because the species in the background of the two parents came from those three genera. However, with the recently adopted changes, the species in the background of this hybrid that was once under *Brassavola*, is now under *Rhyncolaelia*, and those that were once under *Laelia*, are now un-

der *Sophranitis*. So if you type the name 'Toshie Aoki' into the grex name search on the RHS site, you will see that what comes up is *Rhyncosophrocattleya* Toshie Aoki, because the hybrid has been given the new man made genus name to reflect the combination of *Rhyncolaelia* + *Sophranitis* + *Cattleya*. Fortunately, just like the man-made genus names that we are already familiar with, each of the new ones has a convenient three letter abbreviation that you can use, which for our example orchid is *Rsc*.

Here are some of the more common ways in which names have changed:

Most former *Laeliocattleya* (*Lc.*) that were large flowered hybrids are now *Sophrrocattleya* (*Sc.*). The exception would be when a Mexican laelia species is in the background, but that is uncommon. *Laeliocattleya* that were cluster-flowered and bi-foliate such as *Lc. Trick or Treat*, are mostly now *Sophranthe* (*Srt.*), which is *Sophranitis* + *Guarianthe*.

Brassolaeliocattleya (*Blc.*) that were of the large flowered type are mostly *Rhyncosophrocattleya* (*Rsc.*), but if they were *B. nodosa* hybrids they are usually either *Rolfeara* (*Brassavola* + *Sophranitis* + *Cattleya*) or *Marriottara* (*Brassavola* + *Sophranitis* + *Cattleya* + *Guarianthe*).

Most *Sophrrolaeliocattleya* (*Slc.*) are now simply *Sophrrocattleya* since with rare exceptions, the laelia in them was a Brazilian species moved to *Sophranitis* and not a Mexican species that stayed in *Laelia*. A few, however, include, *Gur. aurantiaca* in their background and have become *Guarisophleya*.

Many hybrids that were once *Potinara* (*Brassavola* + *Cattleya* + *Laelia* + *Sophranitis*) had a reduction in the number of genera just like the above group and are now *Rhyncosophrocattleya* (*Rsc.*). The exception would be where some of the cattleya species involved were moved to *Guarianthe* in which case the hybrid would now be a *Thwaitesara* (*Cattleya* + *Guarianthe* + *Rhyncolaelia* + *Sophranitis*). Typically, these are orchids with *Gur. aurantiaca* in their background, such as *Thw. Orange Nugget*.

Here are a few other familiar hybrids and their name changes:

OLD

NEW

<i>Brassolaelia</i>	Richard Mueller
<i>Brassophronitis</i> (<i>Bnts.</i>)	Richard Mueller
<i>Cattleya</i>	Chocolate Drop
<i>Cattlianthe</i> (<i>Ctt.</i>)	Chocolate Drop
<i>Sophrrolaeliocattleya</i>	Hazel Boyd
<i>Guarisophleya</i> (<i>Gsl.</i>)	Hazel Boyd
<i>Brassolaeliocattleya</i>	Goldenzelle
<i>Rhyncosophrocattleya</i> (<i>Rsc.</i>)	Goldenzelle
<i>Brassocattleya</i>	Maikai
<i>Brassanthe</i> (<i>Bsn.</i>)	Maikai
<i>Cattleytonia</i>	Why Not
<i>Guaritonias</i> (<i>Grt.</i>)	Why Not
<i>Potinara</i>	Hoku Gem
<i>Rolfeara</i> (<i>Rolf.</i>)	Hoku Gem

Of course, there are still other new man-made genera not covered in this list that would be encountered less frequently. If you ever are unsure about the new genus for your orchid hybrid, visit the RHS website at http://www.rhs.org.uk/plants/plant_groups/orchids.asp.

So, take a deep breath and relax! It will be alright! We will eventually grow accustomed to these odd sounding names. Just don't be looking for a card from the RHS saying "Sorry for the inconvenience!"



Newsletter Submissions

To submit material for the newsletter, or to sign up for the email version of the newsletter, please contact Margie Kersey. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

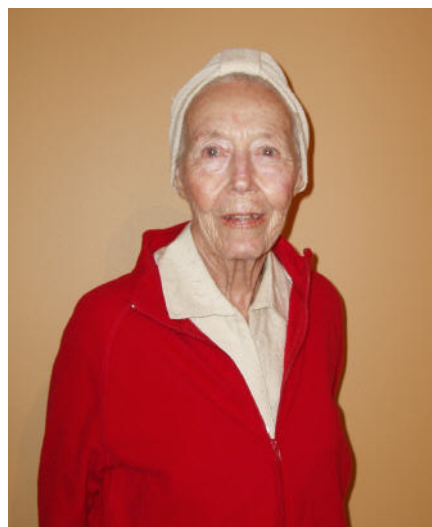
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Why are these men smiling? Easy! Mark Reinke (left) is thrilled to be finishing his year as president and Jeff Whitfield (right) is excited to start his year.



Happy Birthday to Sara Groves!

Be sure to wish Sara a very happy birthday this month! Her birthday is January 1 - you will have to ask her what year! Be sure to say congratulations as well - she was named Outstanding Member of the Year by the American Hydrangea Society.



So why are these women smiling? Easy! Geni Smith (left) and Reba Herzfeld (right) know it is easy to make new friends at the Atlanta Orchid Society.



Outgoing President Mark Reinke is presented with a beautiful vase to commemorate his year.



Orchid lovers love food too!

Reba Herzfeld models the latest in orchid lover fashion

