

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

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OCTOBER MEETING

The Monthly Meeting:Topic:Jason FischerSpeaker:Native Orchids of Japan8:00 pm Monday, October 13Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

I've had a life-long education in orchids by having the opportunity to be raised in a family orchid business. My educational interests were strongly influenced by Japan, most likely because it was the other half of my self that I had yet to explore. I decided to pursue the Japanese language and culture studies in high school and college as I was not raised with the language at home. After 6 years of Japanese language, and completing all the Japanese courses at the University of Minnesota, I quit college to move to Japan where I got married, worked as an English teacher and continued my study of language and culture. I've returned to the US to help out the family business again, and open up the Japanese orchid market to the US, as well as the US market to Japan.

I have been working for my father since the age of 5 years old, and have been working with the business ever since. I took interest in orchid hybridization and lab work around 14 years of age, and first started breeding with phalaenopsis, which later on lead to paphs and phrags, and now just about anything I can get my hands on that's unique.

My first lecture on Neofinetia falcata at the Minnesota Orchid Society in 2004 was the kick-off for an amazing journey of lecutures across America. I have a passion for orchids, and the communication skills I developed in Japan as an English teacher have helped me in my ability to create interesting lectures that won't put the audience to sleep!

I recently took a trip to Fukuoka (May 2008) to climb a few mountains and photograph native orchids. We were able to find many species such as Cymbidium goeringii, Gastrochilus matsuran, Thrixpermum japonicum and Calanthe discolor.

Local Authors Publish Marie Selby Botanical Gardens *Illustrated Dictionary of*

Orchid Genera

Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins, PhD co-authors of *The Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Illustrated Dictionary of Orchid Genera* are proud to introduce this extraordinary work of 10 years in the making.

This 512 page full-color dictionary is the most comprehensive collection of orchid genera published to date with more than 3,800 names. The dictionary is an invaluable reference that presents the current status of orchid taxonomy and the history of generic names, making it an important reference for botanists, taxonomists, orchid lovers and horticultural specialists. Easy to read and understand, its color-coded, fact-filled pages are complete with color illustrations or line drawings for each genus.

Each genus description includes the author(s) name and publication name, as well as page number and year of publication. Accepted genera include subfamily, tribe, and subtribe placement. The etymologies have been carefully researched and greatly expanded from other listings. Each entry lists the genus' type species or lectotype, the number of species credited to the genus, and the species distribution. Also included is a brief description of the plants and flowers of the genus.

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting Minutes September 8th, 2008

The Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting was brought to order by President Jeff Whitfield.

The August meeting minutes were approved as published in the newsletter.

Members were reminded that 2009 dues are due before January 1st.

Members voted for one board member to serve on the nominating committee as stated in the bylaws.

Doug Hartong gave a report on the recent Mid-America Orchid Congress.

Members were reminded of the upcoming South Metro auction and picnic in October.

The speaker was Stig Dalstrom, curator at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. He spoke on orchid conservation and its importance to us all.

Our thanks to the orchid judges: David Kessler, Jeff Van Horne, Peter Furniss, Aileen Garrison, David Mellard and Doug Hartong.

Our thanks to those who brought refreshments: Geni Smith, Joe Stickney, Marianne Gilmore, Lynn Gollob, and others.

Our thanks to those who brought plants for the raffle table: Barney & Aileen Garrison, 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 <u>www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org</u> or contact one of our society's officers listed on page 2.

Table Awards

Photos courtesy of Margie Kersey Commentary courtesy of Mark Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Alliance (divided this month for judging purposes into large and small flowered hybrids)

Large Flowered Cattleyas

Blue - Cattleya La Princesita Marvelle – Pulignano

This is a very attractive older, compact white cattleya hybrid that was introduced in 1963, but has never received much recognition over the years. The parents are listed as *C*. North Star, a large flowered white derived from the famous *C*. Bow Bells, and *C. interme-dia var. alba*. Breeding such as this was often done to



Cattleya La Princesita Marvelle

meet changing tastes in the demand for cut flowers. These 'cocktail cattleyas' were better suited to the more streamlined style of the 1960's than their larger flowered ancestors, frequently becoming wrist corsages or bridal hairpieces. Probably the most famous example of this type of breeding was *C*. Henrietta Japhet, which was once grown by the tens of thousands and is still grown on a smaller scale today to meet the demand for white orchids in June. I have doubts that the impressive flat and full form of this flower would have resulted if the true 'alba' form of *C. intermedia* had been an immediate parent as listed. More likely, one of the many imposters that are in the trade as *C. intermedia var. alba* was used. Over the years, we have never yet been able to purchase an orchid under that name that was the true species. Most were actually *C. harrisoniana var. alba*, *C. loddigesii var. alba*, or the white form of *C. Claesiana*, a hybrid between *C. intermedia* and *C. loddigesii*. Any of these would have been widely circulated as *C. intermedia var. alba* at the time and would have made a better parent for full form than the real thing, which if it exists at all today, is exceptionally rare!

Red – Cattleya labiata – Mellard/Marino

White - Brassophronitis (formerly Brassolaelia) Morning Glory 'Remar' HCC/AOS - Pulignano

Must downsize orchid greenhouse to move to apartment!

Tree fern pots, logs, \$2 woodbaskets/rafts \$3 flasks, stoppers, \$10/box of a dozen+ many Oncidiums, Miltonias (several warmth-tolerant ones in bloom now), Brassias \$10-15 some overgrown Paphs (hundreds of them, mature) \$25 up Phrags - large nursery pots with over a dozen growths (some on bloom now) \$50 misc others (cymbidiums, Phaius, Gongoras, misc species) \$5 up Antique Orchid Album Fitch lithographs \$70 other orchid art also. Just inside 285 near 400.

Linda Wish, 404-252-5872, orchidwish@comcast.net



Powellara (formerly Brassolaeliocattleya) Yuan Nan Mini

Small Flowered Cattleyas

Blue – *Powellara* (formerly *Brassolaeliocattleya*) Yuan Nan Mini – Weil

Powellara = Brassavola + Cattleya + Guarianthe + Sophronitis and is one of the new nothogenera (hybrid genera) created to accommodate the recognition of the four Guarianthe species (Gur. aurantiaca, Gur. bowringiana, Gur. patinii, and Gur. skinneri) as distinct from Cattleya. Since at least one of these species is in the background of more than 5200 hybrids, many names were affected by this change. Both parents of this particular hybrid are quite well known: Cattlianthe Chocolate Drop and Brassophronitis Richard

Mueller. Each is normally quite dominant in hybridization, but here the results reflect an approximate middle ground between the two. A clay pot with coarse media or a basket would suit this orchid best. Given time and good culture, it should mature into a plant capable of producing between 7 and 12 flowers per inflorescence.

Red - Rhynchsophrocattleya (formerly Brassolaeliocattleya) Matthew Koch - Glass

White - Sophrocattleya (formerly Laeliocattleya) Sacramento Rose - Reinke/ Collier

White – Cattleya Cella Bella – David Johnston

Class II – Cymbidium Alliance

Blue – Grammatophyllum scriptum var. citrinum – Pulignano

Grammatophyllum is a genus of about a dozen species of large to giant sized orchids native to lowland areas of Southeast Asia and neighboring islands. Gram. scriptum grows in coastal forests from the Philippines to the Solomon Islands and is one of the relatively smaller species, with the citrinum form being a bit smaller yet. But this means it is *just* manageable for the average hobbyist with a good chunk of greenhouse space available to house it! In the typical form, large irregular blotches of purple overlay the chartreuse green background seen here, and create the spotted effect that accounts for the species name. Blooming normally peaks in June so this particular plant is flowering rather late in the season. Grow this species along with Vanda, giving it bright light, frequent water and food, lots of heat, high humidity and strong air movement.



Grammatophyllum scriptum var. citrinum

Canine Orchids?

Yup, this is a picture of a new AKC breed, the Peruvian Inca Orchid Dog. And they come in 2 varieties - with and without hair!



Class III – Dendrobium Alliance

Blue - Dendrobium denudans - Pulignano

This interesting pendant growing *Dendrobium* from northern India and Nepal is often found at the base of trees in the forest, or on rocks in areas that have been deforested, attesting to its ability to survive somewhat harsh conditions. The clusters of spidery blooms arise from side nodes near the apex of the stems at the height of the wet season in late summer and fall, when humidity and rainfall are both exceptionally high. After this period, the area experiences a long dry spell that lasts through late fall, all of winter, and into spring, at which time plants receive little more than dew and mist for moisture. Mounted culture is required to succeed with this species, along with the observance of a watering and feeding regime that mimics the conditions to which it is adapted. As of yet, no hybrids have been registered using this species.

Class IV - Epidendrum Alliance

Blue - Epidendrum longicaule – David Johnston

This diminutive *Epidendrum* species grows primarily as a lithophyte on the edge of cliffs and ravines in the state of Jalisco, Mexico. It is partially or fully deciduous in winter, corresponding to the dry season in that region. The tiny, but bright magenta blooms open successively in summer and fall on a long, thin inflorescence that gives the species its name. In the wild, plants normally grow in a pendant position from near vertical sides of mossy rock faces, and most sources recommend mounted culture for the best success. Perhaps because of this growth habit, the shortest leaves are at the base of the growth and each of the several successive leaves is larger than the one before it. To date, there are no registered hybrids made with this species.

Red - Encyclia megalantha – David Johnston

White – Encyclia dichroma – David Johnston

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.



Dendrobium denudans



Epidendrum longicaule



Brassidium Pisgah Recluse



Paphiopedilum superbiens

<u>Name Origin</u>

Oncidium - Gr.: Dimunitive of onkos - tumor; swelling. In allusion to the warty calluses on the lip of all species of the genus Class V – Oncidium Alliance

Blue – Brassidium Pisgah Recluse – Lentz/Morgan

Blue – *Trichocentrum* Memoria Pepita de Restripo – Harrow

Red – *Bakerara* Truth 'Silver Chalice' AM/AOS – Dampog

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

Class VI – Cypripedium Alliance

Blue – Paphiopedilum superbiens – Lentz/Morgan

Over 4,000 hybrids can trace their ancestry back to Paph. superbiens, a species native to middle elevations on the island of Sumatra, where it often grows on the forest floor in a deep layer of leaf litter laying atop the sandstone bedrock. The environment in which it grows makes this species ideally suited for culture inside the home. The average temperatures remain in the 60's and 70's year round, and rainfall is evenly distributed, creating very even growing conditions that are easily duplicated. There is very high annual rainfall (in excess of 120 inches) which explains why this, and many other Paphiopedilum specie, have roots that are intolerant to salt build up. In nature, the humus layer is flushed clean on a frequent basis. An early, and highly awarded hybrid between this species and Paph. rothschildianum was curiously registered under two different names, as Paph. W. R. Lee in 1894 and as Paph. A. de Lairesse in 1895. The former used *Paph. superbiens* as the pod parent, and the latter as the pollen parent. All the AOS awarded plants came from remakes of the original crosses. The results in this pairing are quite spectacular and worth seeking out.

Red – *Paphiopedilum godefroyae var. ang thong* – Van Horne

While some sources elevate this orchid to species status, the most recent taxonomic data accepted by both Kew and the RHS place it as a variety of *Paphiopedilum godefroyae*.

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Alliance

Blue –. Kingidium Calypso Musick – Harrow

This cute little miniature was entered under the parental names, but was registered with the above name in 2007 as a primary hybrid between Kingidium deliciosum and Kingidium minus. However, on the Kew checklist, the accepted name for Ki. deliciosum is Phal. deliciosa. The genus Kingidium was described in 1970 to accommodate the five species of orchids, closely related to Phalaenopsis, which had been described in 1917 as *Kingiella*. This was necessitated by the fact that this original name was found to already be in use for a group of plants related to mistletoe. Kingidium differ from Phalaenopsis in the structure of the lip and the number of pollinia, and generally prefer mounted culture and a bit more frequent watering to keep them happy. There are intergeneric hybrids with both Doritenopsis and Phalenopsis, but generally with the smaller flowered species and hybrids. Apparently crosses with the larger flowered types rarely result in fertile seed.

Red – Doritaenopsis Purple Martin - Harrow





One has to go all the way back to 'great-grandparent' to find *Ascocentrum miniatum* in the background of this beautiful *Ascocenda*, but the arrangement and number of flowers on the inflorescence still owe a great deal to it, as does the warm background color. The pattern of darker color dots and blotches on each flower results from the influence of both *V. sanderiana* and *v. lamellata*. While two other cultivars from this cross have received Awards of Merit, this particular clone was scored down one point for the arrangement of its 26 open flowers and 5 buds on one spike, and therefore received an HCC when exhibited in September of 1995. The judges, however, have been impressed with the full, flat form given the fact that *V. lamellata* is an immediate parent.

Red – *Ascocenda* Sweet Cherry 'Meechai' (TRADE NAME)- Pulignano

This beautiful bright orange-red orchid is undoubtedly descended from *Ascocentrum curvifolium*. It is widely distributed in the trade under this name but apparently was never registered. The original Thai breeder appears to be out of business and sadly the exact parents are unknown.

Ascocenda Motes Burning Sands 'Mary Motes' HCC/AOS

White – *Mokara* Moonlight – Pulignano October 2008

J.C. Mobley Cultural Award – Neostylis Lou Sneary 'Pinkie' AM/AOS – Reinke/Collier

How we grow this plant:

Our Neostylis Lou Sneary 'Pinkie' AM/AOS has been growing in the same eight inch square basket since shortly after we purchased it from R.F. Orchids in 1998 or 1999. The basket is literally held together only by the roots of the plant! *Neostylis* prefer not to be disturbed. This orchid is a hybrid between Neofinetia falcata and Rhynchostylis coelestis. The 'Pinkie' clone is one of a group of twelve plants which received an Award of Quality when exhibited at the Great Plains Regional Monthly Judging Center on July 16, 1994. This clone also received both an AM and a CCM at that time. Although our plant currently has about triple the number of blooms that were present when awarded the CCM in 1994, other clones in recent years have had between 400 and 900 open blooms when they received the same award, so it still has a few years to go to be comparable! Many people assume that because this orchid is vandaceous, it should receive typical 'vanda' culture involving high light, high heat, and thorough drying of the roots between watering. However, the influence of Neofinetia falcata is quite strong, and that species grows on the Japan islands where it receives plenty of moisture and semishade in summer and brighter, drier, and much cooler conditions in winter. Thus we grow this plant in approximately 60% shade directly in front of the cooling pads where summer temperatures do not exceed 80 degrees. The lower sun angle in winter brings brighter afternoon light through the unshaded sides of the structure when the nightly temperature in our greenhouse averages between 50 and 55 degrees. In the growing season we water this plant daily and it gets very high humidity owing to its proximity to the cooling pads. Though watered less in winter, we never let it go bone dry, as is evidenced by the moss growing among the roots. We use 1/4 strength MSU RO formula fertilizer in our water year round, with occasional flushes of pure rain water. Neost. Lou Sneary will produce numerous keikeis when happy, but the growth rate is very slow, with only about 1/2 inch of height being added each year. There is always this profuse blooming at the end of summer, with a few scattered spikes before and after the main show. Even very young keikeis will produce a few flowers.



J.C. Mobley Cultural Award – Neostylis Lou Sneary 'Pinkie' AM/AOS



October 2008

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue - Cynorkis villosa - Mellard/Marino

Cynorkis villosa is an intriguing terrestrial species from Madagascar. While vegetatively similar to other more commonly grown *Cynorkis* species, the flowers are quite atypical, being tubular, almost devoid of recognizable segments and extremely hirsute, save for the short nectary which is smooth. Their shaggy look accounts for the species name. While very little is written about this particular species, in general *Cynokis* prefer shady, humid conditions while in active growth and a cooler dryer rest period in winter. There are no registered hybrids derived from this species.

Blue - Dendrochilum magnum - Mellard/Marino

Red – Masdevallia Anochecar – Pulignano

White -Cochleanthes Amazing - Pulignano



Cynorkis villosa



Dendrochilum magnum

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)

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)

Atlanta Judging Center Awards September 2008

Photos courtesy of Maureen Pulignano

All awards are provisional until published by the AOS



Blc Xanthette 'Panther Creek' AM/AOS Barney & Aileen Garrison, Exhibitors



Blc Mem Anna Balmores 'Superba' HCC/AOS Fred Missbach, Exhibitor

You Are Invited!

The South Metro Orchid Society will be holding It's annual picnic and orchid auction on Sunday, October 26th in Morrow at Reynolds Nature Preserve. Bring a covered dish.

Great Deals - Great Friends



Masdevallia Anochecer 'Little Evy' HCC/AOS Maureen Pulignano, Exhibitor Awarded at the Alabama Orchid Show September 20, 2008

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.

MAIL TO:	Margie Kersey
	PO Box 464381
	Lawrenceville, GA 30042
EMAIL:	Margie@callkbs.com

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: $\frac{1}{4}$ page \$10, $\frac{1}{2}$ page \$20, 1/8 page text only \$5.

THINGS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IN SEPTEMBER

We are nothing if not stylish at AtlOS -Check out these fashion statements!

At right: Lynn Gollob in her hand-made jacket with a scene of Provence, France. Gorgeous!











Apparently Roy Harrow in now in charge of collecting renewal fees from members. ... Careful Maureen, it looks like you are next!



Stig Dalstrom with member, David Johnston. If you missed the September meeting, you missed a spirited exchange of ideas between our speaker and David.

Quote of the Month:

Conservation is important because, you can start by plucking away the insignificant parts of our ecosystem, but eventually the cracks show and the whole thing comes crashing down. - Stig Dalstrom



Aileen Garrison clarifies a few points with our speaker, Stig. His presentation included a lot of information about conservation and lots of members took the time to ask questions after his presentation.

I am looking for a member to feature in the Member Spotlight! We would like to get to know You! Please contact me if you are willing to Be featured! Margie@callkbs.com

EVENTS OUT AND ABOUT

Oct 11 - AOS Atlanta Monthly Judging

Oct 13 - AtlOS Monthly Meeting

Oct 18-19 - Gainesville Orchid Society Show Kanapaha Botanical Gardens, 4700 SW 58th Dr., Gainesville, FL. Contact: Joan MacLeod, 4411 NW 15th Pl., Gainesville, FL 32605; (352) 375-6744; neilmacleod@bellsouth.net

Oct 24-26 - Coastal Carolina Orchid Society Show Knights of Pythias Hall, 1820 Bel grade Ave., Charleston, SC. Contact: Fran Wilson, (843) 881-1200, flwrfran@comcast.net.

Oct 26 - SMOS Picnic and Auction

Reynolds Nature Preserve, Morrow, GA Bring a covered dish and cash to take advantage of great deals.

New "Wasp" Orchids Tempt Male Bugs

July 17, 2007—It may look enticing, but this "female wasp" (left) is all stalk.

That's because this temptress is actually a recently discovered hammer or-



chid, a flower that has evolved to resemble the body of a female wasp. Hapless male wasps are lured to land on—and thus pollinate—the flower.

The orchid is one of six new species found in the biologically rich region of southwestern <u>Australia</u>.

Other orchid species have evolved to use similar cunning to attract male wasps, such as emitting an airborne chemical that mimics a female's pheromone.

Andrew Brown of Western Australia's Department of Environment and Conservation worked with Royal Botanic Gardens director Stephen Hopper to study the newfound species.

"This is an exciting discovery because it highlights the fact that so much of our natural environment is yet to be discovered and documented," Brown said in a statement. Several of the orchid species are threatened by pressures such as invasive species and illegal harvesting. —*Christine Dell'Amore*

Continued from page 1

Additionally, the dictionary includes an introductory overview of the orchid family by David Benzing, the well-known epiphyte ecologist.

The appendices include a list of the taxonomists along with their birth/death dates and genera authored, a listing of the standardized publication abbreviations used in literature, and a listing of species illustrations used.

Supplementary Material:

A list of book/periodical abbreviations used in the dictionary

A glossary of technical terms used to describe orchids

The International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) rules for naming genera (reprinted with permission)

A list of illustrations by species name

A classification of Orchidaceae that accords with the most recent findings from phylogenetic studies An index of taxonomic authorities

A list of selected reading on Orchidaceae

What are they saying about it? "Just right for the office or the home library." - Dr. Ken Cameron, University of Wisconsin

"Balances the needs of amateur orchid enthusiasts with those of the professional orchidologist." - Dr. Peter Raven, Missouri Botanical Garden

The dictionary is now available for purchase at Banyan Treasures and The Garden Shop at Marie Selby Botanical Gardens. You can also order online at <u>www.selby.org</u>.

Call (941) 366-571, extension 315 for further information. Marie Selby Botanical Gardens is a respected center for research and education as well as a famous orchid showplace.

Birmingham Show September, 2008



Big congrats are in order for Maureen Pulignano, Geni Smith and Doug Hartong. They set up the AtlOS display for the Birmingham show and as you can see from the photo below, they did a great job! This was Maureen's first display - WOW! There are more shows coming up. Please help by supplying plants and maybe even setting up the display. Just ask Geni and Maureen for pointers!



News from Ecuador



Local cool grower



Megasoma acteon. Supposedly the largest insect on earth



Cuy being cooked in Banos



Member at Large, Mikie Emerson sends these photos from her new home in Ecuador. What a beautiful place to live! Mikie is teaching in the local school and loving it!



Vicuna (cousin to a llama) grazing on Chimborazo Volcano, a hillside of Sobralia near the volcano Tungurahua