



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

March 2009

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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MARCH MEETING

Topic: Venezuelan Orchid Species
Speaker: Michael Sinn
Canaima Orchids, Florida
www.canaimaorchids.com
8:00 pm Monday, March 9

Born in Venezuela to German parents, Michael Sinn was twelve years old when he became fascinated with orchids. He took over the care and culture of his mother's backyard collection of over 120 plants, primarily Cattleyas and Oncidiums. When he purchased his own first orchid, a blooming V. sanderiana, he knew he'd been bitten by orchid fever. Growing up, Michael hiked the jungles of South America whenever he could in search of Cattleyas in their natural habitats.

Following graduation from Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas where he received a degree in civil engineering, Michael worked for four years in the Venezuelan Amazon State as a contractor. The work afforded him the opportunity to observe the habitat of the C. violacea. Fired by what he believed was an urgent need for conservation of the precious plants, he spent personal time teaching local people how to pollinate the orchids, impressing upon them the need to let the plants remain in their natural habitat.

Orchid fever never left Michael. His deep commitment to conservation and preservation instinctively drew him toward the breeding Cattleyas and Laelias, eventually to starting his own nursery. In 2003, Michael brought his family to Florida and worked to make the next phase of his dream come true. He created and continues to grow and develop his own nursery business – Canaima Orchids.

For the past three decades, Michael has made numerous excursions to Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela to observe Cattleya habitats. Witnessing their dwindling numbers has only strengthened his resolve and endeavor to produce the finest cultivars of Cattleya spe-



cies possible. His vision remains constant: to conserve native species by creating from seed-raised populations superior plants featuring rare and unusual color forms that were only a dream a generation ago. Michael Sinn has succeeded.

Michael Sinn serves as Judging Chairman for the Venezuelan Orchid Association (A.V.O.). He is a writer, sought-after lecturer, and a Student Judge with the American Orchid Society.



Big Congrats to our 2008 Table Award Points winners! (L to R) Maureen Pulignano, David Kessler and Roy Harrow.

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**Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2009**

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

Reba Herzfeld gave the Treasurer's Report, stating that the Society's current bank balance is \$9,363.53 in addition to a CD worth \$20,484.41.

The January meeting minutes were approved as published in the Newsletter.

Visitors were welcomed and encouraged to join the Society. New members Khanh To and Gene and Elizabeth Gadilhe were announced.

Roy Harrow reported on the Southeastern Flower Show. The Society had about 80 plants in our display, many of which won ribbons and other awards.

Members were reminded that our Society Show is March 13th-15th, with setup on March 12th. Volunteers should contact Jeff or Roy. There will be a Low Country Boil party Friday evening for Show judges, clerks, and volunteers. Reba reminded members of the alphabetical assignments to bring food for the Show as listed in the Newsletter. She welcomes help with hospitality.

Jeff Whitfield asked if anyone wanted to put in a Society exhibit at either the Knoxville (March 6-8) or Huntsville (March 21-22) Shows. Volunteers would be reimbursed for expenses.

Roy Harrow reported on the recent International Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting at Peach State Orchids.

The 2008 quarterly award checks were presented to Danny Lentz and Dianne Morgan, Maureen Pulignano, Roy Harrow, and Gary Collier and Mark Reinke. Maureen won the overall award and check for the year. David Kessler presented the monthly judging results.

The speaker was our own David Kessler. He gave a very informative and entertaining presentation of hydroponics and semi-hydroponics and their application to growing orchids.

Our thanks go to the table award judges: David Kessler, Margie and Ron Kersey, Maureen Pulignano, and Geni Smith.

Our thanks go to those who brought plants for the raffle table: Helen Weil and Tony Kiss.

Our thanks also go to those who brought refreshments: Geni Smith, Marianne Gilmore, Lynne Gollob, Dan Schwartzberg, Cora Ramborger, Clark Weisner, and others.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
David Glass



Member Spotlight

Gene Gadilhe



I served in the Army in WWII for 30 months and met my future wife, Elizabeth, in New York City while in the Army Anti-Aircraft Brigade. Upon returning from overseas in 1946, we married and have been happy for 63 years and have six daughters.

After graduating from Auburn University in 1950 with a BSME Degree and working for 40 years as a Project Engineer, the last 30 in Brunswick, GA, we retired to Western North Carolina.

Last year I mail ordered a small 9 ft x 12 ft Green house and assembled it. At the end of 13 months, 93 Orchids are flourishing in their new home as a result of my joining the American Orchid Society and reading past issues of American Orchid Society Bulletins. My Vanda collection has done especially well. I attribute this to an informative article I read by Dr. David L. Grove in the December, 1988 Issue.

I am glad to have joined the Atlanta Orchid Society and hope to learn more about Orchids by meeting and being with fellow Orchid

Welcome New Members!

Hastings Garden Center
3920 Peachtree Road, NE
Atlanta, Ga. 30319
phone 404-869-7447 day
912-536-0538 evenings

kateg@hastingsgardencenter.com

This membership includes:

Susie Forbes, Kate Gunderson and Scott Pluckhahn

Gadilhe/Watson family [pronounced Gaddy]
Charles Eugene[Gene] and Elizabeth Gadilhe
1018 Emory Street
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Orchid-lover needs to downsize

I expect to put my house and greenhouse on the market next month. I still have many 100s of plants, dozens of books and lithographs, boxes of supplies and other things I need to downsize. If you - or anyone you know- are interested in the house *with 14'x22' greenhouse*, please let me know. I have also reconciled to selling this striking one-of-a-kind Paph and Phrag mahogany chest for \$900.

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



Table Awards

Photos courtesy of Margie Kersey and Bill White
Commentary courtesy of Mark Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Alliance

Blue- *Laelia* (formerly *Schomburgkia*) *undulata* – Cora Ramborger

There is some confusion in the orchid trade between several similar species that were once classed as *Schomburgkia*, but this plant appears to be the true *Laelia undulata* whose native range runs from Costa Rica, across northern South America to Trinidad. Several years ago, the genus *Schomburgkia* was abolished and all the species with fusiform pseudobulbs were absorbed into *Laelia*. Fusiform simply means tapered at both ends and wider in the middle. If you have cultivated any of these species, you may have noticed that their growth habits are very similar to the Mexican and Central American species that were left in *Laelia* when the Brazilian species were split out and joined to *Sophranitis* (for now). Just like *L. anceps* or *L. rubescens*, these former *Schomburgkia* species produce a long inflorescence that appears with the unfolding new growth and slowly extends for many months until it produces an umbel of showy flowers in the appointed season of the year. In some species, including *L. undulata*, the bracts that protect the developing buds can turn a showy amethyst pink at the time the flowers open, adding to the impressive show. Some spectacular hybrids have been made pairing this species with other intensely colored cluster flowering cattleyas and are worth seeking out if space is not a major consideration. Two of my personal favorites are *Laelianthe Dulatiaca* (x *Gur. aurantiaca*) and *Guarisophila Newberry Lava Burst* (x *Sophranthe Rojo*).

Red – *Rhyncosoprocattleya* (formerly *Blc.*) Pacific Gold – Cora Ramborger

White – *Soprocattleya* (formerly *Lc.*) Orglade's Grand – Cora Ramborger

Newsletter Submissions

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

Margie@callkbs.com



Laelia (formerly *Schomburgkia*) *undulata*

EVENTS OUT AND ABOUT

March 9 - AtlOS Meeting

March 14 - Atlanta Judging Center

March 6-8 - Smoky Mountain Orchid Society Show West Town Mall, 7600 Kingsyton Pike, Knoxville, TN. Contact: Janice & Susan Clarke, 947 N. Linden Dr., Alcoa, TN 37701; (865) 982-6077; sec207@aol.com.

March 12 - 15- Atlanta Orchid Show hosted by AtlOS and SMOS at ABG. See Roy Harrow to volunteer

March 21-22 - Heart of Dixie Orchid Society Show - Holiday Inn Research Park, 5903 University Dr., Huntsville, AL. Contact: Deb Delmas, 1814 Gaslight Way, Huntsville, AL. 95801 (256) 534-3332 deb@delmasfamily.net.

March 23 - SMOS Meeting, Reynolds Nature Preserve, Morrow, GA at 8 pm



Cymbidium Dorgus Yellow (Unregistered Trade Name)

Class II – Cymbidium Alliance

Blue – *Cymbidium Dorgus Yellow* (Unregistered Trade Name) – David Glass

This plant came out of our annual auction two years ago, but is somewhat of a mystery. Its tag name is not registered and Fred Missbach is unable to recollect the details of where the plant came from so that I can research it further.

Red – *Cymbidium tracyanum* – Jeff Whitfield

White – *Cymbidium Showgirl* ‘Shaffer’ AM/AOS – David Mellard/Sal Marino



Dendrobium Himezakura ‘Fujikko’



Dendrobium Himezakura ‘Fujikko’

Class III – Dendrobium Alliance

Blue – *Dendrobium Himezakura* ‘Fujikko’ – David Glass

Red – *Dendrobium macrophyllum* – David Glass

The species name refers to the comparatively large leaves of this *Dendrobium* in the Latouria group. It is found growing in warm tropical forests, about half way up trees in moderate shade, on a number of Pacific islands from the Philippines to New Caledonia. The inflorescence arises from side nodes near the top of the pseudobulbs and both stems and the exterior of the buds are covered in mossy hairs. The strangely

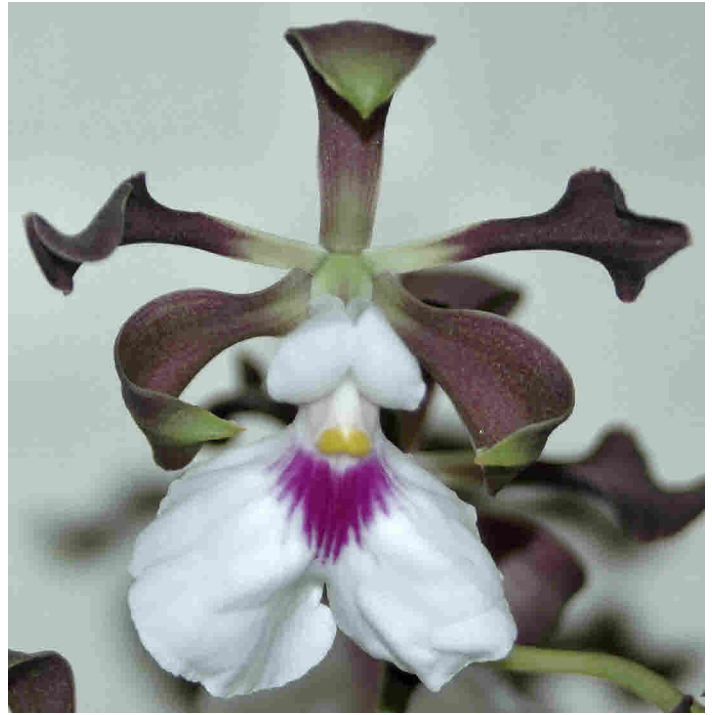
beautiful flowers last for many months and produce a strong fragrance that is unpleasant to some noses. *Den. macrophyllum* can be grown mounted or potted in a open and well draining mix, and prefers warm temperatures, with regular water and light feeding throughout the year.

White – *Dendrobium kingianum* – David Mellard/ Sal Marino

Class IV - Epidendrum Alliance

Blue - *Encyclia cordigera* – Maureen Pulignano

E. cordigera is one of the more attractive species in the genus, with richly colored flowers of good size and heady fragrance. However, it has suffered from quite a bit of taxonomic confusion over the years. This plant, labeled as a semi-alba variety, is actually a good example of the *typical* color form that is found in the wild in its range from Mexico, across northern South America and into the West Indies. The variety 'rosea,' with a solid purple lip, has been more frequently seen in commerce and many assumed that it was the typical form, resulting in the true type being labeled as a 'semi-alba.' Sometimes, when this form has a particularly good purple spot on the lip, it has also been sold as *E. cordigera* var. *randii*, creating confusion with the true *Encyclia randii* which is from the Amazon basin. Most *Encyclia* species are best cultivated on a mount or in a basket, and if grown in a pot require very open media to prosper over time. They enjoy bright filtered light and higher humidity than their tough bulbous look suggests. This species produces both flowers and new growth simultaneously and therefore needs to be watered amply at that time to prevent the pseudobulbs from shriveling.



Encyclia cordigera

Red - *Epicattleya* Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower' HCC/AOS – Helen Weil

White – *Epidendrum veroscriptum* – Roy Harrow

AOS President's Communication: Altering Course (February 2009)

In the economic climate in which we find ourselves these days, we are all faced with difficult decisions when it comes to where and how we spend our money. Well, the AOS is no different. The Board of Trustees recognizes that our organization's Mission must be the focus, and at the same time we must understand who our members are, and what is required to do for our members to remain a viable organization. It is obvious that we must do what private and public institutions do, as well as what many families do. And that is, we cannot spend what we do not have.

With this in mind, the Board of Trustees and management took a very deliberate look at everything we are doing and determined whether each component adds value to the majority of the membership and whether it could be sustainable as a stand-alone program. As I explained in my last month's column, our magazine, *Orchids*, is the most important reward for being a member of this organization. All of the impetus is being put forward to assure that we can continue to produce a monthly publication. In the same manner, judging and the Web site were determined to be as important as the magazine.

However, we came to the conclusion that the gift store and the gardens, both located in our headquarters in Delray Beach, Florida, were two areas that could not meet the criteria on an ongoing basis. Therefore, the Board instructed management to begin a wind-down of the gift store immediately. As far as the gardens are concerned, we want to make sure that we can meet our obligations with the special events that are under contract and are scheduled through the end of May. Then in June we will close the gardens and greenhouses to the public, while still maintaining them to protect the value of that investment. Again, I repeat, the gardens will not be disbanded or individual plants sold. On the contrary, the gardens will be maintained with

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Class V – Oncidium Alliance

Blue – *Ionopsis utricularioides* – David Glass

This very attractive miniature species occurs in a widespread habitat that runs from Brazil to S. Florida, where it grows as a twig epiphyte and in some areas is considered something of a weed. The species name can be a bit tricky to pronounce, and comes from the resemblance of the flowers to those of the carnivorous *Utricularia* (bladderwort) species. The inflorescence emerges from a recently matured pseudobulb and on well grown plants will develop into a panicle which flowers for many months. A specimen plant can be in bloom almost indefinitely. Resentful of disturbance once established, *Inps. utricularioides* is usually grown tightly mounted on a tree fern slab, but needs high humidity at all times and watering several times a day in hot dry weather, and keeping it flourishing over the long term can be difficult. This species will hybridize within many of the genera in the Oncidium Alliance, including *Comparettia*, *Oncidium*, *Tolumnia*, *Rodriguezia*, and *Trichocentrum*. To my disappointment, I have been unable to find images of the results of any of the 21 intergeneric hybrids that have been thus far registered.

Red – *Burrageara* Plato's Dream (Unregistered Name) – Roy Harrow

There is currently no hybrid in the Oncidium Alliance with a name remotely similar to this entry, so for now I will assume it is an unregistered trade name.



Ionopsis utricularioides

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

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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)

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1/8 page \$5 per month
1/4 page \$10 per month
1/2 page \$20 per month

Contact Margie@callkbs.com for more information

*The size and number of ads may be limited
at the discretion of the editor.*



***Phragmipedium* Eugene Conroy**

Phragmipedium

Blue – *Phragmipedium* Eugene Conroy – Cora Ramborger

Phragmipedium Eugene Conroy is *Phrag. wallisii* x *caudatum*. For many years, *Phrag. wallisii* was considered a variety of *Phrag. caudatum*, and thus the results of this cross are very similar to *Phrag. Grande*, though usually the plant size is slightly more compact owing to the smaller nature of *Phrag. wallisii*. Though the colors are not as vivid on the flowers of this particular plant compared to some awarded clones, the markings are clearly delineated and the long petals are extra twisty, making for a very enchanting display. Both parents are species that grow in exposed locations in high rainfall climates where sunny days are rare, so respond well to brightly diffused light and a potting situation that allows both moisture retention and excellent drainage.

Red – *Phragmipedium* After-Glo – Cora Ramborger

White – *Phragmipedium* Grande ‘Glen’s Pride’ AM/AOS – David Kessler



***Paphiopedilum* In Shape**

Class VI – Cypripedium Alliance (Divided into *Paphiopedilum* and *Phragmipedium*)

Paphiopedilum

Blue – *Paphiopedilum* In Shape – David Kessler

While definitely shapely, the grex name is actually taken from portions of the parent names of this hybrid, *Paph. insigne*, a species, and *Paph. Shapelight*, a ‘bulldog’ hybrid with 13 generations of breeding in its background dating all the way back to 1884. The result is essentially a fuller, larger, flower with a color pattern very similar to *Paph. insigne* with heavier substance and excellent carriage.

Red – *Paphiopedilum lowii* – David Kessler

White – *Paphiopedilum* Saint Low – Maureen Pulignano



***Phalaenopsis* Sogo Firework ‘Orchidheights’**

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Alliance

Blue – *Phalaenopsis* Sogo Firework ‘Orchidheights’ – Geni Smith

Phal. Sogo Firework received an Award of Quality from the AOS in 2000 when a group of twelve plants were exhibited at the Taiwan International Orchid Festival. The judges were impressed by the uniform high quality of the flowers, their color (pale yellow flowers with peach overtones and purple stripes and spots), their size, and the high flower count on branched inflorescences. The genealogy of this orchid spans 15 generations of breeding and utilizes 10 different species in order to achieve the desired characteristics that impressed the judges. Species such as *Phal. aphrodite*, *schilleriana* and *stuartiana* provide full form, high flower count and branching of the inflorescence, while *Phal gigantea*, *lueddemanniana*, and *amboiensis* offer bright colors and patterns.

Red – *Phalaenopsis* Sunrise Cinderella – Geni Smith

This entry was listed as *Phal.* Pink Light (Sogo Davis x New Cinderella ‘King’s Valentine’), but that hybrid name does not exist in current registration databases. Instead, the cross is registered as *Phal.* Sunrise Cinderella. It is possible that the RHS rejected the first choice of names and the registrant was forced to choose another, but had already distributed the plant commercially in anticipation of the grex name being accepted.

White – *Phalaenopsis* Becky’s Pixie – Geni Smith



Aerangis hyaloides

Class VII – Vanda Alliance

Blue – *Aerangis hyaloides* – Ellen Brand

One of the smallest of the small treasures in its genus, *Aerangis hyaloides* will rarely outgrow a 2.5 inch pot! This captivating miniature epiphyte inhabits shaded, humid, mossy locales in eastern Madagascar and requires attention if it is to be grown well in cultivation. Ideally, it would prefer to be mounted. But during the warmer months it requires copious watering and some resort to potted culture to keep the plants moist enough. If potted, the media must be monitored and

immediately replaced when it shows signs of breaking down. Drainage must be excellent and roots must not stay soggy, while the humidity must be maintained in the range of 80% year round. However challenging it might be to create this type of microclimate, many find the reward of flowering this gem to perfection well worth the trouble.

Red – *Rhyncostylis gigantea* var. *alba* – Cora Ramborger

White – *Opsistylis* Suree – Cora Ramborger

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Phaiocalanthe* Kryptonite ‘Blood Bath’ HCC/AOS – Maureen Pulignano

Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite is an imposing hybrid between *Calanthe* Rozel and *Phaius tankervilleae* that caused quite a sensation when it was introduced at the beginning of this decade. Although other hybrids had been made between these two genera in the past, the results had never been so bold or colorful as they were in this pairing. Not all the seedlings in the original cross had these bright colors. Some were whitish to pale green, resulting in some disappointment among those who had purchased them unflowered. Now, the best, awarded cultivars have been meri-



Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite ‘Blood Bath’ HCC/AOS

cloned and are widely available. This hybrid likes fairly low light, constant moisture and frequent fertilization and will grow into an impressive specimen under these conditions.

Red – *Zygopetalum* Shenandoah ‘Bluebird’ HCC/AOS – Cora Ramborger

Curiously, though this orchid is sold by several commercial sources, there is no record of it in any database that I checked. The RHS shows no *Zygopetalum* hybrid bearing this name and AQ Plus shows no record of the award! It would be interesting to know how this orchid came to be sold commercially under an unregistered name with an award that is apparently nonexistent or not official.

White - *Masdevallia towarensis* – David Mellard/ Sal Marino

Continued from page 6

reduced staff and with the help of volunteers, so when we come out of this financial crisis they will reopen to the public, as the gardens are an important part of our recently implemented strategic plan.

We continue to face extraordinary economic times, and we will continue to take steps to operate with the income we are receiving. This means that we will continue to make cuts in programs and personnel to match the money available. The Board has instructed management that it must operate within these limits, and under no circumstance take money from investments.

At this moment, we are doing all we can to maintain services, and at the same time look for ways to increase the value of what the members receive for their membership. We need your help in getting new members and in securing donations, which are fully tax deductible, as dues alone are not enough to provide all the services to you.

But there is good news in these difficult times, as we have a headquarters that is fully paid for and a corps of volunteers, who together with the reduced staff, can help us serve our membership. The Board of Trustees is in continued contact with management to make sure we stay focused on our Mission and serve the membership while keeping a prudent look at how we operate on a month-to-month basis.

As a postscript to last month's column, I mentioned that we were no longer funding any grants for this fiscal year. This does not affect the private funding of fellowships and applications will be reviewed at the Spring Members Meeting. For example, the Furniss and Fang foundations still will consider worthy applications for their generous gifts to qualified applicants.

Carlos Fighetti

AOS President

cf3@columbia.edu

SHOW NOTES

From Chairman, Roy Harrow



Ribbon Judging and the Joy of Clerking

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I am an Accredited judge of many years and have judged at many shows. These are some thoughts of mine and I hope they will encourage you to participate and give you some tips to make it easier and more enjoyable.

Ribbon Judging can be one of the best parts of seeing an Orchid Show. By viewing the show along with the judges, you get a much more critical look at the various plants and can see why one is considered better than another. It is, of course, subjective, and that is why it is called judging.

It is easy to be on the team of judges, just ask the Chair of Judging at the show to be an observer. Better yet, the Society sponsoring the show can request to have members placed on the teams. Be sure to let the Chair know early on since this will speed up the process of selecting the teams. This is very helpful for members who wish to enter the judging program, because the more plants you see, the better judge you will become. It also helps when purchasing plants.

Clerking can be a lot of fun, and informative too, even if you don't know all the names or can't decide which exhibit looks the best. The most fun of "Clerking" is to be right there when the judges are judging so you can find out why they do - what they do.

The following are some tips to make clerking easier and faster. The main requirement is to learn something, and have fun too!

I WANT YOU!

Atlanta Orchid Show March 12-15, 2009

We are still looking for volunteers for all aspects of the Atlanta Orchid Show. Remember, this is OUR show. It is up to us to make it the best it can be.

To volunteer, contact Roy Harrow, or talk to one of these people (all contact information is on page 2):

To clerk for the judges (a great way to learn about judging and meet judges), contact Terry Glover

To help with hospitality, you can simply bring some food (see the note at the right) or you can man the break area. For more information, contact Reba Herzfeld

To help with check in, set up and/or take down, contact Roy Harrow.

Everyone can do something and we need you!

Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1 through 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 website at www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org

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TIPS FOR THE WHOLE TEAM

Wear comfortable but appropriate attire. Tennis shoes are fine. However, please do not arrive in a t-shirt, shorts and rubber sandals.

Stay with your Judging team; don't make them look for you. It should be all right to ask questions of the judges after they have judged the category. When in doubt, ask at the beginning of judging. It's all right to talk a little among yourselves, just be quiet and remember to stay out of the way, not only of your own judging team but other teams as well.

Memorize someone on your team so you can find them in the crowd if you get split up. (Especially helpful for Spotters and Ribbon clerks).

Get a floor plan of the Show and, if possible, a walking tour, which is a list of the plants the team will be judging in a walking order from one end of the arena to the other. Don't forget, have fun!

TIPS FOR THE CHIEF CLERK

You are the one whose job it is to make sure everything runs smoothly and with the least amount of wandering around or backtracking.

First get your team together, introduce yourself and the other clerks.

You will usually get a folder with the class numbers, plants entered and any trophies assigned to the team. Check the schedule to see if trophies are awarded to any plant in the show, or if they must be entered. If you have a doubt, check with the Chair of Clerking. The idea is to look at the entries and plan how to walk through and see them all in the least time. If there is **one** entry in a class two or three down the line that is in a close exhibit, you **could** show this to the team leader and ask if it could be judged now. Quite often they will agree. Don't go too far ahead in case plants need to be reclassified into those categories. (This happened to me on my first time as leader).

For classes with two or more entries, plan to

view the plants from one end of the arena to the other, if possible. Most judges have walked many, many shows and are very receptive to juggling classes to avoid backtracking.

Start by saying clearly to all the judges on your team, "this is class number so and so; there are x number of entries and this is #1. When you are at the last plant in that group, you say, "this is the last entry in this class".

If there are any reclassifications or disqualifications made by the team, make sure they are noted on the right entry forms.

It will usually be written in the schedule under the 'Trophies' section which classes are included in each trophy category. When it is time to award the trophies, go back in the sheets and identify the first place winners in the classes for each trophy.

Make sure the judges sign the appropriate sheets (usually all sign the first page and sometimes one each for the rest).

Assist the Ribbon Clerk, if necessary, to check that the right ribbons are on the right plants. (See below for help codes). Above all, remember to have fun (see above).

Keep your team together until the judges are completely through. Sometimes, the team will be given other classes to judge, and will need the clerks. When all judging is completed, ask the Judging Team Captain if he or she is through and ask to be excused. If you have the lunch tickets, be sure to pass them out, because the free lunch is the only pay you get for a job well done!

Continued on page 13

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)***

TIPS FOR THE RIBBON CLERK

You are responsible for seeing that the right ribbons get on the right plants. You really want to stay with the judges, have fun and learn as much as possible by hearing what they have to say. **You can do both!** In order to make sure this happens, you only need to write three things on the back of each ribbon -- and they are the same three things!!

CLASS NUMBER (for example, CL 14a)

SPACE NUMBER (i.e., SP 6)

ENTRY NUMBER (i.e., #244)

That's all there is to it. Even if you don't think you can remember what goes where, at the end of judging, you can go to Space 6, look up Class 14a, which might be Cattleya Hybrids - Yellow, and find the plant with the tag that has 244 on it. Even someone who was not on the team could put the right tags on later, although by staying with the team, you SHOULD know some of them. There is no need to look at a pink phalaenopsis if the class is yellow cattleyas. Remember, at this point you should be having a **whole lot of fun!**

TIPS FOR THE SPOTTER

The job of spotting the plants to judge should be given to someone knowledgeable in orchids. This may not in all instances work out that way, and if so, generally you can count on assistance from the judges on the team by stating the name of the plant as clearly as possible. Remember the class; there is no need to be looking at white Dendrobiums if the class is pink Phalaenopsis. When the right plant is located, point to it without stabbing any of the flowers, making sure ALL the judges on the team see it, and then step out of the way so the team (or any other team) can get in for a closer look.

Your job is quite important. Many times there are two or more plants in one class to view in one exhibit, and you need to make sure each judge sees them all. Pretend you're a guide and you get a tip for attention to detail. Check with the Head Clerk for the next plant and exhibit to locate, and remember --- **HAVE FUN!!!**

AOS Corner

By Melba Butler

Member of the AOS Affiliated Societies Committee
Orchid Trivia: "You should begin preparing an orchid for exhibition before the blooms are actually open. By doing so the flowers are encouraged to open to their fullest potential and present themselves in the best way possible." This "timely" orchid trivia is from the Orchid Photo Page Web site of Greg Allikas at www.orchidworks.com; from there, click on "The Online Guide to Exhibiting Orchids." Exhibiting Orchids:

Just in time for orchid show season, a step-by-step illustrated guide at www.orchidworks.com is just the thing for orchid hobbyists. All orchid hobbyists could be categorized as either of these: 1) needing a refresher course, or; 2) needing a beginner's course -- on how to groom orchids and get them in tip top shape for the upcoming show(s). We are right at the beginning of the orchid show season, so tune in to this free course. It will take only minutes to browse through. If something seems obvious, you will only need to read it but if you need notes, I suggest you print the page or paragraph.

Information is there that couldn't possibly be known if you haven't exhibited previously. After reading and seeing all the information that is offered, readers will feel more confident about creating an exhibit. Greg talks about such things as

- AOS point scale for judging exhibits
- Master Class with Woody Robbins - This is a photo guide that illustrates building an exhibit, from a sketch to the finished exhibit. A sketch is not necessary but some would find it helpful.
- How many plants are needed
- Exhibit materials checklist (this is definitely a necessity and items can be added)
- Grooming Your Orchids (Reading this is a must)
- Color Flow (exhibits should be arranged so color flows? -- Who knew?)
- Idea Book I and/or Idea Book II -- Be warned. These are photos of actual exhibits. Some use large numbers of orchids. They are very beautiful. Large numbers of orchids make fine exhibits. Also, exhibits using 5 orchids or less can also be very good.

Again, all of the above information is from Greg Allikas' Web site www.orchidworks.com.

All I can add is that building an exhibit is rewarding because orchid lovers want to show their orchids off to the best advantage. Exhibiting is fun and even those who don't consider themselves "creative" will be surprised at what they can do. One thing that is most helpful to some is to set the exhibit up at home and take a photo. Using the photo when setting up the exhibit is much easier because the idea was created at home and it just requires putting it together again.

Show time will be here before we know it. Start now to get plants ready and to plan the exhibit!!

Atlanta Judging Center Awards February 2009

Photos courtesy of Maureen Pulignano and Bill White

All awards are provisional until published by the AOS



Dtps Yu Pin Fairlady 'Laura's Valentine' AM/AOS
Phal Sago Yukidian x Dtps Yu Pin Lady
Stones River Orchids, Exhibitor



Phal Aloha Dawn 'Sweetheart' AM/AOS
Phal Escalation x Phal Spring Silk
Stones River Orchids, Exhibitor



Phal "unnamed cross" 'Lemon Dust' HCC/AOS
Phal John's Gold x Phal Golden Circles
Stones River Orchids, Exhibitor

The Atlanta Judging Center meets and review plants on the second Saturday of every month in the basement at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Exhibitors and visitors are allowed to sit in the training sessions and to observe the judging. This is a great way to learn more about orchids and the entire judging process.



Paph "unnamed cross" 'Winding Road' HCC/AOS
Paph Winchilla x Paph Super Trooper
The Orchid Gallery, Exhibitor



Bc Orange Treat 'Aileen's Valentine' AM/AOS
Lc Trick or Treat x Bc Ornage Nugget
Barney & Aileen Garrison, Exhibitors



Masd Shinichi Komoda 'Winding Road' HCC/AOS
Masd Copper Angel x Masd tonduzii
The Orchid Gallery, Exhibitor



Dtps Mount Lip 'Heart Throb' AM/AOS
Phal South Cha-li x Dtps Mount Beauty
Stones River Orchids, Exhibitor

THINGS YOU MIGHT HAVE MISSED IN FEBRUARY



Feb speaker David Kessler demonstrates his wares and hopes he won't have to carry it back to his car!



Show chairman, Roy Harrow, hard at work recruiting another volunteer!



One of the great things about AtlOS is that you get to talk to the speaker afterwards for more detail!



New member, Ken Ramborger shows off his sense of style. Does that come with orchids?



New members, Bang To and Khan Van To joined at the February meeting - Welcome!



Cora Ramborger and newsletter editor, Margie Kersey laugh it up.



Another meeting with GREAT snacks thanks to Geni Smith!!