



The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society,
the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress



Newsletter Editor: Mark Reinke

February, 2014

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

8:00 pm Monday, Feb. 10, 2014
Atlanta Botanical
Garden, Day Hall

Tom Mirenda, Orchid Collection
Specialist,
Smithsonian Institution

“Mysteries of Orchid **Pollination”**

Tom Mirenda has been the Orchid Collection Specialist at the Smithsonian Institution for the last 12 years, where he cares for and curates an extremely diverse collection of orchid species and hybrids from all over the world. His position includes developing and producing huge educational exhibits using the collection plants that last up to 4 months and visited by hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Trained originally as a Marine Biologist, Tom made the switch to plants and orchids in his late 20s while living in Hawaii. Since then he has worked with orchids at NY Botanical Garden, Brooklyn Botanic Garden and an extensive private collection at Greentree Estate in Long Island. Tom was also the floor manager at the New York International orchid Show for many years during this period. For the last 8 years, Tom has contributed two columns each month for ORCHIDS magazine and is developing a new book based on those writings. Tom travels frequently around the US and internationally making presentations to diverse audiences, from scientists to the general public, about orchid ecology, pollination biology, strategies for orchid conservation. He is passionate about seeking collaboration between the worlds of



Tom Mirenda, Orchid Collection Specialist at the
Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

Botanic Gardens, the hobbyist community, commercial growers and scientists to work together toward the goal of protecting orchids and their habitats. Currently working on a project to coordinate and centralize North American orchid conservation efforts, Tom hopes to extend the influence to other parts of the world where orchids are imperiled.

Tom will talk about the “Mysteries of Orchid Pollination”. Ever wonder why orchids are so diverse? Why they often look like other types of plants? Why the flowers have so many strange and different shapes, colors and structures? Are orchids trying to be something they’re not? And if so, why? It’s estimated that close to one third of all orchid species use some form of deception to get their pollinators to do the job. Here we’ll explore the various ways our highly evolved orchids manipulate myriad creatures into doing their bidding...and what creature would you guess is the most manipulated of all?

Members may sell plants at the February meeting. Remember at 10% of all of your sales go to the society!

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American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

JOIN THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

12 issues of *Orchids*, the Society's monthly full color magazine chock full of insightful articles and tempting ads for plants and supplies.

10% off on purchases from the Society's Bookstore and Orchid Emporium. Reduced or free admission to participating botanical gardens.

For a limited time, if you join for two years you will also get a \$30 gift certificate (good on an order of \$100 or more) at any one of 13 commercial growers who advertise in *Orchids*. **JOIN TODAY.**

Single Membership 1 year \$65, 2 years \$125

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

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

TIME TO PAY 2104 DUES

It's time to renew your membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society!

Individual Membership is \$30

Household Membership is \$45

You can pay our Treasurer, Jason Mills, in person at the February meeting with Check, Visa, MasterCard, Amex or Discover, or mail a check to him at the address on the left.

You can also renew using PayPal on our website www.atlantaorchidsociety.org. Click on the "Join/Renew" button on the revolving banner on the home page or the appropriate button on the "Membership" page.



When you're serious about Orchids

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 \$39/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 edition devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact [David Mellard](#) (404-237-1694) or visit www.orchiddigest.com to join online.

Events Calendar

February

7-9 – South Carolina Orchid Society Show, Riverbanks Botanical Gardens, Columbia, SC

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

13 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Thomas Mirenda
Orchid Collection Specialist
Smithsonian Institution

21-23 – Deep South Orchid Show, Savannah Mall, 14045 Abercorn St., Savannah, GA

March

7-9 – The Atlanta Orchid Show
Day Hall & Hardkin Visitor's Center, Atlanta Botanical Gardens.

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

10 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
Erich Michel, Michel Orchid Co.

29-30 – Western NC Orchid Show, NC Arboretum at Bent Creek, Asheville, NC

29-30 – Heart of Dixie Orchid Society Show, DoubleTree Suites, 6000 Memorial Pkwy, Huntsville, AL

April

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

14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.

President's Message



If you are thinking like me right now you are taking solace in the fact that signs of spring are but a few weeks away! In milder winters I can usually enjoy an early patch of Dogtooth Violets (*Erythronium umbilicatum*) by now, presenting their cheerful yellow lily-like flowers nodding above a pair of mottled leaves on a favored slope along the creek. But alas, after several benign years I suppose it was inevitable that we should be visited by the dreaded and unwelcomed Polar Vortex this go around! Luckily, our orchids, if treated right, know nothing of this glacial menace raging just outside their sheltered world, pampered as they are in the make believe tropics we work so hard to provide them. Which brings me to the topic of our February speaker, and his thought provoking program entitled "The Mysteries of Orchid Pollination." While orchids may have taken millions of years to perfect the art of mimicry and deception in order to assure their survival in the wild, it seems they have needed little more than a century to coerce the most highly evolved animal on Earth to take up their quest for survival and push their evolution far beyond the limitations of their natural habitats, begging the question of just *who* is manipulating who?

We are honored and thrilled to be able to bring to you this month **Tom Mirenda**, the Orchid Collection Specialist for the Smithsonian Institution. Getting such important and busy speaker here was no easy feat, and a year in the making. His presentation is absolutely NOT to be missed! You will be both intrigued by his depth of knowledge and entertained by his skill of delivery as he brings to the Atlanta Orchid Society one of the best programs I have ever had the privilege to enjoy. I am no less excited to hear it all over again and grab some of the treasures I missed the first time around.

The board met on January 25th and formulated a budget that helps insure our own modest treasures are put to their best use to help make the Atlanta Orchid Society everything it should be to its members, a source of pride, inspiration and education. We met with our very able show chairs, Danny Lentz and Roy Harrow, our club display installation specialist, Paul Thurner, along with other invaluable volunteers who offer large offerings of time and ability to help our show run smoothly, and to raise the bar to its highest level ever. Having use of the Hardin Visitor's Center as well as Day Hall is both an amazing opportunity and a notable challenge that gives the Atlanta Orchid Show unprecedented public exposure. We welcome our good fortune with open arms and look forward to producing an event worthy of a major city and world class facility.

A big THANK YOU to the members who took the challenge and signed up for volunteer positions at the January meeting! We already have quite a few who have offered their time to assist in ribbon clerking and show set up. But we are still looking for more individuals to be our smiling ambassadors at the membership and raffle tables both inside the Hardin Visitor's Center and Day Hall. These are very important jobs that will have a major impact on our ability to fund programs and speakers and bring fresh faces into our membership throughout the year. So please, all of you "people persons" out there, volunteer for a couple of time slots during the show schedule at the membership and raffle tables! (Continued on page 4)

Mark Alan Reinke

President's Message cont...

I'm very pleased to announce that as of the January meeting we already have received renewal dues from half our membership! Dues contribute about 25% of the funds we need to operate each year and I urge everyone who still hasn't paid yet to take care of this small obligation as soon as possible. Your relatively nominal contribution yields substantial dividends in terms of programming, education, fellowship and fun throughout our calendar year, so please either send a check in to our Treasurer at the address on the Volunteer Listing to the left, use the PayPal link on our website, or pay Jason Mills directly by check or major credit card at the February meeting.

See you all on February 10th. Don't miss it!

Minutes of the January 2014 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Date and time: January 13, 2014, 8:00p.m.

Location: Day Hall, Atlanta Botanical Gardens

Attendance: 45 people

Mark Reinke, president, called the meeting to order. He welcomed three new members - Valerie Boyer as well as Deana and Milburn Emory, and four guests - Daniel Jack, Mike Prippe, Charles Gregory and Sharon Turner.

Maureen Mckovich made the motion to accept the minutes as published. This was seconded and passed.

Announcements:

Mark Reinke reminded members that the society's annual show will be held Friday, Saturday and Sunday March 7, 8 and 9. He explained that volunteers would be needed from Wednesday of the week until Sunday. This year the society will have exhibits in the entrance lobby as well as in Day Hall.

Roy Harrow, show co-chair, explained that 3 to 4 shifts each day

will be needed to man both the entry hall welcome desk and the welcome desk in Day Hall. This will be 42 shifts in all. Also, the society needs to have exhibits in the welcome lobby.

Maureen Mckovich asked members to sponsor trophies for the show. She explained that there is a new trophy this year - the People's Choice. The visitors to the show will be asked to vote for their favorite exhibit and the trophy will be given to the most popular exhibit.

Danny Lentz, show co-chair, explained that sign-up sheets are available for volunteers to sign up for various duties.

Mark asked the members to donate \$1.00, if they did not contribute an item for the refreshment table.

Mark reminded members that it is membership renewal time. People can renew or join on line through PayPal. Also, treasurer Jason Mills took checks and credit cards during the meeting.

Mark announced the quarterly ribbon winners:

1st quarter - Carson Barnes,
2nd quarter - Maureen Mckovich, 3rd quarter - Lynne Gollob
4th quarter - Mark Reinke and Gary Collier.

Each winner was presented a check for \$25.00. The overall winner for the year was Carson Barnes who received an additional \$75.00 for that honor.

Mark presented a copy of the 2013 roster and asked members to make necessary corrections before the roster is finalized for the year.

Mark introduced Deb Delmas, the speaker for the evening. Deb is president of the Heart of Dixie Orchid Society in Huntsville, Alabama. She gave a fascinating talk on Neofinetias titled "Appreciating Furan."

Geni Smith presented a gift to Maureen Mckovich in appreciation of her service as president of the society for 2013. The gift was a Llama to be given to a needy third world person by Heifer International.

The Llama will be given in Maureen's name.

David Mellard, Barbara Barnett and Ed Shoulta performed the ribbon judging. Mark Reinke and David Mellard presented the ribbons.

Terry Glover led the raffle and silent auction. Maura Caffrey donated plants in memory of her husband Phillip Chancey.

President, Mark Reinke, adjourned the meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Newton, secretary*



Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1-December 31. Anyone joining in the third quarter will get a 50% discount on the current year's membership. Anyone joining in the fourth quarter will purchase a membership for the following year. You can join at one of our monthly meetings, contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website:

www.atlantaorchidsociety.org

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at
www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners January 2014

Comments by Mark Alan Reinke

Photos by Cheryl Bruce

Class I – Cattleya Group

Species

Blue – *Cattleya cernua*– Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

The example of this miniature Brazilian species exhibited is the result of selective breeding for size and fullness, with individual flowers slightly exceeding one inch in spread. Typical examples tend to have narrower segments and a size between 0.6 to 0.8". Robust plants can produce up to seven or even eight blooms per inflorescence, which emerges enclosed in a developing new growth, generally in fall to winter, but occasionally in almost any month of the year. The most terminal buds open first, followed by those further down the short, nodding stem until the entire inflorescence is in bloom. The flowers have a crystalline texture, with color varying from pale salmon to deep orange, punctuated by an amethyst tipped column and anther cap.

Of all the miniature species that were until recently grouped under *Sophranitis*, this is the easiest to grow in areas like ours with warm humid summers. It is generally tolerant of temperatures between 45 and 100 degrees Fahrenheit. It does *not* tolerate wet feet so mounted culture has proved the most successful for us, although a small basket with an open and quick drying medium should prove satisfactory as well. The plants have a small stature and creep along the surface, frequently branching with multiple leads when happy with their conditions. Bright, diffused light is ideal.

This species has the ability to create charming, multifloral hybrids that offer neat growth and frequent blooms. But it can be a reluctant



parent, and most crosses tend to have poor yield, so there are sadly few available in commerce today.

Red – *Cattleya (Sophranitis) coccinea* – Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

White – *Laelia anceps* var. *veitchiana* – Carson Barnes

Hybrids

Blue – *Cattleya* Volcano Fantasy 'Volcano Queen' – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

The influence of *C. walkeriana* is clearly evident in this attractive hybrid between that species and *C. Colorama*, a famous "splash-petal"



Cattleya cernua
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

large-flowered *Cattleya* from the 1960's. The growth habit is very compact and the flowers both large for the plant size and unusually flat for peloric breeding. All too often, the genes that cause the mutation in which the two petals imitate the lip in color pattern, also influence them to curl slightly and thrust forward like the lip itself, marring the overall presentation. *C. walkeriana* has a sweet and pleasant fragrance which is often passed on to its offspring. While it is a valuable parent in breeding miniature and compact *Cattleyas* with comparatively large flowers and the ability to blossom more than once per year, it does have some drawbacks. The lavender color of that species seems to be particularly dominant, rarely allowing yellow, orange and red to come through when paired with another orchid that is a proven breeder for those bright shades. *C. walkeriana* hybrids typically do better in a basket or on a mount than in a pot. If potted, the media must be large and very open, allowing the thick roots plenty of light and air so that they dry rapidly after being watered.

Red – *Brassanthe* Maikai 'Louise,'
AM/AOS - **Nancy Newton & in
memory of David Glass**

White – *Cattleya* Cosmo-Hiroto –
Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

Class II – Cymbidium Group

Blue – *Cymbidium sinense* 'Ai Guo' –
Maureen Mckovich

This delightfully fragrant species is found in many mountainous locations throughout eastern China, S.E. Asia and Taiwan, usually growing as a terrestrial in fairly dense forests and does not require as bright of light as traditional large flowered hybrids to bloom. It is also very temperature tolerant, capable of enduring many nights near freezing, but also growing well in Florida, Texas and Southern California. The medium sized plants have graceful, arching foliage, and very erect inflorescences that hold the flowers well above the leaves. Each spike may produce up to 20 flowers and the plants can form



Cattleya Volcano Fantasy 'Volcano Queen' – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**



Cymbidium sinense 'Ai Guo' – **Maureen Mckovich**

clumps exhibiting many starry flowers that are usually dark reddish brown, offset by a pale lip splashed with large red spots. The lovely blooms of this particular clone are offset by foliage with striking wide variegation. Cymbidiums need frequent water and heavy fertilization while actively growing and prefer a porous but moisture retentive terrestrial media which many growers supplement with compost. Water should be somewhat reduced in winter, but plants should not remain dry for long periods. Repotting should be done immediately after flowering when plants have outgrown their container or the mix is depleted, but the root tips are fragile and should be handled with care. Over 100 first generation offspring have been produced from this species since the 1960's, but the most recent have all been registered in China, Japan and Taiwan, so are not readily available in this country.

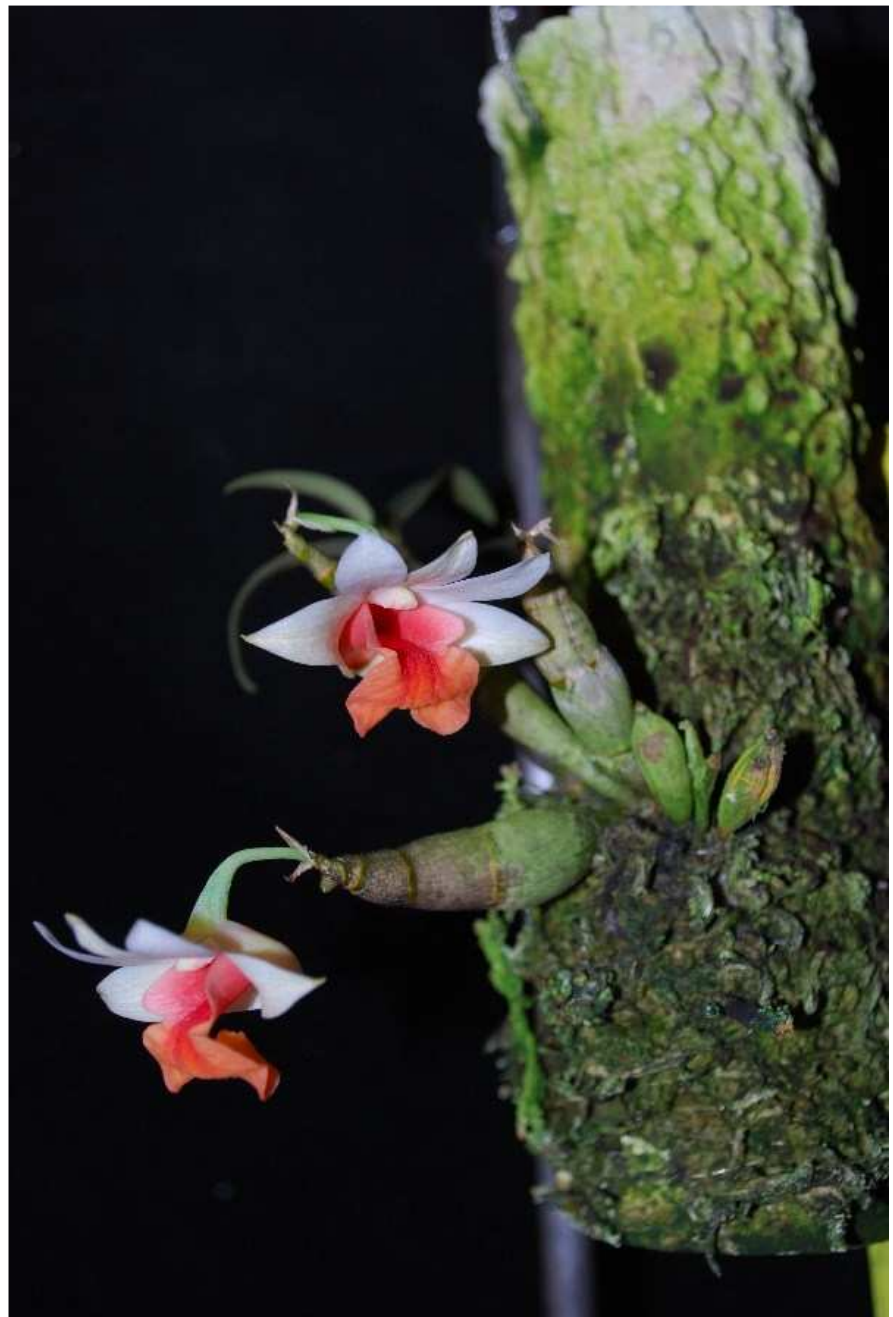
**Red – *Cymbidium Pastoral* –
Barbara Dampog**

**White – *Cymbidium goeringii* 'Chung Hui' –
Maureen Mckovich**

Class III – Dendrobium Group

**Blue – *Dendrobium bellatulum* –
Larry Mayse**

The "Beautiful Dendrobium" is a wonderful miniature member of the Formosae section, growing in a widespread habitat throughout the mountainous regions of Southeast Asia at elevations ranging from about 3000 to 6000 feet above sea level. The clumping plants rarely exceed 4 inches in height, with dull gray-green leaves and chunky pseudobulbs covered in fine black hairs like other members of this section. The charming flowers can exceed 1.5 inches in size and are usually borne singly, though very robust plants may produce 2 or even 3 per inflorescence. They are long lasting and slightly fragrant. The segments are normally creamy white, offset by a prominent yellow to orange lip with 5 keels leading into a deeper colored



Dendrobium bellatulum (mounted on a Koo-Log) - Larry Mayse

throat. Plants with the best color have been collected from Vietnam and are parents to the main batch of seedlings in the market today.

While this charming species has nearly universal appeal, many find it difficult to grow and flower. There are really three main cultural issues that must be provided for, and producing an outstanding specimen requires some level of dedication. Firstly, light levels must be very bright, with only the most minimal shading from full sun for healthiest growth. Secondly, during the

growing season from June through October copious water is required, yet at the same time plants must drain quickly, so they are usually mounted or grown in very small clay pots, and may require daily watering. Fertilization should be applied regularly while growth is taking place. Thirdly, when growth is completed in fall, watering should be reduced and fertilizer eliminated, and the plants should receive cooler nights and preferably a 25 to 30 degree swing in temperature from night to day. While sources list this species as a spring



Oncidium Jungle Monarch – **Carson Barnes**



Epi. (pseudepidendrum x floribundum) x chlorops – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

bloomer in nature, in cultivation there are blooming records from every month except December, peaking in March. Thus the flowering season may vary depending on the specific conditions provided.

Red – *Dendrobium Mini Snowflake* – **Maureen Mckovich**

White – *Dendrobium chrysotermum x*
Jacquie Stocker – **Ellen Brand**

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Epidendrum*
(*pseudepidendrum x floribundum*)
x chlorops – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

This is an “experimental” hybrid we made back in 2005 from which only a few seedlings resulted. This particular plant exhibited the best characteristics in our opinion and was the only one we kept. It is just now beginning to mature and display the desired effect. *Epi. pseudepidendrum* has the most striking flowers of the three species used. They are fairly large with green segments contrasted with a bright orange lip and a magenta patch near the apex of the column. But they are relatively few in number and the plants are tall growing. Both *Epi. floribundum* and *Epi. chlorops* produce basically green flowers, but in much more numerous clusters, with the former being a tall grower and the latter much shorter. This particular plant is showing the shorter growth habit, with large dangling clusters of well-shaped flowers that exhibit a more subtle, but pleasing version of the colors of *Epi. pseudepidendrum*. Like all the species involved, it will produce several clusters per growth over the

span of several years. This blooming, there were two flower clusters present, but as more growths continue to develop it should have several to many present at once in the future.

Red – *Epicanthe Butterfly Kisses*
‘Mendenhall,’ AM/AOS – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

White – *Encyclia polybulbon* – **Larry Mayse**

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – *Oncidium Jungle Monarch*
‘Pacific Pride’ – **Carson Barnes**

This showy orchid is a cross between *Onc. Debutante* and *Onc. maculatum*. The former is a primary hybrid between *Onc. fuscatum* and *Onc. cariniferum*, and therefore only three species are involved in this plant's background, making it less complex than many Oncidiums on the market today. It was registered by Everglades Orchids in 1979, though the originator of the cross is listed as unknown. That company, no longer in the retail business, was well known for bringing warmth tolerant Oncidiums and Cymbidiums to market. Since the climate data from the habitats for *Onc. maculatum*, and *Onc. fuscatum* indicates they thrive in areas where highs are in the 80's year round, this plant seems likely to adapt very well to our hot summers provided it receives good air movement and filtered light.

As I have mentioned before, our modern Oncidium hybrids have their ancestry in areas with very high rainfall during the growing season and should be watered copiously and fed regularly while growths are developing, then given a short rest after flowering when they need to be watered less and not fertilized until the cycle of growth begins again. At the same time, drainage should be excellent so that roots do not stay soggy. While the bloom records of the species involved in this cross favor fall though winter, there is some occurrence of flowers in every month of the year, so likely *Onc. Jungle*

Monarch will throw a spike from a recently matured new growth at any season of the year.

Red – *Oncidium* Twinkle – Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass

Class VI – *Cypripedium* Group

Blue – *Paphiopedilum* Hsinying Alien – Larry Mayse

This vinicolor hybrid was entered under its parentage of *Paph.* Supersuk x Raisin Pie, but was registered under the above name by Ching Hua Orchids of Taiwan in 2004. At least four different clones have already received flower quality awards from the American Orchid Society as well as a trophy from the Taiwan Orchid Growers Association. Last month's blue ribbon winner, *Paph. sukhakulii* is a grandparent on both sides of this cross and thus makes up 50% of the background. Photos show a great deal of variability in this grex, with some flowers having lighter color and the heavily spotted petals of that ancestor, while others like this plant show very dark color and little hint of the aforementioned species in their look. Grow this striking orchid as you would any mottle-leaved *Paphiopedilum* hybrid, fairly shady and in a somewhat moisture retentive mix, with regular watering when in active growth and only somewhat less when not. Repot regularly into fresh mix before the old mix begins to break down. A temperature range between 55 and 90 is ideal with tolerance above and below those levels for short periods.

Red – *Paphiopedilum* Jade Dragon – Barbara Barnett

White – *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum* – Danny Lentz

Class VII - *Phalaenopsis* Group

Blue – *Phalaenopsis* Ld's Bear Queen 'Wind' – Jarad Wilson



Paphiopedilum Hsinying Alien – Larry Mayse



Phalaenopsis Ld's Bear Queen 'Wind' – Jarad Wilson



Pomatocalpa setulense (syn. *spicata*) – Larry Mayse

The curious name of this orchid is a reference to Leader Orchids of Taiwan, who so far have registered just two hybrids, *Phal.* Ld's Bear King and *Phal.* Ld's Bear Queen. In both registrations the "L" is capitalized and the "d" is not. This particular cross pairs the species, *Phal. bellina*, with *Phal.* Dragon Tree Eagle. See the May, 2013 newsletter for photos and description of that hybrid, and you will immediately recognize the similarities between it and this blue ribbon winner. *Phalaenopsis* with large doses of *Phal. villoacea* and *Phal. bellina* do not produce

quantities of flowers when in bloom, but make up for it with their unique shape and exquisite color patterns. This parentage also results in plants with especially attractive foliage that is wide and shiny. They are lovers of shaded, warm and humid conditions and do well in light level of just 800-1200 foot candles. They appreciate room-temperature water, applied frequently enough that they just barely dry between watering, in mix that retains moisture but drains quickly. The Taiwan Orchid Growers Association has awarded trophies to three different plants out of this cross

and a dozen new hybrids in which it is one parent were registered in the last two years by Taiwanese orchid growers, including one with *Phal. gigantea* named *Phal.* LD Mok Chio. (Both the "L" and "D" are capitalized in this one.) I would really like to see how that one turned out!

Red – *Phalaenopsis* Timothy Christopher – **Nancy Newton & in memory of David Glass**

White – *Phalaenopsis* Samera – Jarad Wilson

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – *Pomatocalpa setulense* (syn. *spicata*) – **Larry Mayse**

While infrequently seen in collections there are nearly 30 recognized species in the genus *Pomatocalpa* scattered across Southeast Asia. The name refers to the pouch like lip that is characteristic, but requires close inspection of the tiny flowers to observe. This particular species has a wide distribution in that region and grows at a variety of elevations, so should be adaptable to both intermediate and warm growing conditions. It can produce up to 80 flowers from each arching inflorescence, but only about a dozen are open at any given time as it continues to blossom successively over several months. The flowers have a yellow background overlaid by varying degrees of red markings and a contrasting white mid-lobe on the lip. The plants like both air movement and regular moisture so they are often difficult to maintain potted and need daily watering when mounted. This example is mounted on a "Kool-Log" which seems to provide the right balance required to allow the plant to flourish. There is one hybrid registered with this species, a cross between it and *Vanda miniata* (syn. *Ascentrum minatum*) registered in 1980 and now called *Pomanda* Dhonburi. I am very curious of the outcome and would love to see photos but none seem to exist in any online sources.

Blue – *Masdevallia livingstoneana* - Larry Mayse

Here is another orchid that performs beautifully on one of Larry Mayse's "Kool-Logs." This is not so much because this species needs cool conditions. It is one of the warmest growing *Masdevallia* species, coming from low elevations in Panama. But it can be difficult to keep the plants moist enough in a conventional pot or mounted situation, requiring watering several times per day during hot weather. The "Kool-Log," a porous ceramic vessel to which the orchid is mounted to, is kept filled with water, which slowly seeps through the vessel to the outside where it provides evaporative cooling, humidity and constant moisture without soggyiness. This is exactly the conditions *Masd. livingstoneana* experiences in its rain forest habitat and the positive effect is obvious in this nicely flowered specimen with 13 open flowers and two buds.



Masdevallia livingstoneana - Larry Mayse

Red – *Sudamerlycaste reichenbachii* – Larry Mayse

White – *Masdevallia amaluzae* – Larry Mayse

White – *Xylobium squalens* – Larry Mayse

WELCOME NEW AND RETURNING MEMBERS!

I want to personally welcome new members Richard Amar, Raymond Dingledine, Stephen Paul Eaton, Milburn Emery, Charles Gregory, Daniel Jack, and returning members Fran Carter and Linda and Larry Mayse, who all joined in the month of January. If you want any help in your quest to grow orchids better, we invite you to contact our Mentoring Chair, Lynne Gollob at ldgollob@hotmail.com or 770-704-6432.

Mark Reinke, President

Last Call for Show Trophy Sponsors!



There are only a handful of trophies left to sponsor for our 2014 show! These are beautiful 4 inch x 6 inch etched glass plaques similar to the one above, but with an image and engraving appropriate to our show and the specific award category. If you would like to be a sponsor, please contact Maureen Mckovich at maureen@deefalt.com or 404-402-5897. The cost to sponsor a plaque is \$45.

ATLANTA ORCHID SHOW 2014

Our annual show is coming up at the beginning of March. Co-chairs for the show are Danny Lentz (dblgongora@bellsouth.net) and Roy Harrow (r2h748@gmail.com). The show will be held from Friday March 7th through Sunday the 9th with setup on Wednesday and Thursday. As always we will need people to pitch in and help with the event. We will have sign-up sheets for volunteers at the January and February meetings. Things we'll need help with include show setup/takedown, clerks to assist with Friday morning's ribbon judging, staffing society tables to answer questions and recruit new members, exhibit setup, and various other activities. If you're interested in helping with things like plant registration or show publicity please let us know.



This year we will be filling the Hardin Visitor's Center with orchids as well as Day Hall. We need your blooming plants to create a profusion of flowers in this space!

We look forward to working with everyone to put on another great show this year, and will be sharing more details at the next couple meetings and next month's newsletter.

Volunteers are needed for the following tasks.....

Clerks

- ★ We need quite a few clerks on Friday morning to help with judging. Clerks help find the plants that the judges need to look at in each class, place ribbons. This can be a good way to learn more about what judges look for in the plants. You don't need to be very experienced to help with this.
- ★ Clerks will be coordinated by Terry Glover (adreidese@msn.com)

Membership Tables

- ★ We will have two membership tables this year, one in Day Hall and one in the Visitor's Center. At both places we need people to answer questions, take membership applications and payment, sell raffle tickets. For those in the Visitor's Center we will need to direct people up to the show in Day Hall. We really need to get a lot of our members to help out with this, with coverage from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon. Signup sheets will be available at the February meeting, or you can contact Chris to sign up.
- ★ Membership table volunteers will be coordinated by Chris File (chris.file@dev.gatech.edu)

Setup

- ★ On Wednesday afternoon we will need a few people to help set up the tables, mark out exhibit areas, and get the room ready for the show.
- ★ On Thursday we will need more people to help out. We will have 2 displays (in Day Hall and the Visitor's Center) to set up, plant entry to take care of, our vendors will need help bringing their stuff into Day Hall and getting set up, and there are always a couple miscellaneous errands to run.
- ★ If you have any questions about setup contact Danny or Roy.

Takedown

- ★ On Sunday afternoon we will need help clearing out the room. This is the glamorous stuff: helping vendors load their vehicles, putting away tables, sweeping the floor, taking out the trash.

Other

- ★ Hospitality: We will need a few people to help coordinate lunches/dinners from Thursday through Sunday.
- ★ Education: During the show we will have a few Orchid 101 type talks down in the Visitor's Center Theater. If you're interested in helping out let us know.
- ★ Publicity: We need everyone to help get the word out about the show. We will have some flyers (postcard sized) available at the February meeting.
- ★ Registration: We always need a person or two to help cut out/ distribute name tags as plants are entered, and maybe help with plant entry if you are good with nomenclature.

Displays

We will need lots of blooming plants to fill in our two displays this year.

- ★ We will have our normal large society exhibit in Day Hall. This exhibit will be judged, and all plants must be identified.
- ★ We will have another non-judged exhibit down in the Visitor's Center. This will be more informal, and the plants do not need to be identified. If you have a nice plant without a name this would be a great place to show it off.



SHOW VENDORS

Hicks Orchid Supply
(407) 679-9266

Marble Branch Farms
www.marblebranchfarms.com

Michel Orchid Nursery
www.michelorchid.com

Nature Glassworks/ Kool-Logs
www.natureglass.com / www.kool-logs.com

Orchid Inn
www.orchidinnusa.com

Odom's Orchids
www.odoms.com

Owen's Orchids
www.owensorchids.com

Peach State Orchids
www.peachstateorchids.com

Steve Arthur Orchids

Notes from Deb Delmas's Talk: Appreciating Furans

January 13, 2014

David Mellard

Deb Delmas, the January speaker, gave a very informative talk about growing neofinetias and their hybrids. She provided a lot of information about the art of growing neofinetias (aka furans) and while some of that is captured in these notes, most of what follows is the cultural information she provided.

1. Furan refers to the art of breeding, growing, and showing neofinetias regardless of whether they are awarded. Fukiran refers only to awarded neofinetias. As such, all neofinetias are furans but only awarded neofinetias are fukiran.
2. The genus *Neofinetia* is now a synonym and all three species are now considered to be *Vanda* by the Royal Horticultural Society in their World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. The three species are: *V. falcata*, *V. richardsiana*, and *V. Xichangensis*.
Author comment: Don't be surprised if you still hear most orchid people use Neofinetia; it's difficult to change old familiar names.
3. Neofinetias grow mostly on deciduous trees and as such experience moderate light levels when actively growing in summer (1,500 to 3,000 fc) and higher light levels in winter when the trees lose their leaves. The plants experience very cold winters (30's F) and can tolerate a light freeze, although Deb doesn't recommend testing this. If you grow them under lights, the distance should be 6 to 8 inches from fluorescent bulbs and four feet from high intensity bulbs. They appreciate good humidity (40 to 60%).
4. The plants are usually potted on top of a very compact ball of sphagnum moss. As such, they should be watered if, as Deb puts it, the moss is crunchy. One test is to insert a bamboo stick into the moss, if it comes back wet hold off on the watering.
5. When actively growing, let plants dry slightly between watering: increase watering when actively growing in spring and summer; drastically reduce watering in winter
6. If using sphagnum moss, repot every year, preferably in the spring just as the plants are forming new roots. Be careful not to break the roots so repot when you just see them coming out.
7. Be sure to keep the base of the plant above the potting mix.
8. Use sphagnum moss with or without charcoal. Other options include tree fern fiber, bark, osmunda fiber, or rocks. The choice of a media depends on your growing conditions and how frequently you water. Plants quickly decline in a mix that has decomposed and retains a lot of moisture. Be sure to cut back on watering in the winter.
9. Use a urea free fertilizer. Fertilize lightly when actively growing.
10. Plants usually have 3 to 15 flowers per inflorescence from spring to fall and flowers last from 2 to 6 weeks. Flowers are fragrant from dusk to dawn.

RECENT ACTIVITY OF THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

The following awards were granted at recent sessions of the AOS judging center. They are provisional awards pending publication by AOS. Certificates of Horticultural Merit and Certificates of Botanical Recognition are also provisional pending identification by an AOS certified taxonomist prior to publication of the award.

All award photographs are © Jason Mills



*Rhyncholaeliocattleya Golden Circle 'Barleen,' AM/AOS,
86 pts.
Exhibited by Barney & Aileen Garrison*



*Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Easter Island 'Crystal White,'
AM/AOS, 82 pts.
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



*Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Easter Island 'Cotton Candy,'
AM/AOS 82 pts
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



*Phalaenopsis I-Hsin Spot Leopard 'SRO-IS1315,'
HCC/AOS, 77 pts.
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*

TRAILS of ORCHIDS



The Western North Carolina Orchid Society presents its
2014 Orchid Show at the North Carolina Arboretum!

10-5pm
Sat. March 29
Sun. March 30

Come enjoy spectacular displays, gorgeous orchids
for sale from a variety of growers, raffle prizes,
orchid judging and educational presentations!



Follow the trail to the 2014 WNCOS Orchid Show at www.wncos.org or www.ncarboretum.org. The event is free, but normal Arboretum parking fees apply. The North Carolina Arboretum is located at 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC.