



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 Editors: Mark Reinke & Valorie Boyer

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

September, 2014

Volume 55: Number 9

SEPTEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

ANNUAL AUCTION AND POT LUCK DINNER

Monday, September 8, 2014

Note early time

Pot Luck starts at 6:00 p.m.

Auction Begins at 7:00 p.m.

No Ribbon Judging

**Rock Spring
Presbyterian Church
Fellowship Hall**

1824 Piedmont Ave.

Atlanta, GA 30324

(Enter Behind Main Church)

Pot-luck Dish Assignments:

A thru B - Main Dish

C thru E - Drinks

F thru J - Dessert

K thru O - Salad

P thru Z - Side Dish

This is your opportunity to get terrific plants at great prices. We also have a lot of fun nibbling on our always excellent pot-luck buffet while keeping an eye on the auction. Greg Smith and our good friend from Manchester, TN, Steve Burger, have obtained beautiful plants from regional, domestic and international suppliers.

Don't miss this opportunity to add to your collection. Tell all your orchid friends to come join us!

Some highlights of this year's auction include:



A sampling of some of the hard to find orchids that will be up for bid. Clockwise from upper left: *Monnierara* Millennium Magic 'Witchcraft,' FCC/AOS, *Dendrobium lawesii* v. *bicolor*, *Neostylis* Lou Sneary 'Pinky,' AM/AOS, *Encyclia plicata*, *Bulbophyllum annamense*, *Dendrobium mohlmanum*, *Aerangis luteoalba*, *Barkeria* Jim Balch 'Rich Mountain,' AM/AOS.

A large selection of unusual cattleya species and hybrids from Orchid Eros in Mountain View, HI. Owner Ben Oliveros is a former long-time member of the ATLOS, now growing orchids for a living on the Big Island of Hawaii.

A selection of various genera in bud and bloom from Hilo Orchid Farm.

Plus additional plants from, Motes Orchids, Marble Branch Farms, Jewell Orchids, Orchid Consultant Carson Barnes, Kool-Logs and various other sources with the focus on quality and variety.

Please feel free to bring along friends who would enjoy this event.

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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



Just a few of the carnivorous plants for sale at Marble Branch Farms!
ATLOS Green Growers Outing - September 27, 2014 (pg 10)



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

September

**08 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting** - Rock Spring
Presbyterian Church - 7 p.m.
Annual Auction!
Pot Luck Dinner starts at 6 p.m.

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

**20-21 - Alabama Orchid
Society Show and Sale -**
Birmingham Botanical Gardens,
2612 Lane Park Road,
Birmingham, AL 35223. Free
parking and admission.

27 - Greengrower's Outing
Marble Branch Farms, Walhalla,
SC

October

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

**13 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall,
8 pm - Jason Fischer, Orchids, Ltd.
Plymouth, MN
"Phragmipediums"

November

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

**10 - Atlanta Orchid Society
Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall,
8 pm - Program TBA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Summer is rapidly coming to a close, but not before throwing a few more hot steamy days at us! They are just enough to make those first cool, fall-like days ahead that much more welcome. Some years like this one, I can't decide if I'm quite ready for the change of seasons, but ready or not, fall will come and I have no power to stop it. Our plants accept it even when we can't!

Already, I have noticed that some of the "nobile" type Dendrobiums summering outside have fully completed their new growths and are maturing their canes in preparation for the coming rest season. A few types, such as Den. anosmum and Den. unicum still have some growing yet to do, but in general, this is when we stop fertilizing this group to avoid confusing the plants into out of season growth at the expense of flowers later on. They are still getting daily watering if we don't get rain, but by the end of this month we will be cutting back gradually on that as well. This is one group of orchids in which pampering does not produce the best results. They want to bask under near full sun all summer and then get cool and very dry as winter progresses. This seemingly un-orchid-like treatment is absolutely essential and will reward you with an abundance of spectacular blooms next spring.

This month is our annual fund raising auction and pot-luck social taking place at the activity hall at Rock Spring Presbyterian Church, just up Piedmont from the Atlanta Botanical Garden. We've made a point this year to keep the quality and variety high and we think you will find a wide range of interesting things to bid on to help us meet our budget goals for the year. We welcome any friends and visitors who may wish to join in the fun and take home something special to grow and bloom. Once again, Steve Burger has generously given of his time to be our auctioneer for the event!

I also hope to see as many of you as possible at the open house at Marble Branch Farms, our home at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains in SC, on the final Saturday of the month to enjoy touring the greenhouse and bog gardens, and a great pot-luck picnic featuring complimentary fried chick from the Steakhouse Cafeteria in Wallhalla, SC. (They don't serve any steak there, long story!) The bog garden will be spectacular then and there will be plenty of bog plants for sale as well as bargains in the orchid greenhouse. Please r.s.v.p either at the September meeting or by email or phone if you can attend so that we get enough chicken to make everyone happy. It is a 2 hour drive from Atlanta, but well worth it. I've been making that trip regularly for 14 years now and always look forward to the peace and beauty of this unique and wonderful place.

Minutes of the August 2014 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Date: August 11, 2014, 8:00 pm

Location: Day Hall, ABG

Attendance: 44 people

The meeting, with 44 people present, was called to order by the president, Mark Reinke. Membership chairperson, Geni Smith, introduced three guests: Christina Gangwisch, Gary Coil and Elena Coil as well a new member – Dan Williamson.

Roy Harrow moved that the minutes from the July 14 meeting be approved as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and passed.

Treasurer's report:

Jason Mills, treasurer, reported that the total of all accounts is \$23,393.81.

Announcements:

- Plants are available for the monthly silent auction and raffle
- The Alabama Orchid Society show will be next month. Jason Mills will install a display for the society and will need plants for the display.
- Saturday Sept 27 will be an open house at Marble Branch Farms. There will be a picnic with fried chicken. Please bring side dishes.
- Roy Harrow announced that the auction at his house was a great success and netted \$162.00 for the society.
- David Mellard announced that he is the representative for the

Orchid Digest and encouraged people to subscribe.

• Barbara Barnett announced that attendees might consider joining the American Orchid Society. They will have a webinar on Phragmapediums soon.

• The next society meeting will be the annual auction and potluck dinner. The affair will begin at 7:00pm at the Rocksprings Presbyterian Church. Please see the newsletter for assignments for contributions to the potluck dinner.

Mark Reinke introduced four society members, David Mellard, David Kessler, Roy Harrow and Carson Barnes, who would give the program and talk about various specifics of growing orchids. The speakers gave many practical suggestions for successful growing of orchids

There was a break for refreshments that were kindly organized by Ellen Brand, Hospitality chairperson.

Barbara Barnett, David Mellard and H.B. Blythe-Hardt performed the monthly table judging. David



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

Kessler, Mark Reinke and Carson Barnes announced the ribbon winners and gave interesting comments on many of the winners.

ABG SAGE Parking Facility Rate Update

New discounted rates were posted in Clippings, the ABG monthly bulletin for garden members. Pricing for member, multi-visit, parking passes and re-loads have changed: \$6 new pass (i.e., card) fee, \$20 for 6 visits, \$40 for 13 visits, \$60 for 21 visits, \$80 for 31 visits, and \$100 for 40 visits.

If you purchase the 13 visit pass, parking costs about \$3 per visit!

New cards and reloads can be purchased on-line at <https://onlinesales.atlantabotanicalgarden.org/public/show.asp?shcode=55> or at the ABG gift shop. These fees are discounted from the fees posted on-line for non-garden members.

Note that parking cards must be used both when entering and when exiting the facility.



Cattleya Leoloddiglossa 'Call That Blue', AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

Mark Reinke adjourned the meeting.

*Minutes compiled by
Nancy Newton*

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners August 2014

*Comments by Mark Alan Reinke
Photos by Cheryl Bruce*

Class I – Cattleya Group

Blue – *Cattleya Leoloddiglossa* 'Call That Blue,' AM/AOS – **Carson Barnes**

The name of this orchid is a combination of the three species in its background: *C. tigrina* (syn. *leopoldii*), combined with the hybrid between *C. loddigesii*, and *C. amethystoglossa*, known as *C. Loddiglossa*. While the name is reminiscent of crosses done in the first part of the 20th Century, this is a recent cross registered by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley

Orchids in 2010. In this version, the parents used were coerulea varieties rather than the typical color forms. This plant received an Award of Merit with a score of 82 points at the August monthly AOS judging in Atlanta, and Carson give it the clonal name 'Call That Blue,' which, as he stated, was intended to be more of a question than a statement.

The coerulea forms of spotted bi-foliate species such as *C. tibgrina*, and *C. amethystoglossa* express their "bluish mauve" tones primarily in the lip and the spotting while still maintaining a cream or pale greenish background color. The resulting hybrid, while quite different and for more subdued than what we would see if the cross were done with typical forms, is not as apparently "blue" as we might see in more conventional coerulea cattleya breeding.

The species involved in this hybrid indicate that it would do best under bright or even very bright conditions and prefer to stay above 60F in winter. In

nature, both *C. tigrina* and *C. amethystoglossa* are typically found in very exposed situations. They need perfect drainage and should dry off between each watering cycle. Less water is better in winter when days are shorter, but neither species experiences a true dry season in the wild.

Red – *Cattleya Tokyo Life* - **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

White – *Cattleya Jungle Eyes* – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

White – *Cattleya dowiana variety aurea* – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Blue – *Dendrobium Hsinying Stocker* – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

Please see the July, 2014 newsletter for a description and cultural advice for this orchid. Another example of it, brought in by Ellen Brand, won the blue ribbon in this class in June.

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Procatavola Golden Peacock 'Orange Beauty'* - **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

While at first glance this plant may seem to belong in Class I with cattleya related hybrids, it is a cross between *Prosthechea* (syn. *Encyclia*) *vitellina* and *Bc. Richard Mueller. Psh. vitellina*,



Dendrobium Hsinying Stocker - Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

while part of the Epidendrum Group, is in a category by itself when it comes to flowers, which are unusually broad and flat, bright orange to red, and borne evenly spaced on an upright spike. It is a high elevation species from Mexico, Guatemala and El Salvador where it grows in moist forests at between 4500 and 8500 feet above sea level. It, and many of its hybrids, have a preference for cool nights year round and can be challenging to grow successfully in this part of the country. But Pcv. Golden Peacock follows the cultural ease of its other parent Bc. Richard Mueller, and quickly makes a specimen plant that flowers profusely both in winter and summer. Sadly, it may be sterile or at least highly reluctant as a parent, so no offspring have resulted from it thus far.

Red - *Encyclia* Orchid Jungle – **Carson Barnes**

White – *Epidendrum diffusum* – **David Johnston**

White – *Encyclia moebusii* – **David Johnston**

Class V – Oncidium Group

Red – *Miltoniopsis* Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto' – **Carson Barnes**



Procatavola Golden Peacock 'Orange Beauty' - Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

Like many modern *Miltoniopsis*, this cross registered by Hajime Ono of Hawaii in 1994 is the result of many generations of selective breeding primarily using just two species, *Mps. roezlii*, and *Mps. vexillaria*. In this case, the genealogy stretches all the way back to 1889 and the first ever hybrid between the two, *Mps. Bleuana*.

While many hobbyists have had trouble growing these stunning "pansy" orchids here in the Southeast, the assumption that they require cool conditions isn't exactly correct. The main source for budded *Miltoniopsis* in the US are growers in and around the town of Mountain View, on the big island of Hawaii. These nurseries are at about 1500 feet above sea level and average in the low 70's at night in summer, and upper 50's at night in winter. However, the highs never climb above the low 80's. This is a very similar climate to the most dominant species in this cross, *Mps. roezlii*, which comes from warm, humid habitats from



Miltoniopsis Lillian Nakamoto 'Tanto' – Carson Barnes

1000-3000 feet above sea level in Panama and Colombia.

These orchids do very well for us on a bench about 25 feet away from the evaporative cooling pads in our greenhouse where we can keep the temperature in the 80's even on the hottest summer days and there is vigorous air movement. They receive water at least every other day as these orchids will suffer if allowed to dry out. We give them about 60% shade only as the more light they can receive and remain healthy, the more flowers will result. Any plants that don't sell while in bloom are repotted into new media once new growth commences after flowering since the large amount of water will break down the media fairly quickly.

By offering the right combination of copious water, good drainage, bright diffused light and excellent air movement, growers such as Doris Dukes in Sarasota, Florida have successfully grown award winning specimens of *Miltoniopsis* with over 100

flowers open at once. These orchids should respond to indoor culture under lights as long as their thirsty nature is taken into account.

Red – *Trichocentrum* Comète – **Carson Barnes**

White – *Trichocentrum lindenii* – **David Johnston**

White – *Tolumnia triquetra* – **David Johnston**

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – *Paphiopedilum niveum* – **Helen Blythe-Hart**

The Snow-White *Paphiopedilum* grows in the wild on northwest facing limestone cliffs, close to the sea in the Langkawi island group just west of the border between Thailand and Malaysia, and possibly also on Tambelan Island, a tiny spec of land hundreds of miles away in the South China Sea between Borneo and Singapore. It is rather small growing, with beautiful tessellated foliage and one or two, relatively large flowers that have a pure white background color, usually finely speckled in purple, but not always. It is a warm grower that appreciates moderately bright, but diffused light and regular water most of the year with a drier rest in winter.



Paphiopedilum niveum – Helen Blythe-Hart

This species has been widely used in hybridization and is capable, in many pairings, of blocking out the darker shades of the other parent, resulting in flowers that are either white, or white blended with attractive pastel shades seldom otherwise seen.

Many growers debate whether the fact that so many *Paphiopedilum* species grow on limestone in the wild means they benefit from the addition of lime to their growing regimen. Personally, I don't have experience in this group. But recently, while on a visit to speak to the Heart of Dixie Orchid Society in Hunstville, Alabama I had the opportunity to visit the private collections of Bob and Marion Fallon in nearby Madison. Marion's personal greenhouse was filled with the healthiest looking Paphs I have ever seen. She showed me a container of regular, grayish, powdered agricultural lime and told me that several times a year she broadcasts it over the media in

the pots and waters it in. I certainly could not argue with the outstanding results she is achieving!

Red – *Paphiopedilum praestans* 'DeFriesse Dark Beauty' – **Carson Barnes**

White – *Phragmipedium Sedenii* – **Carson Barnes**

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Blue – *Phalaenopsis Samera* 'Purple Bliss' – **Jarad Wilson**

This hybrid between *Phal. violacea* and *Phal. bellina* was only registered in 2003, though it is hard to imagine that was the first time it was made. Until recently, Kew listed *Phal. bellina* as a form of *Phal. violacea* endemic to specific areas of Borneo, so both species have been in cultivation for decades as different color forms of a single species, and likely hybrids exist between the two still listed as

simply *Phal. violacea*.

While there are several slight morphological differences between the two fragrant species in flower form, and the most dominant types of each differ in their coloring, I was impressed by an internet article by Bernard Lagrelle that dealt with the chemical differences in those fragrances, here translated from the original French: "The fragrances are different and this proves that these two plants don't have the same pollinating agent. For *Phalaenopsis bellina* perfume composition is 64% of geraniol added with 36% of linalool. The composition of the perfume of *Phalaenopsis violacea* comprises also these two agents but with, in addition elemicene (55%) and alcohol cinnamyl (27%)."

Culture for both species is the same, and they are both more finicky than typical *Phalaenopsis*, coming from hot, humid lowland climates and expecting temperatures that never fall below 70F, combined with at least 80% humidity, shade, even moisture and, good air movement to counteract the threat of fungal attacks under such conditions.

Red – *Phalaenopsis Corona* – **Jarad Wilson**

White – *Phalaenopsis deliciosa* – **Geni Smith**

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – *Vanda tessellata* 'Robert', AM/AOS – **Carson Barnes**

These comments courtesy of Carson Barnes:

"*Vanda tessellata* is found from Sri Lanka north to Assam and Nepal,



Phalaenopsis Samera 'Purple Bliss' – Jarad Wilson



Vanda tessellata 'Robert', AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

east into Myanmar (Burma), supposedly at about 1500 feet elevation, which would be quite warm in most of that range. Flowers are commonly variably colored, with tessellations or some spotting on the sepals and petals and a contrasting pink to lavender ("blue") lip and a strong, fruity fragrance. 6 or 7 flowers per spike is typical, not as many flowers as we'd like on a hybrid Vanda. Better clones, like this one, or the bronze/"blue" lip 'Wink', HCC/AOS, can be nearly 6 cm in natural spread, while a typical flower for the species seems to be around 4 cm.

I've always kept it brighter and warmer than most Vandas, many of mine are actually intermediate to cool growers; potted in the same cypress mulch/perlite mix as all my other plants, and watered very frequently in large clay pots. I fertilize with more concentrated bone meal ferment than with most of the other orchids, and this year this plant, 'Robert', AM/AOS, responded with two spikes of 7 flowers each;

it had been annoying in California, where I was at a bit more than 37 degrees north latitude, and it refused to bloom. Here at 33 degrees plus, with Aluminet for a brighter yet cool house, it's gone bananas. Other, lesser clones are blooming for the third and fourth time this year."

Red – *Vanda coerulea* – Carson Barnes

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Promenaea rollissonii* – Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta

There are currently 18 recognized species of *Promenaea*, all of which come from Brazil and grow in moist forests along the east coast from Bahia state as far south as Rio Grande do Sul, which is the southernmost state in the country. Their habitats vary in elevation, so some are warmer growing and easier to cultivate in our climate, while others are cool growing and thus more challenging. *Prom. rollissonii* apparently occurs at mostly lower elevations where summers are warm, though far enough south that winter nights will be mostly in the 50's or even cooler. These habitats receive regular rainfall year round and these miniature, summer blooming orchids prefer to be



Promenaea rollissonii – Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta

well watered, but well drained at all times. The shorter winter days do coincide with their annual resting period, so less water than while actively growing is the best advice.

These small plants bear somewhat angular pseudobulbs enclosed by sheaths and topped by one to three bright green, thin, spreading leaves. Inflorescences emerge from the base of the pseudobulbs on new growths just as they are maturing in summer. One or two flowers about 1.5 inches across are produced per spike and are pale yellow overlaid with numerous purple spots laid out in broken longitudinal lines. Plants are clumping so can produce many flowers at once.

Perhaps because the most common species in cultivation and most commonly used in hybridization have been cool growers such as *Prom. xanthina* and *Prom. staelpelioides*, these orchids are rarely cultivated in this part of the country. But now that we have growing devices such as Kool-Logs that provide even moisture and cooling to the roots, more growers should give these little gems a try.

There have been a few intergeneric hybrids made between *Promenaea* and *Zygopetalum*, and a small handful with other related genera. The results I could find photos of were more curious than beautiful, with mostly "muddy" colors. But one recent cross with *Lycaste* has succeeded in producing offspring, so there seems to be plenty of untapped potential with this genus.

Red – *Bulbophyllum levyae* –
Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta

White – *Dendrophylax funalis* –
Geni Smith

White – *Tipularia discolor* –
Valorie Boyer

ATLOS Green Growers Outing September 27, 2014

**Marble Branch Farms, home of
Gary Collier and Mark Reinke
155 Marble Branch Trail
Walhalla, SC 29691**

**(864)718-0152 – Please R.S.V.P.
Event Starts at 12:00 noon**

Marble Branch Farms is a small commercial orchid nursery specializing in miniature & compact Cattleya Alliance hybrids and species, and introducing many unique hybrids created on site. The greenhouse features several innovative systems including rainwater collection and storage, and solar heating, and a wood furnace which provides all of their heating needs in winter. There will be many plants for sale at a discount, including items not found on their website: www.marblebranchfarms.com.

Marble Branch Farms is a 53 acre secluded tract adjoining a National Forest wild area and bordered by two mountain streams. It is a botanical paradise where rare species from the Smoky Mountains and Coastal Plain meet. The large bog garden filled with carnivorous plants will be in full glory just before frost, as many varieties wait until then to shoot up the most dramatic leaves. Hardy pitcher plants will be for sale – easily grown even in a simple bucket left out of doors year round. (seed grown and divisions)

A picnic pot-luck lunch will be served featuring, complimentary Abed's famous Arabian Rooster Fried Chicken from the Steakhouse Cafeteria in Walhalla! Bring a side dish or dessert of your choice to add to the festivities. If you plan to attend please let Mark & Gary know at (864) 718-0152 or info@marblebranchfarms.com.

Directions (allow 2 hours travel time from the center of Atlanta)



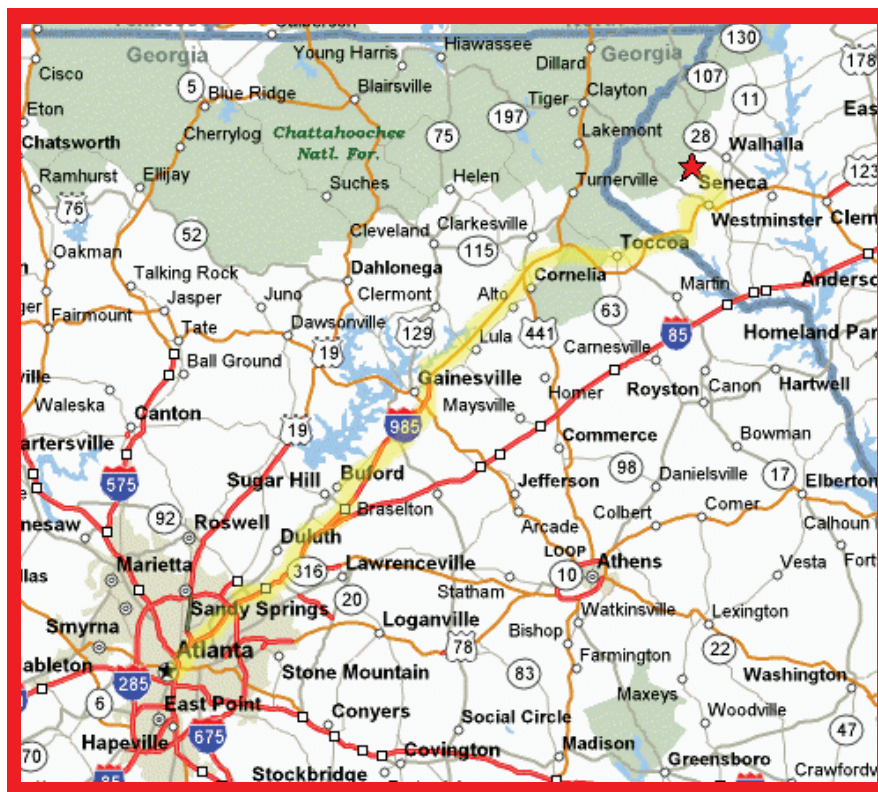
Impressive fall pitchers on the carnivorous plants

(Note – GPS may take you a different route – staying on I-85 all the way to SC is longer, but can be quicker, with just 21 miles of two lane roads instead of 26.)

Marble Branch Farms is exactly 100 miles from the intersection of Interstate 85 North and Jimmy Carter Blvd. Proceed on I-85 NORTH out of Atlanta and then take I-985 NORTH towards Gainesville. I-985 becomes GA-365 as you pass Gainesville, and you will follow GA-365 North to the SC state line with two key turns:

1. Immediately after milepost 52, be sure to exit to the right off the main 4 lane divided highway towards Toccoa. This will still be GA-365, but seems to be an exit off the main road. Once on it you will see that this branch too is a 4 lane divided highway.
2. Shortly after the above turn, the highway veers SE and descends a long grade. At the bottom of the grade is a traffic light where you will turn LEFT, onto a two lane highway towards Toccoa. (Curahee Mtn. will be a significant landmark immediately off to your right, with numerous antennae on its summit). The left turn will STILL be GA-365 (and now also US123), but once again, an apparent turn off of the main road.
3. Pass through the town of Toccoa, and continue on to the SC state line. GA 365 ends at the state line, but the road continues as US123 into SC. Proceed another 9 or 10 more miles to the outskirts of the town of Westminster.
4. Just as you come into the town of Westminster, SC turn LEFT at the SECOND traffic light you encounter. This will come immediately after the first light since leaving Toccoa, GA. The road name is SC 183 toward Walhalla. YOU WILL ONLY BE ON THIS ROAD FOR ABOUT 150 FEET!
5. Take the FIRST POSSIBLE LEFT, approximately 150 feet after getting on SC 183, onto W. NORTH AVE. This double left turn is due to road changes which made Doyle St. no longer accessible directly from US 123. You will be on W. North Ave. for only a hundred yards or so.

OVERALL ROUTE MAP: (Note – GPS may take you a different route – staying on I-85 all the way to SC is longer, but can be quicker, with just 21 miles of two lane roads instead of 26.)



6. Take the FIRST POSSIBLE RIGHT onto DOYLE ST. This is the first possible right turn after the previous turn. **(Refer to map below).** You will travel 3.9 miles on Doyle St., through a new 4-way stop on W. Bennett St. and on to the SECOND stop sign, where several roads come together from different directions. Ahead of you a low mountain range is visible. You will proceed across this complex intersection of country roads toward the mountains.

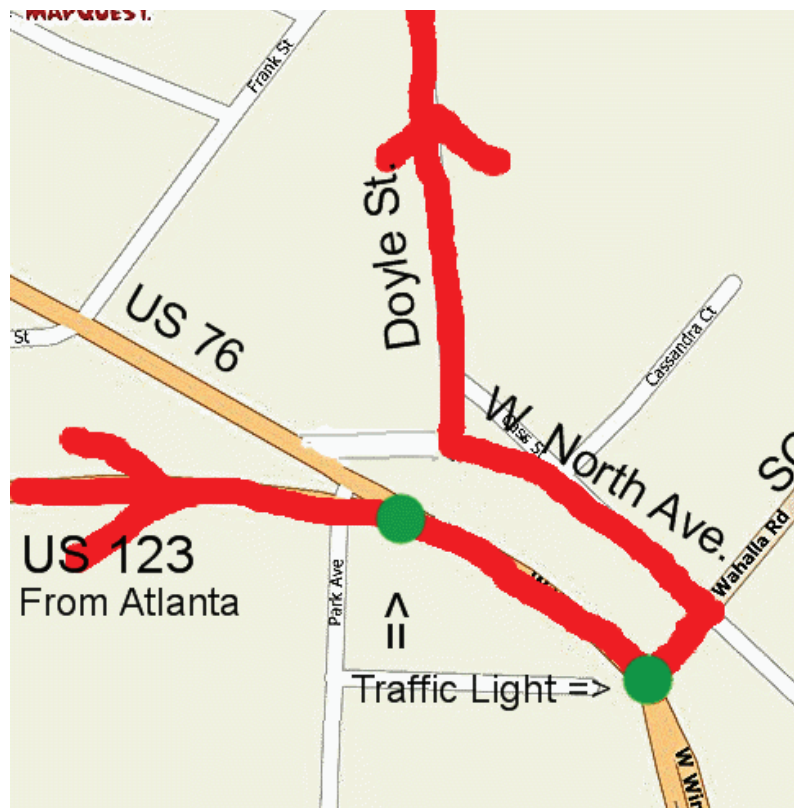
7. Heading straight across the above mentioned intersection, you will now be on STRIBLING SHOALS RD. and are just 2.2 miles away from Marble Branch Farms. YOU ARE ALMOST THERE! To your left across the intersection is "Five Forks Grocery and Gas" now closed to business.

8. You will travel 1.6 miles on Stribling Shoals Rd. to reach Marble Branch Trail on the LEFT. It is immediately after 4 black mailboxes together, the first of which is oversized and says '155' on the front of it.

9. Turn left onto Marble Branch Trail, a single track gravel road, right next to a cream colored house with a dirt yard 'graced' by several vehicles. Follow Marble Branch Trail for 0.5 miles to number 155. First, you will descend a long grade down hill through the forest. At the bottom of the hill, the road turns sharply right and follows Ramsey Creek up the valley. Continue past no. 130 with a large grass lawn and up through a small gap between two hills. Just through the gap and down a small grade will see our driveway on the left, marked by a blue and white '155' sign. You will glimpse the house (with a blue metal roof) on the other side of the creek.

10. Turn into the driveway and ford Ramsey Creek then come up toward the house and greenhouse. Our friend Steve may direct you to a parking spot. This is a general open house and we will make use of every possible spot available to park a vehicle along the driveway. The ford over the creek is a bit bumpy but very solid, however, sports cars or other vehicles with very low clearance may wish to park in the grassy spot near the head of the driveway and walk the boards across.

CRITICAL TURN IN WESTMINSTER, SC (Green Dots are Traffic Lights)



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



Paphiopedilum concolor 'Chasus', AM/AOS, 81 pts.
Exhibited by Charles & Susan Wilson



Dendrobium biloculare 'Sweet Sol', HCC/AOS, 79 pts.
Exhibited by Aleksandr & Victoria Kumok



Cattlianthe Loog Tone 'African Queen', AM/AOS, 83 pts.
Exhibited by Barney & Aileen Garrison



Cattleya Leoloddiglossa 'Call That Blue', AM/AOS, 82 pts.
Exhibited by Carson Barnes



Brassocattleya A. C. Oliveros 'Chasus', HCC/AOS, 78 pts.
Exhibited by Charles & Susan Wilson



(*Encyclia phoenecia* 'Florafarm', AM/AOS x *Laelia splendida* 'Orchid Eros', AM/AOS) 'MVO Sweetheart', AM/AOS, 82 pts. Exhibited by Roy Harrow