



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

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JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, January 12, 2015

8:00 PM

Atlanta Botanical
Garden, Day Hall

"Growing Orchids Under Lights, Part 2"

David Kessler is the proprietor of Willowbrook Orchids; an orchid nursery specializing in Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. He is an accredited AOS judge in the Atlanta center and has earned over 30 AOS awards for merit and culture. Additionally, he was the 2008 recipient of the AOS special annual W.W. Wilson Award recognizing the best slipper orchid of the year (which was grown under lights). Atlanta Orchid Society members are welcome to peruse the website: www.willowbrookorchids.com and make pre-orders for delivery at the April meeting. You can use the coupon code ATLOS for an additional 15% off of your order. Please make a note at checkout to bring the order to the April meeting for pick-up. David will also be bringing orchids, grow lights, and gardening supplies to sell at the meeting.

David Kessler is the head horticulturist at Atlantis Hydroponics; a gardening specialty retailer. He has written

dozens of articles for trade magazines and industry blogs. His forte is in hydroponic farm design and installation. Many of David's projects involve growing solely under artificial lights. Most recently he designed a vertical farm for a large Hollywood movie. Atlantis Hydroponics has a section of the website just for orchid growers: <http://www.atlantishydroponics.com/orchid-growing-supplies>. David will be speaking on the topic of growing orchids indoors under lights. He will go over the different types of lights available to gardeners as well as they differences between them. Also, he will address how to create a grow room with the correct environment



Top and Left – Orchids growing under lights in a cave
Right – Paphiopedilum Harold Koopowitz 'David's Jade Jewel,' AM/AOS

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November, 2014

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Vice-President/Programs

Barbara Barnett

705-579-2670

Secretary

Valorie Boyer 678-822-1594

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Jason Mills 678-383-2936

PO Box 922192

Norcross, GA 30010

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Rick Martinez 678-583-8695

David Kessler 404-468-8678

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Brand

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Lynne Gollob

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Monthly Ribbon Judging –

David Mellard

Newsletter – Mark Reinke

Orchid Digest Rep– David

Mellard

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American Orchid Society

Education, Conservation, Research

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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

January

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

12 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm
"Growing Orchids Under Lights"

February

6-8 - South Carolina Orchid Society Show, Riverbanks Botanical Gardens, Columbia, SC

9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8 p.m.
"Plant Grooming and Show Prep"

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

21 - International Phalaenopsis Alliance meeting, Peachstate Orchids, Woodstock, GA

March

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

13-15 - Atlanta Orchid Society Show, Atlanta Botanical Gardens, Atlanta, GA

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

20-22 - Mid-American Orchid Congress/Tennessee Capital Orchid Show & Sale, Nashville, TN

28-29 - Western NC Orchid Show & Sale, NC Arboretum at Bent Creek, Asheville, NC

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the President of the Atlanta Orchid Society for the year 2015, I believe the best way to start is to introduce myself to the new and continuing members. My name is Ellen Brand and I have been a member of our society since 2003. For most of those years I managed to keep a very low profile, but recently I lost my ability to stay in the background. I joined the Board of Trustees in 2013 and became chair of hospitality when it became vacant.

I will not attempt to give advice on growing orchids during my year as President. Although I have a fairly large collection for a basement grower, I pretty much guess at what they need to stay alive. I give them light, I give the water, I give the fertilizer and sometimes they give me flowers. I do read up on the different species and hybrids in my collection, but it can get confusing. I find it very difficult to give up on a plant. I just keep trying to figure it out. As long as it is not dead, I think there is still a chance of getting it to bloom.

The new year means it is time to renew your membership. Please see Jason Mills about renewing your membership at our meetings or you can do it through our web site.

We are beginning to organize for the Orchid Show and Sale which takes place in March. Danny Lentz will be giving us information on the plans so far.

Our speaker will be David Kessler. His program topic will be "Growing Under Lights". I know there will be valuable information for us hobby growers who try to grow under lights.

So, please join us at the Atlanta Orchid Society meeting on January 12 at 8 PM in Day Hall at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens.

Hope to see you there,

Ellen Brand, President

to maintain an orchid collection. There will several tips that he learned from almost a decade of growing orchids under lights. "One of the best things about growing under lights is the level of control it gives the gardener; there is never a cloudy or a cold day, there is never a hot or dry spell; your orchids will receive ideal growing conditions 24/7 if you set-up your grow room correctly."

Minutes of the December 2014 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

**Date: December 8, 2014,
8:00 pm**

Location: Meeting at Rock Spring Presbyterian Church Hall

Prior to convening the meeting, members and guests enjoyed our traditional holiday pot-luck dinner.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 PM by President Mark Reinke.

On motion and second the minutes of the November meeting were approved as published in the December newsletter.

Treasurer Jason Mills presented the financial report.

President Reinke announced upcoming events and forthcoming changes to the ribbon judging system.

President Reinke presented Certificates of Appreciation to the 2014 Board members and Volunteers.

Gary Collier retired the 2014

Board of Trustees and installed the new Officers and Trustees for the 2015 year.

The gavel was passed from Mark Reinke to 2015 President Ellen Brand.

Ribbon judging results were presented and the evening concluded with the annual gift exchange.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM

*Minutes compiled by
Nancy Newton*

New Guidelines for Monthly Ribbon Judging for 2015

In response to feedback from the membership, the Board took up the issue of monthly ribbon judging beginning at their meeting in July, 2014. Statistic showed that the majority of the ribbons were being awarded to plants brought in by members who grow orchids commercially, which was possibly acting as a disincentive for members who are hobby and windowsill growers to bring in plants for the monthly show tables. After



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

discussion the topic was tabled until the December board meeting so that the board members had time to think of practical solutions to the issue. At that meeting on December 6, 2014 it was decided that for the

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 (syn. Sophronitis) cernua – Lynne Gollob

months of January, February and March of 2015 we would try separating out commercial grower entries to compete with each other but not with the membership at large. Commercial growers will be asked to put a letter "C" on their entry tags so that the judges can recognize those plants. In any category that has both commercial and hobby grown plants, two sets of ribbons will be awarded at the judges' discretion. Commercial growers will not be eligible for quarterly or annual cash awards. At the end of the trial period the Board will decide whether the new system is a success and will then re-write the rules for monthly ribbon judging in the Member Handbook to reflect the changes. A commercial grower will be defined in the same manner as the rules used in orchid shows, which state that anyone who earns more than \$500 per year through orchid plant sales will be classed as a commercial for judging purposes.

The Atlanta Orchid Society is

proud of the monthly ribbon judging program that has been the tradition of this society for many years. By separating orchids into nine recognized classes, awarding ribbons and discussing the awarded plants both at the meetings in the newsletter, we provide a very high degree of education information about them. Members can better understand the diversity of species and growing techniques that have proven successful in our growing area. We encourage all members to participate by bringing their orchids in flower to the meetings!

Hospitality for the year 2015

I am making some changes to our monthly meeting refreshments. Although I will continue as the Chair for Hospitality, I am going to reduce all that I bring to the monthly meetings. I would like for members attending the meetings to bring snacks to eat

and to share. It can be home cooked or store bought; sweet or savory. I will continue to bring coffee and creamer, but I will not bring food this year. My plan is to keep soft drinks, water and the paper and plastic supplies in our basement storage cabinet, as soon as we put a lock on the doors.

I hope to find a few helpers who can get the supplies from the cabinet, set them up on the tables and then take the leftovers back down to storage. I will refill the cabinet as is needed. Ed Shoulta has already volunteered, but I need others I can call on to help if he is unavailable.

I will continue to put out the donation container go help defray the cost of our hospitality supplies.

Thanks,
Ellen Brand, Hospitality

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners December 2014

Class I – Cattleya Group

Blue – *Cattleya (syn. Sophronitis) cernua* – Lynne Gollob

What a beautifully flowered plant with excellent form and size, and definitely in contention with many of the awarded examples! It was exhibited at the peak of perfection with all flowers on each inflorescence fully open. This charming Brazilian species is the most adaptable of the former *Sophronitis* to typically "cattleya" culture and does not need cool nights year round to grow and flower well. The bright colored forms are descended from plants of the inland race which grows in exposed locations in the states of Minas Gerais and São Paulo.

Mature plants can produce up to eight flowers on a single inflorescence, which emerges without a sheath and enveloped in a developing new growth. Plants will often bloom more than once per year, most frequently from late summer into late fall, but with occasional flowers in winter and spring as well. Cultivated forms such as the plant exhibited have been line bred to select for consistent color and fuller form, as well as large size. Each flower can be slightly more than an inch across.

Although not always an easy parent to work with, *C. cernua* can produce charming hybrids with very small stature and a multifloral nature. While they tend to be slow to reach blooming size, once mature they are frequent flowering.

Plants of this species are best grown mounted or in very free draining baskets as their roots need to dry off quickly after being watered. They prefer bright light and do well in a temperature range between 55 and 95 as long as there is good air movement.

There is a rare yellow form that has become somewhat more commercially available, but still demands premium prices. What is not so obvious in the typical color forms is that the orange shades we see are created by a thin layer of translucent purple pigment over a yellow base color. In the yellow forms this purple pigmentation is absent, made apparent by the lack of the contrasting amethyst colored anther caps we see in the type examples.

Red – *Rhyncolaeliocattleya*
Hetherington Horace – **Roy Harrow**

White – *Cattleya* Rembrandt

'Gambel's Giant' – **Gary Collier & Mark Reinke**

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

No Entries

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Barkeria* Mary Marsh – **David Johnston**

Bark. Mary Marsh is one of 25 hybrids in the genus *Barkeria*, created by Dr. Robert Marsh of Garland, TX and registered between 1987 and 2003. It involves three of the 17 described species, *Bark. naevosa*, *whartoniana*, and *lindleyana*, and beautifully demonstrates the attractive qualities found in this uncommonly cultivated orchid group. Most species are partially to totally deciduous as an

adaptation to the habitats they populate, which have an extended dry season from winter into spring. During a five to six month period barely two inches of measurable rainfall occurs, and the plants survive by soaking up occasional dew through their numerous roots covered in a thick absorbent outer layer known as velamen.

Barkeria flowers are long lasting and showy, and many species and their hybrids produce successive racemes of flowers from nodes along the strong wiry inflorescence over the course of many months. They are relatively easy to cultivate and the most likely reason for their scarcity in collections is simply due to lack of widespread commercial availability. They can be difficult to propagate from seed and many available plants are divisions or offsets rather than seedlings.

When you do find plants available, they are worth snatching up as they will grow well alongside many other types of orchids. Bright light, excellent



Barkeria Mary Marsh – **David Johnston**



Trichocentrum margalefii – David Johnston

air movement, regular water while growing and only infrequent water when resting, are the main cultural requirements for most *Barkeria*. They are generally adapted to intermediate to warm temperatures.

Red – *Epicattleya* René Marqués 'Tyler' – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

White – *Barkeria* Marsh Mela – David Johnston

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – *Trichocentrum margalefii* – David Johnston

The "Mule-Ear *Oncidiums*" have been moved around a couple of times by taxonomists in recent years. In 1992 Braeme separated them from *Oncidium* into *Lophiaris*, a name originally applied to known species of that group in 1838. However, in 2001 Chase and Williams proposed they should be included in *Trichocentrum* and that is where

they are currently assigned by Kew. However, not all *Trichocentrum* have the leathery slightly folded leaves or upright inflorescences of the "mule ear" group. Some have more terete leaves and a pendent flowering habit.

Trt. margalefii is a smaller growing, attractive species that

definitely fits under the "mule ear" subgroup. It comes from mountain slopes facing the Pacific Ocean in south-central Mexico, at fairly high elevations of between 6000 and 7000 feet. This makes it one of the coolest growing in the group, generally preferring night temperatures in the 40 to 60F range and perhaps a bit more attention to moisture during the four to five month winter dry season than the more commonly encountered species from lower elevations, such as *Trt. splendidum* and *Trt. luridum*.

Red – *Oncidium* Twinkle – Sondra Nierenberg

White – *Tolumnia* Golden Luis 'Hapsburg' – David Johnston

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – *Paphiopedilum spicerianum* – Lynne Gollob

Paphiopedilum spicerianum is one of the foundation species of modern "Bulldog" breeding and



Paphiopedilum spicerianum – Lynne Gollob



Tubecentron Hsingying Girl – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

an amazing 77 first generation registered hybrids were made with it before 1900! Now, over 17,000 registered crosses can trace back to this shady growing species from India. Unlike the mottled-leaf types, *Paph. spicerianum* comes from a region with cool winter temperatures that regularly fall into the 40's, and thus it is well suited to culture in a climate like England, where so much of its early hybridization took place. Though rainfall is quite low in winter in its natural range, the species tends to grow in seepage areas where the roots remain moist, and thus it prefers to have somewhat less water then, but should never dry

out completely. The species name honors Lady Spicer, who flowered the plant for the first time in cultivation in 1878. While two flowers per inflorescence is possible, it is an infrequent occurrence. This plant has a second flower developing on both spikes!

Blue – *Paphiopedilum helenae* x Barbilight – Barbara Barnett

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

No Entries

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – *Tubecentron* Hsingying Girl – Gary Collier & Mark Reinke

This very miniature vandaceous hybrid was recently registered by Ching Hua orchids of Taiwan and has only been available in the U.S. market since last year. It carries two doses of *Ceratocentron fessellii*, a species from the Philippines just described in 1989, and one dose of *Tuberolabium kotoense*, and infrequently seen species from a small island off the coast of Taiwan. The former brings the bright coloration along with it while the latter adds slightly to the flower count of this charming micro-mini. The plant exhibited, while just barely three inches across in total spread and carrying six tiny leaves, is flowering for the second time and holds ten bright orange flowers on an upright stem, each a little over one-half inch across. Close inspection reveals touches of purple and white in the lip and column.

Based on the cultural needs of the parents, this orchid prefers bright, but diffused light, will tolerate cool to warm temperatures and likes year round watering, with perhaps just slightly less in winter. It needs perfect drainage and could grow mounted if one is prepared to water it daily or even more often in the heat of summer. A Kool-Log would be an excellent choice for growing several of these plants together without the requirement of such frequent watering. This plant is growing in a very open mix in a two inch plastic pot with numerous drain holes in the bottom.

Class IX – Miscellaneous



Masdevallia Angel Tears – **Lynne Gollob**

**Blue – *Masdevallia Angel Tears* –
Lynne Gollob**

****J C Mobley Cultural Award****

From grower Lynne Gollob:

Masdevallia Angel Tears (Masd. Copper Angel x Masd. amplexa)

"I purchased the plant at the Chattanooga Orchid show in perhaps 2011, along with a cool pot to grow it in. In fact most of the roots were rotten and the plant was in sad shape. The plant had survived but did not flourish. When Larry Mayse gave a talk at the meeting in Nov 2013, I purchased several Kool-Logs from him in various sizes. The following week I de-potted the Angel Tears along with the other Masdevallias I had purchased and potted them onto the Kool-Logs. The Angel Tears plant literally fell into many single pieces when the medium was removed causing a problem to repot. I used the netting from a package of lemons. I cut it to 2.5 inches and

stretched it out on the work bench. I then put shreds of NZ sphagnum moss on the mesh and carefully laid down the tiny pieces of the Masdevallia, adding another few strands of the moss behind the tiny roots for protection. I laid the Kool-Log at one end of the mesh and rolled the whole mesh, plant and moss up tight to the pot. To finish I used 3 daisy clips to secure the mesh tightly together. The plant was placed on the north side of the greenhouse under the upper shelf. So filtered light, water every 2 days to refill the Kool-Log and wait. I was skeptical at first, but within 2 weeks I could see new roots and within 4 weeks the mass had new shoots as well as plenty of new roots. Within 6 months the plant was blooming and has been on the Kool-Log for 13 months 7 months of which it has been in bloom."

Red – *Fredclarkeara* After Dark 'Black Pearl,' FCC/AOS – David Johnston



**Monthly
Ribbon Judging
Quarterly Winners
and 2014 Yearly
Wrap-Up**

Each Blue Ribbon awarded to a plant you bring into the meeting and enter in the ribbon judging is worth 5 points, Red ribbons are worth 3 points and White ribbons, one point. The quarterly winners each receive a \$25 check from the club, and the annual winner receives a \$75 check! *Congratulations!* A member can win only one quarter per year, so in some quarters the honor may default to the next highest point winner.

First Quarter

Gary Collier/ Mark Reinke – 38 points

Second Quarter

Carson Barnes – 58 points

Third Quarter

David Johnston – 19 points

Fourth Quarter

Geni Smith – 22 points

YEARLY WINNER!

Carson Barnes – 177 points

**TOP TEN POINT EARNERS FOR
THE YEAR 2014**

Carson Barnes – 177 points

Gary Collier / Mark Reinke – 135 points

Larry & Linda Mayse – 57 points

Geni Smith – 42 points

David Johnston – 41 points

Nancy Newton – 38 points

Jarad Wilson – 28 points

David Mellard / Sal Marino – 26 points

Helen Blythe-Hart – 23 points

Roy Harrow – 21 points

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 Barney Garrison 'Aileen',
AM/AOS, 82 pts.
Exhibited by Barney & Aileen Garrison



Paphiopedilum Avalon Druid 'William's Striped Emerald',
AM/AOS, 81 pts.
Exhibited by David Kessler



*Rhyncattleanthe Martha's Sunburst 'Stones River',
HCC/AOS, 76 pts.
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



*Phalaenopsis I-Hsin Picture 'SRO-KHM 1483',
AM/AOS, 83 pts.
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



*Rhyncholaeliocattleya Memoria Frank Fordyce 'Stones River',
HCC/AOS, 79 pts.
Exhibited by Stones River Orchids*



Warm greetings to my fellow orchidists!

As President of the Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee, I would like to welcome you to the Franklin and metropolitan Nashville area. We are very excited and proud to be hosting the Spring 2015 meeting of the Mid-America Orchid Congress and the Tennessee Capital Orchid Show and Sale.

The society members have worked hard to help make this event possible for everyone's enjoyment. With our hotel and show space all within one building, you are assured easy access to both. A strong show committee, led by show chair Tom Harper, has worked hard in planning the meeting and show. Be sure to see our list of supporting committee members elsewhere in this program.

Finally, I would be remiss if I were not to also extend a hearty thank you to all of the judges, clerks, visiting AOS-affiliated society members from surrounding areas, guest speakers, and vendors who have come from far and wide to give their time and energy in order to make this show a spectacular success. It is only with the collective contributions of the entire orchid community that an event as special as this can come together.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a successful show and offer my assistance to anyone in need of anything to make their show experience the best one possible. With that, let us all join together to make this meeting one to remember.

*With kindest regards,
Jan Lawrence
President,
Orchid Society of Middle Tennessee*

Tennessee Capital Orchid Show & Sale
Mid-America Orchid Congress

Hosted by The Orchid Society
of Middle Tennessee

Franklin Marriott Cool Springs,
700 Cool Springs Blvd.,
Franklin, Tennessee 37067

Friday, March 20, 2015 from 10 AM until 5 PM
Saturday, March 21, 2015 from 9 AM until 8 PM
Sunday, March 22, 2015 from 9 AM until 5:00 PM

Plant and Orchid Sales Available on Friday, March 20, 2015 from 10 AM until 5 PM as well as Saturday and Sunday during the posted show hours above. Please check back as we add information and be sure to visit OSMT at tnorchid.org