



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

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www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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MAY MONTHLY MEETING

**Monday, June 13, 2016
8:00 PM**

Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

"2016 Japan International Gran Prix Orchid Festival"

**Michael Sinn
Certified AOS Judge and
owner of Canaima Orchids**

Born in Venezuela to German parents, Michael Sinn became fascinated with orchids at the age of twelve when he took over the care and culture of his mother's extensive collection of cattleyas and oncidiums.

He grew up hiking the jungles of South America in search of cattleyas in their natural habitats. Using his degree in civil engineering from Universidad Metropolitana in Caracas, Michael worked as a contractor for four years in the Venezuelan Amazon State. The work afforded him opportunities to further observe habitats but, more importantly, he came to understand the urgency for conservation. He spent much personal time teaching local people how to pollinate the orchids, impressing upon them the need to let the plants remain in their natural habitat.

Michael's instincts drew him toward breeding cattleyas and laelias, eventually starting his own nursery, Canaima Orchids. (Canaima is a dramatic region of the interior of Venezuela and



The Japan Gran Prix International Orchid Festival is so enormous, it is held at the Tokyo Dome, a major event arena capable of seating 55,000 people. The displays can be overwhelming and even outrageous at times as the eye is dazzled by thousands upon thousands of carefully groomed plants.

home to Angel Falls, the world's tallest waterfall.) Michael's vision remains constant: to conserve native species, by producing the finest cultivars of Cattleya species.

Michael is an accredited AOS Judge. He recently relocated to The Atlanta area and joined the Atlanta Orchid Society. He is currently serving as the society's Vice-President. Michael will be selling plants at our meeting.



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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Silent Auction – Michael Sinn

Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Mellard

Newsletter – Mark Reinke

Orchid Digest Rep – David Mellard

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Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

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Maureen Mckovich, Mark Reinke & Jan Spenard



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

What is a Plant Challenge?

It is a test of your growing skills!

Those who choose to take this Dare:

1. Will sign up at the meeting in June.
2. The society will purchase the plants from a grower. They will all be the same grex and the same size. They will be modestly priced.
3. Hopefully you will receive your plant by August and start growing.
4. You can report on your progress or issues and comments on how you cared for it. We will keep track of the plants.
5. *The first member to bloom the plant is the WINNER with Bragging Rights.*

Are you up for the challenge?



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](mailto:David.Mellard@orchiddigest.com) (404-237-1694) or visit www.orchiddigest.com to join online.

Events Calendar

June

11 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

11 – The Daylily Society of Greater Atlanta Show
www.atlantadaylily.org

13 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m.
 Michael Sinn – Canaima Orchids and ATLOS Vice-President
“2016 Japan Gran Prix International Orchid Festival”

24-26 – Breezy Hill Orchid Festival, Steve Arthur Orchids, 23 Glass House Road, Graniteville, SC

July

09 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Atlanta Botanical Gardens – location TBA – 8 p.m.
 Speaker – Laura Newton

August

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

13 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, Georgia-Pacific Classroom – Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

September

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Annual Auction and Pot-Luck



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Save the Date:

Saturday, August 20, 2016 for Green Growers

The Board has been talking about another **Green Grower Event** for some time. In our recent past, we have seen Mark Reinke's Marble Branch Farms and Larry Mayes's wonderful cool green house, also the fabulous garden and green house of Lynne Gollob. We always learn something from these trips.

We feel that we need to experience some less expansive growing areas. Hopefully, that will be the case on my cool mountain, in Big Canoe. It is usually 5 degrees cooler here than in Atlanta. I have a small greenhouse, breezeway and lower deck as growing areas. I will publish directions next month as your GPS will not work inside the gate. I will also need a list of people that are expected to come to give to the gate. Also due to limited parking, you might want to car pool. Details will follow.

In the future, we will visit members that grow under lights as well as other types of growing areas that may apply to your situation. I remember Green Grower visits as some of my best culture learning experiences.

I hope this will be a fun event and that you will be able to join us in the mountains of Big Canoe.



Dendrobium limpidum exhibited by Jason Mills-Shoulta at the May meeting. A dwarf species from Papua New-Guinea

Minutes of the May 9, 2016 Monthly Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The meeting was held in Day Hall at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. 30 people were in attendance.

David Kessler held a Paphiopedilum repotting and culture class from 7:30 to 8pm.

The previous meeting minutes were seconded and approved as printed in the previous newsletter.

Jason Mills-Shoulta gave the treasurer's report and reviewed the ribbon winners from the society exhibit in the Deep South Orchid Show held in Savannah at the end of April.

Carson Barnes went over the silent auction table plants.

Helen's talk started at 8:25pm and we had break at 9pm.

Before we adjourned at 9:45pm Roy Harrow announced he will be holding his plant auction at his house July 30th, the last one he plans on doing.

Valerie Boyer
Secretary

Orchid Growing Class

7:15 till 7:45 Pre-Meeting

Geni Smith will be
discussing
"Phalaenopsis Culture
And Repotting"

Please join Geni for
another
Great learning
experience



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 3) 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

Breezy Hill Orchid Festival Orchids and Other Plants

Steve Arthur Orchids

23 Glass House Road

Graniteville, SC 29829

E-mail: orchids@stevearthurchids.com

Friday June 24 - Sunday June 26, 2016

\$5.00 Admission Includes all three days 9

to 5 Each Day

Lots of free parking

Orchid Vendors, Plant Vendors, Orchid Talks, Demonstrations

Indoor/Outdoor Plant Sales

Master Gardener Groups, Hort. Clubs, Orchid
Societies All plant folks invited

Raffles both days Lunches
for sale, Shady picnic area

Big day Saturday - AOS Supplemental Judging 1:00 pm

Have plants to be judged here by 12 noon

Bring blooming orchids to be AOS judged

More Information at

www.stevearthurchids.com/events/orchid-festival-2016

Please pass the word along

Scan For Vendor List and Other Info

On Website as Available



Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners May 2016

Notes by Mark Reinke

Photos by Jason Mills-Shoulta

Class I – Cattleya Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Rhyncattlianthe* Toshie's
Charm – **Bob Grzesik**

This is a compact grower done by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids near San Diego, CA. It was entered under the parents, which are *Rlc.* Little Toshie x *Rth.* Izumi Charm, but was registered with the above name in 2009. Based on photos that Fred has posted on his website, this particular example is nice, but falls short of the best results of the cross, which exhibit a flatter presentation and a fuller lip with more striking color patterns. But considering there are 26 different species in the family tree, there is bound to be a good amount of variation!

When working with the Cattleya Alliance, The yellow color range in particular tends to produce inconsistent results, even with such promising parents as these, which have in their family tree some of the most celebrated crosses of the last 50 years. This is likely because the long path to producing good yellows involves species such as *C. dowiana*, with the sought after yellow color and a magnificent lip, but less than perfect form, and *C. bicolor*, with its "isthmus" lip and narrow segments. Even after many generations, hints of these less desirable traits can still show themselves, with sometimes only a select few seedlings getting the best of everything hoped for in the pairing.

That said, this is still a perfectly lovely flower and the plant likely is capable of flowering twice per year or more. Its genetic diversity should make for an orchid that does well under a variety of conditions.

Commercial Winners



Rth. Toshie's Charm – Bob Grzesik



Cattleya intermedia var. *aquinii* forma *coerulea* – Carson Barnes

Blue – *Cattleya intermedia* variety
aquinii forma *coerulea* – **Carson Barnes**

Apparently there was some discussion at the meeting about this orchid, entered as *Cattleya intermedia*, being possibly another species. But based on the photo I received it looks like the entry is correct. However, it is not a typical example, but a combination of both a

special form and an unusual color variation. This type of breeding has been popular with Brazilian growers in recent years.

There have been many color variations of *C. intermedia* collected in the wild along the coast of Southeast Brazil where it is native and in some locales abundant. One of the most curious is 'variety *aquinii*' in which the two petals have mutated to include contrasting purple

“projections” which look similar to the mid-lobe on the lip of a typical flower. Starting in the mid-20th Century, this plant was the source of much breeding for pronounced splashes and flares over the decades. But one negative factor to deal with has been that the two petals often project forward from a flat plane just like the lip, creating a less satisfying overall form. It can take a number of generations to correct this issue.

In the case of this orchid, those generations of selective breeding not only have produced flatter peloric flowers, but also introduced the violet-mauve color palette to this unusual variation of the species. I am not certain I have chosen the taxonomically correct way of expressing the “double rare” mix of two unusual traits, but I think it will do.

C. intermedia is a highly temperature tolerant species, hardy down to a bit below freezing, and fond of high light, high humidity, and regular but careful watering year round.

Class II – Cymbidium Group

Blue – *Cymbidium devonianum* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

For the lover of pendant flowering *Cymbidium*, this species is the pièce de résistance! It is a small, attractive plant that can make trailing inflorescences of charming flowers that are longer than the plant is tall. Well grown examples will produce two inflorescence from the most recent pseudobulb, and sometimes additional ones from older growths. The individual flowers are long lasting and have subtly beautiful coloration. Check out the June, 2016 edition of *Orchids* magazine for an amazing specimen!

It is native to the foothills of the Himalayas in Nepal, Bhutan and Northeast India growing on mossy rocks and old, sometimes decayed trees on slopes that allow fine inflorescences to trail down from the plant. It grows in medium light in areas that receive copious summer rainfall, then sufficient dew and mist in winter to never fully dry out. A



Cymbidium devonianum – David Mellard & Sal Marino



Dendrobium stricklandianum – David Mellard & Sal Marino

cooler, drier period is needed to flower *Cym. devonianum*, but while it is hardy down to freezing, nights in the 50's are sufficient.

A host of wonderful hybrids have descended from this orchid with more than 200 first generation offspring and nearly 1000 total registered crosses that have it in their family tree.

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Dendrobium stricklandianum* – David Mellard & Sal Marino

Kew considers both *Den. catenatum* and *Den. tosaense* to be synonyms for *Den. stricklandianum*, which is the current accepted name for this delicate species that grows in the southernmost provinces of mainland Japan as well as Okinawa and surrounding islands. This is essentially the same habit as the type species for the genus, *Den. moniliforme*. Both grow on trees and rocks, sometimes quite close to the sea. The more exposed the

plants are, the more dwarf and reddish the stems are.

The flowers of *Den. stricklandianum* have subtle coloration, usually pale green or yellowish green with a touch of stronger yellow and purple in the lip. The blooms are produced primarily and two and three year old stems, which is a habit also shared by *Den. moniliforme*.

The cross of these two species is called *Den. Ise* and is usually white or pale pink, bearing flowers that are often larger than either parent. It has produced a couple dozen charming hybrids, that have the look of more delicate *Den. nobile* types, but are much easier to flower without a pronounced chill or dry period.

**Red – *Dendrobium limpidum* –
Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta**

**White – *Dendrobium trantuanii* –
Geni Smith**

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

**Blue – *Epidendrum Candy Valley* –
Roy Harrow**

The photograph beautifully captures the glittering texture of this lovely reed stemmed *Epidendrum* hybrid. The creator of this beauty is Moriaki Inamine of Japan, who has used the word “Valley” in every one of the over 120 *Epidendrum* crosses he has registered since 1993.

It is amazing, looking at the family tree, to see such a delicate pink color in this orchid given the number of orange and red parents. However, *Epi. secundum*, a species that is generally purple, is one parent in three of the four more brightly colored grandparents, and somehow, in this generation, that lighter color palette sneaks its way in.

These modern breeding lines are producing colorful orchids that are much more compact and better behaved than their weedy ancestor species, which often colonize roadsides and other disturbed areas in the American tropics. They still have a preference for very bright light for the best performance, and perfect



Epidendrum Candy Valley – Roy Harrow



Paphiopedilum Shin-Yi Isabel – Bob Grzesik

drainage at the roots. They can flower almost continuously once mature and are tolerant of a wide temperature range.

Class V – Oncidium Group

No Entries

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Amateur Winners

**Blue – *Paphiopedilum Shin-Yi Isabel*
- Bob Grzesik**

This cross is the result of pairing two rather celebrated hybrids, each with *Paph. rothschildianum* as one parent. However, it falls a bit short of the promise of such a match, looking much like a very average example of the one parent, *Paph. Lady Isabel*,

with none of the exciting qualities of the other, *Paph.* Prince Edward of York, a good example of which can leave one awestruck! Each of these parents can claim more than 100 official orchid judging awards!

It is possible the flowers will improve in a later blooming, when the plant is more mature, or that they petals had not fully grown out to their final length when exhibited. Whatever the case, kudos must be given to Bob for flowering a large multifloral *Paphiopedilum* hybrid employing windowsill culture. They are not considered easy subjects outside of a more controlled environment. This group generally needs higher light, high humidity and warmth, with a brief winter chill to encourage good growth and flowering.

Red – *Paphiopedilum* Chou-Yi Apple x Hsinying Web – **Bob Grzesik**

White – *Paphiopedilum roebelenii* – Roy Harrow

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Phalaenopsis* Tying Shin Golden City - **Roy Harrow**

The way this plant was entered was a bit confusing, possibly due to how the tag that came with the plant was written. The full four words are required to express the grex name, or name given when the cross was registered, none of it is a clonal name that should be put in single quote marks. Tying Shin Orchids in Taiwan has scores of registrations, all of which are *Phalaenopsis*, with their nursery name as the first two words of the grex and one or two additional words as the remainder of the name for the cross.

This particular cross has a good dose of *Phal. equestris*, and the floriferous nature of that species comes through beautifully, while a blend of 10 other species help to contribute good form and color. There have been six AOS awards bestowed on various plants of *Phal.* Tying Shin Golden City, including a



Phalaenopsis Tying Shin Golden City – Roy Harrow



Vanda coerulescens – Barbara Barnett

90 point First Class Certificate and an Award of Quality. So far, only two additional crosses have been registered using it as a parent, but one of those, *Phal.* Citrus Candy also has six AOS awards already. This indicates plenty of potential for more excellent results in the future.

Red – *Phalaenopsis* Sogo Medal – **Rick Martinez**

White – *Phalaenopsis* hybrid – **Rick Martinez**

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Vanda coerulescens* – **Barbara Barnett**

Vanda coerulescens is a charming compact growing species found from Northeast India to Southwest China in lower elevations where the climate is generally warm year round. While the plants are generally about 6 inches tall or a bit taller on well grown examples, the inflorescence can extend out about 24 inches and carry up to 20 fairly small, fragrant and long lasting flowers. They are usually a pale bluish color with deeper violet blue on the lip.

This species should be watered heavily from May to September, and

then much more sparingly the balance of the year. It likes bright light but not full sun, and does best in a basket with its roots hanging free. It is advised not to trim the roots, which can severely set the plant back.

V. coerulescens has been used with a variety of unusual vandaceous species in hybridization. The results of some are quite beautiful, while others just downright odd!

Red – *Vanda miniata* – Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta

White – *Vanda curvifolia*– Rick Martinez

Amateur Winners

Blue – *Bulbophyllum annamense* – Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta

This species in the *Cihropetalum* group comes from Vietnam, and the species name is based on an archaic term for that region. While it is in cultivation to some degree, there is very little information available in typical resources. The original botanical description of it was done in 1999, but it may have been in some collections prior to then.

It is a fairly robust plant with an extended rhizome between each growth, so is best grown in a basket and allowed to wander. Like many in the genus, plants do not flower profusely until there is plenty of accumulated growth. The large whorls of pinkish purple blooms are impressive, but last a relatively brief time.

We have grown this alongside other members of the genus in an intermediate greenhouse, with winter nights in the 50's and summer days in the 80's and it has done beautifully. It does get plenty of water and rarely dries out fully at any time.

There is a single registered hybrid made with this species, done by Bill Thoms, using *Bulb. lobii* and named *Bulb. A-doribil Whisper*. Given how different the two parents are, I would love to see the results, but haven't been able to track down any images of it.



Bulbophyllum annamense – Jason Mills & Ed Shoulta



Thunia marshalliana – Carson Barnes

Red – *Polystachya paniculata* – Roy Harrow

White – *Bulbophyllum claptonense* – Ellen Brand

Commercial Winners

Blue – *Thunia marshalliana* – Carson Barnes

Greenhouse Items For Sale

Natural Gas Boiler that provides heat to a radiator system

Enameled cast iron sink with attached drain boards and backsplash.

(Exactly like the one in the movie **The Christmas Story**)

Best offer over \$200 for either item

Contact Maureen Mckovich
maureen@deefalt.com

In bloom at the Fuqua Orchid Center

Photos by Danny Lentz



Pleurothallis perijaensis



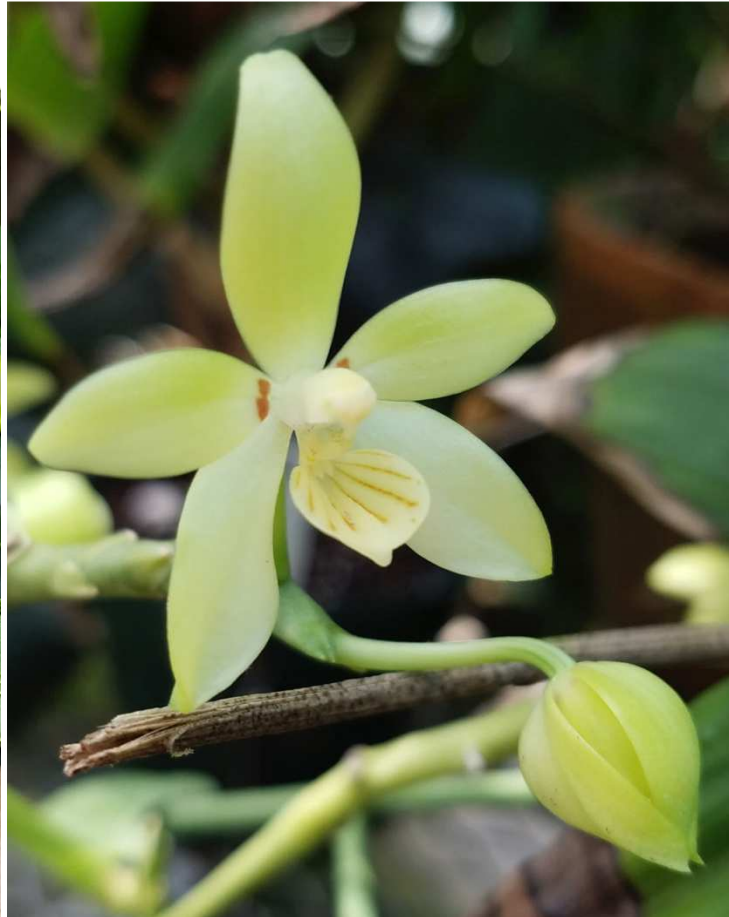
Coryanthes alborosea



Platystele misera



Braemia vittata



Phalaenopsis cochlearis

THE LAST Everyone's Orchid Auction

Roy Harrow's house
 Saturday, July 30, 2016
 2872 Gray Rd, Smyrna Georgia 30081-1921
 H-[770 434 8059](tel:7704348059) c-[770 639 7052](tel:7706397052)

Simplest (not the shortest) directions:

Highway 75 just north of 285 around Atlanta, Georgia, take Windy Hill west. past (Cobb parkway, the golf course (speed trap), Atlanta Road and South Cobb) to Benson-Poole (left) South. That only goes a couple of blocks to Milford Church (right) west. Across the creek to Gray Road (left) south. Yellow house on the (right) west side of the road.

You can also come from the south by way of 285 to/Atlanta road north, left onto Church street west with a right onto gray rd north. GPS helps.

Parking is shuttled from Norton Park elementary School, 7 houses south after you drop your stuff.

Helpers arrive at 9, public at 10 to sign in, tour at 10:15, auction at 11, eat potluck at 1, usually over by 4 PM. Bring friends (car pool), chairs, plants, folding cash and a little extra food beyond what you could eat, we usually share pot luck. A grill is available. Drop off and park 7 houses back at the elementary school. We run a shuttle back and forth. it will happen rain or shine with no backup date. Only handicapped and helpers park on site. Make sure your name is on the bottom of your food bowls and chairs. It's worth your time to make 2 lists in pencil of what you bought to sell. The one you give to the auctioneer should have any minimums and description (picture in a zip lock bag?) to help improve the plants desirability. On the list you keep, write down how much they sold for in case we have any differences. Most people write their purchases on the back of the paper plate with their buyer's number on it. That same buyers' number is your free raffle entry so everyone should sign up for a number even if you do not plan to buy anything.

Wear appropriate clothing, if you pass out from the heat, you might wake up with only your head held above water. We have had 14 people bidding from the pool. If you get too hot you can watch (not hear) from inside the house.

Many times un-named orchids will go for just \$1. You don't have to buy or sell a thing, but if you do, remember the 10% rule. If you buy \$10, you pay \$11, or sell \$10, get \$9. We will send a check to any IRS 501C3 organization you designate as long as it totals more than \$10 with everyone else that designated the same place at signup. Default last year was the AtBG orchid propagation lab for conservation. The Atlanta orchid judging center, Smos, Atos, Naos, Mtos are of few of the other previous benefactors. The spread sheet is available to anyone who wants to see the totals a week after the auction.

Each of the sellers gets to offer ten things on the first go around. I personally try to sell 10 boxes of orchids. If you have more than ten to sell, you get to sell again, after everyone else has had their turn in the order of signing in. The buyers' money usually runs out toward the end and the prices get really cheap. This is mostly a buyers' auction of amateur's plants and the prices are often very low. Remember to quarantine/treat your purchased plants before adding them to your collection. You should bring (plastic) crates to carry off what you acquire. Many people have contributed plants to the free raffle after the auction. Any personal sales are not subject to the 10% rule. WE WILL HAVE AT LEAST ONE PERSONAL COLLECTION BEING LIQUIDATED.

History: This idea started around 1985 with an annual pig roast put on by Murray Delafuente at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens with Dave Holder's help. We started bringing plants to trade and when multiple people wanted the same plant, it turned into a bidding situation. The pig roast/auction then moved to Cullman Alabama where the meal cost \$16 with catered food and all of the barbecue pig and chicken you could eat. When the Highway department took the front of their property to widen the road and other reasons, I then started an auction here in Smyrna with limited invitations and free pot-luck. After a couple of years, it was opened to everyone. Then after the bidding finished we started giving away other (house) plants that we personally had too many of. Some years we've given away (in the free raffle) up to 150 plants. One year someone brought 10 hardy elephant ears in separate plastic grocery bags. Pass the word.

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



*Lc. Miss Wonderful 'Palmetto Darling', AM/81,
Fred Missbach*



*Paph. Petula's Sensation 'Black Knight', AM/82,
David Kessler*



*Cattleya granulosa 'Butterscotch Pudding', AM/82,
Fred Missbach*



*Cattleya Resplendens 'Black Lace', HCC/79,
Fred Missbach*



Thecopsus secunda 'Genevieve,' CBR/AOS
Doug Hartong



Cattleya mossiae forma *coerulea* 'Siesta Time,' HCC/79
Carson Barnes



Specklinia costaricensis 'Lucy Loo,' CCM/85
Cathy & Bill Meincer