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



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Newsletter Editors: Mark Reinke & Valorie Boyer

www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

February, 2017

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, February 13, 2017 Atlanta Botanical Garden Day Hall - 8pm

SHOW PREP MULTI-PART PROGRAM

Barbara Barnett
AOS Judge, Past Show Chair
"Preparing Your Plants For Show"

Danny Lentz Current Show Chair "How to Register Your Plants"

Doug Hartong
AOS Judging Chair
"How to use MOAC materials to register your plants"

Jan Spenard Volunteer Coordinator "Come Prepared to Volunteer"

March 9th is pre-show setup. March 10, 11, and 12 are the actual show dates, consider taking a vacation day to join us for the full, fun volunteer experience!

Minutes of the January 2016 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

Orchid Growing Class was held at 7:15 to 7:45 by Barbara Barnett on growing orchids in January



The front of our Atlanta Orchid Show flyer, see more on pg 10!

and February as well as what to expect during the winter growing seasons.

The meeting started at 8pm and the previous meeting's minutes were approved, as well as an overview of the treasury report.

Yearly ribbon winners and prizes were awarded and the president asked for volunteers to hold orchid classes, as well as a person to run social media for the facebook page and an ATLOS historian.

The March 10-12, 2017 Orchid

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THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Other Volunteers

AOS Rep - Barbara Barnett

Greengrowers – Danny Lentz

Librarian - Valorie Boyer

MAOC Rep - Doug Hartong

Meeting Hospitality – Ed Shoulta-Mills

Membership Chair – Geni Smith

Education and Outreach - Lynne Gollob

Silent Auction-Carson Barnes

Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Mellard

Newsletter – Valorie Boyer, Mark Reinke

Orchid Digest Rep – David Mellard

Show Chairs 2017

Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

Website Committee

Maureen Mckovich, Mark Reinke, Jan Spenard, Valorie Boyer



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 git certificate (good on an order of \$100 or more) at any one of 13 commercial growers who advertise in *Orchids*. **JOIN TODAY**.

Single Members hip 1 year \$65, 2 years \$125 Student Members hip 1 year \$40, 2 years \$75 JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT: www.aos.org

Orchid Growing Class

January 9, 2017 at 7:15 to 7:45

Orchid Growing Class subject TBA



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 <u>David Mellard</u> (404-237-1694) or visit <u>www.orchiddigest.com</u> to join online.

Events Calendar

February

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

13 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall

- 8pm "Orchid Show Preparation; Orchid Prep and Registration Details" by Barbara Barnett, Judge Danny Lentz, Show Chairman, and Doug Hartong,

Show Judging Chair

10-12 - South Carolina Orchid Show

Riverbanks Botanical Garden Columbia, SC

25 - Green Growers Outing, Paul Thurner's House, 812 Holcomb Bridge Rd Norcross GA 30071 - 11am (More Details on pg 8)

March

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

13 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm

Speaker - Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn, Ltd, "Multifloral Paphiopedilums species, hybrids and culture."

April

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

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



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This month's discussions will be focusing around our March 10-12, 2017 Orchid Show, which will be held at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Anyone who wishes to submit any of their plants to the show please try and come to this month's meeting to take advantage of this month's speakers as they share their information on show prep and how to get your orchids registered. Barbara Barnett, an AOS Judge and our Past Show Chair will be speaking on "Preparing Your Plants For Show" while Danny Lentz, our Current Show Chair will be covering "How to Register Your Plants". Doug Hartong, an AOS Judging Chair, will be talking about "How to use MOAC materials to register your plants" and lastly, Jan Spenard, our Volunteer Coordinator is asking for more volunteers for the show and will be presenting "Come Prepared to Volunteer".

Many of our society members have volunteered for the Orchid Show before and not only is it entertaining but it's also a good way to get to know your fellow members outside of the usual meeting environment! We have our vendor list finalized and this year we'll be having a new vendor attending who is all the way from Equador! (Details on page 8) They're now accepting pre-orders so make sure to visit their website and email them anything you'd like them to bring with them when they come to Atlanta for the show.

Jason Mills-Shoulta President, Atlanta Orchid Society Show was discussed, mentioning the need for volunteers to help out and trophy sponsors. The vendor selection has been finalized and the list can be seen on the ATLOS website.

Jason Ligon started his program at 8:15pm and ribbon judging was at 8:50pm after the break.

Meeting was adjourned early at 9:23pm due to road conditions after the snowy and icy weather that weekend.

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners December 2016

Notes by Mark Reinke Photos by Daryl Wattley

Class I – Cattleya Group

Blue – Laelia anceps 'Williamsoniana' – Roy Harrow

As I mention briefly in the entry that follows big changes were made in the *Cattleya* Alliance with the publication of Genera *Orchidacearum* Vol. 5 in 2009. First, to explain what this publication is I extract a quote from the publisher:

"The Genera Orchidacearum series represents a robust and natural classification of the orchids, something that has eluded plant scientists and orchid enthusiasts for years. The editors, who are all distinguished orchid specialists, incorporate a wealth of new DNA data into a truly classification, phyloaenetic identifying the areas and taxa that merit additional work. To this end, have invited thev several international specialists to

contribute in their particular areas of expertise. Each volume provides comprehensive coverage of one or two orchid subfamilies and the series as a whole will be an indispensable reference tool for scientists, orchid breeders and growers."

Volume V moved all the species that were once grouped into Laelia indigenous to Brazil to Cattleva. However, all the Laelia from Mexico and Central America were retained in that genus. In addition, the species in the genus Schomburakia bearing fusiform pseudobulbs (tapered at both ends) were merged into Laelia. These species occur from Mexico into Colombia and Venezuela. From the standpoint of growth habit, all of the species now making up Laelia have strong similarities. While size may vary from small to large, these species all bear elongated inflorescences that are unbranched and bear their flowers clustered near the apex. The inflorescence, in all cases, begins to develop while the new growth is still immature. and takes several months to reach maturity and flowering.

Laelia anceps is certainly the showiest and most widespread member of the genus. It occurs in many different parts of Mexico, as well as portions of Guatemala and Honduras. Originally described in 1835 by Lindley, there are an exceptionally large number of different naturally occurring color forms. Because many of these variations are isolated geographically from each other, some taxonomists have proposed separate species names for each! I'm hopeful this change will not occur since other than flower color pattern, the habits of all types are basically identical.



Laelia anceps 'Williamsoniana'
– Roy Harrow

The 'Williamsoniana' clone is a particularly vigorous plant out of a group known as the "Oaxagueña" types, named after the Mexican state in which they are found. They are typically white, with some color in the lip. In the case of this particular plant that color is limited to dark red lines in the throat and a bright yellow lip callus. Other "Oaxaqueña" types also show a bit of lavender along the front edge of the lip. There are improved forms many commerce, but 'Williamsoniana' is believed to have been a wild collected plant. Our mother plant has had several dozen divisions removed from it over the years, but still bore more than 30 inflorescences this bloom season. While some forms of the species can produce up to 4 flowers per spike, this one usually has only 2 or 3. If the plant can be kept quite cool while in flower, they can last a but under warmer month. conditions they may fade in as little as two weeks.

Laelia anceps is a very tough species that is quite tolerant of subfreezing temperatures, even as

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low as the middle 20's for short periods, and also does well in heat up to 100F. It is grown out of doors on trees in coastal California Southern and elsewhere. I have never seen a well grown example in a pot, but it can do magnificently in a basket or a mount. It does require bright light to flower well and can adapt to almost full sun with good air movement. While making new growth it should be soaked thoroughly on a regular basis and, unlike some other orchids, is even fond of being watered late in the day so the roots stay damp all night.

Red – Brassocattleya Yellow Bird – Dan Williamson

While originally registered as Brassolaelia Yellow Bird (Brassovola nodosa x Laelia milleri) in 1990, with the publication of Genera Orchidacearum Vol. 5 in 2009 all Brazilian Laelia species were moved to Cattleya based on DNA evidence, so it's time to get around to correcting tags!

White – Rhyncolaeliocattleya Kozo'a Scarlet – Fran Carter

Class II – Cymbibum Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Blue – Dendrobium bracteosum var. tanii – Ellen Brand

There remains a bit of mystery about this particular orchid. Having grown it for several years myself, I am inclined to believe that it is a hybrid between *Den. bracteosum* and some other



Dendrobium bracteosum var. tanii – Ellen Brand

species. Perhaps with time its status will become clear. The original plants were not found in the wild, but in the collection of a Mr. Tan in Thailand.

Den. bracteosum is native to lower elevations on parts pf Papua New Guinea and islands to its east, which puts its range quite a long distance from where this orchid was first noticed. Since it is both shorter and possessing flower clusters that are more "bristley" than typical *Den. bracteosum,* I speculate that it might be a natural hybrid between that species and Den. captiuliflorum, which also comes from the same area. That said, I'm only making a guess that tries to account for the differences between it and the normal form of the species. This may be further supported by the fact that Den. tanii can flower in any which mixes the season, predominately summer to fall flowering habit of Den. bracteosum with the winter to spring habits of Den. capituliflorum.

Whatever its true origin, this is a delightful small orchid with long

lasting flowers, which occur mostly on leafless older growths, and thus create a bigger show as plants age. It prefers warmth, with tolerance to some winter temps in the mid or upper 50sF, a continuous supply of moisture accompanied with good drainage, and shaded to bright filtered light conditions.

Red – Dendrobium "Proper Red" – Magg Wattley

The tag name of this orchid does not exist in the most recently updated lists of registered orchid hybrids and is likely a trade name as is common in mass produced *Dendrobiums* imported from Thailand. This does not diminish the enjoyment of their long lasting flowers. Give these types very bright light and warmth year round for best performance.

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

No Entries

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – Oncidium Twinkle – Karl Harden

Oncidium Twinkle is a primary hybrid between Onc. sotoanum and Onc. cheirophorum, smaller growing species from Mexico and Central America, the former being typically pink flower and the latter yellow. In the pairing of the two, a wide range of colors are produced, from white, as exhibited, to many shades of pink and yellow. The cross was done originally by the prolific amateur hybridizer, W.G.G. Moir of Hawaii and registered in 1958. He produced many hybrids that were thought eccentric at the

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Oncidium Twinkle - Karl Harden

time but have gained in appreciation through the years. This one has been reproduced many times since and is still hard to beat for floral profusion, fragrance and compact growth habit.

To produce plants with thousands of flowers, such as the nearly dozen that have received cultural awards, you need to water this plant frequently, never allowing it to go totally dry. Give it bright diffused light, good air movement, regular feeding, and repot into new mix every two The mix should offer years. drainage but hold moisture. If you don't want to become so involved, you can still have a respectable example of this fairly forgiving orchid with a more laissez-faire approach.

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – Paphiopedilum Fairly Dreamy – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan This orchid's registration is a play on the names of both parents: Paph. Dreaming Green crossed with the species Paph. farrieianum. The former would be described as a "Bulldog" type with a large rounded flower, and interestingly, exactly two years ago I mentioned that a new trend in Paph. breeding was "to take these bull dog types and cross them back to one of the more distinctive looking species, such as Paph. fairrieanum for some very interesting results."

In the case of *Paph*. Fairly Dreaming, the result is a series of attractive broken lines and dots in dark purple over a background that mixes white, yellow and The fairly wide and green. somewhat downswept petals particularly take on undulating edges. The overall effect is pleasing enough that there are already two flower quality awards from the AOS for specific clones of this recently introduced hybrid. Only a single produced flower inflorescence, but it can last in perfection for several months.

Paphiopedilum is another one of those orchids that is frequently under watered by many novice growers. seems to be a prevailing myth that all orchids need water only once every week or two. Perhaps this is true with the ubiquitous mass produced Phalaenopsis that has been grown is something resembling mush, but if you do not provide your Paphs. with constant moisture, they will definitely not perform at their best. As they grow in the layer of decaying, but constantly replenishing leaf litter underneath tropical forests, they also can take somewhat larger containers than their plant size



Paphiopedilum Fairly Dreamy – **Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

might suggest, so that the thick fuzzy roots have some room to roam. Many of the wild species are found in areas with underlying limestone, so many growers supplement their fertilization of this group with commercial lime or oyster shells at least once a year.

In searching for a mix that is economical I have found that retail "Cypress Mulch Mix" with combined chopped sphagnum and perlite seems to be much to their liking and produces excellent new root Whatever you use, it arowth. should be replenished before it has the opportunity to decay significantly.

The Paph hybrids are an excellent group of orchids to grow indoors under lights.

Class VII -Phalaenopsis Group

No Entries

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Class VIII -Vandaceous Group

Blue – Angraecum sesquipedale – Karl Harden

The species name of the well-known "Darwin's Orchid" translates to "a foot and a half" and indeed on well grown, mature plants, the flower plus long spur can span a full 18 inches! When brought to the famous evolutionist's attention this orchid caused him to declare "what moth must there be with such a long proboscis!" or something equivalent. only been in more recent years that video was captured showing the giant Morgan's Sphinx Moth (Xanthopan morgana) visiting the flowers of this orchid with its extremely long tongue! course in the process of reaching far down the nectar spur for its reward, the moth unwittingly detaches the plant's sticky pollenia, which travel on the back of its head to the next flower.

Angem. Sesquipedale is a large and slow growing orchid and not a good choice for "windowsill" growers or those seeking quick gratification. The exhibited plant



Angraecum sesquipedale

– Karl Harden

is but a youngster showing its first blooms. When mature, it can be four feet in height with a leaf span of three feet! Well grown specimens have been awarded with dozens of huge flowers as wide as nine inches across. Such plants a fully deserving of the title "show stopper."

To obtain impressive results this species should be grown warm, but not excessively hot, given bright but slightly diffused light, and kept watered year round. Mature plants do not like to be disturbed, so a basket with a long lasting media is the best solution for most situations, though this will require more frequent watering. When actively growing, regular fertilization will aid in produce the greatest number of new leaves, which are in direct relation to how many flowers the plant is capable of producing during its bloom season, which peaks in January, and extends into May, depending on specific growing conditions. If you like this orchid but hesitate due to its size, you might seek out Angcm. Lemförder White Beauty, a hybrid and it Anacm. Magdelenae which offers a scaled down version that still has the overall look of the species.

Red – Amesiella monticola – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White - Tubecentron Hsinying Girl - Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – Clowesia Grace Dunn – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Clowesia is a genus of deciduous New World species distributed from Mexico to Venezuela and named after a 19th Century English orchid aficionado, Rev. J. Clowes. Please do not say "Clo-weez'-ee-a," as I frequently hear, but rather "Cloz'-ee-a" to reflect the proper pronunciation of his name!

Cl. Grace Dunn is a small growing "heirloom" primary cross between Cl. rosea and Cl. warczewitzii registered by W.G.G. Moir in 1959. Any plant available today is typically a division off a plant that has been around for many decades and therefore somewhat When leafless and pricey. dormant in winter, it bursts out with arching pendant sprays of delicate flowers with a lovely fragrance. And while not long lasting, they are enchanting and fragrant, and therefore highly sought after.

Recently, Cl. Rebecca Northen, a cross that takes this orchid back to Cl. rosea was successfully tissue cultured in Taiwan and distributed to retail growers via wholesale



Clowesia Grace Dunn – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

produces in Hawaii. However, that batch has already been depleted and soon will be out of commerce. Apparently it has been difficult to successfully mericlone this genus, preventing more hobby growers from enjoying its charms. When you see one offered you should not hesitate as the opportunity to purchase may not come up again for a long time.

Like other deciduous Catasinae, CL. Grace Dunn should be heavily watered and fertilized actively growing when summer, but water should be gradually reduced and fertilizer eliminated once growth matures in fall. In winter, plants should be only given enough water to prevent excessive shriveling of the bare pseudobulbs. controlled humidity, this could mean almost no water at all, until new growths are well underway in mid to late spring. Bright, but diffused light, good movement, and warm temperatures are the conditions it prefers.

Red – Lepanthes erinacea – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White - Mediocalcar decorata - Roy Harrow

Green Growers 11am - February 25, 2017 Paul Thurner's House

Hello all! I am happy to host a Green Growers program at my house in Norcross GA at 11am February 25, 2017. We will discuss the upcoming Atlanta orchid show display setup and also backyard greenhouses. I will have plants for sale. I have a greenhouse that I built myself. Plus I have experience with a

more temporary style do it yourself greenhouse that I built at my previous residence. (Remind me to retell the story of the heavy wet snow pulling down the plastic sheeting of the walls. I was outside trying to reattach the plastic in the 37 degF predawn.)

My phone is 404 - 872 - 8357 and my address is 812 Holcomb Bridge Rd Norcross GA 30071, Peachtree close to Industrial Blvd. My driveway is gravel and mud, not suitable for the Ferrari. I do not recommend you come up my driveway. I share the driveway with "Aunt Mary" thus you must go left at the fork halfway in. I recommend using the warehouse parking lot. Good easy parking is available at 5964 Peachtree Corners East Norcross 30071. The back parking lot of this warehouse connects to my house in just a few short steps through the woods.

Looking forward to a fun visit from my orchid friends! Best regards, Paul Thurner.

New Books for the Library!

"Bulbophyllums, the Incomplete Guide; From A to Why?" by Bill Thoms. This book has culture and growing needs as well as species and hybrids. This is a great book and a must read for the Bulbo lover.

"American Cattleyas" by Courtney Hackney. This is a book of the history, species, and hybrids. It is one of the best all round book on Cattleyas.

We will be ordering two more books for the Library; Moth Orchids and a Dendrobium book. We hope you use and enjoy these books! Barbara Barnett, Past President.

Accepting Pre-Orders Now!



We have a new vendor coming to our show this year!

Ecuaflor-A from Cuenca, Ecuador.

They would be happy to take pre-orders if you find anything you like. Their web site is http://equaflor-a.com.ec/, and orders can be sent to Gilberto Merino (glbculture@gmail.com)

CORRECTION!

Rhyncolaeliocattleva

Goldernell 'Burdekin,' ribbon winner at the December, 2016 meeting was incorrectly listed as belonging to Roy Harrow. The correct owner is Danny Lentz.

Orchid Photo Highlights

The following photos were provided by Danny Lentz, showcasing various orchids in bloom from the Atlanta Botanical Garden in January 2017.



Xylobium squalens



Sobralia species



Sobralia panamensis



Helcia sanguinolenta



Paphiopedilum lowii



Rossioglossum krameri



Bulbophyllum santosii



Dendrobium reflexipetalum



Gastrorchis humblotii



www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

Membership to the Atlanta Orchid Society is open to anyone interested in orchids; whether you are a novice or experienced grower, we all have something to learn from one another. Members bring blooming orchids of many types for show, discussion or questions, as well as a monthly ribbon judging. Most months we have a guest speaker who presents a program touching on some aspect of orchids and their culture. Our speakers come from all over the United States and beyond, often bringing with them plants to sell, including unusual and hard to locate varieties.

Come join us! Visitors are most welcome!

The 2017 Atlanta Orchid Society Show • March 10-12, 2017

Orchidabilia (Gainesville, FL) https://OrchidExchange.org/vendors/orchidabilia/

Orchid Inn (Bloomington, IL)
Specialty: Paphiopedilum
www.OrchidInnUSA.com

Owens Orchids, Etc. (Pisgah Forest, NC) www.facebook.com/OrchidHeights2

Ingram's Better Orchid Books (Gainesville, FL)
https://OrchidExchange.org/vendors/ingrams-better-orchid-books-store/

Come see our vendors for a wide selection of orchid plants, supplies, and more!

Equaflor-A (Cuenca, Ecuador)
http://equaflor-a.com.ec/
Specialty: Ecuadorian species
Accepting Pre-Orders!

Kool-Logs (Alpharetta, GA) www.Kool-Logs.com

Marble Branch Farms (Walhalla, SC) www.MarbleBranchFarms.com

Odom's Orchids (Ft. Pierce, FL) www.Odoms.com

Peach State Orchids (Woodstock, GA) www.PeachStateOrchids.com

Save The Date! Mid-America Orchid Congress



March 24-26, 2017

In Conjunction with the
Greater Omaha Orchid Society
30th Annual Orchid Show and Sale

Visit the Greater Omaha Orchid Society website at www.greateromahaorchidsociety.org for more info.

Featured Speakers:
Peter L. Lin, Diamond Orchids
Peter Tobias, Orchid Conservation Alliance

Watch for details in The Mid-American and at <u>midamericanorchids.org</u>

Other Upcoming Orchid Shows...

South Carolina Orchid Show

February 10-12, 2017 Riverbanks Botanical Garden Columbia, SC

Atlanta Orchid Show

March 10-12, 2017 Atlanta Botanical Gardens Atlanta, GA Western NC Orchid Show

March 25-27, 2017 NC Arboretum at Bent Creek near Asheville, NC

Deep South Orchid Show

April 28-30, 2017 Georgia Coastal Botanical Gardens Savannah, GA

Memphis Orchid Show

May, 2017 (exact days TBA) Memphis Botanical Gardens Memphis, TN