



# 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](http://www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org)

August, 2017

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## AUGUST MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, August 14, 2017  
Atlanta Botanical Garden  
Day Hall - 8pm

**Mark Reinke,**  
**Marble Branch Farms**  
[www.marblebranchfarms.com](http://www.marblebranchfarms.com)  
*"The Exciting Encyclias"*

Mark Reinke had a passion for plants from the time he was a child growing up in a small town outside of Chicago. When his family moved to Florida in the 1960's he got his first orchid plant as back bulbs while helping out a neighbor lady who had a large orchid and bromeliad collection. Since then, orchids have always been one of his major interests.

In 2004, he and his partner Gary Collier sold their business in Atlanta and moved to the Blue Ridge Escarpment area of South Carolina to grow plants full time under the business name Marble Branch Farms. They constructed a large greenhouse and seed laboratory so they could focus on creating new orchid hybrids, concentrating especially on miniature and compact cattleya types, with an emphasis on new and unusual breeding lines. They now have a thriving online business and are challenged to produce plants quickly enough to keep up with demand. Mark participates in ten to twelve



*Mark Reinke had a passion for plants from the time he was a child growing up in a small town outside of Chicago.*

orchid shows per year in the Southeast and travels frequently in the region giving programs to the various orchid societies. He also is a vendor in the upscale TD Saturday Market held on beautiful Main St. in downtown Greenville, SC from May through October. In addition to orchids, Marble Branch Farms currently raises hardy carnivorous plants, especially hybrids of our native Sarracenia, or North American Pitcher Plants. Mark is active in the Western North Carolina Orchid Society and has twice served as the President of the Atlanta Orchid Society. He will bring a comprehensive selection of plants for sale including several his latest hybrids and some carnivorous plants great for

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## THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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#### President

**Jason Mills-Shoulta**  
678-383-2936

#### Vice-President/Programs

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#### Secretary

**Darrell Demeritt** 404-307-6035

#### Treasurer

**Dan Williamson**  
301-717-0939  
142 Superior Ave  
Decatur, GA 30030

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**Barbara Barnett** 706-579-2670

### Trustees

**Jan Spenard** 770-294-7867

**Danny Lentz** 770-640-0112

**Rick Martinez** 678-583-8695

**Jarad Wilson** 706-308-1300

**Helen Blythe-Hart** 770-656-4054

**Jody Gomez** 678-613-1449

### Other Volunteers

**AOS Rep** – Barbara Barnett

**Greengrowers** – Danny Lentz

**Librarian** – Valorie Boyer

**MAOC Rep** – Doug Hartong

**Meeting Hospitality** – Ed Shoulta-Mills

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**Education and Outreach** – Lynne Gollob

**Silent Auction** – Carson Barnes

**Monthly Ribbon Judging** – David Mellard

**Newsletter** – Valorie Boyer, Mark Reinke

**Orchid Digest Rep** – David Mellard

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Danny Lentz & Jan Spenard

#### Website Committee

Maureen Mckovich, Mark Reinke, Jan Spenard, Valorie Boyer



## 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 purchases from the Society's Brookstone 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](http://www.aos.org)

## Orchid Growing Class

**August 14, 2017**

**(7:15pm – 7:45pm, Pre Meeting)**

**"Growing Under Lights"  
with Dan Williamson**

### 2016 Plant Challenge

Have you looked at your 2016 Challenge plant this spring?

How is it doing? Is it growing? Does it have new roots?

In this beautiful weather it is time to fertilize it. You could even put it outside in medium mottled light. Don't let it get burned! It could bloom this year if it is happy. Remember the winner is the first to bloom with more than one flower; you will need it bring it to the meeting or be sure to take a dated picture if it will not last.

***Good Growing and Good Luck!***



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](http://www.orchiddigest.com) to join online.

## Events Calendar

### August

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

**14 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Mark Reinke

### September

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

**11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Graham Ramsey, "Orchiata and how to use it"

### October

**9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting**, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Cortney Hackney, "Care and culture of Cattleyas"

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

**21-23 - Mid-America Orchid Congress**, Cincinnati, OH

### November

**8-12 - World Orchid Conference**, Quayaquil, Ecuador, [www.woc22.com](http://www.woc22.com)

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

sunny patios or water features.

Mark's program is entitled "The Exciting Encyclias." This is an overview of a genus of fascinating orchids that are generally easy to grow and rewarding in the Southeast USA. Mark highlights a dozen species out of the vast Encyclia range from Florida to Brazil, explaining how to grow them and showcasing some of the surprisingly impressive hybrids made from them. He ends with examples of the Encyclia breeding taking place at Marble Branch Farms and will have seedlings of some of these crosses among the plants he will bring with him to sell at the meeting.

### Minutes of the July 2017 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The July 10th, 2017 meeting was held at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Jason Mills-Shoulta, President, presided.

It was announced that Atlanta Orchid Society's Fall Auction will be held on November 4th at Rock Springs Methodist Church from 11AM to 3 PM. Members were reminded and encouraged to join the American Orchid Society to take advantage of the many benefits of Society membership.

This month's speaker was Bill Thoms, who presented on Bulbophyllums. Next month's speaker will be Mark Reinke who will present on Encyclias. Following the business meeting the results of the monthly ribbon judging were announced. The meeting concluded at approximately 9:45 PM.

The next monthly meeting of the

Atlanta Orchid Society will be held on August 14th at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens at 8:00 PM. See you there!

*Minutes compiled by  
Darrell Demeritt*

### Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners July 2017

*Notes by Mark Reinke  
Photos by Daryl Wattley*

#### Class I – Cattleya Group

No Entries

#### Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

#### Class III – Dendrobium Group

No Entries

Correction from last month: I mistakenly attributed the awarded *Dendrobium lawesii* I mentioned to the wrong Atlanta husband/wife AOS judging team. The correct owners of *Den. lawesii* 'Sweetbay II', CCE/AOS are Pete and Gail Furniss. Here is the award photo taken by Maureen Mckovich of that spectacular plant in July, 2013, along with a close up of an individual flower:



*Den. lawesii* 'Sweetbay II', CCE/AOS -  
Pete and Gail Furniss





*Den. lawesii* 'Sweetbay II', CCE/AOS -  
Pete and Gail Furniss

### Class IV – Epidendrum Group

**Blue** – *Epidendrum aff. veroscriptum* – **Andrew Dott**

I am not sure where the name the exhibitor of this plant wrote on the entry slip came from (*Epi. jayewelli*) but I can find no reference to such a species, or any with a remotely similar spelling. However, based on the photo, the plant is either *Epi. veroscriptum* (syn. *scriptum*) from Mexico and Central America or *Epi. paniculatum* (syn. *floribundum*) from South America. Both are widespread and variable species, which can bloom on small growths, but when well grown and robust, can produce up to 200 small flowers on a many-branched inflorescence. Only Costa Rica



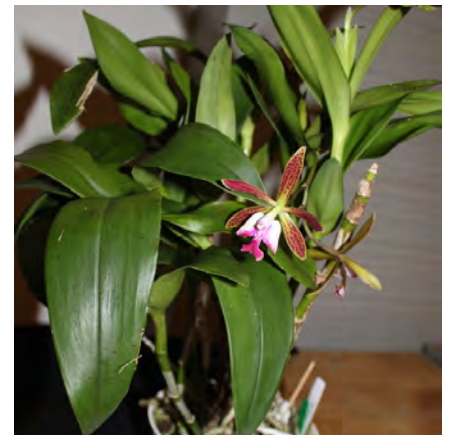
*Epidendrum aff. veroscriptum* –  
Andrew Dott

and Panama separate the ranges of the two species, and if they are indeed genetically different, they are very difficult to tell apart when grown side by side. Both can bloom at almost any month of the year, depending on when the new growths mature based on local cultural conditions. They produce numerous small flowers with somewhat reflexed green segments and a white lip that typically has small, irregular purple markings, though they can be quite bold on some plants and faint to almost nonexistent on others.

The plant exhibited would likely produce better growth and more flowers with more frequent watering. These species inhabit mountain regions where rainfall is abundant in summer, and though somewhat less in winter, is still frequent enough so that plants in the wild would not experience extended dryness.

**Red** – *Epicattleya Fascination* –  
Dan Williamson

This is an interesting hybrid showing the utter dominance of the "reed-stemmed" growth habit of many *Epidendrum* species. In the case of this plant the parents are *E. cristatum* and *C. guttata*. But the only trace of the latter species is in the slightly wider leaves and added purple in the flowers, which may also be somewhat larger than a typical *E. cristatum*. As the plant matures, it is likely to grow tall and produce a dozen or more flowers per spike, which likely have a nice daytime fragrance. In the photo you can already see a taller, more recent growth with four or possibly five buds emerging. We have done a similar hybrid using *C. Brabantiae* and *Epi. cristatum*, and even though the pod was carried on the *Cattleya* parent,



*Epicattleya Fascination* –  
Dan Williamson

the habits of growth and flowering, just like this example, strongly favor the *Epidendrum* parent. It is hoped that mature plants will also repeat flower from dormant nodes on the leafy extension of the stem from which the blooms emerge. Our large specimen of *E. cristatum* blooms off all the mature growths for as many as 10 years creating quite a show when in flower!

### Class V – Oncidium Group

**Blue** – *Miltoniopsis* NO ID – **Jon Crate**

**Red** – *Bratonia Shelob* 'Red Spider' – **Dan Williamson**

**White** – *Odontoglossum luteopurpureum* – **Danny Lentz**



*Miltoniopsis* NO ID – **Jon Crate**



*Paphiopedilum parishii* – Danny Lentz

### **Class VI – Cypripedium Group**

**Blue** – *Paphiopedilum parishii* –  
Danny Lentz

July is the peak bloom season for this multifloral species from the mountains of Burma and Thailand. It is a fairly large plant that grows both on the lower parts of trees and also on the ground on mossy boulders in shady forests. There is a warm, very wet summer followed by an extended dry period in these habitats, with chilly nights and warm days during the winter, though dew, mists and high humidity keep conditions from being bone dry in the locations that plants choose to grow.

Each robust, arching inflorescence can have up to eight large, but rather subtly colored blooms with most of the flower combining white and green. The lower half of the two, downward angled, spiraling petals is usually a contrasting dark purple. The exhibited plant has better markings than most, with distinct random spots on the upper portion of each petal.

There are a number of impressive hybrids made between *Paph. parishii* and other multifloral species and hybrids. Its higher flower count, combined with brighter colors and patterns from the other

parents have created some spectacular results. However, most of the best crosses were done in the 1980's and are currently scarce in commerce. They should be re-visited by hybridizers so that the current generation of growers can enjoy them.

**Red** – *Paphiopedilum Temptation*  
– Helen Blythe-Hart

You may recall in the June newsletter that I discussed this cross and mentioned that awarded examples had six flowers per inflorescence. This month's red ribbon winner shows that impressive flower count which is possible on the best crosses made with *Paph. kolopakingii*.



*Paphiopedilum Temptation*  
– Helen Blythe-Hart

**White** – *Paphiopedilum*  
Presidential Pops – Danny Lentz

### **Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group**

#### **Species**

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis tetraspis* –  
Trac Nguyen

This fragrant species is from hot, humid swaps in Sumatra and the islands which trail off to the north of it separating the Andaman Sea from the Bay of Bengal. The starry two-inch flowers are mainly white, but often exhibit small random markings of bright purple. In some forms one or more of the segments will be almost entirely red or purple.

The aforementioned effect is charmingly quirky and our blue ribbon plant shows it off beautifully. Though difficult to see without closer inspection, the lower portion of the mid-lobe of the lip has the characteristic "bristle brush" form of the species.



*Phalaenopsis tetraspis* – Trac Nguyen



As should be obvious by the description of its habitat, *Phal. tetraopsis* demands warmth and high humidity year-round, with ample water most of the year and somewhat less in the short days of winter. It is best grown in a basket or hanging pot to accommodate the decumbent inflorescences which are persistent, flowering during summer to fall for several to many years.

**Red** – *Phalaenopsis mariae* – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Phalaenopsis violacea* – **Danny Lentz**

### Hybrids

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis Taisuco Anna* – **Helen Blythe-Hart**

While a clonal name was not given with this entry, it looks essentially the same as the awarded form 'K71303' which received an Award of Merit from the American Orchid Society in 2009 and again in 2010 at the Taiwan International Orchid Show. In 2014, the same variety received a Certificate of Cultural Merit at that event when it carried 58 open flowers and 20 buds on two inflorescences, each with four branches. The award quality is readily apparent in the



*Phalaenopsis Taisuco Anna*  
– Helen Blythe-Hart

flat flowers with beautifully overlapping segments that create a round profile. The arrangement and spacing of the individual flowers on the inflorescence is also superb.

*Phal. Taisuco Anna* is an offspring of *Phal. Hilo Lip*, a 1985 introduction that was the first commercially available plant to display the beautiful reverse contrast of a large amount of bright white in the lip set off by nice solid orchid pink segments. That attractive color palette is carried on in this orchid which still holds its own against the many strikingly patterned flowers of 21st Century *Phalaenopsis* breeding. Its excellence has continued to merit use in further hybridization with nine new offspring registered in just the last three years.

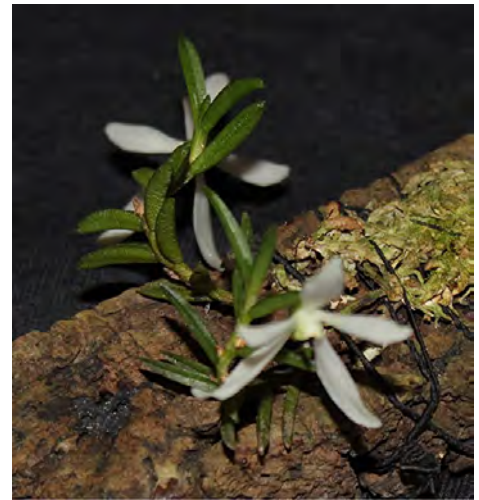
**Red** – *Phalaenopsis OX Black Tea x OX Golden Star* – **Magg Wattley**

**White** – *Phalaenopsis* hybrid – **Danny Lentz**

### Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

**Blue** – *Ceratochilus biglandulosus* – **Danny lentz**

Unfortunately, the camera focused on the foliage rather than the flower of this monotypic species native to mountain elevations on the island of Java in Indonesia. Though only about an inch across, each star shaped white flower can exceed the span of the two-ranked monopodial growth to which it is attached. Older, well grown examples form colonies of stems and each can carry several flowers once mature. The blooms are described as being short lived,



*Ceratochilus biglandulosus* – **Danny lentz**

generally only lasting about a week, which makes this plant's appearance at the July meeting a special treat.

The Deutsche Orchideen Gesellschaft, which is the official orchid judging organization in Germany, awarded a Silver Medal in the Botanical Amateur Category to a specimen of *Ctcs. biglandulosus* exhibited in November, 2011 by a hobbyist named Alfons Hauber. It carried 31 flowers and 1 bud on 21 inflorescences almost completely obscuring the plant. Obviously, that individual had managed perfect cultivation of this orchid, which generally prefers somewhat cool temperatures year round, with very frequent water in summer, but somewhat less in winter. Mounted culture is the preferred method as plants require perfect drainage to be healthy. They also need bright light to flower well.

**Red** – *Vandachostylis* Walnut Valley (2007) – **Dan Williamson**

I can always count on Dan Williamson to perform due diligence when filling out his entry forms! The reason there is the year 2007 in parentheses after the grex name is to distinguish this orchid from the other *Vandachostylis*



*Catasetum Marsh Hollow* – Danny Lentz

Walnut Valley registered in 1999. Originally, this example was classed as a *Darwinara*, which is a combination of *Ascocentrum*, *Neofinetia*, *Rhyncostylis* and *Vanda*. However, several years after this hybrid was registered taxonomists reassigned all the *Ascocentrum* and *Neofinetia* to *Vanda*, which created the situation where two different hybrids have the same exact name. Using the year of registration after the name is standard practice in such situations to make it clear which one of the two we are looking at.

### Class IX – Miscellaneous

#### Blue – *Catasetum Marsh Hollow* – Danny Lentz

Most examples of this fragrant 1992 introduction, which involves three separate *Catasetum* species, have male flowers (the flower type on the exhibited plant) that are overlaid with quite a bit of chestnut brown. However, there are examples of all three species with male flowers that do not exhibit the purple pigmentation and that trait definitely shows in the current flowering of this plant. For those unfamiliar with the genus, *Catasetum* are unusual for orchids in that they produce separate male and female flowers, though each plant is

capable of producing either, or even both, at the same time and occasionally on the same inflorescence!

The female flowers have a decidedly different look. They are nonresupinate (lip upwards) and the lip is like an inverted balloon with a fairly small opening. The pollen on the male flowers is on a trigger that carries a lot of tension that literally slaps it onto the back of a visiting bee. It is thought that the enclosed lip of the female flowers provides a temporary refuge for the dazed insect after this shocking incident. Hopefully after licking its wounds, the pollen will be inadvertently applied to the stigma when the bee is ready to exit this sheltering lip and carry on with its duties.

*Catasetum* are generally warm to hot growers that need a distinct rest from watering and feeding after flowering is complete and leaves begin to yellow. During this period they will frequently go completely bare. Only once new growth is well under way and producing a good set of roots should water and food be applied again. There are, however, exceptions to this distinct dormancy among some species in the greater *Catasetinae* alliance so it is important to research the background of any plant you attempt to cultivate.

#### Red – *Restrepia brachypus* – Andrew Dott

#### White – *Bulbophyllum grandiflorum* 'Yellowstone River', AM/AOS – Darrell Demeritt

### Mid-America Orchid Congress - Save the Date! Meet us in Cincinnati, OH, for the Fall MAOC, Oct 21-23, 2017

We hope to see you in Cincinnati at the Mid-America Orchid Congress meeting, October 20-22, 2017. Mid-America registrants will have the opportunity to hear programs by two outstanding orchid experts, George Hatfield and Tom Harper. We'll meet in conjunction with the popular Greater Cincinnati Orchid Society Orchid Show & Plant Sale. Krohn Conservatory, the Art Deco glasshouse in Eden Park near downtown Cincinnati, offers a spectacular backdrop for the orchid show. The Mid-America lectures and meetings will be located at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash, a short drive from the conservatory. Mid-America will provide transportation for registrants between the hotel and the orchid show.

We're very pleased to welcome George Hatfield to Mid-America! George is the current President of the American Orchid Society and the owner of Hatfield Orchids in Oxnard, CA, where he specializes in developing high quality and award winning Cymbidiums. He is a well-known speaker, and an accredited judge for both the American Orchid Society and the Cymbidium Society of America. George will present a Saturday afternoon program on "Pendulous Cymbidiums," a topic that he is eminently qualified to address since he has produced some of the best pendulous Cymbidiums in the country. At our Saturday evening dinner, he will update us on what's new with the AOS.

We're also pleased to welcome back Tom Harper! Tom is a long-time supporter of the Mid-America Orchid Congress, having served as our President, Vice-President and Mid-American Editor. Tom owns Stones River Orchids in Franklin, TN, and is a Senior Judge for the American Orchid Society. He's also a founding member of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance and has held many responsible positions in the IPA. Most of us know Tom as a terrific speaker and author on various aspects of Phalaenopsis, and this Mid-America weekend will be no exception as he presents a Saturday afternoon program on "Big Lip Phalaenopsis."

Join us for an entertaining Saturday evening at the Crowne Plaza Cincinnati Blue Ash beginning with the ever-popular Mid-America auction, our main fund-raising event. After the auction we'll celebrate Cincinnati with our "Queen City Buffet" featuring Cincinnati chili and other local favorites. The Mid-America meeting will wrap up Sunday morning with the Affiliated Societies Breakfast and the Mid-America Business Meeting.

For more details and to register, please visit the Mid-America website, [www.midamericanorchids.org](http://www.midamericanorchids.org). Registration forms will be available on the website soon.

### 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-Shoulta

### AUGUST 2017



*Cattleya Hardyana* 'July's Freedom', FCC/AOS, 91 pts.  
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



*Stanhopea* Lydia Bush 'Geneviere', AM/AOS, 82 pts.  
Exhibited by Doug Hartong



# Breezy Hill Orchid Festival

## Orchids and Other Plants

Steve Arthur Orchids  
23 Glass House Road  
Graniteville, SC 29829

E-mail: [orchids@stevearthurorchids.com](mailto:orchids@stevearthurorchids.com)

Friday Sept. 29 - Saturday Sept. 30

\$5.00 Admission Includes Both 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, 50/50 Raffle Saturday

Lunches for sale, Picnic area

Big day Saturday - AOS Outreach Judging 1:00 pm

Have plants to be judged here by 12 noon

**Bring blooming orchids to be AOS judged**

More Information at

[www.stevearthurorchids.com/events/orchid-festival-2017](http://www.stevearthurorchids.com/events/orchid-festival-2017)

Please pass the word along

**Scan For Vendor List**

**Other Info On Website as Available**

