



# 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)

December, 2017

Volume 74: Number 12

## DECEMBER MONTHLY MEETING

Monday, December 11, 2017

**7:00 PM at the Rock Spring**

**Presbyterian Church**

**Fellowship Hall**

*(off rear parking lot)*

**1824 Piedmont Ave. NE,**

**Atlanta, Ga 30324**

## Our Traditional Holiday Celebration!

**PLEASE NOTE EARLY START  
TIME – 7:00 PM**

This month's meeting will include our pot-luck dinner, gift exchange, and installation of our new Board of Trustees and 2017 Officers. Come ready to eat well and have fun! Bring your favorite recipe to share. So we don't end up with mostly desserts, please follow these guidelines:

**A thru D – Main Dish**

**E thru H – Side Dish**

**I thru M – Salad**

**N thru S - Dessert**

**T thru Z - Drinks**

Our annual gift exchange is always a big hit! (Participation is not required – but, you will likely regret it if you sit out!) Join in the fun by bringing a wrapped gift worth \$15. Everyone who brings a gift will receive a raffle ticket. After dinner and the meeting, tickets will be drawn randomly.



*It's been a fantastic year with all of you!  
Happy Holidays and we'll see you again next year!*

When your number is called, select a present. Most gifts are orchid related. In the past folks have brought in plants, pots, books, artwork and much more. It is always surprising and fun. We will have regular Ribbon Judging so bring your blooming plants. Members may also sell plants if they wish - 10% of sales goes to the society.

We look forward to seeing everyone there as we take time to enjoy and appreciate our fellow club members at this special time of year!

### In This Issue

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## THE ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

### Officers

#### President

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

#### Vice-President/Programs

**Ellen Brand** 770-518-8425

#### Secretary

**Darrell Demeritt** 404-307-6035

#### Treasurer

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

#### Immediate Past President

**Barbara Barnett** 706-579-2670

### Trustees

**Jan Spenard** 770-294-7867

**Danny Lentz** 770-640-0112

**Rick Martinez** 678-583-8695

**Karl Harden** 678-414-3644

**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

**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



## 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)

**No class will be held this month  
due to the holiday festivities.**

**Classes will resume next year  
starting with January's meeting.**

### 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 4+ flowers; 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

### December

#### 9 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta

Judging Center, 2pm,  
Georgia-Pacific Classroom -  
Fuqua Orchid Center, ABG

#### 11 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Rock Spring Presbyterian Church

### January

#### 8 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall - 8pm Speaker - Tom Kuligowski, "Angraecums"

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

### February

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

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

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

The November 14, 2017 was called to order at 8:00PM at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Jason Mills-Shoulta, President, presided.

The minutes of the October meeting were read and approved with no revisions. New and

visiting members were welcomed and introduced. The Treasurer, Dan Williamson, provided the financial report, which included results of the successful annual auction.

The nominating committee's recommended slate of Board officers and trustees for 2018 were presented for election by vote of the membership. The slate of officers and trustees were successfully elected for the 2018 term. The Board Officers and Trustees elected for 2018 are President David Mellard, Vice-President Helen Blythe-Hart, Secretary Darrell Demeritt, Treasurer Dan Williamson, 1st yr Trustees Trac Nguyen and Maegan Brass.

The evening's program was presented by speaker Graham Ramsey, who provided a very interesting presentation on the manufacture, special properties, and use of Orchid potting medium.

In lieu of the next regular meeting, the Atlanta Orchid Society Holiday Party be held at Rock Springs Church on Monday, December 11th at 7:00PM. There will be a covered dish dinner; please see the signup list to determine what to bring. Also, if you care to participate in the holiday gift swap, please bring an orchid-related gift of about \$15 value. Everyone was invited to come to the holiday party and enjoy the company of friends and enjoy the holiday event. Hope to see you there!

*Minutes compiled by  
Darrell Demeritt*

## Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners November 2017

*Notes by Mark Reinke*

*Photos were not taken at the meeting. A few members submitted photos afterwards, the remaining photos are example photos of the plant exhibited.*

### Class I – Cattleya Group

**Blue – *Leptotes harryphillipsii* –  
David Mellard**

*Leptotes* is a genus of small growing orchids with terete foliage that are in the greater Cattleya Alliance. They come mainly from Southeast Brazil, with at least one species, *Lpt. unicolor*, extending into Paraguay and Argentina. Until recently only a few species were described, but a number of others have been identified since the beginning of this century. Several, including *Lpt. harryphillipsii* had been circulating among collectors for some time prior, and details of their exact habitat in the wild are unknown.

This species is named after Harry Phillips, the brother of Andy Phillips of Andy's Orchids in California. They have a large selection of unusual and hard to find species including many miniatures. *Lpt. harryphillipsii* is fairly similar looking to *Lpt. tenuis* and *Lpt. pauloensis*, all having fuller, flatter flowers than other species, in shades of lavender and white, and looking like tiny cattleya blooms. They are usually borne one to a stem, and while small, are big for the plants, which are usually barely over an inch tall.





*Leptotes harryphillipsii* – David Mellard  
Example Photo

The tough terete growth habits of *Leptotes* can somewhat mislead growers as they seem to do best with moderate light levels rather than full exposure, and they come from a part of Brazil that has no true dry season, just slightly less rainfall in the cooler months. While I have seen a few plants grown in pots, generally they do best mounted on cork or long lasting wood, with regular watering and intermediate temperatures.

**Red** – *Cattleya* Unknown ID – Darrell Demeritt

**White** – *Cattleya* Senhora Diana Leitao 'Classic' – Dan Williamson

### Class II – Cymbidium Group

**Blue** – *Cymbidium kanran* – David Mellard

This is my first encounter with this species, which is somewhat similar to *Cym. sinense*, and comes from a similar range in the mountains of China and Taiwan, but also extended into Japan and the Ryukyu Islands. The plants are also a little more robust, with taller, but fewer flowered inflorescences, with blossoms that are a bit larger and with segments that come to distinctly

pointed tips. *Cym. kanran* also comes from somewhat higher elevations and is considered a cool grower, therefore more of a challenge in our climate to cultivate. The genus name comes from the Chinese for "cold orchid" and refers to not only its habitat, but also for having its peak flowering as the season progresses into winter.

Like *Cym. sinense*, there is quite a bit of variation in flower color, and both have albino variants that are basically all yellow-green. But this species has been used much less frequently in hybridization, probably in part because it is less frequently cultivated, but also does not pass along the same temperature tolerance to its offspring that allows *Cymbidium* to be more widely grown in warm climates.

While many *Cymbidium* prefer constant moisture at their roots, this species comes from habitats similar to the Nobile type *Dendrobium*, where there is scant rainfall in winter. While this period starts out humid, so that there is plenty of dew and mist from December through February, it ends with a two month period of low humidity and little dew, so plants should be allowed to dry between watering in March and April before the commencement of new growth in spring.

### Class III – Dendrobium Group

**Blue** – *Dendrobium* Daniel Off – Madlen Wilmes

While this plant was entered under the names of the parents (*Den. Joe* x *Wainanae Blush*), it



*Cymbidium kanran* – David Mellard Example  
Photo

was registered by Joe Grezaffi in 2014 under the name listed above, so the grower should update the plant tag. It is a hybrid type often referred to as "semi-antelope" as it combines species from the *Phalaenopsis* section with those from the *Spatulata* section. This breeding strategy helps bring more variety in both color and form to the flowers.

In the case of this cross, while photos were not available of the ribbon winners this month, it is likely that lavender predominates in the flower, but with a more spreading form that *Den. phalaenopsis* itself, which makes up about 2/3 of the genetic line over nine generations of breeding.

All *Dendrobium* of this breeding type, as well as the species that they derive from, are lovers of high light and warmth, and are resentful of both shade and temperatures below 60F. They need a warm greenhouse or windowsill location where such conditions are available if they are to prosper. In general, they want frequent water, accompanied by perfect drainage from about May through October, and then much less frequent water, so that the

media remains dry for several days at a time, the balance of the year. Fertilizer should be withheld during this rest phase as well to avoid undesirable results.

### Class IV – Epidendrum Group

**Blue – *Dineclia* Chien Ya Smile ‘KS’ – Danny Lentz**

This charming miniature orchid remains the only successful hybrid made from the very tiny, creeping, *Dinema* (syn. *Encyclia*) *polybulbon*. The other parent was the more robust *Encyclia cordigera*. One has to wonder if there was only one successful seedling from this pairing, which was subsequently mericlone under the ‘KS’ varietal name. Many breeders have tried unsuccessfully to make cross with *Din. Polybulbon*, including myself, and fully recognize its reluctance to breed and the remarkable achievement attained with this orchid.

While *E. cordigera*, brings up the plant height to about 5 or 6 inches, the growth is rather densely clumping and one can imagine the delight of a mature specimen, with numerous spikes each with up to three, eye catching, purple and white



*Dineclia* Chien Ya Smile ‘KS’ –  
Danny Lentz, Example Photo

blooms. If you don’t already own this orchid you may have missed your chance for now, as it seems the entire batch of mericlones has traveled through the commercial pipeline into the hands of hobby growers.

Based on the habitats of the parents, *Dineclia* Chien Ya Smile ‘KS’ probably prefers warm growing conditions and regular watering year round, accompanied by excellent drainage.

**Red – *Epidendrum ciliare* - Roy Harrow**

### Class V – Oncidium Group

**Blue – *Oncostelopsis* [Osp.] (syn. *Burrageara* or *Burr.*) *Sunkissed* ‘Buttercup’ – Karl Harden**

This cheerful intergeneric hybrid lives up to its name with spikes of well-shaped sunny yellow flowers on fairly compact plants. It was registered as a *Burrageara* [*Cochlioda* x *Miltonia* x *Odontoglossum* x *Oncidium*], but since then four different species in its genetic tree have been reassigned to another genus, making it an *Oncostelopsis* [*Miltoniopsis* x *Oncidium* x *Rhyncostle*] as officially recognized by the RHS for registration purposes. Such name changes brought on by DNA studies have hit the Oncidium Alliance particularly hard since a handful of key species, widely used in modern intergeneric breeding, have been reassigned.

Beyond just changing the genus of certain species in the group, two in particular, have had a change both in genus and species name. One, used in this



*Oncostelopsis* [Osp.] (syn. *Burrageara* or *Burr.*)  
*Sunkissed* ‘Buttercup’ – Karl Harden

cross and more than 800 other crosses, is *Oncidium fuscatum*, which was formerly known as *Miltonia warscewiczii*. The other is *Oncidium alexandrae*, formerly known as *Odontoglossum crispum*, and present is over 8,000 currently registered hybrids. The reasons behind these drastic changes would take pages to be laid out, but give you an idea of how extensively modern hybrids are affected. Current labeling is a mish-mash of old and new names, so it is best to consult the RHS registry, available free online at [www.rhs.org](http://www.rhs.org), or an updated program such as Orchidwiz before entering your plant in a judged show.

Like other intergeneric hybrids that combine many species (in this case more than a dozen), *Osp. Sunkissed* is going to do best in intermediate temperatures, with diffused bright light and regular watering, never allowing the pot to go totally dry in between. Regular repotting into new media is also beneficial. Crosses with a high percentage of *Brassia arcuigera* and/or *Oncidium sphacelatum* are more heat tolerant and better choices



if you summer plants outdoors in our hot, humid climate. Crosses with a high percentage of *Onc. alexandrae* (syn. *Odm. crispum*), on the other hand, dislike heat and are better cultivated indoors or near evaporative cooling where they can get a maximum of about 80F. Even then, then can be challenging without consistently cool nights year round.

**Red** – *Oncidesa* [Oncsa.] (syn. *Oncidium* or *Onc.*) *Jiuhbao Gold* 'Tainan,' AM/AOS – **Helen Blythe-Hart**

**White** – *Oncidium* Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance,' AM/AOS – **Karl Harden**

## Class VI – Cypripedium Group

### *Paphiopedilum*

**Blue** – *Paphiopedilum* Stoned Van – **Roy Harrow**

This plant was entered under the parents' names as *Paph. Vanguard* x *stonei*, but was registered in 1991 by Frank Booth of Tip Top Paphs in Burlington, MA under the name listed above. It is possible that the producer of this seedling batch was unaware of the previous registration, or perhaps didn't appreciate the tongue in cheek implied humor in the official name! Mr. Booth, on the other hand, must have enjoyed the idea of causing a few embarrassed chuckles as he registered seven different *Paph. stonei* hybrids with a grex name starting with the word "Stoned." A few other growers have joined the joke and there are now 11 separate registered hybrids following that play on words.



*Paphiopedilum* Stoned Van  
– Roy Harrow

Roy was able to send a photo (though one flower had already faded) to see an example of the results of this particular pairing. Surprisingly I could find no other photos of it out there. In the case of our blue ribbon winner, the influence of *Paph. stonei* is very strong, so much so that it would be hard to distinguish as a hybrid in a line up with a selection of that species in flower.

This orchid should do best in warm growing conditions, preferably 60F or above at night year round, with medium light levels, tolerant of fairly bright as long as it is diffused.

**Red** – *Paphiopedilum* Kay Rinaman 'Val,' AM/AOS – **Danny Lentz**

**White** – *Paphiopedilum* *gratrixianum* – **Danny Lentz**

### *Phragmipedium*

**Blue** – *Phragmipedium* Wössner Supergrande – **Ellen Brand**

This hybrid between *Phrag. longifolium* and *Phrag. humboldtii* (syn. *warscewiczianum*) was registered in 1998. Technically, the umlaut (two dots) over the letter O is an official part of the registered name. It is just one of over 200 crosses, mostly slipper orchids, that Franz Glanz of Unterwössen, Germany has registered. The Wössen is a valley extending into the Bavarian Alps, and a Wössner would be someone who comes from there, just like an Atlantan is someone who comes from the city of Atlanta.

Confusingly, *Phrag. humboldtii* is now the accepted name for plants originally identified as *Phrag. wallisii*, and those originally identified as *Phrag. warscewiczianum*. And, both of those were originally considered varieties of *Phrag. caudatum*. So, while the name was chosen to create a distinction between this hybrid and the existing cross called *Phrag. Grande* registered in 1881, which was then a cross of *Phrag. longifolium* x *caudatum*, now they are both officially listed as a cross of the same two species.

Confusion aside, *Phragmipedium* Wössner Supergrande can produce up to 4 flowers of commanding presence per



*Phragmipedium* Wössner Supergrande  
– Ellen Brand

inflorescence. Each has a large pouch lip, an arching and overhanging long dorsal sepal and two very long trailing and often spiraling petals. This plant has good color with plenty of reddish purple laid over a pale green base color creating a chestnut or rusty red look. Following the habits of *Phrag. longifolium*, the flowers open in succession, with two or three in full flower on the spike at once.

Grow this plant in medium to bright diffused light and never allow the pot to dry out as the species in its background live on wet, drippy banks and rock faces in their native habitats. Most growers select a fairly deep pot and use a mix such as small bark and Perlite that retains moisture but still allows air penetration.

**Red** – *Phragmipedium pearcei* – David Mellard

**White** – *Phragmipedium Eumelia*  
Aria – Danny Lentz

### Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

**Blue** – *Phalaenopsis equestris*  
*forma coerulea* – Trac Nguyen

*Phalaenopsis equestris* is a foundational hybrid in breeding within the genus, especially in the production of smaller growing plants with multi-branched spikes of many flowers. To date, almost 22,000 hybrids have this species in their background, with many of their breeding lines tracing back over numerous generations to the 1890's.

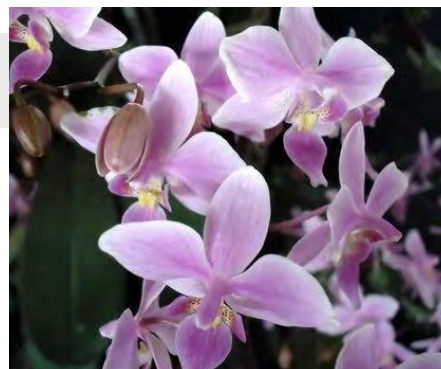
The species itself is known in several color forms, such as the one exhibited and is native to lowland forests on Luzon Island

in the Philippines where it experiences a year round hot climate. From about this time of year until spring is in full swing, rainfall in these areas is very low, though humidity remains 70% on average, with the balance of the year being extremely wet. Therefore watering should be more limited or even reduced to occasional misting if the humidity can be kept up in your growing area. Blooming records exist for every month of the year with *Phal. equestris*, but peak in late winter and again in fall. Several awarded plants have had between 100 and 400 flowers open at one time on mature plants with numerous keikis.

### Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

**Blue** – *Aerangis mystacidii* – David Mellard

This small monopodial species comes from a fairly wide distribution in Southeast Africa, extending from Malawi, which is about 10 degrees south of the equator, all the way to Swaziland, which is about 25 degrees south latitude. Like most other *Aerangis* species, it favors humid riverside forests, or mountain forests with high rainfall, where it grows on twigs and small branches in fairly dense shade.



*Phalaenopsis equestris forma coerulea*  
– Trac Nguyen, Example Photo

It grows from a short stem, producing several fairly broad, leathery leaves separated into two unequal lobes at the tip. As plants age they produce offsets forming a small colony of growths. Several arching, horizontal inflorescences can be produced at once, up to 12 inches long with up to a dozen white flowers, each with a long spur that has a pinkish hue. Some awarded specimen plants have had between one and two hundred flowers and buds at once.

Like other species in the genus, *Aer. mystacidii* does best grown mounted, with frequent, even daily watering in warm, bright weather, and somewhat less in winter when plants grow more slowly. It is considered a fairly cool grower and does best in our climate in a controlled environment where it can be protected from high summer heat.

Our white ribbon winner in this same class this month is a recent hybrid by Louisiana Orchid Connection between this species and *Aer. luteoalba*.

**Red** – *Vanda Green Light* x *Coerulsecens* – Dan Williamson

**White** – *Aerangis* LOC Cardinal Gem – Trac Nguyen

### Class IX – Miscellaneous

**Blue** – *Cycnoches* Golden Showers 'HOF#2' – Danny Lentz

*Cycnoches* Golden Showers is a primary hybrid between *Cyc. herrenhusanum*, a species with numerous small yellow flowers and *Cyc. chlor chilon*, a species with large, but less numerous





*Aerangis mystacidii* – David Mellard  
Example Photo

green flowers. Both have the characteristic nonresupinate (lip upwards) form of the genus and are carried on arching to pendant inflorescences that come from the upper portion of newly matured growths in late summer into fall. The resulting plants can produce as many as 16 flowers at least three inches across per spike, typically in a clear yellow color with some green shading toward the center of the flowers.

Both of these species are hot growers in their native habitats in South America, in regions with a distinct dry period in winter. Plants should be grown in a media that will hold moisture during the growing season, but dry out thoroughly in the resting period after flowering, when the leaves of the current season's growth will be mostly shed. Give plants medium bright light, and plenty of air movement to help discourage spider mites which are attracted to the thin textured leaves.

**Blue** – *Lycaste Athanacia* – David Mellard

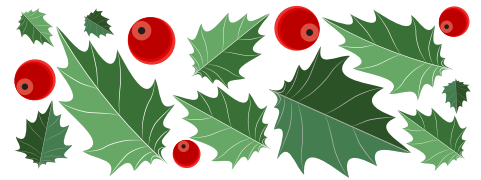
**Red** – *Pterostylis ophioglossa* – David Mellard

### Amazon Smile

You can help out the Atlanta Orchid Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. To do this simply go to <http://smile.amazon.com> every time you want to shop at Amazon. When you go to checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. If you type Atlanta Orchid Society in the search bar, we are the only result that comes up. Select that one. You can change the charity at any time, by following the directions on the About page. All of the details of the Amazon Smile program can be found on the Amazon site at: <https://smile.amazon.com/gp/c/hpf/about/>



*Cycnoches Golden Showers 'HOF#2'* – Danny Lentz, Example Photo



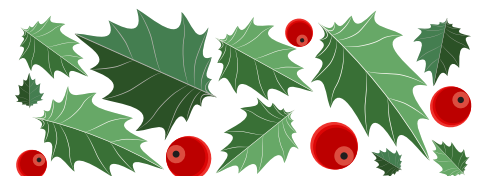
# BEST WISHES FOR THE HOLIDAYS



## Happy NEW YEAR

2018

FROM  
**The Atlanta Orchid Society**





## 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

## OCTOBER AWARDS



*Cattleya Mini Purple 'Shibuya'*,  
HCC/AOS, 78 pts.  
Exhibited by Fred Missbach



*Renanthera Christine Motes 'Polka Pants'*, AM/AOS, 82 pts.  
Exhibited by Carson Barnes

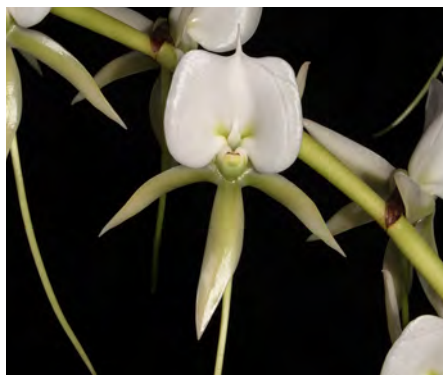


*Paphiopedilum Nancy Depauw 'Sweet Little Thing'*, AM/AOS, 83 pts.  
Exhibited by Barbara Barnett

## NOVEMBER AWARDS



*Paphiopedilum gratrixianum 'Mello Spirit'*, HCC/AOS, 78 pts.  
Exhibited by David Mellard



*Angraecum eburneum ssp. superbum 'Georgia Star'*, AM/AOS, 81 pts.  
Exhibited by Carson Barnes



*Cattleya trianae 'Mendenhall'*, AM/AOS, 82 pts.  
Exhibited by Fred Missbach