

## OCTOBER EVENTS

**Monthly Meeting: 8:00 pm Monday, October 8, 2018**  
**Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall**

**Pre-meeting Class (7:15-7:45)** : Rick Martinez will hold a group discussion for beginning growers.

**Program: Helen Hersh** – Advanced Windowsill Growing

**Annual AtIOS Auction – Saturday Oct. 20** at Rock Springs Presbyterian Church. Lunch at 11, auction at Noon



### Bulletin

October 2018

Helen Hersh

[Mount Prospect Orchids](#)

(pre-order deadline October 4)

Helen Hersh began growing orchids in 1990 when a client of her antique business gave her blooming orchids in return for deliveries. She quickly became hooked and her collection grew to hundreds, then thousands of plants as she purchased flasks of paphiopedilums and phragmipediums. After 9 years of growing on windowsills in Brooklyn, a move to New Jersey gave her room to build a large greenhouse and start Mount Prospect Orchids, specializing in fine paphiopedilums, phragmipediums, bulbophyllums, and other unusual species. She has never forgotten her windowsill growing days and carries a line of plants that are both unusual and easy to grow in the home.

Helen was a long-time trustee of the Greater New York Orchid Society, where she was a regular contributor to the newsletter and where she was in charge of the floral exhibitions at the New York International Orchid Show for many years. She has also written multiple articles for the American Orchid Society's magazine and has served on the AOS Outreach Committee.

Helen has an extensive list of slipper orchids as well as other interesting species for sale at [www.mountprospectorchids.com](http://www.mountprospectorchids.com).



*Paphiopedilum gratixianum*

### Atlanta Orchid Society Auction – Saturday October 20

The society's annual auction will be held at Rock Springs Presbyterian Church just down the road from ABG on Piedmont. A potluck luncheon will be held at 11:00, and the auction will take place from approximately 12:00pm to 3:00pm. If you'd like to join us for lunch please bring a dish to share.

If you have any nice plants to donate for the auction, please send a list to Mark Reinke ([markreinke@att.net](mailto:markreinke@att.net)).

We will put together a catalog of the plants being auctioned like we did last year. Hopefully we'll have it available online about a week before the auction.

### In this Issue....

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**ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY****Officers****President****David Mellard** 404-310-9899**Vice-President/Programs****Helen (HB) Blythe-Hart** 770-656-4054**Secretary****Darrell Demeritt** 404-377-4187**Treasurer****Dan Williamson** 301-717-0939  
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Decatur, GA 30030**Immediate Past President****Jason Mills-Shoulta** 678-383-2936**Trustees****Rick Martinez**, 678-583-8695**Karl Harden**, 678-414-3644**Jody Gomez**, 678-613-1449**Doug Hartong**, 770-594-7334**Trac Nguyen**, 404-502-2969**Maegan Brass****Volunteers****AOS Rep – Barbara Barnett****Greengrowers – Danny Lentz****Librarian –****MAOC Rep – Doug Hartong****Meeting Hospitality – James Roberts****Membership – Barbara Barnett****Education and Outreach–  
Lynne Gollob****Silent Auction – Carson Barnes****Monthly Ribbon Judging –  
David Mellard****Newsletter – Danny Lentz & Mark Reinke****Orchid Digest Rep– David Mellard****Show Chair – Danny Lentz****Website Committee – Danny Lentz,  
Jan Spenard, Mark Reinke****The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin**

Volume 59: Number 10 – October 2018

Newsletter Editors: Danny Lentz &amp; Mark Reinke

*The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress***Minutes of Sep. 10, 2018 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society**

- The meeting began at 8:01PM with President David Mellard presiding. There were no new members or visitors identified in attendance.
- The minutes of the June meeting were approved as presented, with Carson Barnes making the motion for approval and Jody Gomez seconding.
- There was not a treasurer's report. Anyone interested in information from the society's monthly financial reports should contact Treasurer Dan Williamson.
- David Mellard reminded members of a number of upcoming events.
  - The Alabama Orchid Festival (Birmingham Area Show) will be September 21-23. The AtlOS will not exhibit at this show. Vendors will be there.
  - AtlOS Greengrowers will be at Richard and Stephanie Hallberg's home in Roswell, GA on Saturday, September 22nd. There will be plants given away.
  - The South Metro Orchid Society Picnic and Auction will be on Saturday, September 29th at Mike and Mary Cawthon's home, 135 S. Mt. Carmel Rd, McDonough, GA.
  - AOS Monthly Judging will be held at the Atlanta Judging Center on October 13th at 1:00 PM at the Turner Theater (Hardin Visitor Center), near the entrance to the Garden.
  - The Annual AtlOS Auction will be held at Rock Springs Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 20th with lunch starting at 11AM. The Auction will start at noon and will end at 3:00 or when all plants have been sold.
  - The Mid-American Orchid Conference (MAOC) will be held on October 26-28 in Independence, MO. See Doug Hartong for details.
  - The AOS Member's Meeting will be held in Apopka, FL on October 31-November 3.
- David Mellard asked that anyone who is not receiving the monthly newsletter to let him know so that they can be added to the mailing list.
- The Nominating Committee who will identify and present Board and Trustee nominees for 2019 was introduced: Danny Lentz, Chair; Doug Hartong, Past Chair; Daryl Wattley; Carson Barnes; and Helen Blythe-Hart.
- This month's speaker was Peter T. Lin, Southern California, who provided an interesting and informative talk on "Mini-Cattleyas". Peter's website is [diamondorchids.com](http://diamondorchids.com).
- The results of the monthly plant judging and ribbon awards were announced.
- The next monthly meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society will be held on October 8th at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. Helen Hersch will present a program on "Windowsill Growing".
- With no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45PM.

## Events Calendar

### October

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

Helen Hersh will speak on Windowsill Growing.

[www.mountprospectorchids.com](http://www.mountprospectorchids.com)

**13 - American Orchid Society monthly judging**, (noon) training, (1pm) judging, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden - Hardin Visitor Center - Turner Theater

#### October 20

**Atlanta Orchid Society Auction**  
Rock Springs Presbyterian Church. Covered dish luncheon at 11, Auction from 12 until about 3.

#### October 26-28

**Mid-America Orchid Congress Fall Meeting** in Independence, Missouri

#### October 31 – November 3

**AOS Fall Members Meeting & the International Slipper Orchid Symposium Meetings**

Apopka, FL

### November

**10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging**, (noon) training, (1pm) judging, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden - Hardin Visitor Center - Turner Theater

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

Steve Frowine will speak on Phalaenopsis. He will bring books for sale.

<http://members.authorsguild.net/stevefrow/>

The 2018 Nominating Committee is composed of Danny Lentz (chair), Doug Hartong (previous chair), Helen Blythe-Hart, Daryl Wattle, and Carson Barnes.

All of our current officers are willing to serve another year in their current positions. All of them have a year of eligibility left under our term limits (two years for President/Vice-President, three years for Secretary/Treasurer). Jason Mills-Shoulta is willing to serve another year as Past-President.

Rick Martinez and Karl Harden will finish their three year terms as trustees at the end of this year. Continuing their terms as trustees will be Jody Gomez and Doug Hartong through 2019, with Trac Nguyen and Maegan Brass through 2020.

This is the slate of officers and trustees proposed for election to the board for 2019:

President: David Mellard

Vice-President: Helen Blythe-Hart

Secretary: Darrell Demeritt

Treasurer: Dan Williamson

Trustee: Carl Quattlebaum

Trustee: Atsushi Matsumoto

The election will be held at the November meeting.

## 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/chpf/about/>



### 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.



## Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners September 2018

Notes by Mark Reinke  
Photos by Daryl Wattley  
& Danny Lentz

### Class I – Cattleya Group



**Blue – Rhyncolaeliocattleya Mount Athena x Good News– Roy Harrow**

*Rlc.* Mount Athena, the pod parent of this unnamed large flowered cattleya hybrid, was registered by ATLOS member and AOS judge Barney Garrison in 2005. The originator of the cross was unknown. It is a large pale lavender flower. The other parent, *Rlc.* Good News is usually seen as a semi-alba (white with colored lip), but apparently is not genetically pure in that aspect since that color trait would normally predominate in the offspring. Instead, in the case of this plant, it intensified the lavender to produce a fairly dark, large, if not particularly full, flower. Both parents in the cross contain a number of famous cattleyas of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century in their family trees.

Normally this type of breeding produces a once-per-year flowering plant, with the lion's share of the species in its genetics favoring summer to fall. But there are a few winter and spring blooming species also in the mix, so flowering more than once per year on a well grown plant is not out of the question.

Large lavender cattleya hybrids are generally tough plants fairly easy to flower. They need bright light for best growth and excellent drainage

that allows quick drying at the roots. They can tolerate a wide range of temperatures, but should receive less water whenever it is chilly and damp. Plant size is generally the limiting factor for growers in small spaces.

**Red – Brassolaeliocattleya Cecelia Irene –Larry Kikkert**

**White–Cattleya forbesii 'Equilab', AM/AOS – Kyle Brooks**

**White–Rhyncolaeliocattleya Egyptian Queen –Maegan Brass**

### Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

### Class III – Dendrobium Group



**Blue – Dendrobium "J.K. Lee" series – Kurt Drewke & Ariel Christiansen**

This is a nice dark *Den. phalaenopsis* hybrid blooming on a very small plant, at least for now. Knowing its family tree would help indicate whether it will stay small or grow much taller in the future, as this type of breeding can often spike on small growths, but may double or even triple in height on future stems. Trying to decipher the entry name of the plant doesn't produce conclusive results of its origins or parents. There are a series of hybrids registered between 2009 and 2013 by Jack Kemp of Colorado that fall into this breeding group that have "JK's" as the first part of their name, but none with "Lee" included. So this could be a mere coincidence and this plant might be one of the many on the market sold under an unregistered trade name.

*Den. phalaenopsis* hybrids are warm to hot growers preferring bright light to flower well. They will perform best kept above 60F to 65F. They probably are capable of flowering under some of the new LED lights available that put out high intensity without using much electricity. They expect perfect drainage at their roots. This plant is growing semi-hydroponically in a clear plastic cup with expanded clay pellets and drain holes about one inch from the bottom of the cup. Water and fertilizer are best reduced when the plant is not actively growing to avoid the formation of keikis on the stems in place of flower spikes.

### Class IV – Epidendrum Group



**Blue – Epidendrum magnoliae– Kyle Brooks**

*The following description is from last month when another plant of the same species received the blue ribbon in this class. I'll repeat it in case you missed it the first time.*

*Epidendrum magnoliae* is the northernmost growing epiphytic orchid species in the Western Hemisphere, documented from Bladen County, NC (inland and northwest of Wilmington) and extending south and westward on the coastal plain to Calcasieu County, LA (Lake Charles vicinity) on the Texas border. It also occurs down the

peninsula of Florida to a line from about Tampa Bay to the Indian River. However, it is considered a rare or threatened species in NC, SC, GA, AL and MS. There is also a disjunct population in the three most northeastern states of Mexico, primarily in mountainous locations.

This small delicate orchid can grow in large colonies, especially on the tops of horizontal limbs of large, mature Live Oaks and other hardwoods. But because it is often found in conjunction with mats of resurrection fern, and the flowers are greenish to bronze in color, it is easily overlooked.

The record low temperature from Elizabethtown, NC, the northern extreme of its range, is a remarkable minus 3 Fahrenheit! That would indicate that in all but very cold winters it would be hardy in the Atlanta area. However, it will grow and bloom just as well with minimal cooling in winter to about the mid-50's F at night. The flowering period peaks in summer to fall, but is variable, and established plants can flush more than once per year.

For obvious reasons, hybridizers have obsessed over the years at the possibility of making frost hardy crosses by combining this species with other members of the greater Cattleya Alliance. While a few very nice things have been produced, none have shown the ability to survive freezes. However, for purposes of enjoyment and dependability, the two most outstanding in my opinion are *Epicatanthe* Butterfly Kisses (x *Ctt.* Trick or Treat) and *Vaughnara* (originally *Brassoepilaelia*) Fiftieth Anniversary (x *Bc.* Richard Mueller). While you will likely be challenged to find the former at this time, Carter and Holmes have cloned one of their best of the latter cross and I purchased a blooming size plant as recently as February of this year.

**Red** – *Epicyclia* Serena O'Neill – Darrell Demeritt

**White** – *Epicattleya* Fascination – Dan Williamson

## Class V – Oncidium Group



**Blue** – *Oncostele* Wildcat 'Yellow Butterfly' – Kurt Drewke & Ariel Christiansen

Anyone who has grown a few orchids has probably owned, or at least seen one of the many color forms of *Oncostele* Wildcat, possibly still under its original registration as a *Colmanara* (*Miltonia* + *Odontoglossum* + *Oncidium*). Since that registration in 1993, three different species in its background have been reassigned to different genera, resulting in the current placement in *Oncostele* (*Oncidium* + *Rhyncostele*). There were two *Odontoglossum* species in the original mix, but *Odm. crispum* was reassigned as *Onc. alexandrae* and *Odm. uroskinnei* was reassigned as *Rhyncostele uroskinnei*. Additionally, *Miltonia warszewiczii* became *Onc. fuscatum*. I can't think of another popular hybrid that has endured so many changes.

Luckily, growing this showy plant is not nearly so complicated! Possibly because it mixes such diverse species, it is considered one of the more rewarding intergeneric Oncidinae to cultivate, enduring well with less care, but rewarding exponentially with attention to its needs. Well grown plants can produce two inflorescences, one on either side of the flattened pseudobulb of a newly matured growth, and they branch freely at the rhizome, making wonderful

specimens. Plants with as many as nine inflorescences and over 400 flowers have been awarded, and the average flower count per spike of the awarded plants is 42.

Bright but filtered light, frequent watering in a moisture-retentive, but freely draining mix and intermediate temperatures will produce the best results. Heavier feeding than most orchids is also beneficial. Every two years or less, plants should be repotted in new mix and divided as necessary.

## Class VI – Cypripedium Group



**Blue** – *Paphiopedilum* Doll's Kobold – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

This very attractive flower is a primary hybrid between *Paph. charlesworthii* and *Paph. henryanum* registered by Hilmar Peter Doll of Bonn, Germany in 1992. That was only a few years after the latter species was officially described. Interestingly, the very same year, our white ribbon winner was registered by Paphanatics Unltd. Of Anaheim, CA, crossing *Paph. henryanum* with *Paph. sukhakulii* to produce *Paph. Graham Robertson*. While *Paph. Doll's Kobold* inherited spotting from the latter parent only on its dorsal sepal, *Paph. Graham Robertson* is a symphony of attractive spotting on both dorsal sepal and the petals, courtesy of both parents.

With our blue ribbon winner, it is easy to see how breeding toward the full formed "Bulldog" types would have had an immediate jump start at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century had *Paph. henryanum* been available to



use at the time. Like *Paph. charlesworthii*, which *did* factor into this breeding line, it has a very flat and full dorsal sepal that was lacking in the other species used.

Both parents in this cross are mountain dwellers and expect to receive cooler nights with less water in the winter months, then warmth, but not high heat, with plenty of water in summer. Bright light, but short of direct sunlight, will improve flowering.

**Red – *Paphiopedilum sukhakulii*–  
Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**



**White– *Papiopedilum* Graham Robertson – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

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



**Blue – *Phalaenopsis bellina* forma *coerulea*– James Roberts**

I had two photos to choose from for this entry: one taken in available light and the other with flash. The former photo produced a yellowish cast that made the violet shading on the lower sepals of this color form look too purple. Based on other photos, I believe this flash version is more true to life in this color form.

I have written about this lovely, fragrant and highly desirable species several times before. Though not many flowered, a well grown, mature plant can have several persistent inflorescences each with a couple of flowers open at once. The heavy substance, vivid colors, aforementioned fragrance, and the fact that the blooms are held fairly close to the broad shiny light green leaves, adds to the attraction.

This lowland species requires warmth, filtered light and year round watering with minimal drying in between to perform well.

**Red – *Phalaenopsis Spica*– Roy Harrow**

### **Class VIII - Vandaceous Group**



**Blue – *Vanda* Ashley Lowe 'Palmer Orchids' –Darrell Demeritt**

This orchid has *Vanda* (syn. *Ascocentrum*) *curvifolium* as one of its grandparents, and so is affected by the merger of that genus into *Vanda*. Therefore the above name is now the accepted one. That species helped provide the intense red-magenta color, while *V. sanderiana* is the most prominent member of the family tree (54%) and helps account for the good size of the blooms. It also likely makes this hybrid less tolerant of cool weather and would grow best kept above 60F year round.

This cross was registered by R.F. Orchids back in 1992 and it is one of



### **Join the Atlanta Orchid Society**

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1-December 31. Anyone joining in the third quarter will get a 50% discount on the current year's membership. Anyone joining in the fourth quarter will purchase a membership for the following year. You can join at one of our monthly meetings, contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website:

[www.atlantaorchidsociety.org](http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org)

the many offspring of *V. Yip Sum Wah*. However, while that parent counts for more than 1100 additional registered crosses as descendants, for some reason *V. Ashley Lowe* has not been used for any further breeding. It seems worthy enough, but perhaps is a reluctant parent. The clonal name of this particular plant indicates that it likely comes from Palmer Orchids in Bradenton, FL.

In addition to high light and warmth, this orchid needs frequent watering with perfect drainage to allow quick drying and somewhat heavier feeding than other genera to produce good results. I have found that creating a tied bundle with netting of Nutricote time release pellets and fastening it near the base of the plant so that the roots are fed with each watering helps with this cultural requirement.

**Red – *Vanda* Vernon Kebodeaux 'Missy's Powder Puff,' HCC/AOS–  
Carson Barnes**

**White – *Angraecum birramense* –  
Carson Barnes**

## Class IX – Miscellaneous



**Blue** – *Bulbophyllum longissimum* 'Ottawa Spirit,' HCC/AOS – **David Mellard**

This is one of the most fascinating and beautiful members of the *Cirrhopetalum* group of *Bulbophyllum*, with comparatively large flowers on a compact clump forming plant. Up to about 6 long trailing flowers that can easily be a foot long each are produced on pendent spikes. The base color is white or cream, overlaid with pink stripes and stippling for a very attractive look. It is a native to Thailand and is one of the parents of the famous *Bulb.* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry,' FCC/AOS.

This plant is flowering a bit earlier than the typical bloom season which peaks in Oct-Nov each year. I just checked a plant that I have, grown from a seedling from Bill Thoms and now totally covering all sides of a six inch plastic Vanda basket, and the

inflorescences are just now beginning to emerge. On my plant they typically stagger their appearance somewhat, so while I may get 15 or 20, they are not all open at the same time in perfection, which would be a sight to see were it to occur.

To do well, this orchid needs a reasonably humid situation in filtered light with room for it to hang so as to accommodate the inflorescences and where frequent watering is easily accomplished. There seems to be scant information detailing at what elevation it grows in the wild. I can say for certain that it can tolerate low 50'sF at night in winter and mid-80'sF in summer, likely higher. But whether it can do well in our summer heat without the benefit of evaporative cooling is uncertain. Bill Thoms lives in Sarasota, FL, but has a very good cooling system in his *Bulbophyllum* growing area with plenty of air movement.

**Red**–*Habenaria medusa*– **David Mellard**

**White**– *Coelogyne prolifera*– **Dan Williamson**

**White** – *Zygolum* Louisendorf– **Carson Barnes**

## The Mystery of Cattleya Crystelle Smith Revealed

Last month, Nancy Newton received the blue ribbon in Class 1 with *C. Crystelle Smith* 'Aileen,' AM/AOS. In my write up about it, I mentioned that I tried to remake the cross with the listed parents (*C. Beaufort* x *C. loddigesii*) and got very different results. David Mellard passed my comments on to Barney Garrison, one of the senior judges at our Atlanta AOS Judging Center, and he was able to reveal more details that make the story clear. When this cross was made by Frank Smith of Krull-Smith Orchids in the first half of the 1980's *C. harrisoniana* and *C. loddigesii* were considered the same species. It turns out that Frank actually used *C. harrisoniana* to make the original *C. Crystelle Smith* and that explains why my results were so drastically different when I attempted my own version. This cross was just the 7<sup>th</sup> registered



Clockwise from top right: *C. Crystelle Smith* 'Gold Throat,' AM/AOS, *C. Crystelle Smith* 'Aileen,' AM/AOS, *C. Crystelle Smith* 'BK Orchids,' *C. Beaufort* 'Hartford's Elmwood' (4N)

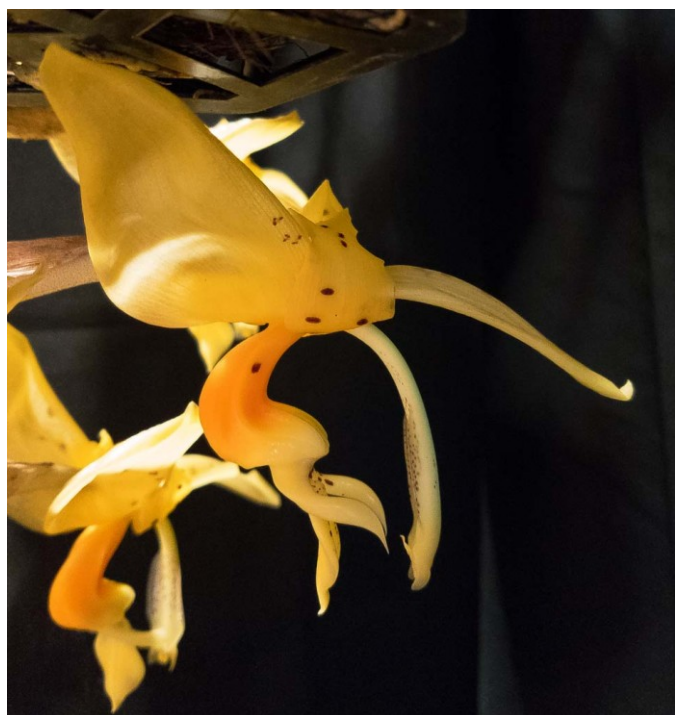


hybrid using *C. Beaufort*. While I speculated that it likely wasn't a tetraploid form, Frank says it was a tetraploid *C. Beaufort* (the original cross, registered in 1963 was diploid). At that time, tetraploids of *C. Beaufort* would have been only recently available. They were undoubtedly responsible for the explosion of

new *C. Beaufort* hybrids that followed that date, now totaling 264 first generation crosses and 1368 total registered crosses that have it in their family tree. It would be helpful, but likely impossible, to correct the many registered hybrids where one parent is listed as *C. loddigesii* when it really was *C.*

*harrisoniana*. You can read my notes on *C. loddigesii* 'Blue Sky,' AM/AOS in the July, 2018 newsletter to understand the basic differences between these two Brazilian species.

Plants awarded at the Atlanta Judging Center in September 2018: Photos by Jason Mills-Shoulta



*Stanhopea jenischiana* 'Memoria AnnaLee Boyett', AM/81 pts., exhibited by David Mellard



*Bulbophyllum longissimum* 'Ottawa Spirit', HCC/79 pts., exhibited by David Mellard



*Pleurothallis diabolica* 'Red Goat Rodeo', CHM/84 pts. (provisional pending identification), exhibited David Janvrin



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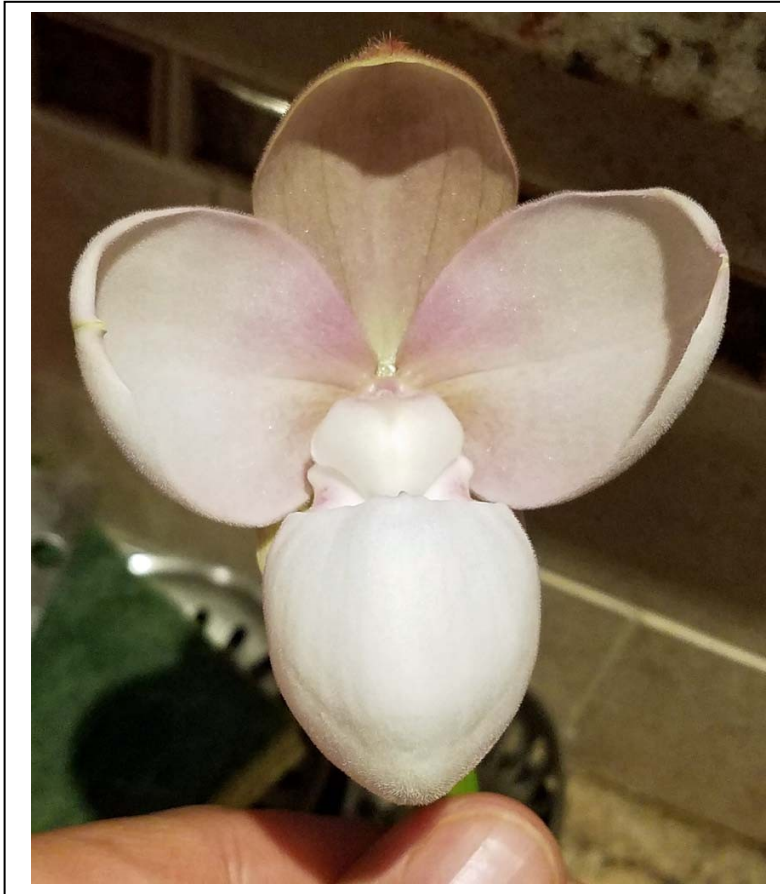
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This is the first flower I've gotten from a group of *Phragmipedium kovachii* x (*kovachii* x *schlimii*) seedlings.. It is not at all the color I expected and the flower was very short lived. It will be interesting to see if the next flower looks just like this and what the flowers on its siblings look like when they bloom. -danny