NOVEMBER EVENTS

Monthly Meeting: 8:00 pm Monday, November 12, 2018
Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Pre-meeting Class (7:15-7:45) : Darrell Demeritt will hold a group discussion for novice growers.

Program: Steve Frowine – Fabulous Phalaenopsis

We will be taking our speaker to dinner at 6:00 at Ru San’s near the garden at Piedmont and Monroe. If you’d like to join us please let HB know you are coming.

Members may bring plants to sell.

Steve Frowine

Steve has been a plant nerd most all of his life. His fixation with orchids started in junior high school when his dad brought one back as a present from Florida. For many years he has continued to grow orchids under lights, in shade houses, greenhouses and windowsills.

Steve holds a BS and MS in Horticulture from Ohio State University and Cornell. He has been privileged to work at some of the top organizations and companies in horticulture in the U.S. including the Missouri Botanical Garden, the National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hawaii, Cleveland Botanical Garden, Pittsburgh Civic Garden Center, W. Atlee Burpee Company, and White Flower Farm, and has been a horticultural marketing consultant for many other companies.

He’s written articles for most major gardening magazines and has been on the boards of the Garden Writers Association (GWA), National Gardening Association (NGA), and American Public Gardens Association and on the Visiting Committee of Longwood Gardens.

He has given over 500 lectures throughout the US, Mexico and Guatemala and has written four orchid books, Orchids for Dummies, Fragrant Orchids, Miniature Orchids, and Moth Orchids, the Complete Guide to Phalaenopsis. Through all these changes and years in horticulture, one passion that has remained constant is Steve’s love of growing orchids.
The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin  
Volume 59: Number 11 – November 2018  
Newsletter Editors: Danny Lentz & Mark Reinke  
The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress  

If you have borrowed any books from the society library please let Danny Lentz know which ones you have.

Minutes of September 10, 2018 Society Meeting  
submitted by Darrell Demeritt

The October 8th, 2018 meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society was held at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. David Mellard, president, presided. The meeting minutes of the September meeting were approved by membership after approval being moved and seconded.

David Mellard reminded members of a number of upcoming events: AOS Monthly Judging, Atlanta Judging Center, Oct. 13th at 1:00 PM at the Turner Theater (Harden Visitor Center); The Annual AtlOS Auction, Rock Springs Presbyterian Church on Saturday, October 20th with lunch starting at 11AM and the auction from 12-3PM; The Mid-American Orchid Conference (MAOC), October 26-28 in Independence, MO; The AOS Member’s Meeting will be held in Apopka, FL on October 31-November 3; AOS Monthly Judging will be held at the Atlanta Judging Center on November 10th at 1:00 PM at the Turner Theater (Harden Visitor Center); the next meeting of the AtlOS will be Monday, November 12th at 8PM at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. The speaker will be Steve Frowine who will provide the presentation “Phalaenopsis Culture”. Steve will bring books for sale.

David Mellard reminded members that there are Garden Parking Passes still available for sale.

David reported that our member, Geni Smith, entered plants from her personal collection as an exhibitor in the Alabama Orchid Festival and received a first-place award by public popular choice for her exhibit. Congratulations, Geni!

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The Nominating Committee, Danny Lentz, Chair; Doug Hartong, Past Chair; Daryl Wattley; Carson Barnes; and HB Blythe-Hart reported that the Board officers have all agreed to serve another term, and will be presented for approval and voted upon at the November meeting. In-coming trustees will be Carl Quattlebaum and Atsushi Matsumoto.

This month’s speaker was Helen Hersh, who provided an interesting and informative talk on “Advanced Windowsill Growing”.

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Hope to see you there!
**Events Calendar**

**November**

October 31 – November 3  
*AOS Fall Members Meeting & the International Slipper Orchid Symposium Meetings*  
Apopka, FL

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/](http://members.authorsguild.net/stevefrow/)

**December**

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

10 - *Atlanta Orchid Society Holiday Party*, Rock Spring Presbyterian Church, Fellowship Hall – 7 p.m.

**Future Events**

January 11-13 – Tamiami International Orchid Festival  
Miami, FL  
[http://tamamiiorchidfestival.com/](http://tamamiiorchidfestival.com/)

March 8-10 – *Atlanta Orchid Society Show & Sale* at the Atlanta Botanical Garden  

2020 – World Orchid Conference in Taichung, Taiwan  
[https://www.woc23.com/](https://www.woc23.com/)

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

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**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](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/](https://smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/)

**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)
Class I – Cattleya Group

Blue – Rhyncolaeliocattleya Little Toshie ‘H&R,’ AM/AOS – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

This much awarded 1994 introduction combines the famous mini-catt parent, C. Beaufort, with the equally famous large flowered Rlc. Toshie Aoki. Anyone familiar with the range of color forms of that latter parent would not be surprised that this orchid is more or less a scaled down version of it, with a similar range of outcomes. Some of the seedlings have pure yellow segments, others have those yellow segments brushed at the tip with red, while still others have a gradation of red washed completely over the yellow, such as in this awarded example. The constant in all cases is a rich red-purple lip, which shows golden lines in the throat and often two yellow “eyes” on the side lobes, both qualities that go back to C. dowiana, a species that figures prominently in the family tree.

It is a shame that plants of any of the many forms that have been meri-cloned in the past, including this one, are now becoming scarce in the marketplace. This compact grower and frequent bloomer is hard to beat for performance. We should hope that someone will do another batch from any of the dozen awarded examples or any one of dozens of outstanding and well awarded progeny that resulted in the next generation of breeding. They deserve to be in more collections.


This cross between B. Little Stars and C. Memoria Robert Strait was registered with the above name in 2006 by Hawaii Hybrids of Hilo, HI, so the owner of the plant should update his tag to reflect this and add the award given in 2009.

White – Cattleya lueddemanniana – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class II – Cymbidium Group

Blue – Cymbidium kanran ‘Seneca Spirit,’ AM/AOS (provisional) – David Mellard

This example of an interesting species from mainland China, Taiwan and Japan received an Award of Merit at the Atlanta Judging Center on October 13, 2018. Once the award fee has been paid it is considered official. The description of the species also notes that plants occur on Okinawa, but are likely naturalized from cultivated plants and not originally native to that island.

Like other Cymbidium species from these areas, there is considerable variation in the flower color, from mainly green, as in this example to bronze and chestnut red, almost always with a white or pale yellow lip peppered with purple.
blotches. But forms with no purple also exist, as do some with variegated foliage. The flowers are described as fragrant and around three inches in spread, though they can sometimes be slightly larger.

This species is fairly cold tolerant and based on the climate in areas in which it occurs, should be able to endure short periods a few degrees below freezing. However, that amount of cold is not necessary for flowering and should probably be avoided if possible. During the summer months, this terrestrial orchid should be frequently watered or even kept wet, with heavier feeding compared to epiphytic species. It does not expect as much water in winter and can be allowed to nearly dry out especially at the end of winter. During this time fertilizer should be withheld. The bloom season is spread out, based on records, from late summer to mid-winter.

Class III – Dendrobium Group

Blue – Dendrobium trinervium – Veronique Perrot

This small growing species has only recently been widely available in commerce. It comes from a similar area and seems to be closely related to Den. oligophyllum, which went through the marketplace a few years ago but now is hard to find. They are both described as low elevation species from southern Thailand and nearby parts of Malaysia or Vietnam. The species name means “three nerved” and likely refers to the pattern of green ridges and lines inside the lip of the mainly white flowers.

The climate in the native habitat is wet, with no real dry months, and warm, with the extremes ranging between 55 and 95, but most consistently from the upper 60’s to mid-80’sF. Plants seem to bloom in almost any month with a few flowers on each growth open at the same time. I see that Veronique is growing her nice plant on a Kool-Log which would both help to keep the roots from drying out and from getting too hot. I had a plant that another vendor gave to me last year at one of the shows. I almost lost it out of neglect. When I noticed how bad it looked, I set it in a tray of shallow water under lights next to my Venus’ Fly-Trap collection and it quickly recovered and started to bloom. I’m not sure if this will be too wet for it in the long run, but right now it looks very happy so I’m going to watch and wait.

Red – Dendrobium Green Flash – Ariel Christiansen & Kurt Drewke

This plant was entered with the grex name in single quotes which is not correct nomenclature, so I’ll take the opportunity to talk briefly about the four levels of official naming of orchids and how they should appear on a tag or listing.

First we have either the genus name, or if a hybrid between two or more genera, the man-made nothogenus name. This name should reflect where current accepted taxonomy places that plant and all the species which are in its family tree if a hybrid. This is typically determined by the Royal Horticultural Society, often in concert with the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, both in London. Orchid registrations were started by the RHS in 1850 and they have remained the “keeper of the keys” so to speak for official orchid names ever since. If a species, the genus/nothogenus name must be in italics to be correct. If a hybrid the italics are optional, but considered correct by orchid geeks like me! Examples would be Dendrobium (a naturally occurring genus), Cattleytonia (Cattleya + Broughtonia) and Aliceara (Brassia + Miltonia + Oncidium). When several genera are combined the name given often honors an individual rather than tries to combine parts of the names of the included genera. In that case, an “ara” is added to the end of a name (often the last name of the person who first achieved the combination) and should be pronounced like that person’s name with “ar-uh” at the end. Howeara, for example is “How-ar-uh” with the “e” being silent just as it is in that person’s name.

The second level of naming is the species name if identified as a naturally occurring plant in the wild, or the “grex” or hybrid name if a man-made cross between two or more species. If a species, it too should be in italics and be in all lower case (e.g. Dendrobium convolutum, one of the parents of Dendrobium Green Flash). If a registered hybrid, the name should...
be capitalized and NOT be in italics, ever. Once a hybrid is registered, any future crosses using the same parents or sibling plants from the same cross keep that name. So, whether you remake Den. Green Flash by re-crossing the parents, Den. André Millar and Den. convolutum, or by crossing two Den. Green Flash together, or even by self-pollinating it back onto itself, the resulting seedlings are always Den. Green Flash.

The third level of naming is the clonal or varietal name. This is given to a specific individual of a cross or species to distinguish it from its siblings, often, because it has either been awarded or mass produced for commercial sale. This level of naming is always enclosed in single quote marks. In the case of our Cattleya blue ribbon winner it was Rlc. Little Toshie ‘H&R,’ which distinguishes it from the ‘Pizazz’ and the ‘Golden Fantasy’ clone. Each one of these has been both awarded and mass produced and each has a slightly different color pattern so the clonal name helps keep them distinguished from one another. Clones of cultivars retain the clonal name of the parent plant when mass produced. So if you get a named cultivar of an orchid awarded by the AOS, the awarded clone name has already been chosen for it. If, however, you get a plant awarded with no known clonal name, you get to choose the clonal name that will go with that specific plant and be part of the official award. Sometimes, due to incomplete tags, clones of the same orchid have been awarded at separate venues and received different clonal names even though they were the same plant genetically. This is one reason why complete and accurate tags matter!

Lastly, a plant may have one or more awards by the American Orchid Society or another official judging entity such as the CSA (Cymbidium Society of America) or the TOGA (Taiwan Orchid Growers Association). This is the last part of an orchid name and is usually in all caps, with the award type abbreviation followed by a slash followed by the abbreviation of the official judging entity. AM/AOS means “Award of Merit by the American Orchid Society,” for example. Some plants may have two types of awards from the same entity e.g. AM/CCM/AOS which is “Award of Merit and Certificate of Cultural Merit from the American Orchid Society.” Flower quality awards such as AM (Award of Merit) or FCC (First Class Certificate) apply to all divisions or clones of the same orchid plant, but cultural awards apply only to the plant at the time it was exhibited/presented and are not transferrable to divisions or clones. The same plant could possibly get a higher cultural award in the future if it becomes even more magnificent, but the award itself expresses only a moment in time since the plant could also decline, as we all well know!

Whether your entry tag properly reflects these rules of nomenclature or not, I always research and do my best to correct and complete entries when I compose this monthly column. Maybe you personally don’t care and won’t make corrections to your plant labels when needed, but I’m an orchid geek, so this is what I do!

Class IV – Epidendrum Group - No Entries

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – Oncidium Heaven Scent ‘Sweet Baby’ – Jeremie Carroll

Oncidium Heaven Scent is an offspring of the well-known Onc. Sharry Baby with a similar chocolatey fragrance. There are several named clones in the market place and the ‘Sweet Baby’ form is the one most similar in flower color and spacing on the inflorescence to its famous parent. There is another form called ‘Redolence’ which has a large amount of white mixed with the purple and a denser, more compact spiking habit.

The fragrance comes from Onc. sotoanum, a species that comes from Mexico and Central America and is strongly in the background of both parents used to created Onc. Heaven Scent. [note: Onc. sotoanum used to be known as Onc. omithorhynchum—Ed.] It is one of the few fragrant Oncidium species, but seems highly capable of passing it along through several generations of breeding. Another fragrant species, but with much more of a perfume-like scent, is Onc. fuscatum and quite a few of its hybrids, but not all, have inherited its pleasant aroma and are worth seeking out. Two that come to mind are Onc. Wild Willie and Onc. Ron’s Rippling Delight.

This orchid is easily grown if given regular water and feeding in a moisture retentive, but well drained mix. Bright filtered light is good, but direct sun exposure will generally mar the foliage, as will allowing plants to stay dry for any more than short periods. Regular repotting is recommended into new mix, using a container that will accommodate 1-2 years growth. Onc. Heaven Scent grows quick and can easily bloom twice per year.

Red – Aliceara Pacific Nova ‘Hilo Stars’ – Darrell Demeritt

This is the peloric ‘Hilo Stars’ form and not the ‘Butter Buds’ form listed
on the entry tag, which has typical non-peloric flowers in which the two petals look narrow and pointed just like the sepals.

White – Oncidopsis Nelly Isler ‘Swiss Beauty’ – Helen Blythe-Hart

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue – Paphiopedilum Transdoll – Ariel Christiansen & Kurt Drewke

This showy orchid was registered a year before last month’s blue ribbon winner in this class by the same breeder, Hilmar Peter Doll of Bonn, Germany. It was a prolific year for him as he registered more than 30 new Paphiopedilum hybrids in 1991. Many of those crosses involved combining a large multiflora or a sequential bloomer with another type of Paph, and in this case the two groups are combined together, crossing the multiflora Paph. rothschildianum with the sequentially flowering Paph. liemianum. Here the result generally produces two to four large flowers per inflorescence that open in succession, but stay open together for a long period of time. Looking at a series of available photos of the cross, this example is better than most, with wider more horizontally held petals and deep, even coloration on the pouch lip. If the owners of the plant grow it well and produce a 3 flowered inflorescence, they should consider submitting it for an AOS award. I believe it compares favorably with the highest scores any Paph. Transdoll has received to date.

Both parents are warm to hot growers, so this orchid would benefit by growing in an environment that stays above 60F with dappled or filtered light. It probably is an excellent subject for growing under LED lights indoors. Most importantly, the mix needs to be refreshed every year or so around the roots, whether or not the plant has outgrown its container. Media that is starting to decay can quickly kill the majority of the roots, and if only a few live ones remain when repotting, the recovery will be slow.

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Blue – Phalaenopsis Yu Pin Lady – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

It is interesting that this plant does not seem to be a named cultivar of this 2003 registration as it has some of the best, boldest markings I have seen in researching the hybrid. It does seem very similar to one known as ‘Magic Art’ which still has no award but is a definite standout. Maybe it is that clone and the information got lost along the way. It seems that each photo of that variety looks slightly different, so either the color pattern varies somewhat with each flowering or there is variation coming out of the multiplication process, which would not be unusual. My experience with growing some seed from Harlequin type parents are that the results are variable to the extreme, with some plants reverting back to older, plainer color patterns from before the mutations occurred, and the remainder running the range of flares, dots, stripes, splashes and bursts commonly seen within this breeding group. This is probably why growers don’t sell unflowered seedlings of Harlequin types. They could make few reliable statements as to the outcome. Of the ones I grew up, a minority were nearly as good as the parents and only a couple rivaled them. The rest were average at best. I am glad this extreme variability doesn’t usually appear in Cattleya and Dendrobium, the two groups I most commonly work in!

Red – Phalaenopsis Dottie Woodson – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Red – Phalaenopsis Purple Martin – Helen Blythe-Hart

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – Vandachostylis Lou Sneary ‘Bluebird’ – Jeremie Carroll

As I mentioned in the August newsletter when one of these plants won a blue ribbon at the July 2018 meeting, this great hybrid is capable of blooming several times from summer to early winter. And now we see it again! Here are my notes from the earlier ribbon:

Anyone unfamiliar with this cross between Vanda (formerly Neofinetia) falcata and Rhynchostylis coelestis is missing out on a very satisfying and pretty tough little orchid that will never take up much space, but will yield ever improving results as the years pass. We have had a plant of a form called ‘Pinky,’ AM/AOS for more than 25 years. While slow growing, it finally got so large that it had to be divided a few years back. The portion we kept is already a sizeable clump in an eight inch basket and
last year produced at least 25 inflorescences of delightfully fragrant flowers. The jasmine-like scent has a clean finish which doesn’t overwhelm sensitive noses.

The ‘Bluebird’ clone has been the most easily available commercially in the last few years, with its beautiful white flowers tipped in violet than can come in waves of bloom several times from mid-summer to early winter, or burst out all at once in profusion in early fall. Our plants of this color form spiked 3 times last year, but so far are holding off for this season. The tight, compact fans of growth generally add about an inch in height, or a bit less, each year, and once the main fan is of sufficient age, additional fans sprout around the base of the plant, so that eventually there are multiple flowering growths at once. There is a cultural award for a plant of the ‘Bluebird’ variety with more than 300 flowers open at once. The fragrance must have been extraordinary! But that pales in comparison to the ‘Sossity’ clone, which in September of 1997 had just over 1,000 flowers when presented in a 6 inch basket (obviously overflowing with plant) at the Susquehanna Orchid Society show in Pennsylvania.

As I mentioned earlier, this is a pretty tough, rather forgiving orchid owing to the strength of its parents. It can take temperatures from near freezing to over 100F, and will bloom in less light than large flowered Vandas require. It can, however, tolerate near full sun if acclimated gradually. For the best results, I recommend basket culture, or possibly setting the pot of a recently purchased young plant into a basket and gradually filling in with chunky material as it grows. Plants will grow lots of thick, long roots as they become older and they can’t easily be contained in a pot. Frequent, even daily watering when warm and dry, benefit the plants in the warmer months, with less water, but possibly brighter light, in the cooler months. Dividing an older plant is a real project, so choose wisely for future growth with minimal disturbance.

Red – Holcoglossum wangii– Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite ‘Chariots of Fire,’ HCC/AOS – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

George Hausermann III, the great grandson of the founder of Hausermann Orchids in Addison Park, IL, and a good friend of mine, is the originator of this cross between Phaius tankervilleae, the “Nun’s Hat Orchid” and Calanthe Rozel, a complex hybrid with at least 5 different Calanthe species in its genealogy. He registered the hybrid in 2000 under his own company, EFG Orchids, which is now relocated just inland from Daytona Beach, FL. This orchid has been in constant demand ever since, with several different clones having undergone mass production. Most cultivars are similar to the ‘Chariots of Fire’ clone with a red-purple flower with white on the backside of the lip. A few forms have no white markings and one called ‘Blood Bath,’ HCC/AOS has wider segments and an almost fully stark white lip for contrast.

In 2013, at the Smoky Mountain Orchid Society show in Knoxville, TN, I saw in person a plant of Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite ‘Chariots of Fire’ that received a 93 point Certificate of Cultural Excellence with 47 inflorescences holding 481 open flower and 188 buds. I asked the owner of the plant, an amateur grower and member of the local society, how she grew it and she said “it sits in a tray of water in my greenhouse and I keep adding fertilizer to it.” Having since experimented myself with this method, I can confirm that it is now what I recommend to anyone purchasing this plant. The essentials are: a large, fairly deep pot, a mix amended with compost or other nutrient matter, frequent additional fertilization, and keeping the plant’s “toes” wet by using a saucer or tray to allow a shallow amount of water to stay in contact with the pot at all times. I do this regardless of season, despite the cross being 50% Calanthe that would normally be grown as a deciduous orchid with a winter rest. It seems that even in the more recent hybrid that takes this orchid back to Calanthe, the cultural requirements of the Phaius are what dominate. Well grown plants can flower more than once per year, and each inflorescence can continue to grow upward producing more flowers for several months.

Red–Habenaria rhodocheila ‘Sweetbay,’ AM/AOS– David Mellard

White– Anoectochilus albolineatus– Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan
We had a great time at the society auction on October 20. There was plenty of good food and plenty of interesting plants to buy. Thanks to Mark Reinke for organizing this event. We would also like to thank those who provided plants and other items for the auction: Mark Reinke & Gary Collier, Marble Branch Farms; Atlanta Botanical Garden; Peach State Orchids; David Mellard; Linda Miller; Richard Hallberg; Dianne Morgan; Windy Hill Gardens.

(top) Mark entices us with another Dendrobium
(bottom right) Joyce inspects her new purchase
(bottom left) Freeman helps his mom Maegan with the bidding.
Pleurothallis medinae blooming at the Atlanta Botanical Garden in October.

A Pleurothallis species blooming at the Waqanki Orchid Sanctuary in Moyobamba, Peru (April 2017).