



Bulletin

July 2019

JULY EVENTS

Monthly Meeting : 8:00 pm Monday, July 8, 2019
Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Program: Mark Reinke: "Growing and Breeding Miniature and Compact Cattleyas"

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.

Our speaker for the July meeting will be Mark Reinke from Marble Branch Farms. Mark and his partner Gary

Collier joined the Atlanta Orchid Society in 2002. Two years later in 2004 they moved to the westernmost county in South Carolina, at the base of the Blue Ridge Mountains and started their own small plant nursery specializing in orchids and hardy carnivorous plants. While the business is just over a decade old, Mark got his first orchid plants at the age of 12 and has now been growing them for 51 years. He now has his own seed sowing lab and does some of his own hybridizing, mainly in miniature and compact Cattleyas, Encyclia, and recently in some unusual Dendrobium and Paphiopedilum breeding.

Mark's program is entitled "**Growing and Breeding Miniature and Compact Cattleyas.**" It is a study in the history and development of our modern miniature and compact cattleyas. In addition to great photos and an interesting story line, it covers the best cultural practices for the various breeding lines that have descended from particular species and how to best grow them. The story will continue with what the future of compact and miniature cattleyas will look like, with examples of what Marble Branch Farms has already created. Mark will show some of his most successful and not so successful crosses and what is to be learned from them both from a breeder's and grower's standpoint.



Mark Reinke with one of his cattleya creations.



Myrmecatanthos Tiger Lily at Marble Branch Farms



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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

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Volume 60: Number 7 – July 2019

Newsletter Editors: [Danny Lentz](#) & [Mark Reinke](#)*The [Atlanta Orchid Society](#) is affiliated with the [American Orchid Society](#), the [Orchid Digest Corporation](#), the [Mid-America Orchid Congress](#) and the [Garden Club of Georgia](#).***Minutes of June 10th Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society**

The June 10th, 2019 meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society opened at 7:00 PM with the introduction of Atlanta Botanical Garden Fuqua Orchid Center Manager Becky Brinkman, Fuqua Orchid Center staff member Derek Pinson, and Manager of Plant Records Mike Wenzel. Members were guided through a behind the scenes tour of the public and non-public greenhouses. At the conclusion of the tours at 8:00 PM the official meeting of the Society was called to order by David Mellard, President. Guests were introduced and welcomed to the meeting.

The minutes of the May meeting were approved. There was no treasurer's report presented; detailed account balances, etc. are available through Dan Williamson, Treasurer, for anyone interested.

David Mellard provided a review of several upcoming events and offerings:

AtIOS Monthly Meeting will be held on Monday, July 8, 2019. **AOS Monthly Judging** will be held at the Atlanta Judging Center on July 13th at 1:00 PM in the Magnolia Room. The AOS "**Guide to Orchids and Their Culture**" is available for \$25 and "**The Beginner's Guide to Orchid Care**" is available as a download from the AOS website (www.aos.org).

There was no program for the evening, however, during the break for ribbon judging members were treated with ice cream and an opportunity to socialize and bid on plants brought in by members for the silent auction.

The results of the monthly plant judging, and ribbon awards were announced.

With no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:30 PM.

The next **AtIOS Monthly Meeting** will be held on July 8th at the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

Events Calendar

July

8 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m. Mark Reinke will speak on Miniature and Compact Cattleyas

13 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, (noon) training, (1pm) judging, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden – Magnolia Room behind Day Hall

19-20 – [International Phalaenopsis Alliance Symposium](#) in Apopka, FL.

August

2-3 – [Cattleya Symposium](#) in Fort Pierce, FL.

10 - American Orchid Society monthly judging

12 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting – Art Chadwick will speak on Cattleyas

September

9 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall – 8 p.m. Tom Kuligowski will speak on angraecoid orchids.

13-15 – MAOC meeting in Milwaukee

14 - American Orchid Society monthly judging, (noon) training, (1pm) judging, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden – Magnolia Room behind Day Hall

21-22 – Alabama OS (Birmingham) show

28-29 – Smoky Mountain OS (Knoxville) show

Future Events

Oct. 16-20 – AOS meeting in Homestead, FL

March 2020 – [World Orchid Conference](#) in Taichung, Taiwan

Announcements, Notes, Classifieds, etc.

If you have a few things you want to sell or swap, or are thinking about ordering something that others might be interested in splitting, let us know and we can put a note in the newsletter.

If you have Netflix and you haven't checked out the series "Our Planet" yet, you should at least look at the sequence on orchids in episode 1 starting at about 24 minutes and 40 seconds. There is great footage of orchid bees visiting *Coryanthes* flowers. (If you like *Nepenthes* you should also check out episode 3 starting at 18 minutes.)

We have some openings for volunteers. We need someone to be in charge of refreshments for the monthly meetings. We could also use someone to take care of the society library.

. - danny

International Phalaenopsis Alliance, Inc.



iPa

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Panel Discussion	Guest Speakers	Vendors
Species? Breeding? Culture? <i>Ask Us</i>	The Controversy <i>Phal. tetraspis & Phal. speciosa</i> Olaf Gruss, Germany	Big Leaf Orchids, USA, TX Gold Country Orchids, USA, CA
Panel Members Doc Bannister Mr. CC Chen Olaf Gruss Alan Koch Peter Lin Mike Mims Dr. Yin-Tung Wang	Novelty Phalaenopsis Peter Lin, USA, TX Growing and Showing Fragrant Phalaenopsis to Perfection Mike Mims, USA, NC Essential Elements for Growing Perfect Phalaenopsis Dr. Yin-Tung Wang, USA, CA	Krull-Smith Orchids, USA, FL Mike Mims Orchids, USA, NC Main Show Orchids, Taiwan

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Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners June 2019

Notes by Mark Reinke
Photos by Danny Lentz

Class I – Cattleya Group



**Blue – *Rhyncolaeliocattleya*
Waianae Appeal 'Aloha'– Doug
Hartong**

When registered in 1997 by Miyamoto Orchids of Waianae, Hawaii (west side of Oahu Island), this lovely yellow with red-lip cattleya was classed as a *Potinara* (*Brassavola* + *Cattleya* + *Laelia* + *Sophranitis*) although all but a very small percentage of the genealogy is made up of the typical, large flowered *Cattleya* species, with those other genera playing only minor roles far back in the family tree. Since then, the 3 *Laelia* species and the one *Sophranitis* species in its family tree have been moved into *Cattleya*. The *Brassavola* species was what we now call *Rhyncolaelia digbyana*. This large flowered species with a frilly lip is in the ancestry of a large percentage of hybrids like this, though in the case of this orchid, makes up a mere 2.3% of the total mix of species involved.

So, while it is called a *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* (*Rlc.*), this name represents only two genera. Personally, I think the taxonomists should have settled on a name that doesn't seem to represent *three*

genera, but this is the one they came up with and we are stuck with, apparently. So when you see *Rlc.* know that it is a genetic combination of *Cattleya* + *Rhyncolaelia*, and is the most likely new name for many large flowered orchids originally registered as *Potinara* (*Pot.*), or *Brassolaeliocattleya* (*Blc.*).

Rlc. Waianae Appeal is almost 50% *C. dowiana* and therefore will do best with less water and bright light during winter. While this orchid has been around for more than two decades, it has only recently been used in a handful of new hybrids by Suwada Orchids of Japan.

**Red–Vaughnara Fiftieth Anniversary
'Newberry'– Larry Kikkert**

**White–*Cattleya alaorii* forma *orlata*–
Bailey Santwire**

Class II – Cymbidium Group

No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group



**Blue – *Dendrobium treacherianum*
(syn. *Epigeneium lyonii*) – Vinh
Nyguen**

Wow, the moment I saw the photo of this species from Luzon Island in the Philippines I said "Where can I get one?!" It turns out, maybe the answer is likely nowhere, at the moment at least, as I couldn't find any commercial vendors offering it. It is certainly a stunner and hopefully will be more readily available in the future. It is not a recent discovery, to be sure, having first been described in 1881 by Reichenbach as *Dendrobium treacherianum*. In 1908 it was described by Ames as *Dendrobium lyonii* and later split off into the genus *Epigeneium* in 1957, so most plant tags or listings have it under that name today. Recently, Kew has merged that genus back into *Dendrobium* and recognizes the original name given in 1881 as the correct nomenclature.

This is obviously still a young plant with its single, but still impressive inflorescence, cascading down with 16 large, starry flowers showing beautiful color gradation from deep purple in the center to almost white at the extremities. There are several plants that have received cultural awards from the AOS bearing more than a dozen inflorescences with 200 to 300 flowers in total, and the photos are positively stunning.

It does not seem that difficulty in culture is the reason this orchid is so scarce. It comes from an intermediate to warm climate in the Philippines with a wet summer and drier winter similar to the habitat of many other orchids in cultivation. It seems to prefer moderately bright, but diffused light and does not like water high in mineral content. That factor should not be a problem in our area, though it is recommended that the growing media be flushed well with clean water about once a month.

There are no known hybrids made from this beautiful orchid, but it is hard to see how you could improve upon such loveliness!

**Red– *Dendrobium devonianum*–
Vinh Nguyen**

White -Dendrobium No ID - Bailey Santwire

Class IV – Epidendrum Group



Blue– *Encyclia (cordigera x pyriformis)*–Maegan Brass

This is an attractive cross that gives large flowers for *Encyclia* on a fairly compact plant. Likely they are nicely day fragrant as well. It is interesting that this is not a registered hybrid as it seems like the sort of cross that would have been attempted long ago. *E. pyriformis* is a Cuban native species that is not frequently seen in the U.S. but is available from time to time. It comes from the western part of the country in lower elevations. When I have been able to obtain plants, I found them charming, with small growths producing relatively large flowers. However, I was unable to keep any of the plants I bought happy for more than a few years. It could be that they are sensitive to cool temps and didn't like my growing area in the winter months.

E. cordigera is a much more widespread species, growing along both coasts of Mexico and Central America, and across the Caribbean coast of northern South America. It also has a preference for warm to hot days, but can tolerate cooler nights if given brighter light in winter.

Likely, the combination of these two species makes for a somewhat more tolerant plant, but as with all *Encyclia*, drainage is crucial and they tend to grow best in baskets, or mounted if you can water them often enough.

Red – *Eycyclia alata* – Véronique Perrot

White – *Prosthechea cochleata* – David Mellard

White – *Epidendrum magnoliae* – Bailey Santwire

Class V – Oncidium Group



Blue – *Miltoniopsis*– Jon Crate

This stunning *Miltoniopsis* apparently lost its tag as it was entered without a grex name. It has a strong resemblance to *Mps.* Lillian Nakamoto or one of its parents, *Mps.* Lynne Waihee and could be a specific clone of one of those. But there is a fairly large group of cultivars that show this high contrast pattern with large white flowers showcasing dramatic dark centers, and all of them seem to be late bloomers in the main spring to summer bloom season of the Pansy Orchids.

Miltoniopsis are moisture loving orchids, descended mainly from two Colombian species, *Mps. roezlii*, which comes from low to medium elevation rain forests, and *Mps. vexillaria*, which comes from higher

elevation rain and cloud forests. In both cases, rainfall is abundant year round and humidity is always high. While the exhibited plant is beautifully flowered, it may be not receiving quite as much water as it would like as evidenced by the slight "accordion" appearance of some of the foliage. When I get well-grown budded plants in that were commercially produced on the Big Island of Hawaii they often have moss growing all over the media and algae on the foliage, indicating their preference for copious watering.

Many people find *Miltoniopsis* challenging to grow and you may have to experiment with several cultivars to find one that will adapt to your conditions. They like fairly bright, but diffused light, and tend to not do well in high heat. However, the wife of Bill Thoms, whose name is Doris Dukes, has received Certificates of Cultural Excellence on examples with more than 100 blooms that she has grown in her greenhouse in Sarasota, Florida. We have had the most success with them by giving them a fairly coarse media, but sitting the pots in commercial baking trays that retain a shallow pool of water at all times. But with a finer media, this method is not successful.

Red – *Tolumnia* Jairak Rainbow 'Plum Pretty' – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White – *Oncidium* No ID – Jason Chen

Class VI – Cypripedium Group

Blue –*Phragmipedium* Green Hornet (*longifolium x pearcei*)– Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

This primary hybrid was originally registered in 1996 by Orchid Zone in the Monterey Bay region of California. Despite the name the reddish tinge in the petals is a fairly typical result for the cross. Most of the other examples I could find in images had similar coloring, but more twisted petals than this plant. The cross has only received one

AOS award so far, but has been used to make about 20 additional hybrids.



One of the big attractions of this orchid would be the ability to flower in any month of the year, so that a larger, specimen sized plant could be in bloom most of the time as flowers are produced successively on persistent inflorescences. Grow this and similar hybrids in bright diffused light, in a fairly deep plastic pot with a media that retains moisture, but offers good drainage. Plants should not be allowed to dry between watering, and should get regular light feeding for best results.

Red – Paphiopedilum Armeni White – David Mellard



Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Blue – Phalaenopsis NO ID – Maria Beug-Deeb

Red– Phalaenopsis Kenneth Shubert 'Fangtastic Violet' –Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White –Phalaenopsis fuscata– Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

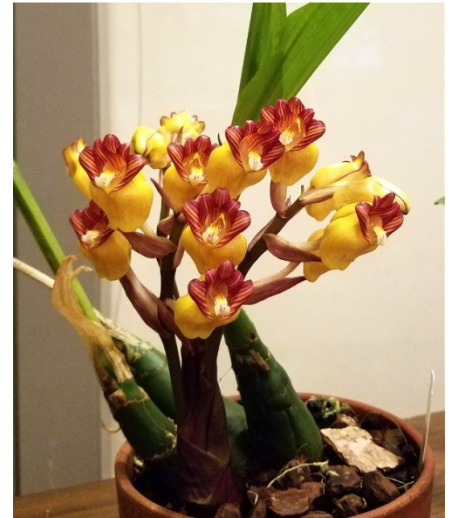


Blue – Vanda Wasana Delight (Yip Sum Wah x Bangkhuntian Gold) – Darrell Demeritt

This lovely orange-yellow hybrid was entered under the parent names, but was registered in 2007 by Viboon Orchids in Thailand. Both parents were originally *Ascocenda* (*Ascocentrum* + *Vanda*), but all the species involved are now considered *Vanda*. Fifty percent of the ancestry is made up of the brightly colored, former *Ascocentrum* types and about one third is the large flowered *V. sanderiana*, with the remaining sixth split between four other *Vanda* species. This mix creates a plant that should be tolerant of cool to hot temperatures, and capable of flowering in bright indirect light, but adaptable to some direct sun if introduced gradually. It should flower most heavily in the warmer months and possibly more than once during that season, with several inflorescences possible simultaneously on well grown plants.

These orchids are not easy plants for "windowsill" culture as they do best with their roots exposed, hanging free from an empty or nearly empty basket. They like high humidity and daily watering in summer and can tolerate less water and somewhat lower humidity in winter.

Class IX – Miscellaneous



Blue –Acanthephippium martinianum– Vinh Nguyen

Vinh's plant has very large flowers in comparison to typical descriptions of this intriguing species. There are 9 awards for this species and the average flower spread is 3 cm, which is about 1.25 inches. Based on the photo I would say that these blooms definitely exceed that size. Their color and odd form definitely attract attention.

The genus of about a dozen members is spread across tropical Asia and into the Pacific islands as far east as Fiji. They are primarily terrestrial and thought to be related to *Phaius* and *Calanthe*, though no intergeneric hybrids exist at present. Considering the unusual flower structure of this group, it is hard to imagine what such potential crosses would look like!

Aca. martinianum comes from the Philippines where it grows in shaded lower elevations of mountainous regions. This means that it is a warm grower which likely prefers to stay above 60F year round. These regions get copious rainfall from summer into fall,

followed by a much drier winter and spring, which likely accounts for their deciduous habits. Vinh seems to be growing his spectacular plant in a medium bark/Perlite mix, which I would think, might require nearly daily watering during the growing season. It is very special to see such an outstanding example of a

rather uncommon and unique orchid.

Red—*Lycaste Groganii*— David Mellard

See the June 2018 newsletter for a detailed description of this orchid,

which was the blue ribbon winner in Class 9 for that month.

Red— *Bulbophyllum phalaenopsis* – Vinh Nguyen

White – *Crepidium calophyllum* - Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan



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Recent Blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Garden (June 2019)



Epidendrum jatunsachanum



Pleurothallis stricta



Tetramicra canaliculata



Gongora nigrita