

Bulletin

August 2019

AUGUST EVENTS

Monthly Meeting: 8:00 pm Monday, August 12, 2019
Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Program: Art Chadwick: Large Flowered Cattleya Species

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.

Art holds a BS in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State and an MBA from

James Madison University. He founded Chadwick & Son Orchids Inc in 1989 with his father who has been growing orchids since 1943.

'The Classic Cattleyas' is widely considered to be the definitive book on large-flowered Cattleya species and was written by Art and his father. Martha Stewart favorably reviewed the book and had both Chadwicks on her TV Show.

Art has the distinction of naming Cattleya hybrids after the wives of the last five U.S. Presidents and personally presenting the flowers to most of the honored recipients. He is a 'regular' on the orchid society speaker's circuit and has spoken internationally at the Western Australian Orchid Conference as well as two World Orchid Conferences - France 2005 and Ecuador 2017. Each month since 2002, the Richmond Times-Dispatch has published Art's orchid advice column. The Winston-Salem Journal as well as several other newspapers around the country also run the popular column.

Chadwicks operates 11 greenhouses in rural Powhatan County, a retail store in Richmond, and boards over 13,000 orchids for local clients.

Art will bring plants for sales, mainly Cattleyas. If anybody wants to order divisions of species and hybrids, there is a current list on their website, www.chadwickorchids.com.

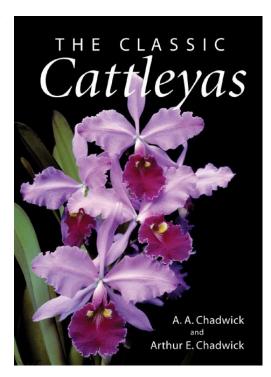
We have some openings for volunteers. We need someone to be in charge of refreshments for the monthly meetings. We could also use someone to take care of the society library.

In this Issue...

- 2 AtIOS Volunteers Minutes of the July Meeting
- 3 Events Calendar Announcements & Notes
- 4 Monthly Ribbon Judging



Art Chadwick



ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY Officers

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Monthly Ribbon Judging – David Mellard

Newsletter – <u>Danny Lentz</u> & <u>Mark</u> <u>Reinke</u>

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Website/Social Media – <u>Danny</u> <u>Lentz</u>, <u>Jeremie Carroll</u>

The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 60: Number 8 – August 2019 Newsletter Editors: <u>Danny Lentz</u> & <u>Mark Reinke</u>

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 Geogia.



Minutes of July 8th Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The July 8th, 2019 meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society opened at 8:00 PM and was called to order by David Mellard, President. New member Ben Johnson attended his first meeting and introduced himself. There were no guests to be introduced.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved. Dan Williamson, Treasurer, reported on the results of the Bill and Cathy Meincer greenhouse sale. Proceeds totaled \$1,940, which was split 50/50 between the Society and the Judging Center. Dan also reported the final results of last month's silent auction – net approximately \$200, budgeted to break even. Detailed account balances, etc. are available through Dan Williamson for anyone interested.

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

- Monthly AOS Judging will be held on July 13, and again on August 10th. Judging starts at 1:00 PM at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, usually in the Magnolia Room behind Day Hall.
- The Society will have a board meeting on August 18th. Interested members are invited to attend.

President David Mellard discussed the organization of the Nominating Committee for board members for next year. Most officers are "rolling out" of their positions after this year, and those positions will need to be filled. The Nominating Committee is to be composed of one Society member, two individuals whom the Board selects, the Chair from last year, and one committee representative who the President selects.

Voting ballets were distributed to society members who were in attendance so that they could select a board member to serve on the committee; the ballots were collected for tabulation. Helen Blythe-Hart was selected.

The monthly program was presented by the Atlanta Orchid Society's own Mark Reinke of Marble Branch Farms who presented an excellent talk on Miniature Cattlevas.

The results of the monthly ribbon judging were announced.

With no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:40 PM.

The next AtIOS Monthly Meeting will be held on August 12th at the Atlanta Botanical Gardens. (submitted by Darrell Demeritt)

Welcome New and Returning Members

Ben Johnson (Stone Mountain)

Jon Poss (Brookhaven)

Events Calendar

August

2-3 – <u>Cattleya Symposium</u> in Fort Pierce, FL.

- 10 American Orchid Society monthly judging, (noon) training, (1pm) judging, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden – Magnolia Room behind Day Hall
- 12 Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting – Art Chadwick will speak on Cattleyas
- **18 Atlanta Orchid Society Board Meeting** Show discussion, contact David Mellard for details.

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

21-22 – Alabama OS (Birmingham) show

28-29 – Smoky Mountain OS (Knoxville) show

October

- 8 Atlanta Orchid SocietyMonthly Meeting, ABG, Day Hall- 8 p.m.
- 12 American Orchid Society monthly judging

Oct. 16-20 – <u>AOS meeting</u> in Homestead, FL

Future Events

November 2 – Slipper Symposium (Apopka, FL)

November 8-10 – Triangle OS Show (Durham, NC)

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.

Barbara Barnett is back at home as she continues to recover from her illness. If you'd like to send a card her address is: 11236 Big Canoe, Jasper, GA 30143

We will be having a board meeting on August 18 to discuss our show date. It has been proposed to switch our show back to November instead of having it in March. If you have any thoughts on this please let David Mellard or another board member know. - danny



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



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 Bookstore 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



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 (404-237-1694) or visit www.orchiddigest.com to join online.

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners July 2019

Notes by Mark Reinke Photos by Danny Lentz

Class I - Cattleya Group



Blue – Cattleya A Miracle Everyday 'Big Flares' – Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

In my July program on compact and miniature Cattleya type orchids I mentioned the phenomenon known as "latent flaring" that can be produced when the solid yellow rock dwelling species, Cattleya briegeri, is used in crosses, and this and the white ribbon winner are prime The hybrid examples. registered by Ben Oliveros on the Big Island of Hawaii (a former native Atlantan and AOS accredited Judge). It pairs C. briegeri and C. Circle of Life. Both of the plants I exhibited were seedlings from that cross that I kept because of their tight upright growth habit and eye catching flowers. In this particular plant, an intense red flare runs though the center of each petal on a yellow background, while in the case of the one I call 'Rainbow.' (white ribbon winner) the flaring is a more subtle blend of pastel shades contrasting with an intense redpurple lip. Ben chose the name for the cross because each new seedling blooming for the first time revealed its own unique, yet spectacular combination of colors.

In the case of this particular cross, sadly, it has yet to prove fertile for either Ben or myself when

attempting to use it as a parent for further breeding. Since *C. briegeri* is naturally tetraploid, it is likely that a tetraploid version of *C.* Circle of Life would need to be created in order to re-make the cross so as to be more fertile. But then, in doing so, the fundamental characteristics that make it such a good cross could be altered as well. The current version is likely triploid, which can make the plants more vigorous and floriferous, if dead ends in terms of further breeding.

After these examples bloomed for me for the first time, I tried to obtain more plants of the cross from Ben. But a well-known large Florida grower with deep pockets had just visited him and purchased every one he had left! Both of my plants up fairly high in hang greenhouse where they receive bright light, strong air flow, and quick drying after watering. These are the most important essential ingredients to keeping most mature compact cattleyas happy productive.

Red-Cattleya No ID- Larry Kikkert

This nice, compact, chartreuse cattleya had lost its tag, but I am fairly certain that it is *RIc.* Hawaiian Passion 'Carmela.' Both the plant habit and the flowers look more or less identical to photos of that orchid, and I know that a batch of them was widely available commercially within recent years.



White-Cattleya A Miracle Everyday 'Rainbow' - Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

Class II - Cymbidium Group



Blue – *Cymbidium* Miss Taipei Unveiled – **Helen Blythe-Hart**

This plant was entered as Cym. ensifolium, which is a charming, if somewhat modest. terrestrial species that grows as far south as Sri Lanka and southern India, and has helped create a revolution in breeding showy "warmth tolerant" Its range also includes hybrids. parts of mainland Southeast Asia, many islands in the Indonesian and Philippine Archipelagos, and as far north as extreme southern Japan. Baker's description: per "Through its range, plants generally are found as terrestrials in lightly shaded, broad-leaved forest, often in damp situations, at elevations of 1000-5900 ft. (300-1800 m)." The color markings and shape of the small flowers carried in upright inflorescences varies quite a bit from plant to plant. The subtle charms of each different form have made it a favorite cultivated species in China and Japan for at least two thousand years!

Despite being rather small and delicate, two of its direct offspring, Cym. Peter Pan (x Cym. Miretta 1957) and Cym.Golden Elf (x Cym. Enid Haupt 1978) have created breeding lines that account for the lion's share of its more than 1200 registered progeny. These two crosses have led to a wealth of attractive, fairly compact and colorful hybrids that have been successfully grown even in South

Florida. One of the premier producers of these hybrids was Everglades Orchids. Their current website states: "For the 50 years we were in the retail orchid business our "Specialty of the House" was warmth tolerant Cymbidiums and intergeneric Oncidium hybrids. The Cymbidium hybrids we created range from delicate Chinese miniature Cymbidiums to full-size standards. All of these orchids were bred, raised and flowered in Belle Glade, Florida where the sultry summers can reach 100°F (38°C) for many days." Sadly, you will note that statement is in the past tense as Everglades Orchids no longer offers warmth tolerant Cymbidiums to the retail market.

Another producer, New World Orchids, formerly of New Zealand and now based in Salinas. California. sends its plants overseas, primarily to Australia and South Africa, and doesn't even offer them to the US market. Luckily, their seedlings are grown up to plug size by contract growers in Hawaii and I have been able to obtain small quantities of production overruns to grow up and offer in the future. These growers claim the US no longer supports the warmth tolerant Cymbidium market, but I find it hard to believe. It seems that, given the opportunity to try such orchids, the new generations of orchid hobbyists in climates such as ours would find them rewarding and desirable, as well as easy to grow without the need for a greenhouse.

OK, so now having waxed on about the virtues of Cym. ensifolium I got the photos of the plant from the meeting and it is *not* the species. After chatting with HB, it turns out she bought the plant directly from China listed as the species but it came with a tag in Chinese which she can't read, so buyer beware of those great online deals from that country! With a little digging I discovered this orchid is descendant of Cym. ensifolium called Cym. Miss Taipei Unveiled. It had been in the market under the trade name "Miss Taipei" and the family tree was finally unraveled so that it could be registered in 2001. Since then it has helped produce some additional compact, heat tolerant offspring, while at the same time still masquerading as a stand in for its grandparent in some circles!

Class III – Dendrobium Group



Blue – Dendrobium sanderae variety luzonicum – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

There are two distinct forms of this Philippine species in the market, and I find them different in flower and culture to the point that they behave like separate species. Den. sanderae var. majus has fewer, but larger white flowers up to four inches across with a distinct purple area on the side lobes of the lip and in the throat. I have yet to meet anyone who has had much success growing this form here in the Southeast. It seems to linger on for a while, but doesn't make many new roots and eventually fails. probably requires milder conditions to do well.

Den. sanderae var. luzonicum, on the other hand, does well here and can grow into a showy specimen with general good care as is illustrated by this beautifully flowered example. The white flowers are smaller, but more numerous, and usually have a green throat with a few faint purple lines at best, or none at all. The rather thin textured flowers look delicate, but last in good condition for about 2 months during the summer. The

upright growths are evergreen with numerous two ranked, spaced leaves and flower spikes are produced annually on almost all the mature growths from nodes along the stem tucked in between the leaves. Each flowering season, for a number of years, clusters of 6 or more blooms come from different nodes until all potential bloom sites have been exhausted. It is not unusual for a mature plant to have one hundred or more blooms open at once. Growths can be over two feet tall on well grown plants.

Generally speaking, this species seems to prefer bright, but diffused light levels, warm, but not hot temperatures, and plenty of water with perfect drainage while growing in summer, then somewhat less in winter, but not letting the plants stay dry for more than a couple days in between.

There are two other very similar looking species also from the Philippines. Den. dearei grows up to 24 inches tall with medium sized white flowers at the elevations and prefers warm to hot conditions, while Den. schuetzei has large white flowers but generally stays under twelve inches in height and prefers a milder temperature range, warm, but not hot. There are also hybrids between all three, and labels on commercially available plants may or may not be accurate.

Red- Dendrobium farmeri-Darrell Demerritt

White -Dendrobium tenellum - **Véronique Perrot**

White -Dendrobium thyrsiflorum - **Andrew Dott**

White -Dendrobium platygastrium - Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue- Catyclia Peaches McClain-Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

This charming orchid is one of two wonderful, but hard to find crosses done using *Encyclia tampensis* by J F McClain, who operated McClain's

Orchid Range in Jacksonville, FL in the 1970's and 1980's. *Cty.* Peaches McClain is *E. tampensis* x *C. milleri.* The other hybrid is *Cty.* Thumper McClain, which is *E. tampensis* x *C.* Angelwalker. Both were registered over 40 years ago in 1977 and I feel very lucky to have good examples of each.



Cty. Peaches McClain is strictly a once per year bloomer, and a very slow grower, but rewards me each summer with delicate wiry stems of rich rusty red flowers with bright yellow lips, lasting up to two months. I got this plant from Rueben Sauleda of Homestead, FL when he was our guest speaker in July, 2013. After six years, it has grown somewhat larger, but is still in the same 4 inch plastic vanda basket it came in. I've tried to make a few crosses from it, but so far nothing has taken.

The other plant I mentioned, *Cty.* Thumper McClain is much more vigorous and blooms more than once per year. It was in bloom in April when I got it from Odom's Orchids at the Savannah show and has four new spikes coming now. Maybe they still have more divisions of this plant and if you love *Encyclia* hybrids you should definitely inquire! The flowers on this one are larger in gentle lavender tones with deeper stripes in the lip, but still maintain

that charming shape of the *E. tampensis* parent.

Red – *Prosthechea* Green Hornet – Bob Grzesik

White – Catyclia El Hatillo 'Pinta' – Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

Class V – Oncidium Group



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

Bratonia Shelob is one of the tried and true hybrids in Oncidinae that thrives in our climate, thanks to the fact that it is made up of more than 60% warm to hot growing Brassia It is also about 25% species. Brazilian Miltonia species that are adaptable from cool to warm conditions. When registered, it was called Miltassia (Miltonia + Brassia) but recently it was determined that Bratonia (Brassia + Miltonia) was applied to this combination before the former name and a strict interpretation of the rules means the earliest name is considered correct.

Whatever you call it, the sprays of large spidery flowers growing on a fairly compact plant are a wonderful thing. The 'Red Spider' form is not as available as other clones, but has the better form in the arrangement of the segments, which exhibit nice dark color as well. The lip is nice and full, reflecting the *Miltonia* ancestors, and has a blush of purple over a pale yellow base color, peppered with bold dark purple spots.

The most commonly available clone, 'Tolkein' is similar, but not usually as dark and the form is not quite as good. There is a mutation of that form with a thin variegated

margin to the leaves called 'Okika.' Any one of these would be a great addition to an orchid collection, requiring just basic "oncidium" care to do well and grow quickly.

Red – *Miltoniopsis* Pink Aurora – **Jon Crate**

White – Tolumnia velutina – Véronique Perrot

Class VI – Cypripedium Group



Blue – Paphiopedilum Jerry Spence – Helen Blythe-Hart

This showy hybrid, which combines multifloral species, was introduced by Frank Booth of Tip Top Paphs in Burlington, MA three decades ago in 1989. But the results are still hard to beat and the cross has garnered AOS awards as recently as 2017. Between 1983 and 1997 Tip Top Paphs introduced dozens of new crosses in this genus, and a few have continued to be important parents to the present One parent of Paph. Jerry Spence is Paph. rothschildianum and the other is Paph. Berenice, which combines Paph. lowii with Paph. philippinense. While the characteristics of each parent come out in various ways with each seedling, almost any one is something worth having in your collection. The flower quality awards attributed to the cross so far include 10 Highly Commended

Certificates, 11 Awards of Merit and 2 First Class Certificates.

All the species involved in this cross prefer warm to even hot temperatures, moderately high humidity and medium light levels. Plants should not dry out completely between each watering, but can take a fairly large pot which will dry more slowly. While not used extensively for additional breeding, there are a "baker's dozen" registered hybrids of Paph. Jerry Spence, and almost half of them have garnered awards themselves. This particular plant has a unique look for the cross, much more like the results of crossing Paph. Jerry Spence with Paph. sanderianum, a 2004 introduction called Paph. Shin-Yi Jerry San.

Red – *Paphiopedilum tonsum* 'Old Baldy,' AM/AOS – **Carson Barnes**

White – Paphiopedilum Toni Semple (using album parents) -Mark Reinke & Gary Collier

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group



Blue – Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi variety flava – Véronique Perrot

Typical plants of *Phal. cornu-cervi* exhibit flowers with a yellow background overlaid with variable amounts of red and purple. The species name means 'staghorn,' and refers to the antler like shape of the persistent inflorescences, which bloom a few flowers at a time for several years. This color form of the

species has no purple pigmentation in the flowers so shows only the yellow base color. Two other named forms, *variety alba*, and *variety flavescens*, seem identical in appearance to me.

When one considers a single, smallish and often somewhat dullish, star shaped flower, this is not a flashy orchid. But a mature plant will carry several to many evergreen spikes which continue to produce several flowers at a time for many years, making a much showier impression overall. widespread through hot, tropical, often deciduous forests in the lowlands of Southeast including the major Indonesian islands, and will definitely not sulk in our southern summers. Plants will bloom best if given enough light to turn the foliage somewhat vellowgreen, and should be watered growing frequently during the season, then more sparingly, with increased light in winter to simulate what happens in the wild during this dry period, when most trees at least partially defoliate and the only available moisture is nightly dew. Phal. cornu-cervi has been used fairly extensively in hybridization and in the right pairing can result in intense colors and attractive patterns. Currently more than 400 registered hybrids have this species in their family tree.

Red- Phalaenopsis Liu's Berry - Helen Blythe-Hart

White -Phalaenopsis Queen Beer – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group

Blue – Aeranthes grandiflora – Carson Barnes

The more than 40 different Aeranthes species come mainly from Madagascar or the Comoros Islands, though two species are found on the African mainland. This species has the largest flowers as the name it was given indicates. Their spidery form can be up four to five inches across from tip to tip. Each long, wiry inflorescence can

produce several, one at a time, over a period of several months, peaking from summer into fall. The plants are typical of the Angraecoid family with slow growing fans of strap shaped green leaves emerging from a short stem that rarely exceeds four inches in height.



The flowers are usually a pale icy green in the center that can flush with yellow near the tips of the segments, and a few plants have more pronounced yellow color throughout the flower. Most of the AOS awards for this species are cultural, awarded to plants with a dozen or more flowers open on about that many inflorescences.

To grow a plant that would equal those specimens, you should give this species filtered, diffused light (a shady spot in a greenhouse), with good air movement. Watering should be frequent, but with excellent drainage so that plants dry fairly quickly. Baskets more often work best for this unless you like to water very often in which case you can mount the plant on tree fern. The species is reported from sea level to over 3,000 feet, so it should be fairly heat tolerant, but probably thrives best if kept below 90F.

Red – Aerides houlettiana – Jon Crate

White – Papilionanda Cindy Banks 'Hilltop' – Carson Barnes

Class IX - Miscellaneous

Blue – Platanthera ciliaris – David Mellard

The genus Platanthera contains more than 150 species scattered globally, but concentrated in the northern temperate zones. There are at least 30 species in the United States, plus a number of natural hybrids between them. The southeastern states the have highest diversity. Platanthera are terrestrial orchids typically growing in open damp meadows, savannas, boglands, and even ditches and damp roadsides that have been spared routine herbicide treatments.



Platanthera ciliaris documented to occur in at least 26 states from the northeast, where it is very rare, west to the southern Great Lakes, and southward to Florida and Texas. Here in the southeast it is most common in the southern Appalachian Mountains and the coastal plain, and scarce in most of the piedmont region in between.

The cut inflorescence brought in by David is exceptionally large and many-flowered. His clump of plants is just a few feet back from the street in his front yard, in a boggy environment created by sinking a preformed pond liner into the ground with a drain hole about 6 inches below the rim. and filled with a 50/50 mix of sphagnum peat moss and sand. He uses metal tomato cages to help protect the plants from browsing deer. David says that over the years, the clump has slowly increased, and any of these plants

he has put in garden soil have died. I have a few mature plants of this species in my large bog garden and can attest to the fact that they are slow to increase as well as grow in size. I do have a few seedlings in other locations in the bog now, so I will see how many years it takes to reach flowering size. They will only grow in bright, permanently damp, but not flooded locations that are typically on the acidic side.

There can be as many as 30 or more showy flowers on the upper portion of a stem that can range from 12 to 30 inches tall. closely spaced flower has a deeply incised, wide spreading lip, that contributes to the common name, the Yellow Fringed Orchid. actuality, the color is a yelloworange shade very similar to that of a sliced cantaloupe melon. flowers open in succession from the bottom of the raceme, but usually all are open together for a couple weeks before the lower ones begin to fade.



While I live only slightly farther north than Atlanta, the plants in my area don't bloom until closer to the beginning of August, and at higher elevations nearby in the southern Appalachians I usually see them near Labor Day. Sadly, I have observed entire roadside banks of them on the way to Highlands, NC were destroyed that by application of herbicide. But there is still a large, magnificent colony right on US HWY 76 just after it crosses the Appalachian Trail at Dick's

Creek Gap heading toward Hiawassee, GA. All wild orchid species in Georgia are considered threatened and a few endangered and they should only be removed from their natural sites when it is necessary to save them from development or destruction.

Red-Catasetum expansum - Jon Crate



Red-Stanhopea confusa - Dan Williamson

White - Gongora rufescens - Vinh Nguyen

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