



NOVEMBER EVENTS

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, November 11, 2019

Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall

Program: Steve Frowine, Fabulous Fragrant Orchids

We will be taking our speaker to dinner at 6 p.m. at Ru San's near the garden at 1529 Piedmont Ave. #J

If you'd like to join us please let HB know you are coming.

Steve will not be selling plants. Members may bring plants to sell.

This month's speaker is Steven A. Frowine. Steve is a professional horticulturist and an active garden writer and speaker. He managed one of the largest orchid collections in the United States---over 10,000 plants. Steve has passionately grown hundreds of orchids in his home for almost 40 years. After spending eight very interesting and enjoyable years in Mexico, Steve and his wife, Sascha, returned to the US and now reside in the beautiful mountains of Asheville, North Carolina.

A native of Portsmouth, Ohio, Steve Frowine has been fascinated with horticulture since his high school days. He was a student in floriculture and horticultural education at Ohio State University, and after graduating from there, he continued his education at Cornell University where he received a Master's in ornamental horticulture and horticultural education



One of Steve's many interests is fragrant orchids. He wrote the first and only popular book on the subject (*Fragrant Orchids*, Timber Press 2005).

Only one experience is more breathtaking than seeing a gorgeous orchid in bloom, and that is smelling a fragrant gorgeous orchid in bloom! Ask

the insect pollinators who depend on fragrance rather than beauty to lead them to the right flower. Yet, orchid growers have traditionally paid more attention to flower size, substance, color, and shape than to scent!

Steve's presentation will show exquisite images and descriptions, including cultivation information, along with detailed notes on the plant's fragrance and intensity, which can range from elegant and sophisticated to downright nasty, from fruity and spicy to medicinal and fishy, from light and fresh to heavy and overwhelming.

October Meeting Minutes Highlights

The following slate of officers was announced:

President: Helen (HB) Blythe-Hart
Vice-President: Danny Lentz
Treasurer: Jon Crate

Secretary: Jody Gomez
Trustee: Larry Kikkert
Trustee: Véronique Perrot

The election will be held at the November meeting.

The annual holiday party, potluck dinner and gift exchange will take place at the same time as the regular December meeting (Monday 9 December), at Rock Spring Presbyterian Church (1824 Piedmont Ave., Atlanta). There will be ribbon judging, and members may bring plants to sell.

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ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY Officers

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[Lynne Gollob](#)

Silent Auction – [Carson Barnes](#)

Monthly Ribbon Judging –
[David Mellard](#)

Newsletter – [Véronique Perrot](#) &
[Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep– [David Mellard](#)

Show Chairs (2020) – [Danny Lentz](#) &
[Jody Gomez](#)

Website/Social Media – [Danny Lentz](#) &
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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

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Newsletter Editors: [Véronique Perrot](#) & [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](#).



Sources for Terrestrial Orchids

At the October meeting, David Mellard gave a talk on growing terrestrial orchids. We give here the list of sources he compiled, for members who forgot to ask David for a printout or couldn't attend the meeting.

Plant Delights, North Carolina
Frosch *Cypripedium*, hardy *Calanthe*
www.plantdelights.com

Carnivorous Plant Nursery, Maryland
Bog orchids
carnivorousplantnursery.com

Brent and Becky's Bulbs, Virginia
Pleione
www.brentandbeckysbulbs.com

The Gardens at Post Hill, Connecticut
Pleione, Frosch *Cypripedium*
www.gardensatposthill.net

McClure & Zimmerman
Cypripedium
www.mzbulb.com

Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology, China
Cypripedium, *Pleione*, Chinese *Cymbidium*
Wenqing Perner
Deadline Oct 20
Will bring to a show in the US and ship to you
info@hengduanbiotech.com

David Mellard
Pterostylis



Pterostylis curta, an Australian terrestrial orchid that is dormant in hot, dry summers and grows during cool, wet winters. This species forms dense colonies: see page 7 for a picture.

**The minutes of the regular meeting will return
in the December newsletter**

Events Calendar

November

8-10 – Triangle OS Show (Durham, NC)

9 – American Orchid Society

monthly judging, training at noon, AOS judging starts 1 pm, the Atlanta Botanical Garden – Magnolia Room behind Day Hall

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

Speaker: Steve Frowine, Fabulous Fragrant Orchids.

December

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Holiday Party, Rock Springs Presbyterian Church, 1824 Piedmont Ave. NE, Atlanta. Covered dish buffet and meeting start at 7 p.m. Bring an orchid related gift for exchange.

14 – American Orchid Society **monthly judging**, training at noon, AOS judging starts 1 pm, the Atlanta Botanical Garden – Magnolia Room behind Day Hall

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January

13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

7-19 – Tamiami Orchid Festival, tamiamiorchidfestival.com

25-26 – Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show, Gautier Convention Center, 2012 Library Lane, Gautier, MS 39553

Future Events

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.

Report from the Atlanta Orchid Society Auction

The auction took place on Saturday, November 2nd. 25 bidders took part, and bought a total of 169 plants. Initial estimates are that we made \$3524 gross, and \$2700 net.

👉👉👉 PHISHING ALERT 👉👉👉

Several society members have received the email below about buying gift cards. This email is a scam and should be ignored and deleted.

“I need your assistance I’m out of town. Can you please handle this on behalf of the society.

Orchid Society, needs Gift cards for donation to Veterans Hospice care unit across the community.

David Mellard,

President, Atlanta Orchid Society”

Volunteering at ABG

The Atlanta Botanical Garden is recruiting docents for its Orchid Specialist program. Orchid Specialists greet guests in the Fuqua Orchid Center and answer questions about orchids, orchid growing, the Orchid Center, and the Atlanta Botanical Garden.

Requirements: As part of their training, new Orchid Specialists will apprentice with a veteran Orchid Specialist. New Orchid Specialists will also be asked to complete Orchids for Beginners I and II at ABG.

There are openings currently available on weekdays and weekends. For more information, please contact Josh Todd, Volunteer Manager, at jtodd@atlantabg.org [Several AtIOS members, including Marianne Gilmore, Geni Smith, and Clark Weisner, volunteer as Orchid Specialists and seem to enjoy it very much. If you’re interested you may want to talk to one of them.]



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

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Ribbon Winners October 2019

Notes by Mark Reinke

Photos by Danny Lentz

Class I – Cattleya Group



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

This unusual cross should have been placed in Class IV since it is 50% *Epidendrum magnoliae*. The other parent is *Bc. Richard Mueller* and the cross was originated by Carter & Holmes. The registration was done by the Daytona Beach Orchid Society and the name honors that group's 50TH anniversary in 2003. It is one of the most successful *Epi. magnoliae* crosses ever created in terms of color, compact growth habit and vigor.

There are five AOS awards for this cross, but they all were given to the same plant exhibited at various times at the Dallas Judging Center. In July of 2005 the cross was given an Award of Distinction, a Highly Commended Certificate and a Certificate of Cultural Merit when the 'Daytona Beach Orchid Society' clone was exhibited by Bill Williamson of Plano, TX. The first award actually applies to the entire cross as a new and promising direction in breeding. Amazingly, the same plant earned Mr. Williamson an even higher CCM in November of the same year with 171 open flowers, and then less than one year later in July, 2006, it earned a Certificate of Cultural Excellence of 92 points with an astounding 259 open flowers!

I don't know if all examples of this cross would be that vigorous under the same conditions, but it does attest to a great cross that can bloom at various times of the year, with rather long lasting flowers.

The 'Newberry' form was mericlone by Carter & Holmes, but is in short supply, so if you are interested in one you should contact them immediately. I have several plants of that

clone, not yet blooming size, and a plant from the original batch that has been blooming for me all summer and still has more new spikes coming!

Red – *Brassocatanthe* Little Mermaid 'Janet' AM/AOS – Vinh Nguyen

It should be noted that this wonderful cross between *Cattleya walkeriana* and *Brassanthe* Maikai was originally registered in 1997 by Dogashima Orchids of Japan as "Little Marmaid," apparently due to a typographical error on the registration form. That has been corrected to the intended spelling in the official RHS records now, but not before thousands of plants of the 'Janet' form went into commerce with tags with the incorrect name

White – *Cattleya labiata* forma *coerulea* – Carson Barnes

White – *Guarianthe bowringiana* forma *coerulea* – Carson Barnes

Class II – Cymbidium Group No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Group



Blue – *Dendrobium subclausum* variety *speciosum* – Vinh Nguyen

Dendrobium subclausum is a variable species complex divided into several varieties with enough differences in growth and flower habit that they could possibly be split into separate species with enough research. The main habitat is New Guinea, one of the hotbeds of *Dendrobium* diversity, but forms of the species also occur on Sulawesi. In *Dendrobium and its Relatives* by Lavarack, Harris and Stocker it is described thus:

"The large number of synonyms is an in-

dication of the variability of this widespread species. It is a medium sized to large epiphyte or terrestrial, occurring at altitudes of 1200 to 3300 m throughout New Guinea in habitats ranging from montane rainforests and cloud forests to alpine grasslands. Some terrestrial forms are reported with stems up to 1.5 m tall. The stems are branched, erect, semi-erect to pendulous, commonly 23 to 35 cm tall, with leaves along the upper half."

There is a great amount of variability in flower form and color, though generally the flowers do not open fully. Usually variety *speciosum* is described as having golden yellow flowers with orange to red bases, but in the case of this plant, the flowers are light golden yellow-orange throughout.

When you can find this species for sale, realize that it requires some attention to do well. The previously mentioned volume says: "This species requires intermediate to cool conditions with constant high humidity. It should be watered regularly throughout the year and not permitted to dry out." Last year, I purchased from Ecuagenera *Den. subclausum* var. *subclausum*, which seems to be doing well for me grown along side other *Dendrobium* of similar needs. It has bloomed several times already with smaller orange flowers with yellow tips. As with similar species, time and patience are required to grow a plant old and large enough to have many flowers at once.

Red – *Dendrobium* hybrid – Larry Kikkert



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.

Class IV – Epidendrum Group

Blue – *Dimerandra stenopetala* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

There is not a large amount of information about this species which came through the commercial pipeline a couple of years ago and now seems to be hard to find again.

Jay Pfahl's orchidspecies.com website has the most complete description: "Found in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, French Guiana, Suriname, Guyana, and Venezuela as well as Jamaica and Trinidad at elevations of sea level to 700 meters as a medium sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte with an elongate, many-noded stem carrying alternate, clasping, lanceolate leaves that blooms in the fall, winter and spring, on a short to 1", few flowered, corymb-like inflorescence that is heavily bracted and with successive opening flowers that can open very flat or not very well depending on the clone, occurring over several months."

Danny and Dianne have done very well with this plant, which has very nice flat flowers. They probably have been growing it under lights in a relatively warm environment. The plants I kept to grow myself all perished, possibly due to the winter temperature profile in my greenhouse being too cool for the species.

There are seven species listed for this genus, which is placed in the Epidendrum group, but no registered hybrids exist for any of them. The four species for which I can find photos all look identical to me.

Class V – Oncidium Group

Blue – *Oncidium Tsiku Marguerite* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Oncidium Tsiku Marguerite was introduced in 2000 by Tsiku Taiwan Orchids in Tainan, Taiwan and has been immensely popular ever since. It takes *Oncidium Twinkle* (*sotoanum* x *cheirophorum*) back to *Onc. sotoanum*. The former species is usually lavender pink, while the latter is typically yellow, but the combination of the two usually cancels out those colors and yields a white flower with a yellow central callus. However, a few plants from this cross have come out in various shades of pink. *Onc. sotoanum* is one of the limited number of fragrant species in the Oncidinae family and generally imparts a vanilla-like fragrance. In some pairings using that species, such as the famous *Onc. Sharry Baby*, the scent can be more like chocolate. In the case of *Onc. Tsiku Marguerite*, the vanilla scent can carry a somewhat strident, medicinal undertone.

Vigorous and easily grown, this orchid can generate clouds of flowers more than once per year. New growths often produce two finely branched inflorescences each and plants easily produce multiple growths as they mature. In 2013 a plant with the clonal name 'Crystal Star' received an 83 point Certificate of Cultural Merit with 1430 flowers on just 16 inflorescences. The score indicates the judges thought there was room for an even more spectacular specimen to be grown in the future.

Onc. Tsiku Marguerite grows best with bright, but filtered light and probably does very well under LED lights. It can take cool to warm temperatures but does best if it does not fully dry out between watering. As with most Oncidinae, fairly regular repotting and dividing helps keep the plants vigorous.

Red – *Lockhartia serra* – Jon Crate

White – *Alicea* Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS – Darrell Demeritt

Class VI – Slipper Alliance

Blue – *Phragmipedium Wössen* – Carson Barnes

This hybrid between *Phrag. schlimi* and *Phrag. richteri* was registered by Franz Glanz of Unterwössen, Germany in 1994 and has a strong resemblance to some of the earliest *Phrag. schlimii* hybrids registered back in the 1870's and 1880's. Kew considers *Phrag. richteri* to be a natural hybrid between *Phrag. boisserianum* and *Phrag. pearcei*, two fairly compact species with basically green flowers and twisted petals. In the case of this plant,

amazonsmile

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the marriage with *Phrag. schlimii* has created a delicate, almost icy pink flower with deeper markings in the opening of the pouch. With good care this hybrid can make showy specimen plants with many flower spikes, each blooming sequentially over a period of months.

This plant is best grown with bright but diffused light, in a media that drains well but does not dry out quickly. Mature plants should never fully dry out and prefer cool to warm, but not hot temperatures.

Red – *Paphiopedilum henryanum* – David Mellard

White – *Paphiopedilum* QF Mini – Bob Grzesik

Class VII - Phalaenopsis Group

Blue – *Phalaenopsis* Pixie Star – Jon Crate



From the time it was introduced in 1997 through the year 2010, this smaller flowered type received 21 American Orchid Society flower quality awards; 10 HCC's, 10 AM's, and one CCM. Photos of various seedlings from this cross all show remarkable consistency in both color and form, with strong orchid purple color, fairly round shape and good spacing on the stem.

A large dose of *Phal. pulcherrima* and a good shot of *Phal. equestris*, combined with a traditional large flowered pink type are what gives this hybrid its particular characteristics. Culturally speaking, it should do well grown as most common *Phalaenopsis* hybrids, with medium light levels, a warm temperature profile and only slight drying between watering. The awarded plants averaged about 25 flowers per branched inflorescence and a couple had more than 40. Therefore, future awards will probably come only to plants that can

match or exceed those numbers, while still showing good color, size and form.

Red – *Phalaenopsis* KS Super Zebra – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White – *Phalaenopsis violacea* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Class VIII - Vandaceous Group



Blue – *Vanda* No ID – Darrell Demeritt

Red – *Vandachostylis* Lou Sneary 'Bluebird' – Jon Crate

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Habenaria carnea* forma *nivosa* – Nicholas Rust

This is a beautiful and uncommon white flowered version of this terrestrial species from SE Asia. From the plant owner: "*Habenaria carnea*'s regular form has pale, pink flowers and a dark purple/brown, mottled foliage. *Habenaria carnea* fma. *nivosa* is most spectacular because it loses not only the flower's pigmentation, but also the pigmentation of the foliage, leaving snow-white flowers and bright, lime-green, mottled foliage. It is



commonly called *Hab. carnea* var. *alba*, but as quoted by Leon Glicenstein "When the first white *Hab. carnea* was shown, by Tennis Maynard, it was officially described as *forma nivosa*, not *alba*, by Dr. Eric Christenson." For that reason, I prefer calling it by the original description."

Since by now, after our annual auction, some members may be the new owners of plants or tubers of *Habenaria* and related species, I will repost some cultural information provided last month by Nicholas Rust, who has made growing these beautiful plants his specialty.

"Starting from the end of dormancy, I pot all



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JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT www.aos.org

my *Habenaria* in a well-draining, peat-based terrestrial medium once they start to throw up their chutes. At this point, I only mist the soil once every week or two. Once the plants break the soil, it's important to be very careful not to spray any water inside the chutes or they'll rot. After the plants are about 1-1.5 inches tall, they'll start to develop roots. I mist the soil about once every 4-5 days or so after this until they're about 2.0+ inches tall (depending on the species or hybrid). Now is when I start to give them their normal watering schedule, which is a heavy watering about 1-2 times per week. It's hard to overwater *Habenaria* at this point. I grow them all under full spectrum LEDs and fertilize them with 1/2 strength, balanced fertilizer once every 2

weeks. I used to use a beneficial bacterial and fungal inoculant, but I noticed that the tubers rot very quickly after they would go dormant again, so I stopped. Shortly after flowering, the tips of the leaves will begin to yellow. Once this occurs, it's important to completely stop watering. The entire plant will die back and leave any new tubers beneath the medium. If you don't have too many *Habenaria*-types, you can just leave them in the soil. If you have a lot (this is what I do), dig them up and place them in a plastic bag with some slightly damp sphagnum moss. This allows for close monitoring of the plants for any rot or for when they begin to emerge from their dormancy again, while also replicating the environment under soil by maintaining a slight

moisture due to the sphagnum. This helps to prevent rot (from being too wet) or desiccation (from being too dry).

That's the general culture I use for my *Habenaria*. Some species like *Hab. xanthocheila* has slightly altered dormancies (they just emerge a lot later) while other species like *Pecteilis radiata* or *Hab. davidii* require cold dormancies and and cool-growing but require bright light."

Red – *Habenaria roeblinii* – Nicholas Rust

Red – *Coelogyne usitana* – Lary Kikkert

White – *Bifentaria auerofulva* – Vinh Nguyen



Pterostylis curta 'Mello Spirit', CCE/AOS 99 points. Photographer: Jason Mills-Shoulta
Awarded the Butterworth Trophy in 2014 for the plant exhibiting the finest orchid culture.