



## MAY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, May 10, 2021

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

**Carri Raven-Riemann: Demystifying NZ moss**

*Details of the Zoom meeting will be emailed a few days before the meeting*

## Orchid Show!

Hello Orchid Enthusiasts! I'm very happy to report that we are planning on holding our **Annual Orchid Show** the weekend of **November 19–21st**. It's unusual for us to have it in the fall since our show normally coincides with the Atlanta Botanical Gardens' "Orchid Days" in the spring. We'll be needing your show-ready plants and the normal army of volunteers to make things go smoothly. As we get closer, we'll be advising the membership on effective staking, plant grooming and how to register your beauties to be entered in the running for ribbons, trophies, or maybe even an AOS Award! If you don't have anything to enter, you can always be a hero and sponsor a trophy in your favorite category. More on that later. There will of course be several orchid vendors, books (I hope) and maybe even some precious metal orchid jewelry—stay tuned for more details!!

Another positive note, we are still planning on hosting our meeting LIVE in July! We're scrambling to have a hybrid meeting, Zooming the in-person meeting so no one has to miss out—just tune in to join us. The festivities are being planned as I write this...

It was really fun to have LIVE AOS Judging last month—it's an amazing group of brilliant people! I LOVE getting the chance to get up close and personal with beautiful, rare, gorgeously grown, and sometimes very unusual orchids that only bloom for 3 days—but I'm an orchid geek alright?! Sound interesting? Contact Susan Wilson or any one of us listed in the newsletter—we're happy to have you.

Don't forget to [renew your membership](#)—invite a family member or a plant-loving friend to have a little company on the drive. See you next week!

~HB

## Carri Raven-Riemann: Demystifying NZ Moss

While still pursuing her career as a model and actress in Manhattan, Carri's involvement with orchids began over 40 years ago with her first *Phalaenopsis* orchid. Having served on the Board of Directors of the Greater New York Orchid Society for over 20 years, she has also served on several American Orchid Society committees, among them being the Education Committee, Membership Committee & the Public Relations Committee.

In 1990 Carri was one of the original "gang of five" who founded and formed the 31-year old International Phalaenopsis Alliance, Inc. (IPA), serving first as Membership/Corresponding Secretary, then First Vice President, President and currently as Regional Director for New England, New York & eastern Canada. In 2004 Carri was honored with the IPA Award of Distinction for her contributions to the world of Phalaenopsis Orchids.

Since becoming an Accredited American Orchid Society Judge in 1998, Carri has also had the privilege of judging both national and international orchid shows. Beginning in 2007, she has traveled to Taiwan each year to serve as an AOS Judge for their annual Taiwan International Orchid Show (TIOS), with the 2019 show being her 13th anniversary year of judging that amazing show. She also served as a permanent member of the AOS/TIOS Coordinating Committee in charge of organizing AOS judging for this annual international show.

As a "boutique" commercial grower for 36 years, Carri focuses her orchid business, the orchidPhile, on being able to offer her clients the newest in cutting-edge Phalaenopsis species and hybrids in addition to other orchid genera which grow happily under the same conditions as Phalaenopsis. Of increasing

importance to her clients is vivid color, heavy substance flowers that will provide them with long-lasting displays, fragrance and multitudes of flowers with more compact growth and spike habits. In the last two years she has also seen Taiwan's increased interest in breeding some new & more unique intergeneric hybrids utilizing Phalaenopsis as one parent.

At last count her collection numbered in the thousands. Despite her BA from Northwestern University in pursuit of what her parents considered an important stepping stone to an "important career", she maintains that we never really know where life is going to take us!

With so many orchids being sold these days potted in New Zealand Moss, many growers find it a major challenge to deal with as relates specifically to watering & potting. Thanks to many years of visiting Taiwan, & the Taiwan growers' generous sharing of information, Carri has come to appreciate its amazing benefits over bark or other mixes, something she would have never imagined many years ago. She has been surprised by how well it functions for almost all genera, from Phalaenopsis to those you wouldn't suspect like Cattleyas, Oncidinae & Dendrobiums. In this presentation, she'll cover the important basics of growing successfully in moss, from the quality of the moss to potting, watering & fertilizing, ending with a great instructional video made by a friend in Taiwan demonstrating potting and mounting your orchids properly using this medium.

Carri will give a 10% discount to members on any plant order totaling over \$100 from this coming Monday, May 3 through the end of the day on May 12th. Just mention Atlanta OS.

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## The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 62: Number 05 – May 2021

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](#).

### New Plantings at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

ABG–Atlanta has added several terrestrial orchid genera to Storza Woods with dozens of plants. Species and hybrids are represented. The following genera are on permanent display: *Bletilla*, *Calanthe*, *Cymbidium*, and *Cypripedium*. The plants can be found on both sides of the Azalea Walk, toward the John Inlay Bridge within Storza Woods. When I visited in late April, *Cyp. japonicum* was in bloom and it was stealing the show.

Visitors may already be familiar with *Bletilla striata* 'Alba' which has enjoyed very vigorous growth near the mezzanine level of the ABG Visitor Center; it has thrived there for several years.

~Clark Weisner

### May Notes to New Growers

I was just glancing over Pinterest. It is always so interesting. The one thing I do not save on Pinterest is Orchids, and that very subject popped up. As with most things orchids, there is more than one way to do something, yet it is important to get the correct information. If you ask someone in the Atlanta Society, they will give you some variation of that basic information.

It will be great to get back together one on one so we can share that information. Until then, if you cannot ask one of us, please focus on the American Orchid Society Answers as the Gold Standard. You might look in on one of Ron Mc Hatton's Greenhouse Webinars. He will answer questions, or you can look-up questions in the Growing Orchids section. Membership is not necessary, but of course you can get more benefits with a membership to the AOS.

Since it is May and most growers have *Phalaenopsis* in bloom, it will be time to repot them when they complete blooming. The question that comes up often is to cut the inflorescence or not? If it turns brown, cut it at the first notch above the media. If it remains green, there is a chance that it may rebloom on that growth sometime in the future. I feel it depends on the health of the plant. If the plant is very vigorous, leave it on. If the plant appears to be weaker, remove it and it should be healthier next year.

Another major question is: What to pot your Phal. in? I go by what it is potted in now, New Zealand Sphagnum moss or a bark mix? With larger pots it is better to switch to a bark mix or combination Moss and Bark. The major differences in the two is the amount of moisture they hold. That dictates how much water the plants need. Sphagnum must be repotted each year as it deteriorates.

We are open for questions. Let us know if we can help.

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### May

8 – AOS monthly judging: 1 p.m., ABG's Merson Hall

10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Carri Raven-Riemann on Demystifying New Zealand Moss

### June

12 – AOS monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: TBA

### July

10 – AOS monthly judging

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: ABG Greenhouse Tour

### November

19–21 – AtIOS Orchid Show

# Notes from Ron McHatton's talk on Effective Pest Management, April 2021

by David Mellard and Véronique Perrot, to the best of our ability

**\* Isolate new plants,** for as long as possible (1 to 2 months if possible). Common sense, but rarely put in practice because it is often difficult to have growing areas sufficiently isolated from each other. For flying insects: need to keep plants in separate rooms

**\* Check your plants regularly:** look at your plants carefully and often.  
– ants are not your friends: if they walk around your plants, chances are they are maintaining colonies of various scale or aphids. To control, use a 50/50 mix of powdered (not granulated) sugar and boric acid (dry)  
– **check what is going on on roots inside potting mix,** esp. when repotting. Scale, mealy bugs can flourish there

**\* At the beginning of infestation:**  
– use warm soapy water  
– Hydrogen peroxide (H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>) to control bacterial and fungal problems (eg, crown rot). Will also kill bush snails, scale, and mealy bugs. To limit root damage: first water plant well, then drench potting medium with 3% hydrogen peroxide straight. Wait an hour before watering again.  
– Yellow sticky cards are good to let you know you have problem. To make: use yellow Solo cup or yellow cards, smear with vaseline or Tangle Foot, and hang in growing areas to catch flying insects. Make these traps in the size of a plant label and place in the pot to catch bush snails. Another way to catch bush snails: Put cut side down of potato wedge on potting medium, check in morning

**\* Key element to fight pest infestation effectively: Understand life cycle of the pest**

– where do they live and feed (leaf, flower...)  
– what do they eat (phloem sap, xylem sap, chlorophyll...)  
to be able to match the pesticide to the pest. **The pesticide has to reach the pest; otherwise it's useless.**

**\* Contact poisons**  
– external: attacks the pest's cuticle and smothers the pest  
Soaps and horticultural oils  
Alcohol/409 (original formula) water mixture  
– ingested: give the pest a stomach ache  
Dimethoate (eg. Cygon)

**\* Systemic poisons:** pesticides that enter the plants and are ingested by the pests when they feed  
– *in the plant's vascular system*  
Most pesticides travel inside the plant up the xylem (xylem transports water and inorganic ions from the roots up the plant)  
Effective against sucking pests: aphids, whiteflies, scale, mealybugs  
Far fewer pesticides travel down the phloem (phloem transports sugars produced by photosynthesis)  
Acephate (eg., Orthene) travels in both xylem and phloem; in part why it is such an effective pesticide  
– *Translaminar pesticides*  
Enter leaf tissue and are transported within leaf tissue  
Effective on pests that chew or mine leaf surface for chlorophyll (eg, mites); **Not at all effective for pests that feed on flowers**

**\* Beneficial insects and biological controls:** effective, but often difficult to keep the good guys around  
Eg, Lady bugs, Pirate bugs

**Effective management of pests isn't easy, and isn't fast**

**\* Rules for better pesticide use**  
– minimize pesticide use (catching infestations early is best)  
– don't use pesticides continuously  
– don't mix pesticides (no tank mixes!)  
– **use long term rotations:**  
Treat for 2 to 3 insect generations before switching to another pesticide  
Alternate modes of action  
(=what the pesticide disrupts in the pest to kill it)  
Include pesticides with non-specific modes of actions (eg, soap, oil) in the rotation

*Continued on p. 4*



## 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)

## Bulk Order for Fertilizer and Bark: Update

Good news about the MSU fertilizer, we will have plenty to sell whenever you want some. Both the RO and K-Lite versions will be \$5 per 1 Pound Jar.

We will be able to have both bark and fertilizer to sell at the Annual Show in November.

Contact Jon Crate at [Jon@FAI.US](mailto:Jon@FAI.US) if you want fertilizer before the show.

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**Some eye candy to recover from all the talk about pests and pesticides...**



*Thelymitra luteocillium x paludosa*



*Thelymitra ((criniata x rubra) x glaucophylla)*

## Notes from Ron's Talk

*Continued from p. 3*

### What Ron does

\* Two applications a week apart of acephate (Orthene)

Spray plants and potting medium **until liquid drips out pot** (2 tsp/gal + 2 drops dish washing liquid)

\* Follow with two applications a week apart of imidacloprid (note: Safari contains dinotefuran, another neonicotinoid insecticide)

pesticide enters the plants through the roots, so drench the roots!

\* Follow with two applications of another pesticide like a miticide (abamectin)

Note: you have to treat more frequently in warm weather compared with cooler temperatures

### \* Thrips

– difficult to identify as a problem (insects are very small, and damages are varied) and difficult to treat

– on flowers: bleached edges, deformed flowers

– on leaves: brown spots

– on aerial roots (eg, Vanda, Phal): repeated brown rings

### \* Fungus gnats and fruit flies

– thrive in high humidity  
– feed on root tips  
– to control, soak a piece of mosquito duck for 3 days, strain, and water

### \* Mites

– feed inside leaves, eating chlorophyll: pesticide has to penetrate inside leaves

– need to be treated by miticides such as abamectin (eg, Avid) (not all insecticides are effective against mites (as mites are not insects))

### \* Various fungal and bacterial diseases

– Physan 20 or other quaternary ammonium compounds (note that Physan kills moss); can be used to disinfect benches

– Cinnamon works on a number of different fungal problems (e.g., crown rot). Mix with Elmer's glue to make it stick

Use hair spray ??

Seed Ranch sells pesticides at reasonable prices

Organicmicrobes is a source for BT



*Thelymitra ((Cinderella x paludosa) x paludosa)*

**To see more examples of Nicholas Rust's blue orchids, go to page 15**



## Notes on plants submitted to the virtual meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society for April 2021

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by various members of the AtIOS



*C. lueddemanniana* form *coerulea* 'Blue Cheer'



*C. lueddemanniana* 'Arthur Chadwick' AM/AOS



*C. lueddemanniana* form *rubra*

### Cattleya Alliance

This month we saw three more examples of *Cattleya lueddemanniana*, the lovely species from Venezuela we discussed last month. Carson Barnes showed us *C. lueddemanniana* form *coerulea* 'Blue Cheer,' Danny & Dianne showed us the very full flowered *C. lueddemanniana* 'Arthur Chadwick,' AM/AOS, a light lavender example, and I showed a dark flowered

selection of *C. lueddemanniana* form *rubra*. As I mentioned before, this species likes to grow bright and warm, with less water in winter. Most plants are very compact and freely branching.

Next, we look at the somewhat overlooked genus *Leptotes*, rather odd little terete leaved orchids found primarily in Brazil. For many years only *Lpt. bicolor*, shown to us by both Barbara Barnett and Dan Williamson, and one other species, *Lpt. unicolor*, were known to taxonomists. Then, around the turn of this century, at least eight other species were found lurking in the mountains of Brazil. Their small size and habit of growing in inconspicuous places on the underside of rain forest tree limbs or Vellozia shrubs in tablelands had kept them well hidden from collectors. *Lpt. pohlitinocoi*, shown to us by Dan Williamson, described in 2004 and is named after two present day Brazilian orchid enthusiasts,

Pohli and Tinico.

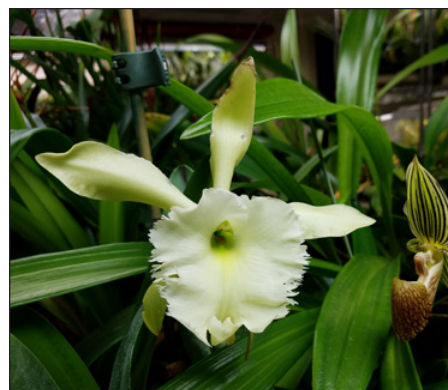
We saw one nice primary hybrid this month in Danny & Dianne's *Rhyncolaelia* Aristocrat 'Granny Smith,' a cross between *Rl. digbyana* and *Rl. glauca*. The beautiful, waxy and fragrant blooms of this cross have earned quite a few awards in the near 50 years since it was registered. But attempts to use it as a step-



*Leptotes bicolor* '(top: Brabara's (4N); bottom: Dan's)



*Leptotes pohlitinocoi*



*Rhyncolaelia* Aristocrat 'Granny Smith'

ping stone to interesting breeding lines have never amounted to much and it is best enjoyed as is, for its uncomplicated beauty.

We had a couple of true miniatures to see this month. Dan Williamson showed us the bright and comparatively huge blooms of *C. Spice Angel*, whose size and flatness point to the fact that it is nearly 50% *C. coccinea*. I showed off *Rlc. Samantha Duncan* 'Orange Tart,' a cute mini that shows a striking blend of bright colors. This lucky find was hiding in the left-

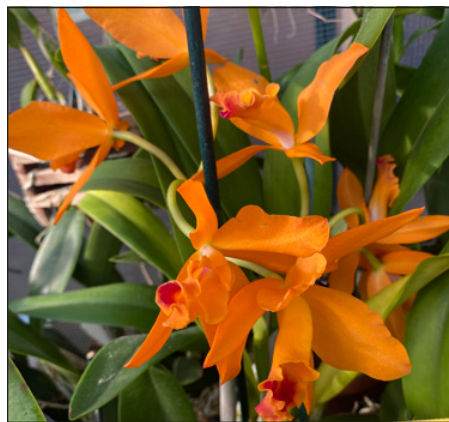




C. Spice Angel



Rth. Love Passion 'Orange Bird' (left: Larry's; right: Michael's)



Rlc Samantha Duncan 'Orange Tart'



Rth (Love-love x Love Passion) x Ctt. Trick or Treat



Rlc Samantha Duncan 'Orange Tart'

overs in Nancy Newton's greenhouse after the bulk of her plants were auctioned off last summer.

Three different C. Circle of Life hybrids this month illustrate that parent's ability to create large, rather flat flowers on compact growing plants. We admired again this year Dan Williamson's *Cattleya* Dorcas Brogdan (Susie's Valentine x Circle of Life), and two new ones from Michael Beers, *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Mark's

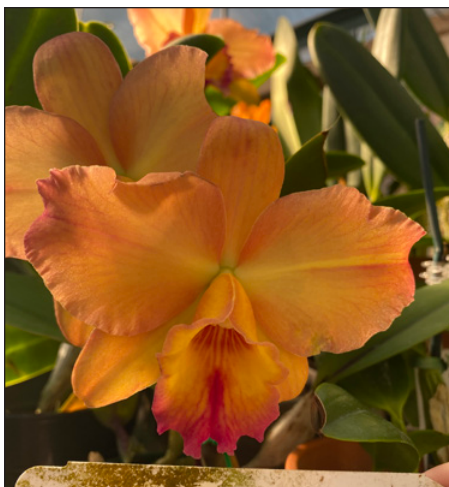
Valentine (Circle of Life x Rlc. Little Toshie) and *Laeliocattleya* City Life (Circle of Life x Lc. Liptonii).

There were quite a few submissions in the cluster flowering group, including *Rhyncattleanthe* Love Passion 'Orange Bird' shown by both Larry Kikkert and Michael Beers, and a complex cross made using it by Dan Williamson, *Rhyncattleanthe* (Love-Love x Love Passion) x

*Cattlianthe* Trick or Treat. I showed a remake of an early cluster flowered cross, originally made in 1900 called *Cattleya* G. S. Ball. It began a breeding line in orange flowered hybrids that now totals nearly 2400 registered crosses.



C. Dorcas Brogdan



Rlc. Mark's Valentine



Lc. City Life





*Ctt. Rojo 'Barbara' HCC/AOS*



*Ctt. Rojo 'Barbara' HCC/AOS x self*

More recently done, but still a “semi-antique” cross dating from 1965 that has also been an important source of additional bright cluster flowering cattleyas is *Cattlianthe* Rojo. It pairs the then newly discovered *C. milleri*, with *Guarianthe aurantiaca* and my mature plant of the ‘Barbara,’ HCC/AOS form illustrates the spectacular result. Michael Beers showed some younger plants of a selfing of that specific form of *Ctt. Rojo*. His seedling shows more yellow undertone, especially in the lip, than in the original and at least for now, shows much smaller growth. Such variation is to be expected even when working with a parent that mixes only two species such as this one.

I have been making *Cattleya* crosses now for about 25 years, and this month I got to show off three that I count among my successes. In each of these crosses, naturally, the results varied, and some were better than others. Whenever I get a chance to flower some before they are sold out, I keep those I think might be promising for future breeding. *Cattleya*



*C. Pole-Star x Fire Magic 'MBF'*



*Ctt. Ken Battle x Granier's*

*Pole-Star x Fire Magic 'MBF'* is definitely the best I saw from that cross, which showed extreme variation among the seedlings. As I write this, some of the flowers have been open for two months and still look perfect. *Cattlianthe* Ken

Battle x Granier's is still a young plant and will have clusters of 7 to 9 flowers when fully grown. I love the apricot orange color and have already used this one in two new crosses for the future. And finally, I showed off two examples of the newly registered *Laeliocatanthe* Memoria David Bankes Glass. David was the husband of Nancy Newton and a member of the AtLOS for many years before his untimely passing. The orange flowered example was one of the seedlings from this cross of *Ctt. Trick or Treat* x *Lnt. Dulatiaca* that David purchased from me years ago. After his passing, Nancy gave this plant back to me, and I promised I would name the cross after David when I got around to registering it. These two that I kept are quite different, but equally beautiful. They are large plants that will be showy specimens in a few more years.

Lastly in this group we had two large flowered hybrids. Danny & Dianne showed us *Cattleya* C.G. Robeling 'Blue Indigo.' This cross between *C. gaskelliana* and *C. purpurata* was originally registered in 1895 by St. Albans of the UK. While both parents have many color forms, the only examples of this cross I have ever seen employ the coerulea forms like you see here. Michael Beers, *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Jessie Lee 'Hawaii' is a recent cross registered in 2016, but has a family tree that includes many famous white, lavender and yellow hybrids of the past.

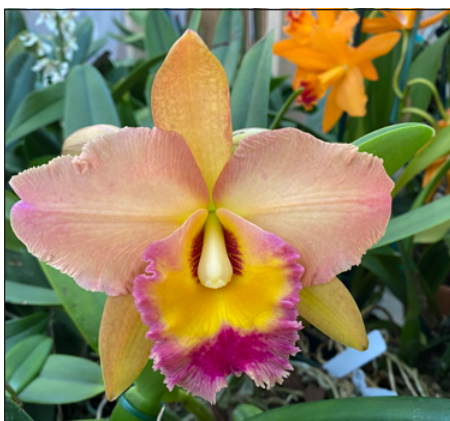


Two siblings of *Lcn. Memoria David Bankes Glass*





C. C.G Robeling 'Blue Indigo'



Rlc. Jessie Lee 'Hawaii'

*Cym. devonianum**Cym. Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit'*  
AM/AOS

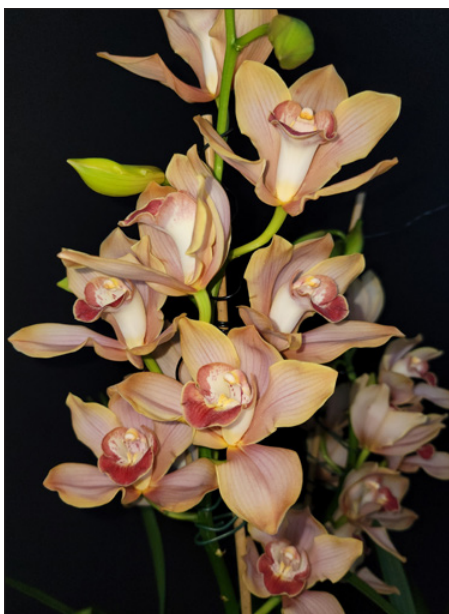
### Cymbidium Alliance

There was one species in this group for April, my entry of *Cymbidium devonianum*, an unusual pendant flowered type with leaves that are atypical for the genus, with narrow petioles widening out into broad blades that resemble the leaves of *Aspidistra*. This year, after much pampering, I was rewarded with *nine* inflorescences. This species will make more than one inflorescence from newly mature growths and even flower from older growths. The spikes emerge in late summer or early fall, but develop very slowly over months, then suddenly put on a burst of growth in the last couple

weeks before flowering. This plant grows in a tall Cymbidium pot that sits in about a half inch of water year round.

*Cym. Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit,'* AM/AOS, shown by Dan Williamson descends from *Cym. devonianum*, and the resemblance is obvious, but it is larger in both flower and plant. Well grown mature plants of this cross can flower with a solid curtain of inflorescences around the base of the plant and there are many awards for examples with hundreds of flowers. I have found that such a big show tends to come once every few years, with a more modest display in between.

Jon & Fi showed us several great photos of their well grown and flowered *Cym. Street of Gold*. This nice warmth tolerant hybrid is an offspring of *Cym. Golden Elf*, a breakthrough cross using *Cym. ensifolium* registered in 1978 and responsible for nearly 500 registered crosses since.

*Cym. Street of Gold*

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*Den. trantuanii*

## Dendrobium Alliance

The highlight in this group for April was Véronique Perrot's *Dendrobium trantuanii*, a really well flowered example of this fairly new species from Vietnam first described in 2003. Her plant is growing on a Kool-Log and is definitely getting

*Den. amethystoglossum**Den. lindleyi*

the care it prefers. I can tell you from my personal experience that growing this species in a pot is an exercise in futility, while growing it mounted works better but requires constant attention.

*Dendrobium* is one of my favorite genera, and I was able to show some nice examples of several species from my collection including *Dendrobium amethystoglossum* with about 40 inflorescences, *Den. lindleyi* approaching specimen status, a cross made between it and the miniature *Den. jenkinsii* called *Den. Ueang*

*Den. primulinum**Den. Ueang Phueng**Den. lawesii forma bicolor*

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*Den. cymboglossum*

Phueng, and nicely flowered examples of *Dendrobium lawesii* (one of the bicolor forms), and *Den. primulinum*. But my most unusual offering was *Dendrobium cymboglossum*, a rarely seen species from Borneo that produces hanging clusters of yellow and bronze flowers off long slender canes.

Another outstanding entry was Vinh Nguyen's *Dendrobium findlayanum* var. *oculatum*. This seasonally deciduous species from Southeast Asia has stems with swollen nodes that look like a string of beads. In the wild, plants are normally leafless when flowering, but under kinder cultivation they may hold their leaves for several seasons as Vinh's plant illustrates.

*Den. findlayanum* var *oculatum**E. bractescens* 'Jennifer' AM/AOS

### **Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance**

In this group, Carson Barnes presented us with an awarded example of *Encyclia bractescens* 'Jennifer,' AM/AOS. This species from southern Mexico and Central America grows on the Caribbean/Atlantic slope in humid forests from low to middle elevations. The "mother plant" of this particular clone was given a Certificate of Cultural Excellence in 2017 with more than 1800 blooms and nearly 500 additional buds!

Barbara Barnett showed us a nice example of "reed stemmed" breeding with *Epidendrum* Miura Valley, a cross registered in Japan in 2007, which mixes four species and presents full heads of nonre-supinate candy pink flowers.

*Epi. Miura Valley**Tolu. bahamensis*

### **Oncidium Alliance**

Danny & Dianne dominated this category for April and gave us a look at a small species from the Bahamas and eastern Florida called *Tolumnia bahamensis*. In 1972, Luer gave this interesting description of the species: "The plants begin life terrestrially, nestled down among the lichen, debris, and sand beneath shrubbery. They seem to have a particular preference for rosemary (*Ceratiola ericoides*). As the plant reaches flowering size, it climbs up into the lower branches of the shrub and sends its flower-spike up through the twigs to elevate its buds out into the open. The plants are exceedingly difficult to see when not in flower ... of added interest, however, is the fact that the flower of each plant varies considerably from that of the next".

Danny & Dianne also showed us a *Tolumnia* hybrid, *Tolu. Jairak Rainbow*

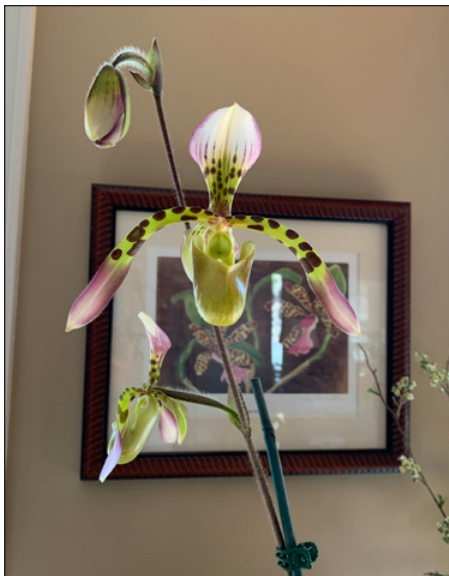
*Tolu. Jairak Rainbow* 'Plum Pretty'



*Gomcidumnia Carnival Costume*

'Plum Pretty,' and *Gomcidumnia Carnival Costume*, a hybrid that combines *Gomesa*, *Oncidium* and *Tolumnia*.

Lastly, they gave us a look at *Ornithocephalus gladiatus*, a tiny little *Oncidium* relative that grows all over rainy parts of South America and the Eastern Caribbean, often on citrus trees and twiggy shrubs. The species name refers to the sword shape of the lip, but be prepared to pull out the 10X magnifying glass to see it!

*Ornithocephalus gladiatus**Paph. haynaldianum**Paph. delanii*

### Slipper Alliance

Barbara Barnett showed off the flowers of her *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum*, a species from the Philippines we discussed last month. Danny & Dianne once again showed *Paph. delanii* in two different color forms, and gave us a close look at the fairly sizeable flowers of *Paph. liemianum*, a sequentially flowering species from Northwestern Sumatra.

The most notable hybrids shown this month, in my opinion, included Carson Barnes' *Paph. Fanaticum* 'Bulbbble Pipe,' AM/AOS, Danny & Dianne's *Paph. Bel Royal*, Dan Williamson's richly colored

*Paph. delanii forma alba*

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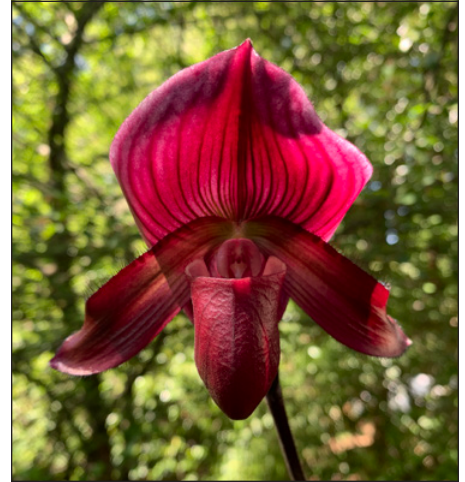
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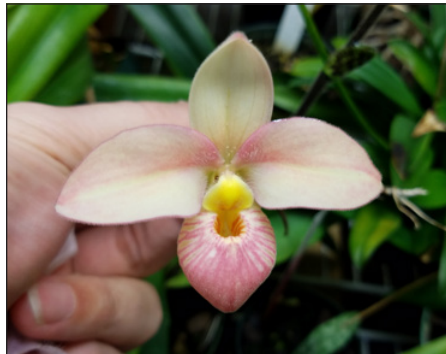


*Paph. liemianum**Paph. Fanaticum* 'Bubble Pipe' AM/AOS*Paph. Magic Cherry*

*Paph. Magic Cherry*, and my entry of *Paph. Wössner Black Wings*, with huge flowers on a rather compact plant.

Danny & Dianne were nearly swimming in *Phragmipedium* hybrids this month with several that derive their colors from *Phrag. besseae* including *Phrag. Bouley Bay 'Marcia'*, *Phrag. Chuck Acker*,

*Phrag. Super Rubies*, *Phrag. Hanne Popow*. Also very nice, with intricate patterns of green and white was their entry of *Phrag. Memoria Garren Weaver* (*wallisii* x *pearcei*).

*Phrag. Chuck Acker**Phrag. Hanne Popow**Paph. Wössner Black Wings**Phrag. Bouley Bay 'Marcia'**Phrag. Super Rubies**Phrag. Memoria Garren Weaver*



*Phal. lobbii*

### Phalaenopsis Alliance

The only species to make an appearance this month was Michael Beers' *Phal. lobbii*, a small species from the foothills of the eastern Himalayas that carries only one or two leaves per stem, and in the wild is often deciduous in the winter dry season. Michael's plant has about a dozen open flowers which is a very respectable

*Phal. Fangmei Sweet 'Feeling' AM/AOS*

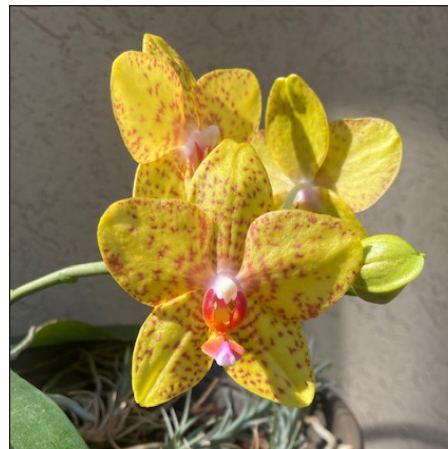
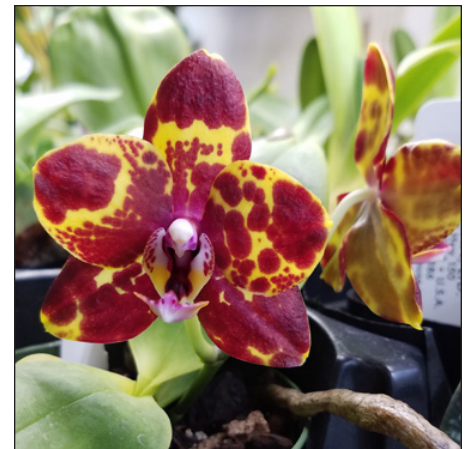
number for this miniature species.

This month, both Faye Banks and Maria Bueg-Deeb showed us collections of nicely grown and flowered, but tagless, *Phalaenopsis* hybrids.

Jon & Fi showed us several selections that have been exhibited in previous meetings, plus *Phal. Fangmei Sweet 'Feeling'*. This cross, made in Taiwan and registered in 2009 received an Award of Quality from the Taiwan Orchid Growers Association that year when a group of 16 different siblings were exhibited. The

amazing thing was that, while all grown out of the same seed pod, these plants displayed a kaleidoscope of different colors. Since then, several different plants have received rather high scoring Awards of Merit from the American Orchid Society.

Danny & Dianne presented us with *Phal. GW Green World 'Snakeskin'*, a hybrid with a seemingly redundant name but a very striking color pattern. It boasts 16 different species in its family tree!

Two of Faye's *Phal.*One of Maria's *Phal.**Phal. GW Green World 'Snake Skin'*



*Trichoglottis pusilla*

### Vandaceous Alliance

We got to see a couple of charming miniature vandaceous species this month. Carson Barnes showed us *Trichoglottis pusilla* whose species name actually means tiny. This one grows in the mountains of Java and Sumatra and though small, the flowers have a great peppermint striped pattern. Danny & Dianne took us across the Indian Ocean to Madagascar where *Aerangis fastuosa* grows at the transition between the coastal plain and the central plateau. Their plant is flowering very nicely with at least 10 blooms and buds facing forward in the photo and more buds hiding on the other side of the plant.

I showed a group of three plants of *Vanda barnesi*, two flowering for the first time and one repeating from last year. This species from the Philippines is named after Carson Barnes who I believe about a decade ago received plants that were supposed to be *V. javeriae*, but he recognized as a new species. It is a smaller growing species and for me has done best in my greenhouse under lights and away from bright sunlight. After killing many of the seedlings that came out of the flasks I bought from Carson some

*V. barnesi**Aerangis fastuosa*

years ago, I have left these 3 happily together in one plastic net pot.

In hybrids, Dan Williamson showed us the very unusually colored *Vanda* Hollis Presnell, which mixes *V. cristata*, *V. denisoniana*, and *V. tricolor*. Dan also treated us to a beautifully flowered *Vanda* A.F. Buckman, a primary hybrid between *Neofinetia falcata* and *Ascocentrum christensoniana*, both now merged into *Vanda*.

I showed off my *Sarcochilus* Meadow Beauty 'MBF,' AM/AOS, which put on quite a show this year. I got this plant in a shipment of budded stock to sell at shows from Ben Oliveros in Hawaii several years ago, but the buds blasted and I kept it on the greenhouse bench with my cattleya seedlings. In one year, the plant tripled in size and in April, 2018 I took it to the Deep South Orchid Society show with 10 inflorescences with 90 open flowers and 14 more buds. The judges gave it a provisional Award of Merit with a score of 83. It was at the time an un-

*V. Hollis Presnell**V. A.F. Buckman*

registered hybrid between *Sarco*. Cherie Snow and *Sarco*. Sweetheart, and tracking down the originator of the cross proved quite a journey. It turns out Ben had gotten plants from another grower, who got them from yet another grower, who had gotten flasks from Scott Barrie, a grower in Australia who specializes in this endemic genus. When I contacted Scott, he graciously gave me permission to choose a name for the hybrid, probably in part because he already has hundreds of registered *Sarcochilus* crosses.

*Sarco. Meadow Beauty 'MBF' AM/AOS*



To me the flowers were reminiscent of our native wildflower *Rhexia virginiana*, or Meadow Beauty, so that is how I chose the name. I will say if you are going to attempt to grow *Sarcochilus* well, be willing to give them perfect drainage combined with frequent water. This plant is still in a 3.5" pot set into an empty basket and gets watered almost every day.



*Thelymitra* ((*rubra* x *criniata*) x *glaucohylla*)

### Miscellaneous

Nicholas Rust, as he often does, gave us a tutorial on unusual and rarely seen terrestrial species. This month all his offerings originate in the Old World.

First, we saw the whimsical little flower of *Cheirostylis griffithii*, a small species from damp, evergreen forests from Bangladesh, eastern India, Nepal and eastward as far as Thailand.

Next, we saw series of hybrids from the genus *Thelymitra*. This is another group of terrestrial species centered on Australia that emerge from subterranean tubers. The species are spread all across Australia in various habitats, with a couple more found on New Zealand and other Pacific Islands. Some of the species in the genus approach true blue in color.

Finally, Nicholas showed us a complex hybrid *Ophrys*. While almost never seen in this country, there are about 20 species native to the grasslands and meadows of Europe and Asia Minor. They are commonly called Bee Orchids due to the resemblance of the lip to that insect.

Karl Harden submitted a photo of *Bletilla striata* that accidentally got overlooked and not shown during the meeting. This is one of the showiest terrestrial species that will easily grow in your own garden. Native to China, Japan and Korea, they are fully hardy in this part of



*Cheirostylis griffithii*



*Ophrys* ((*insectifera* x *speculum*) x *speculum*)



*Thelymitra* Cinderella



*Thelymitra* Ron Heberle

the country, but tend to emerge early and can be "bit" by late freezes.

Carson Barnes was the only member to submit a photo of a New World species in the Miscellaneous category with his *Bifrenaria harrisoniae* 'Ruth,' AM/AOS. This Brazilian species is described

*Bletilla striata*

as growing on exposed east facing rock faces, rooted firmly into cracks and crevices in and around the vicinity of Rio de Janeiro. However, in cultivation it will grow and bloom just fine without such harsh treatment. Bright filtered light and infrequent watering in winter generally do the trick.

Finally, Véronique showed us a beautiful close up of the lovely flowers of *Clowesia* Rebecca Northern, which we discussed last month when Danny & Diane's plant of the same was in flower.

*Bifreniara harrisoniae* 'Ruth' AM/AOS*Clowesia* Rebecca Northern