

FEBRUARY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, February 13, 2023
Orchid Growers Panel: see details below

Mershon Hall at the ABG, and in simulcast by Zoom

Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging

Orchid Growers Panel: Bring your Questions to the Meeting!

Come join us for February's orchid growers panel. We'll have an amazing group of expert orchid growers from our own Society who will answer your questions about orchid culture in this question-and-answer panel discussion to help hone your orchid growing skills and to help solve your orchid issues. There's a number of ways our members have devised to successfully coax these wonderful plants into bloom, from growing them in a greenhouse to windowsill culture to growing under lights or on Kool Logs. We also have a wide range of orchid genera that do well in our Atlanta climate (and some that don't). Advice about building your collection with purpose and where/not to buy quality plants will be touched on, as well as the bumps we've all faced along the way, including how to handle the inevitable demise of cherished favorites or dealing with pests

and diseases. Ever wonder about the use, type or amount of fertilizer on your charges? Or when's the correct time to repot a Cattleya? Ask our experts. Learn how to navigate your way through the information and misinformation found on YouTube and how to search the AOS website for culture sheets. You can save your questions for the meeting, or forward them ahead of time to Barbara Barnett (barnettbarbara14@gmail.com) so we can prepare answers to your questions. If you have a problem plant you'd like to bring to the meeting to have us diagnose, please totally enclose it in a plastic bag, so no pathogens or pests escape and infect other orchids.

We will have our usual monthly orchid show table, so bring your bloomers and we'll be sure to cheer you on!! You might even get a ribbon...

It's Time to Pay your Dues!

Atlanta Orchid Society
membership dues are now due for
2023. If you have not already paid,
you may do so at atlantaorchidsociety.square.site/shop/memberships/2 or by writing a check
made out to The Atlanta Orchid
Society and mailing it to the
Treasurer at:

Jason Mills-Shoulta 5845 Crooked Creek Rd Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

This does not apply to members who joined at the show last October: your membership is valid until the end of 2023.

If in doubt, contact Jason (sunray@twyst.org)!

Judges' Corner

The Atlanta Judging Center met on Saturday, January 14th at the Atlanta Botanical Garden. Ten plants were evaluated for possible awards and one plant received an award:

Paphiopedilum White Castle 'Pepperpot', HCC/ AOS 77 points. (Paph. Memoria Toshio Miyata x Paph. Skip Bartlett). Exhibited by Carson Barnes & photographed by Charles Wilson.

Doug Hartong Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



For our Monthly Meetings...

We are putting together the list of speakers for our monthly meetings.

Do you have any suggestions for speakers? Are there specific topics you would like to learn that you would like to learn more about?

Contact Firelli Alonso (<u>FiAlonso@outlook.com</u> or 914-391-1849).

ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

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Newsletter - Véronique Perrot &
Mark Reinke

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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 64: Number 2 – February 2023 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 Geogia.

Note to Growers

The meeting this month will be a panel discussion on how to grow orchids. Don't be shy to ask for answers. If you grow ORCHIDS, you have QUESTIONS and need answers. This is the perfect opportunity to ask these questions and get the answers. That's the goal of the Atlanta Orchid Society.

Make your list of questions, and come to the Meeting on Monday, February 13, 2023.

We will look forward to seeing you then, and getting those questions answered.

B. Barnett

Welcome to New Members!

Welcome to people who joined us in January:

Pete Roper Graham Wyatt James Miffin Julie Hill-Parker Bryan Jefferies



Become an AOS Judge

The American Orchid Society Judging Program is seeking highly motivated orchid enthusiasts to join the judging ranks

Contact us at judges@aos.org

EVENTS CALENDAR

February

11 – AOS monthly judging

13 - Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting (Mershon Hall)

March

11 - AOS monthly judging

13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting (Day Hall): Nick Rust on Habanerias

Ribbon Judging Tally for 2022

One of the best features of our society is our monthly show tables, where we can see a wide variety of blooming orchids grown by our fellow members. We missed seeing plants in real life while we had our monthly meetings solely on Zoom, as we did until March 2022, when we resumed in-person monthly meetings.

Each year we award prizes for the members with the most points from ribbon judging for each quarter (\$25) and for the entire year (\$50). We had twenty different households win ribbons at the show tables in 2022.

Points are awarded as follows for each ribbon: 5 points for a blue ribbon, 3 points for a red ribbon, 1 point for a white ribbon, and 5 points for a green ribbon.

A member can only win one of the four quarterly awards, which typically makes the fourth quarter results very interesting. The astute reader will notice that HB and Jon & Fi were tied for the first quarter. We decided to award the prize to HB, so Jon & Fi would be eligible for later quarters.

This year's winners are:

Q1: HB (13 pts.)

Q2: Danny & Dianne (49 pts.)

Q3: Jon & Fi (42 pts.)

Q4: Carson Barnes (36 pts.) Year: Danny & Dianne (179 pts.)

	Jan/Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	2022
Bailey Santwire						8		17		12	20	0	0	25	32	57
Barbara Barnett		2	7	6		3	1				1	2	13	4	1	20
Carson Barnes			7			22				20	16	0	7	22	36	65
Danny & Dianne	2	4	22	10	17	22	9	24	33	12	26	4	49	55	71	179
David Mellard			3	5		8	1	3		1	8	0	8	12	9	29
Fred Pippin										3	8	0	0	0	11	11
НВ		13									3	13	0	0	3	16
Janet Sherwood							1			4		0	0	1	4	5
Jason & Ed		8		9							2	8	9	0	2	19
Jody Gomez							5					0	0	5	0	5
Jon & Fi		13	11	13	21	13	17	12	8	6	14	13	45	42	28	128
Kim Monroe							3					0	0	3	0	3
Liz de la Cruz						3		8		9		0	0	11	9	20
Magg Wattley									5			0	0	0	5	5
Maria Beug-Dee	b				3							0	3	0	0	3
Nick Rust			5					7				0	5	7	0	12
Norrie			1	4			2				3	0	5	2	3	10
Pinkan Rijato											5	0	0	0	5	5
Véronique Perro	ot	5	14	13	3	5		6	1	6		5	30	11	7	53
Vinh Nguyen		10	3	13	31	12				10		10	47	12	10	79



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*.

Membership now includes access to OrchidPro, the database that replaces OrchidsPlus

JOIN TODAY

Single Membership, 1 year - \$79, 2 years - \$153 Student membership, 1 year - \$54, 2 years - \$103 JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT <u>www.aos.org</u>

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for January, 2023

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Jon Crate



Cattleya Crystelle Smith 'BK Orchids'

Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

Blue: Cattleya Crystelle Smith 'BK Orchids' - Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

While the entry tag did not specify a clonal name, the color pattern on the lip is unmistakably distinct enough to identify this as the 'BK Orchids' clone. This particular form was mericloned by Carter & Holmes some years back and has enjoyed wide distribution among hobby growers. Although there are more than 25 AOS awards for the grex as a whole, this variety is not among them, yet in my opinion every bit as deserving. When registered in 1985 the parents of this cross were listed as Cattleya Beaufort x loddigesii. If you were able to listen in on my program at the January meeting, you already know that in reality it was C. harrisoniana and not C. loddigesii that was used to make the cross. For many years the former species was considered a variety of the latter and so appears on older registrations as C. loddigesii. As I later discovered in trying to recreate this cross with very nice examples of the parents listed, when the real C. loddigesii is used, the results are quite different from what you see here. In my attempt, all the seedlings simply looked like smaller versions of C. loddigesii. With the help of David Mellard and the late AOS judge Barney Garrison, we were able to discover that Frank Smith had actually used what we now know as C. harrisoniana when he originally made C. Crystelle Smith. If you can still find one, it is a wonderful free flowering orchid to have in your collection. As with most other mini-catts, the drainage must be perfect and plants will do poorly over the long run for most when grown in a pot with average size media. My two plants include this one and the clone named after Barney Garrison's wife and fellow AOS judge 'Aileen,' AM/AOS. Both are growing in empty baskets totally devoid of any potting media and have become large plants. When grown this way they get the perfect drainage they need and avoid the perils of decaying old media around their roots and thus have continued to thrive for me after nearly two decades, nearly always in flower or with buds coming.

Red: *Brassocattleya* Renée Gerber – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

This charming little miniature combines *Brassavola nodosa* with *Cattleya* Small World, which is *C. aclandiae* x *C. luteola*. The cross was registered by Don Ghiz of Houston, TX, in honor of Reneé Gerber. She and her late husband Marvin



Brassocattleya Renée Gerber



Laeliocattleya Santa Barbara Sunset 'Showtime' HCC/AOS

were amateur breeders as well as pillars of the Houston Orchid Society for many years. I had the honor of being introduced to them by Don back in 2014 when I did a speaking tour in Texas. They were already octogenarians at the time and lived in a senior living facility, but kept a greenhouse full of their most prized plants behind their daughter's home. Whenever you see the clonal name 'Remar' for a particular (usually awarded) orchid, you can know that it was out of their collection and the name is a contraction of Reneé and Marvin.

White: *Laeliocattleya* Santa Barbara Sunset 'Showtime' HCC/AOS – Carson Barnes



Rhyncolaeliocattleya Inola Bolt 'Orchidheights'

White: *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Inola Bolt 'Orchidheights' – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan



Cymbidium Honey Bunny 'Sugar Candy'

Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

Blue - Cymbidium Honey Bunny 'Sugar Candy' - Carl Quattlebaum & Jojo Stickney

This beautifully grown Cymbidium is of Japanese origin and is one quarter Cym. floribundum. That species is evident in the more compact nature of the growth, the arching habit of the inflorescences, and the sheer numbers of flowers it is capable of producing, up to about 25 per spike. The remainder of the species in the background are all the large-flowered types that are the basis of modern standard Cymbidiums, which tend to be somewhat resentful of our hot, humid summers. Even though Cym. floribundum is also considered a cool grower, when combined with the aforementioned types, the resulting hybrids are much better adapted to our climate and are fairly easy to grow into showy specimens such as this one. During the growing season, they should receive bright light, even direct morning sun is good, plenty of water and feeding with minimal dry-



ing in between. To achieve good budding, they are best grown outside during this time, and allowed to remain out until the first freeze is predicted. The chilly nights of fall will help to initiate spiking. Once spiking begins, regardless of the season, move the plant to a protected place away from snails and slugs, which can destroy all the buds in a single night.



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.





Red - Cymbidium No ID - Carl Quattlebaum & Jojo Stickney

This plant may be *Cymbidium* Wakakusa, a *Cym. floribundum* hybrid dating back to 1968, as it looks exactly like some images of that cross. The other parent was a primary hybrid between *Cym. eberneum* and *Cym. lowianum*.





Dendrobium pendulum

Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

Blue: *Dendrobium pendulum* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Den. pendulum is one of the earliest flowering of the deciduous species from Southeast Asia grouped together under Section Dendrobium, just one of more than 40 sections in this large genus. It is usually found growing at 4000 to 5000 feet above sea level, often in near full sun in the tops of tall trees or on rocks. The unusual arching to pendulous stems have swollen nodes that give them a distinctive appearance. Flower buds form on these nodes opposite where leaves have been at the upper portions of the most recently matured stems and have a beautiful hand painted appearance. They are bright white with strong purple markings at the tip of each segment accented by a rich yellow throat. They are also lightly fragrant and rather long lasting for this



Dendrobium Sakol Blue

group of species. While in growth, this species needs frequent and abundant watering followed by a rest period from about November through March when fertilizer is withheld, and plants are allowed to dry well between light watering. Cool nights, or a swing of about 30 degrees from day to night, will help stimulate better flowering.

Red: *Dendrobium* Sakol Blue – Jon Crate & Fi Alonso





Prosthechea cochleata

Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

Blue: Prosthechea cochleata - Carson **Barnes**

We saw this plant back in July of last year flowering on some of the same inflorescences that are still producing blooms now. I have written a number of times about this species over the years. It is one of the most widespread members this group, occurring all over Mexico, Central America, the northern part of South America, on several Caribbean Islands including Puerto Rico, and even in the Everglades of South Florida. Throughout its range, the flowers vary little in color and form, but do range in size from plant to plant. The largest flowers can by nearly four inches in vertical spread. They are non-resupinate, which means the lip is at the top of the flower rather than the bottom, and they are borne in succession, with inflorescences continuing to grow



Dinema polybulbon

at their tip to produce more flowers over an extended period. Plants that have some size to them such as this one can be in flower almost continuously, which is reason enough to grow one.

Red: Dinema polybulbon - Bailey Santwire



You can help out the Atlanta Orchid Society simply by shopping at Amazon through their Amazon Smile program. To do this simply go to smile.amazon.com every time you want to shop at Amazon. When you go to checkout for the first time, you will be asked to designate your charity. If you type Atlanta Orchid Society in the search bar, we are the only result that comes up. Select that one. You can change the charity at any time, by following the directions on the About page. All of the details of the Amazon Smile program can be found on the Amazon site at:

smile.amazon.com/gp/chpf/about/



Leomesezia Lava Burst 'Puanani' AM/AOS

Class 5: Oncidium Alliance

Blue: Leomesezia Lava Burst 'Puanani' AM/AOS - Fred Pippin

This popular little orchid is in most collections as Howeara Lava Burst, which is a combination of Leochilus, Oncidium and Rodriquezia. However, in 2009 the Oncidium parent was moved with all the other species from Brazil under that name to Gomesa, resulting in this new genus name, which simply takes a piece of each genus involved to create Leomesezia. Of the several forms that I can find photos of, the 'Puanani,' AM/AOS clone has the strongest color which is probably why it has been so widely reproduced. A well grown plant can produce more than one hundred flowers at once and do so more than once per year. The best results with this orchid come when grown mounted or loosely potted in a basket, giving it year-round warmth and frequent watering.



Phragmipedium pearcei 'Clompy' (blue ribbon)



Phragmipedium pearcei 'Clompy' (white ribbon)

Class 6: Slipper Alliance

Phragmipedium

Blue: *Phragmipedium pearcei* 'Clompy' – Carson Barnes

This is one of the more compact growing species hailing from the mountains of Ecuador and Peru, usually growing by the edge of streams or on drippy cliffs. While the flowers are not brightly colored, they have a very appealing blend of green, white and purple with beautiful, detailed markings above the opening of the lip. Like most other species in the genus, they are borne successively on inflorescences that rise up above the rather grassy foliage and can keep a multigrowth plant such as this one in flower for much of the year. It goes without saying that based on the habitat, this orchid prefers high humidity, frequent water and mild temperatures, conditions best achieved in this climate in a greenhouse with cooling pads or a specialized indoor growing area.

Red: *Phragmipedium* Lost Tag – Barbara Barnett

White: *Phragmipedium pearcei* 'Clompy' – Carson Barnes



Phragmipedium Lost Tag



Paphiopedilum Michael Koopowitz

Paphiopedilum

Blue: Paphiopedilum Michael Koopowitz – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Paphiopedilum Michael Koopowitz is a great primary hybrid between Paph. philippinense and Paph. sanderianum. Both species are known for their multiple blooms and ribbony twisted petals which can be especially long on the latter. The cross was registered in 1993 and has more than one hundred awards worldwide, including four First Class Certificates from the American Orchid Society. The average number of blooms on the awarded plants was 4.5 per inflorescence, so this example, with three flowers, despite excellent color and markings, needs to grow a bit more mature before it would receive consideration in that regard. Both species involved grow on limestone in the wild; in fact, Paph. sanderianum is most often found on vertical cliffs with its roots wedged into drippy cracks and crevices. So it seems this hybrid would benefit from extra calcium. Medium light levels, warm temperatures and yearround watering without total drying in between are the other main components to its successful cultivation.



Paphiopedilum Fred's Magical Bean



Paphiopedilum GXAAS Light

Red: Paphiopedilum Fred's Magical Bean – Jon Crate & Fi Alonso

White: Paphiopedilum GXAAS Light - Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan



Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance 'Purple Spots #331' (blue ribbon)

Class 7: Phalaenopsis

No Entries

Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

Blue: Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance 'Purple Spots #331' – Fred Pippin

When first introduced in 2004, this very spotty hybrid was classed as Ascocenda and is one quarter Vanda curvifolia (syn. Ascocentrum curvifolium). The bulk of its genetics, however, is inherited from V. sanderiana and V. coerulea, and these are the reason for the bold pattern and somewhat somber color mix. There is a lot of variation in background color between different individuals from this cross, ranging from cream to pink, to violet or purple, but the heavy spotting overlay is always present. This trait, and the nice overlapping form of the flowers, has made V. Kulwadee Fragrance a popular parent for additional hybrids and more than 60 newer crosses descend from it. While tolerant of cooler temperatures to some degree, the heavy dose of V. sanderiana would indicate that it is best grown warm year-round, with high light levels and frequent watering, in a basket with only the largest media or none at all, and in an environment that can maintain good humidity at all times.

Red: Rhyncostylis gigantea - Bailey Santwire



Rhyncostylis gigantea



Vandachostylis Lou Sneary 'Lea'



Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance 'Purple Spots #331' (white ribbon)

Red: Vandachostylis Lou Sneary 'Lea' -Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

White: Vanda Kulwadee Fragrance 'Purple Spots #331' - Fred Pippin



 ${\it Fredclarkeara}~{\it After}~{\it Dark}~{\it `Sunset}~{\it Valley}~{\it Orchids'}~{\it FCC/AOS}$

Class 9: Miscellaneous

Blue: Fredclarkeara After Dark 'Sunset Valley Orchids,' FCC/AOS – Jill Heske

One of the perks of specializing in breeding a particular multi-generic orchid group such as Catasinae, is that you may be able to create a mix that has heretofore never been registered and name it after yourself. Such is the case with Fredclarkeara, which is a mix of Catasetum + Clowesia + Mormodes. This cross, registered in 2002, was Fred Clarke's first involving those three genera, but many more have since followed. The clonal name was entered as 'SVO' but should be spelled out as I have it above to be correct as per the award records. This is necessary to distinguish this nearly black flower from the four other clones that also received a FCC that have SVO as part of their name, 'SVO Black Knight,' 'SVO Black Pearl,' 'SVO Black Cherry,' and 'SVO Black Diamond.' More than 100 awards in total speak to the quality of the cross, one of which is the Award or Distinction (AD) given in December 2005 with the following description: "Cross recognized for consistent production of well-arranged, shapely flowers of very long flower life; range of color from green-brown through deepest glossy black; great breakthrough in Catasetum alliance breeding."

If you grow Catasinae or are interested in growing them, you should subscribe to Sunset Valley Orchids newsletter. Here are some important notes about handling your plants of this group as they go into winter dormancy detailed in the issue I received in mid-January:





Bulbophyllum lasiochilum

"The onset of dormancy generally occurs naturally; however, when plants are cultivated in consistently warm growing areas, such as in the home or under lights, dormancy sometimes needs to be encouraged. I have found that managing irrigation is one of the best tools to trigger dormancy. If you still have plants in January with a full complement of green leaves, it's time to take a more aggressive approach. Allow the media to become dry, regardless of the number of green leaves. Let the media stay dry for 3-4 days, then water sparingly, about one or two ounces of water. The water may flow right through the media, and that's okay. Allow the media to dry and wait 4-5 days before following the same stingy irrigation procedure. Repeat this process, increasing the dry interval between watering. This process will trigger dormancy in plants that are resisting the transition. Not all plants lose all of their green leaves when dormant, and it's not uncommon for some to hold a few leaves well past the point when irrigation has stopped.

"By late January, it's important to get your Catasetinae into the dormant stage and provide them with an adequate rest period so that they will "wake up" early in the spring to a long growing season that will help them to develop big bulbs and lots of flowers!

"Those of you in Florida and the southern states might already be seeing the first beginnings of new growth. Remember to start watering and fertilizing when new roots are approximately 3"-6" long and new growths are 6"-12" tall. Generally, these early new growths will develop slowly until day length begins to lengthen significantly.

"It is best to keep your Catasetinae plants in nearly the same light levels as in the growing season: target 2500–3000 foot candles. It is easy to download a Foot Candle Reader app for your phone. If you're growing under lights, you do need to adjust the day length throughout the year, as all Catasetinae experience changes in the number of daylight hours per day."

Red: *Bulbophyllum lasiochilum* – Bailey Santwire

White: *Phaiocalanthe* Kryptonite 'Parkside' – Véronique Perrot

White: *Ludisia discolor* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate



Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite 'Parkside'



Ludisia discolor