



JULY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: Monday, July 10, 2023. Gather at 7 p.m.,
Carson Barnes: *My Favorite Things, and How to Grow them* at 7:30 p.m.,
Gardenhouse Workshop at the ABG; see below for details

*Members can bring plants to sell
Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging*

Carson Barnes: *My Favorite Things and How to Grow Them*



I saw *Cypripedium acaule* in roaring full bloom in June 1972 in Maryland and was immediately intrigued by its beauty and weirdness. Beauty is good, so is weird. Shortly thereafter, the Yellow Pages (I'm dating myself) revealed that Kensington Orchids was eleven miles from my parents' home; I spent many happy hours wandering their greenhouses and buying as many plants as my after school job could pay for, and around that time my first greenhouse (single pane glass, 6 x 8 feet, electric heater; energy was sooo cheap then). My parents, bless 'em, kept the plants watered while I was at college near Philadelphia, where I received my BA in fine arts in 1978; there were intervals of windowsill growing

PLEASE NOTE: Permanent Change to the Monthly Meeting Time

Thank you to the members who responded to the poll sent out by the board last month regarding the monthly meeting time. A majority of respondents (59% of 66 responses) preferred an earlier meeting time.

The board thus decided to change the monthly meeting time. Starting at the July, 2023, meeting, we will **start gathering at 7 p.m.**, and the **speaker will begin their presentation at 7:30 p.m.**

Location Change for the July Meeting

This month's meeting happens to be at the same time as the ABG Members Evening event, so Day Hall, our usual meeting place, is not available. We will meet in the Gardenhouse

Workshop instead. The Gardenhouse is the building at the back of Day Hall, across the courtyard. The Workshop is in the lowest level of the Gardenhouse (i.e., the basement).

on moving to California in 1979, where I remained until 2012, when Carol and I moved to Georgia. While in California, I also began also exhibiting artwork, and took a Master in Fine Arts in 1989.

In the mid 90s, I was the wholesale guy at Rod McLellan Co., "Acres of Orchids," and had the opportunity to buy plants from their breeding stock from time to time. I left the company as they transitioned to becoming a distribution point for Phalaenopsis produced by Taiwan Sugar Corp. which eventually bought the company and its Watsonville, CA, property. The original South San Francisco property is now a residential area.

I've built eleven more greenhouses, and used a few pre-existing ones, since the 70s. Now, I have around two to three thousand plants, including seedlings (maybe half or more) in a 30 x 36 foot with a 14 foot peak a few miles north of Griffin, GA. In summer we're often very dry, so none go outside! They share space with some tropical fruit trees and a ram-

pant dragon fruit plant. Want cuttings?

I grow lots of species and some hybrids. If I specialize in anything, it's probably showy species that are also weird: long tailed and other Phragmipediums, many Paphiopedilum species, antelope Dendrobiums, and Vanda species and hybrids of unusual colors, to mention a few.

I'll be giving a talk featuring pretty photos of interesting, peculiar, beautiful orchids and how to grow them, or rather, how *I* grow them; what works for me might be altered to work for almost anyone's conditions!

New Members!

The Atlanta Orchid Society is delighted to welcome new members! Please welcome Lauren French, Rina Guerrero (Atlanta), Barbara Rodgers (Newnan), and Rebecca Ingram (Newnan).

We hope to see y'all at this month's meeting!

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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](#).

From the Auction Desk

We did very well with the revenue and enthusiasm generated from the Auction. We netted roughly \$2,500.

Thank you Jason for handing me the reigns, I will do you proud. A special Thanks to Jon for keeping handwritten notes along the way, and for the lovely name tags; Carson for strategizing the donations; Fi for wrangling the food and sending out reminders; Danny for schlepping in all the pots and mediums for sale & printing the booklets, and all the steady unseen tasks you handle; Jody for solidifying the space and helping me keep track of the plant names being called out; David and Doug for keeping



an eye on me and offering a solid presence; and to all the people who donated plants. And all the generous compliments from the Society at large. It was a great time. The food was so dynamic and diverse, what a treat. !

Penney Balmes,
Treasurer



EVENTS CALENDAR

July

8 – AOS monthly judging

10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

August

12 – AOS monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

September

1–3 – Atlanta Orchid Society Orchid Show at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

9 – AOS monthly judging

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Eye Candy from Mark Reinke's Greenhouse

Hi Everyone,

I thought you might enjoy seeing this *Anguloa cliftonii* in bloom for the first time. I got a bare root bulb from Ecua-genera in 2019 and finally I have flowers. They are huge and look like hungry mouths! Unfortunately, it's blooming when there are no shows.....

Mark



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Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for June, 2023

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Danny Lentz



Rhynchobrassoleya Aka's Art



Cattleya purpurata var. *striata*

Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

Blue: *Rhynchobrassoleya* Aka's Art – Fred Pippin

In the notes I received on this beauty, David Mellard mentioned that he had noted at the meeting the uncommon glowing salmon red shade of the flowers. The cross, done by Arthur F. Buckman on the Big Island of Hawaii is a veritable kitchen sink genetically, with a total of 24 species in its family tree. Some of them, such as *Brassavola nodosa*, despite being a great-grandparent, make no visible appearance in the final result. The striking color is the result of pigment layers inherited by particular species in just the right balance to make the eye believe it is seeing glowing salmon. In reality, the sepals and petals have a strong yellow base layer, over which a layer of purple pigment at just the right density and translucency picks up the light reflecting off that base layer and shifts the color coming back at our eyes to this glowing result. Such color effects can be difficult to capture on camera, but one of the photos sent back to me nailed it beautifully. Given this very complex family tree, this uniquely beautiful orchid should not present any challenge to grow given



Cattlianthe Loog Tone 'African Beauty'

basic cattleya care: bright diffused light, drying between each watering and a ten-to-twenty-degree temperature fluctuation between day and night. This is just one of 14 registered hybrids by Mr. Buckman that includes "Aka" in the name.

Red: *Cattleya purpurata* variety *striata* – Vinh Nguyen

Red: *Cattlianthe* Loog Tone 'African Beauty' – Fred Pippin

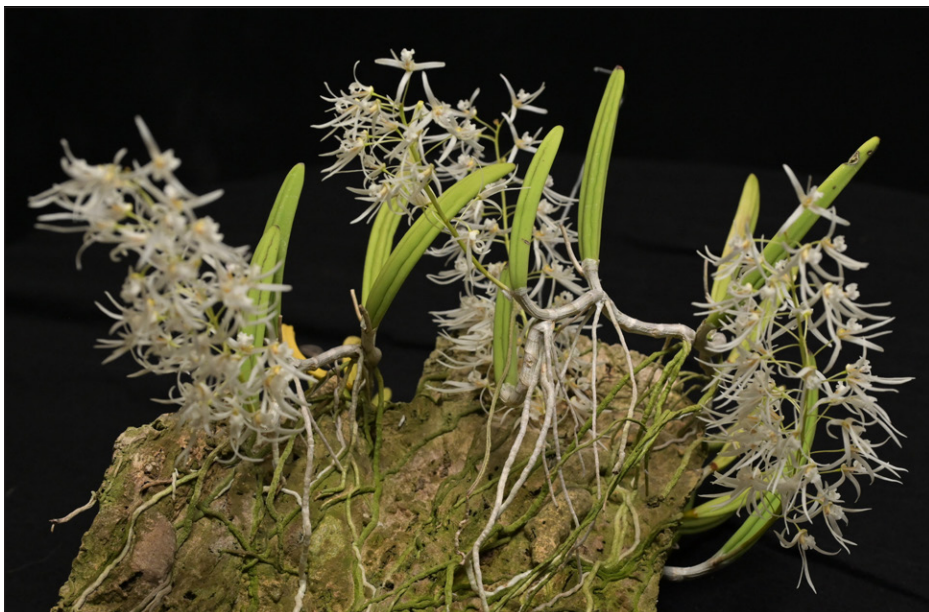
White: - *Cattleya* Lulu Land – Doug Hartong



Cattleya Lulu Land

Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

No Entries

*Dendrobium wassellii**Dendrobium moschatum*

Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

Blue: *Dendrobium wassellii* – Bailey Santwire

I have covered this species from northeastern Australia a couple of times in the past, so this time I'd like to discuss

the red ribbon winner instead.

Red: *Dendrobium Aussie's Hi-Lo* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

The genes of the diminutive species *Dendrobium cuthbertsonii* are highly dominant and the point of this cross

between it and *Den. laevifolium* was to create a plant with similar flowers and size, but with more tolerance of warmth. The "high" portion of this pairing is the former species, growing on the island of New Guinea at between 6500 and 11,500 feet above sea level. The latter species is the "low" portion of the equation, growing on mountainous islands to the east of New Guinea as low as 1200 feet above sea level, but occurring even above 7000 feet where such elevation exists in the proper habitat. In summation, while this cutie may not need to be cooled down into the 50s at night year-round to thrive, it will definitely sulk if subjected to our outdoor heat in summer. I'm guessing Danny & Dianne are growing it under lights indoors where it is kept in the mild temperature range at all times and being careful not to allow it to sit dry for any length of time. I have tried this one in sphagnum moss in a hanging net pot in front of my evaporative cooling pads without success, whereas *Den. laevifolium* is thriving grown this way. Given the many colors and bi-color combinations of *Den. cuthbertsonii*, there are many different patterns to choose from with this cross in addition to the yellow and red combination of this example.

*Dendrobium Aussie's Hi-Lo*

White: *Dendrobium moschatum* – Bailey Santwire

*Dendrobium parishii*

White: *Dendrobium parishii* – Vinh Nguyen

*Encyclia tampensis* var. *alba*

Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

Blue: *Encyclia tampensis* variety *alba* – Bailey Santwire

Named after the city where it was first found, this orchid is the most northerly occurring of the pseudobulbous species in the western hemisphere, found all the way up the Florida peninsula to Putman County (Palatka), where the record low is 12F. Nonetheless, your plant is likely to be happier if not subjected to any freezing weather. Bailey is exhibiting the *alba* form of the species with bright apple green segments and a white lip, which is extremely rare in nature but has been widely propagated for collectors. The normal form would have a purple wash over the segments, giving them a bronzy appearance and some bright purple on the center lobe of the lip, ranging from a few lines to a nice solid spot in what are considered the best forms. There is a good deal of variation in plant size and flower appearance in the wild, leading some taxonomists to speculate that *E. tampensis* is actually a hybrid swarm that mixes the genes of *E. fucata* from the Bahamas, *E. plicata* which occurs in both the Bahamas and Cuba, and *E. phoenecia* found presently only in Cuba. It is believed that in the distant past all three species also occurred in south Florida, which, after isolation and time, led to the emergence of *Encyclia tampensis*. Some of the best crosses involving *Encyclia* descend from this species, and there are more than 168 registered first-genera-

*Encyclia parviflora*

tion and nearly 250 total hybrids that descend from it, involving at least 10 other genera in the great Cattleya alliance. Given bright light and perfect drainage, *E. tampensis* is easy to grow and forms a specimen plant much quicker than most species in the genus. It loves to grow mounted or in a basket but will usually sulk if grown in a pot.

Red: *Encyclia parviflora* – Bailey Santwire

White: *Prosthechea cochleata* – Bailey Santwire

*Prosthechea cochleata*

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Oncidium Rex's Luck 'Firefly' HCC/AOS

Class 5: Oncidium Alliance

Blue: *Oncidium Rex's Luck 'Firefly,' HCC/AOS* – Lizette De La Cruz

This very showy orchid involves just four species in two generations of breeding. One of those species was originally described as a *Miltonia* and another as an *Odontoglossum*, so the cross was first registered as a *Colmanara*, later an *Odontocidium*, and finally just *Oncidium* as those two species were eventually placed into that genus. Sadly, you will struggle to find this one available in commerce at the moment as we await a new batch to come out of the tissue culture labs. Lizette's plant looks very happy and well cared for, and well on its way to becoming a specimen. I consider most *Oncidium* and intergeneric hybrids such as this to be easy and rewarding to grow if given regular watering with only slight drying



Oncostelopsis Leopoldo 'Corona King'



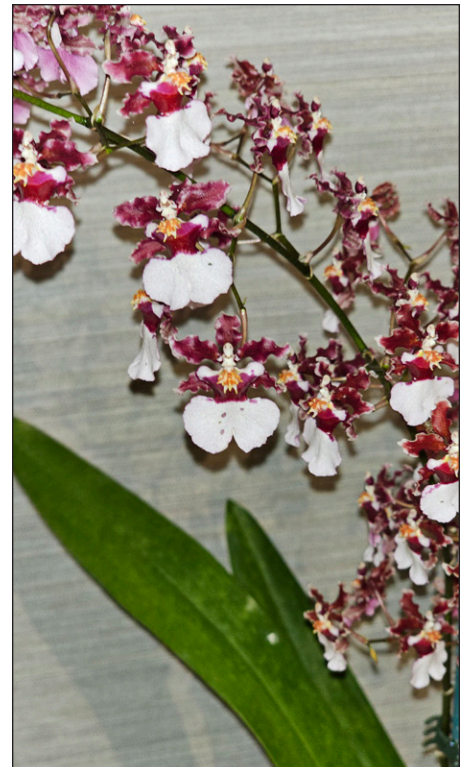
Gombrassiltonia Dancing Lady

in between, diffused light rather than direct sun, and sheltered from the hottest summer weather by growing them indoors or in a controlled greenhouse environment. If the leaves get lots of spotting, the plant is stressed either by insufficient water or too high of light, or both. Watering just once a week is likely to be insufficient except in high humidity situations so you may need to adjust the frequency with the weather conditions throughout the year. Or simply grow your plants indoors under inexpensive LED shop lights set on a 14-16 hour day and treat them the same year-round. When awarded in 2009, this orchid had 42 flowers on one inflorescence. Lizette's plant has substantially more than that number on this flowering with a second inflorescence already developing.

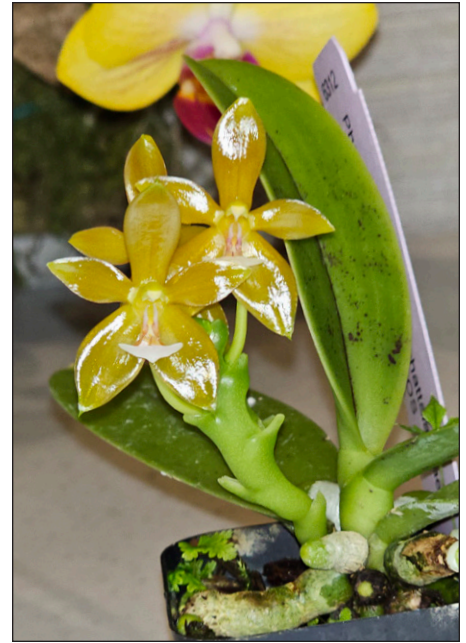
Red: *Oncostelopsis Leopoldo 'Corona King'* – Fred Pippin

White: *Gombrassiltonia Dancing Lady* – Fred Pippin

White: *Oncidium Ruth's Rainbow 'Over the Rainbow'* – Fred Pippin



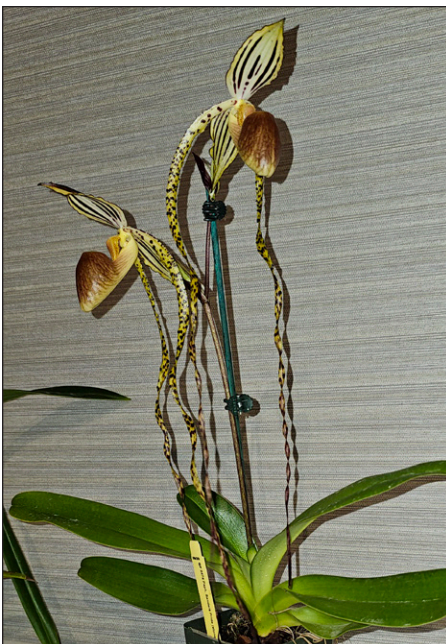
Oncidium Ruth's Rainbow 'Over the Rainbow'

*Phragmipedium* Leslie Garay*Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* var. *chattaladae*

Class 6: Slipper Alliance

Blue: *Phragmipedium* Leslie Garay– Fred Pippin

Phragmipedium Leslie Garay is a primary hybrid between *Phrag. caudatum* and *Phrag. longifolium*. The former species can have petals that grow to between 24 and 30 inches long, and that trait is coming through nicely on this example. The only awarded example of this cross that lists the measurements in its description had petals about 14 inches long and this plant seems to be in that range.

*Paphiopedilum* Sander's Pride

The three imposing blooms also have a nice mix of color and pattern, and they don't nod as much as many examples, making it easier to enjoy their intricacies. In general, *Phragmipedium* prefer bright but diffused light, mild to warm, but not hot temperatures, and to grow in a well-draining mix that is kept continually moist with light regular feeding.

Red: *Paphiopedilum* Sander's Pride – Fred Pippin

White: *Paphiopedilum* Gina Short – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

*Paphiopedilum* Gina Short

Class 7: Phalaenopsis

Blue: *Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* variety *chattaladae* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

At the meeting, David Mellard thought this plant might be a mericlone mutation of the normal red flower found on variety *chattaladae* of this species. There is also a yellow form already recognized that is called *forma flava*, and photos of that one look fairly identical to this flower, so it is also possible that the wrong label was placed in the pot as a seedling. Whatever the case, the "stag horn" *Phalaenopsis* comes in several forms and has a very large range across southeast Asia and into Indonesia and Borneo, growing in a variety of habitats, but usually places that are humid with dense vegetation. The persistent inflorescences will produce a few flowers at a time in succession, but an older plant with a large number of growths, each with several spikes, can still have 50 or more flowers open at once as attested by the awards records. Hybridizers have found its charms attractive enough that there are now almost 500 registered crosses that include this species in their ancestry.



Mounted blooming *Phalaenopsis*



Phalaenopsis Sin-Yuan Golden Beauty

Red: Selection of mounted blooming *Phalaenopsis* – Fred Pippin

White: *Phalaenopsis* Sin-Yuan Golden Beauty – Jon Crate & Fi Alonso



Mystacidium capense

Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

Blue: *Mystacidium capense* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

There are slightly less than a dozen recognized species of *Mystacidium*, and this one is considered the showiest, growing as the name implies in the southeast cape region of South Africa. It is described as favoring hot, dry savanna habitats where few other epiphytic orchids grow, growing on Acacia trees and sometimes on succulent cactus-like Euphorbia trees. These areas have moderate rainfall most of the year and humidity that rarely drops below 65%, but not enough precipitation to support lush vegetation. Apparently growing this orchid mounted, as Danny & Dianne are doing, is the only way to successfully cultivate it. This does mean that attention must be paid to regular watering and it isn't a species for those who prefer a strict once per week hydration schedule. When well grown, *Myrcdm. capense* can become a showy specimen and there are a good number of awards for plants with more than 100 flowers. One example was awarded in 2009 in Santa Barbara, CA with both an FCC and a CCE bearing 555 open flowers and 40 buds on 35 inflorescences, which would have created a virtual cloud of the fragrant white blooms!



Cleisocentron gokusingii

Red: *Cleisocentron gokusingii* – Vinh Nguyen

*Aerides houlettiana**Angraecum didieri*

Red: *Aerides houlettiana* – Vinh Nguyen

White: *Angraecum didieri* – Vinh Nguyen

*Stanhopea confusa*

Class 9: Miscellaneous

Blue: *Stanhopea confusa* – Jody Gomez

The 67 described species of *Stanhopea* range from Mexico to Brazil and have some of the most unusual and specialized flowers in the orchid family, usually large, fleshy and highly fragrant but lasting in good condition for only a couple of days. Apparently, their charms are sufficient to attract enough pollinators quickly to maintain their populations. The inflorescences hang straight down from the epiphytic plants, requiring them to be cultivated in baskets open enough not to impede their development. While the blooms are open for a short time, watching the inflorescences slowly develop is also fascinating and replete with anticipation. I have grown a few species, and sometimes had enough inflorescences to keep my attention for a couple of months each summer. Once the buds start to open, they may be fully expanded within a matter of minutes. This species was only described in 2004 and the name suggests that it was confused with some other species prior to then. I think the genus as a whole has presented a challenge for taxonomists due to the variability of individual plants and the barely discernable differences between some species.

Orchidspecies.com describes this one as: “Found in Nicaragua, Honduras, Costa Rica and Panama at elevations of 600 to 1220 meters as a medium sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with ovoid to globose, somewhat sulcate pseudobulbs enveloped by papery sheaths and carrying a single, apical, coriaceous, dark green, plicate, elliptic-ovoid, petiolate base leaf that blooms in the late summer and early fall on a thick, enveloped by various, papery, black spotted sheaths, 5.2” [13 cm] long, to 6 flowered inflorescence carrying chocolate scented flowers.” Obviously, under Jody’s growing conditions it is flowering earlier than described. The species in general prefer filtered bright light, frequent water during the summer growing season and somewhat less in winter, but not to the point that they are dry for long periods.



Maxillaria tenuifolia 'Yamada' AM/AOS

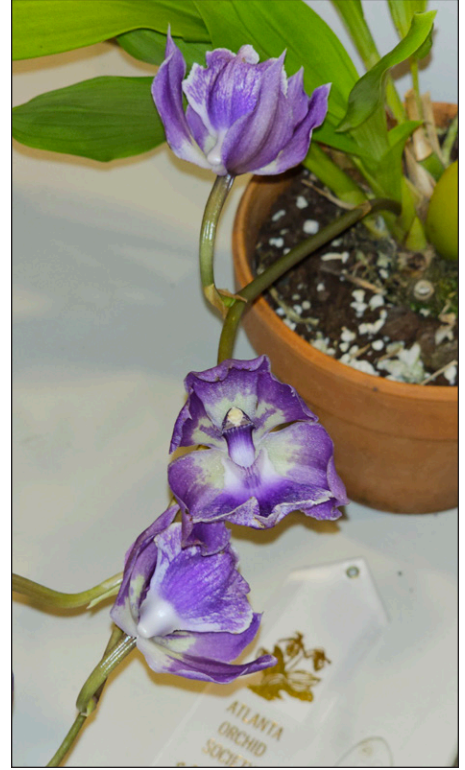
Red: *Maxillaria tenuifolia* 'Yamada,' AM/AOS (yellow mutation) – Bailey Santwire

Red: *Ponerorchis graminifolia* (3 color forms) – David Mellard

White: *Zygonisia Murasakikomachi* – Bailey Santwire



Ponerorchis graminifolia



Zygonisia Murasakikomachi



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