



## AUGUST EVENT

**Monthly Meeting:** Monday, August 14, 2023.

Gather at 7 p.m., Program starts at 7:30 p.m.

### Getting Ready for the Show!

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

## Location Change for the August Meeting

Once again, we will not meet in our usual digs at the ABG. This month's meeting will take place at Ogelthorpe Presbyterian Church, where we had the auction in June. The church is at 3016 Lanier Dr. in Brookhaven, but the meeting will take place around the corner, off of Woodrow Way, in the meeting

room.

Also, please note that the meeting time has changed (see above)

We will be back in Day Hall at the ABG for our orchid show and sale (see below for much more).

## Fall for Orchids!, the 2023 AtLOS Orchid Show, September 1-3

This month's meeting will be devoted to preparing for the show. The meeting has two goals:

- \* recruiting volunteers to help put on the show (see below for details)
- \* helping members prepare their blooming plants to add to the society's exhibit. Start making a list of plants that are likely to be in bloom in three weeks.

Our annual show will be held at the Atlanta Botanical Garden in Day Hall over Labor Day weekend, from Friday, 1 September through Sunday, 3 September, with setup on Thursday. Ribbon judging will take place on Friday evening, and AOS judging on Saturday morning.

As always, we will need as many people as possible to pitch in and help with the event. We will have sign-up sheets for volunteers at the August meeting, or you can contact show chair, Danny Lentz, at [dblgongora@bellsouth.net](mailto:dblgongora@bellsouth.net).

We look forward to working with everyone to put on another great show this year. The list is long, so keep reading to find things you can help with.

### Setup

On Thursday morning, we will need some people to help set up the tables and put on table skirts, set up tables and drapes for the exhibit areas, and get the



room ready for the show. Throughout the day on Thursday, we will need more people to set up our display, handle plant entry, set up our supply table, help our vendors with bringing their stuff into Day Hall, and there are always a couple miscellaneous errands to run.

### Clerking

We need quite a few clerks on Friday evening to help with judging. Clerks help find the plants that the judges need to look at in each class, record the winners, and place ribbons. This can be a good way to learn more about what judges look for

in the plants. You don't need to be very experienced to help with this.

### Membership and Supply Tables

At our society booth we need people to answer questions, take membership applications and payment, and sell supplies. We really need to get a lot of our members to help out with this, with coverage from Friday morning through Sunday afternoon. Pi Alonso will be coordinating the supply tables.

### Hospitality

Janet Sherwood will coordinate hospitality throughout the show, and she will need plenty of help with things like bringing drinks and snacks, gathering some breakfast items for Friday morning, picking up lunches and bringing them to the garden, setting up and clean-

*Continued on p. 3*

## New Members!

The Atlanta Orchid Society is delighted to welcome Two new members! Please welcome Dancing Lion and Christy Bryant.

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

## ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

### Officers

#### President

[Carson Barnes](#)

#### Vice-President/Programs

[Firelli Alonso](#)

#### Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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### Volunteers

AOS Rep – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Greengrowers – [Danny Lentz](#)

Librarian –

MAOC Rep – [Doug Hartong](#)

Meeting Hospitality – [Fred Pippin &](#)

[Victoria Schaefer](#)

Membership – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Silent Auction – [Carson Barnes](#)

Monthly Ribbon Judging – [David Mellard](#)

Newsletter – [Véronique Perrot](#) &

[Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep – [David Mellard](#)

Show Chair (2023) – [Danny Lentz](#)

Website/Social Media – [Danny Lentz](#) &

[Firelli Alonso](#)

## The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 64: Number 8 – August 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 Georgia](#).

## For the Novice Grower at an Orchid Show

What Should You Buy??? Remember there will be a lot of eye candy, and the exhibits can be overwhelmingly lovely. You can plan ahead to keep your mind organized and go prepared to enjoy the show

1. Where do you plan on growing?

What are your light conditions: sun, shade, or dappled?

2. What temperature can you offer your plants? warm, intermediate, or cool?

3. What are you already growing well? Do you want to expand your collection or want more of the same or a variation?

4. At a show you will probably “Fall in Love” with an orchid or two. Consider if you can provide what the orchid needs to keep it alive? You don’t want to set yourself up for failure.

5. Now, how much you can afford to pay, and how much room do you have for the orchids you bring home? Seedlings take longer and are more difficult

to grow and bloom, so you are more likely to succeed with blooming size or near blooming size plants.

6. Ask questions! If the Vendor gives you instructions on a plant, write them down! If not, you will forget or only remember bits and pieces.

7. Ask about the size of the mature plant. Don’t find yourself surprised with a very BIG or tiny plant.

8. Do some research: Look up the basic conditions of major orchid groups on [AOS.org](#).

Cattleyas

Oncidiums

Dendrobiums

Bulbophyllums

Vandas

Paphiopedilum

Phalaenopsis

Barbara Barnett

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### August

12 – AOS monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Preparing for the Show

### September

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

2 – AOS monthly judging. Note the unusual date

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: David Edgley (accredited AOS judge) on novelty Phalaenopsis

15–17 – Alabama Orchid Society Show in Birmingham, AL.

24 – AtIOS Board Meeting. Contact Fi Alonso ([FiAlonso@outlook.com](mailto:FiAlonso@outlook.com)) if interested in attending

### October

7 – AOS monthly judging

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Manny Aybar (accredited AOS judge) on Orchids of the Dominican Republic

### November

11 – AOS monthly judging

13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

## AtLOS Orchid Show

*Continued from p. 1*

ing up the luncheon and kitchen areas. JoJo Stickney and Carl Quattlebaum will be hosting a dinner at their house for volunteers, judges and exhibitors on Saturday evening.

### Takedown

On Sunday afternoon we will need help clearing out the room. This is the glamorous stuff: helping vendors load their vehicles, putting away tables, sweeping the floor, taking out the trash, getting supplies back to various locations for storage.

### Transportation

We'll need a couple of people to help bring supplies to the garden on Wednesday / Thursday and return some of them to various locations on Sunday when the show closes. If you have a truck/van/SUV and would be willing to help, let Danny know.

### Other

**Education:** During the show we might have a few Orchid 101 type talks in Day Hall. If you're interested in helping out let us know.

**Publicity:** Please help spread the word about our show.

**Registration:** We always need a person or two to help cut out/distribute name tags as plants are entered, and maybe help with plant entry if you are good with nomenclature.

### Display

We will need lots of blooming plants to fill in our society display this year. This exhibit will be judged, and all plants must be identified.

### Plant Registration

We will be doing electronic entry again this year. The weekend before the show, we will send out blank entry forms that you can fill out and email to us for pre-entry. You will be able to fill it out and email it back to us anytime up until Thursday afternoon. If you can get us your entries a day or two ahead of time, it will help greatly with the process of checking all of the names. Of course we will still enter any other plants that

you bring on Thursday, pre-entry is not required. The process will be covered at the August meeting. Danny Lentz will be coordinating plant registration, with assistance from Carson Barnes.

### 2023 Atlanta Orchid Society Show and Sale Vendor List

Ecuagenera (Ecuador)

[www.ecuagenera.com](http://www.ecuagenera.com)

Marble Branch Farms (Walhalla, SC)

[www.marblebranchfarms.com](http://www.marblebranchfarms.com)

Florida Orchid House (Myakka City, FL)

[www.floridaorchidhouse.com](http://www.floridaorchidhouse.com)

Owens Orchids, Etc. (Pisgah Forest, NC)

[www.facebook.com/orchidheights2](https://www.facebook.com/orchidheights2)

Rusty Exotic Orchids (Lawrenceville, GA)

[rustyexoticorchids.com](http://rustyexoticorchids.com)

So Orchids (Lakeland, FL)

[www.soorchids.com](http://www.soorchids.com)

Hartley Botanic (Wilmington, MA)

[hartley-botanic.com](http://hartley-botanic.com)

Soley Ceramics (Savannah, GA)

### Show Dinner

Saturday, September 2 at the home of Carl Quattlebaum and JoJo Stickney ([jstickney10@hotmail.com](mailto:jstickney10@hotmail.com)).

All volunteers, judges, vendors are welcome to come after the show closes on Saturday.

657 Rosalia Street  
Atlanta 30312



## More AtIOS Matters: Bulk Order of Media and Fertilizer

On behalf of all of us, Jon Crate placed a large order of Kiwi bark of various sizes, sphagnum moss, and MSU fertilizer in four flavors. The stuff is available whole (as it was shipped (bag/bale/box)) or parceled out (1 gallon bag for the bark/1 kg slice for the moss/1 pound jar for the fertilizer).

You can place your order now by emailing BOTH Jon and our treasurer, Penney Balmes ([jon@fai.com](mailto:jon@fai.com) & [penney.sue.balmes@gmail.com](mailto:penney.sue.balmes@gmail.com)), paying the treasurer. Pick up is either at the show, or by appointment with Jon (by email or by phone (770-846-9541)).

You can also wait for the show and do

your shopping there.

Jon needs volunteers to help fill gallon bags of bark and weigh out pounds of fertilizer powders.

Thank you Jon for placing the order and storing the stuff until the show!

Item	Size or Type	Amount	Show Price	Member Price
Kiwi Bark	#1 <1/8"	50 Liters	Sold Out	
		1 Gallon	\$7.00	\$5.50
	#2 1/8-1/4"	50 Liters	\$60.00	\$48.00
		1 Gallon	\$7.00	\$5.50
	#3 1/4-1/2"	50 Liters	\$60.00	\$48.00
		1 Gallon	\$7.00	\$5.50
	#4 1/2-3/4"	50 Liters	\$60.00	\$48.00
		1 Gallon	\$7.00	\$5.50
	#5 3/4-1"	50 Liters	Sold Out	
		1 Gallon	Sold Out	
Sphagnum Moss	AAA	3 kg Bale	\$185.00	\$170.00
		1 kg	\$70.00	\$60.00
MSU Fertilizer (N-P-K-Ca-Mg) +Trace (B,Cu,Fe, Mn,Mo,Zn)	Soft Water/RO 13-5-15-8-2	25# Box	\$120.00	\$90.00
		1# Jar	\$9.00	\$6.50
	K-Lite 12-1-1-10-3	25# Box	\$120.00	\$90.00
		1# Jar	\$9.00	\$6.50
	Hard Water/Well 19-4-23-2-0	25# Box	\$120.00	\$90.00
		1# Jar	\$9.00	\$6.50
	Nitrogen Free 0-7-5-0-8	25# Box	\$120.00	\$90.00
		1# Jar	\$9.00	\$6.50



## Judges' Corner, June edition

The Atlanta Judging Center met on June 10, 2023, and 14 entries were considered for AOS Awards. Three plants received an award. All photography by Charles Wilson.

2023 2093 *Cattleya purpurata* 'Memoria Barney Garrison,' AM/AOS 81 points. Exhibitor: Fred Misbach



*Cattleya purpurata* 'Memoria Barney Garrison' AM/AOS



*Cattleya purpurata* 'Memoria Barney Garrison' AM/AOS

2023 2094 *Dendrobium devonianum* 'Vingh Nguyen,' HCC/AOS 78 points. Exhibitor: Vingh Nguyen

2023 2096 *Papilionanda* Corneels Cilliers 'Midnight Serenade,' AM/AOS 82 points. (*Papilionanda* Mimi Palmer X *Vanda* Doctor Anek) Exhibitor: Carson Barnes

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong  
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



*Dendrobium devonianum* 'Vingh Nguyen' HHC/AOS.

## Judges' Corner, July edition

The Atlanta Judging Center met on July 8, 2023 and 9 entries were considered for AOS Awards. One orchid received an AOS Award, All Photography by Charles Wilson.

2023 2095 Bc. Renée Gerber  
'Christina,' HCC/AOS 77 points  
(*Brassavola nodosa* x *Cattleya* Small  
World) Exhibitors: Firelli Alonso and  
Jon Crate

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong  
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



*Brassocattleya* Renée Gerber 'Christina'  
HCC/AOS

### Become an AOS Judge

#### The American Orchid Society Judging Program

is seeking highly motivated orchid  
enthusiasts to join the judging ranks

*Work with other like-minded people in  
support of AOS awards programs and  
educational efforts*

*For more information contact us at  
[judges@aos.org](mailto:judges@aos.org)*





## Summer Travels take 1: Orchids in the Wilds of France

I spent some time in my native country this summer, at the right time (early summer) and place (in the Drôme valley) to meet old friends. As a kid in France spending time in limestone country, I often encountered various terrestrial orchids on the side of the road.

The largest (some inflorescences can reach a meter tall!), though often not noticed because of its discreet colors, is *Himantoglossum hircinum*. It is known in Britain as lizard orchid, and in France as orchis bouc (billy goat orchis) for its fragrance. Not all specimens smell like a billy goat, but this one did.

On the other hand, *Anacamptis pyramidalis* is hard to miss! The flowers are hot pink and borne in tight inflorescences, and the plants often form stands in dry meadows. Blooming plants are 20–30 cm tall, just enough to stick out above the grasses. This specimen already scored at least three pods at the bottom of the inflorescence.

At the edge of the woods I came across another discreet orchid, one that is sometimes taken for the white hellebore (*Veratrum album*): a member of the genus *Epipactis*. Unlike the previous two plants whose identification is straightforward, keying out *Epipactis* in the field is beyond my ken!

Sadly, I didn't encounter any bee orchid (*Ophrys* sp.), those jewels of the European orchid flora. Maybe next time...

Véronique



*Himantoglossum hircinum*



*Epipactis* sp.



*Anacamptis pyramidalis*



## Summer Travels take 2: Orchid Extravaganza in Singapore

We visited the Orchid Extravaganza held at the Flower Dome, Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. This event would be similar to the annual Orchid Daze sponsored by the Atlanta Botanical Garden, but clearly at a much larger scale, and a huge tourist attraction in the Gardens by the Bay. The exhibit at right shows the national flower of Singapore, *Papilionanthe* Miss Joaquim, a primary hybrid of *Papilionanthe hookeriana* and *Papilionanthe teres*. For its resilience and year-round blooming quality, it was chosen on 15-Apr-1981 to represent Singapore's uniqueness and hybrid culture.

Fi and Jon



*Papilionanthe* Miss Joaquim (*Papilionanthe hookeriana* x *Papilionanthe teres*)



Two exhibits at the Orchid Extravaganza



Jon and Fi at the entrance of the National Orchid Garden, a section of the Singapore Botanic Gardens



# Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for July, 2023

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Danny Lentz & Jon Crate



*Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Inspiration 'Coral'



*Brassocattleya* Reneé Gerber 'Christina'  
HCC/AOS



*Vaughnara* Golden Spice 'Red Pepper'

## Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

### Blue: *Rhyncholaeliocattleya* Inspiration 'Coral,' AM/AOS – Doug Hartong

This is one of the later hybrids originated by Frank Fordyce, who, specializing in compact cattleyas, created some of the most influential and awarded examples of that breeding during a long career. While working for the Rod McClellan Company in San Mateo, CA he bred *Cattlianthe* Hazel Boyd, introduced in 1975 and perhaps still one of the most awarded cattleya crosses ever and ancestor to more than 325 additional registered hybrids. Then, under his own Fordyce Orchids based in Livermore, CA, he introduced *C. Circle of Life* in 1998, which revolutionized breeding for very full, flat flowers and small growing plants, and has led to more than 130 new hybrids since. While his life ended in 2011, some of his later hybrids continued to be registered as recently as last year. While it would be tempting to think that Frank had some magic touch and everything he created was an instant success, the truth is, like most lifelong orchid breeders, out of hundreds of registered crosses, only about a dozen were that special combination of lasting appeal and breeding potential. But those

special few plants will continue to be his legacy for decades to come. In my opinion, pretty as it is, *Rlc.* Inspiration is one of those that didn't quite live up to the potential of the parents. The pod parent was the famous *Rlc.* Goldenzelle, a much awarded standard cattleya in yellows and art shades, while the pollen parent was *C. Mahalo Jack*, a full-shaped lavender miniature that combines three small growing species from Brazil. In this example, the coral pink color is desirable, but the full form didn't make it into the genetic mix and so there is visible space between all the segments. It could just be that this flowering is not showing the best that the plant can produce, as the progeny of *Rlc.* Goldenzelle are somewhat notorious for having inconsistent blooming cycles, producing full, flat flowers one year and blooms with obvious flaws the next. Many trace this bad habit all the way back to *C. Iris* introduced in 1901 and a cross between *C. dowiana* and *C. bicolor*. This cross brings in the brilliant colors we want, but also less than exhibition quality form and reversions to its more open look can occur many generations down the line. In the case of this orchid, *C. Iris* is six generations back in the family tree.

**Red: *Brassocattleya* Reneé Gerber  
'Christina,' HCC/AOS – Fi Alonso & Jon  
Crate**

**Red: *Vaughnara* Golden Spice 'Red Pepper,'  
HCC/AOS – Fred Pippin**

This plant was entered as *Bc.* Richard Mueller, but is actually that orchid crossed to *Epi. stamfordianum*. The combination is *Vaughnara* Golden Spice and this plant is clearly the 'Red Pepper' form that was tissue cultured and widely distributed 10 or more years ago. Something happened to the labeling along the way, but it is definitely as I have given the name above, so this is a good time to correct the tag.

## Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

**No Entries**

*Dendrobium dearei*

### Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

#### Blue: *Dendrobium dearei* – Véronique Perrot

There are three species of white flowered *Dendrobium* from the Philippines that have a very similar look. *Dendrobium sanderae* grows at the highest elevation, from around 3500 to 5000 feet above sea level. *Den. schuetzei* grows at 1000 to 3000 feet and our exhibited species, *Den. dearei* is the lowest growing, usually found only about 200 feet above sea level. The implications for cultivating each of these species should be obvious and this one likes it warm. The average temperatures at that elevation range from lows in the mid-70s to highs around 90 year-round with minimal variation during the year. By contrast, *Den. sanderae* would experience year-round temperatures in the 50s at night and 70's during the day so would likely do poorly in this region short of a specialized cool growing space. The mature height of each species varies somewhat with *Den. dearei* capable of producing canes up to about 3 feet high, but usually growing somewhat shorter in cultivation. At this elevation there isn't a significant dry season and rainfall is plentiful with only somewhat less in late winter into spring just prior to flowering. Growers, however, have found that if kept a bit drier during cool weather and short daylengths, it is capable of tolerating low temperatures in the upper 50s. A well grown plant can make several inflorescences per growth with up to 18 flow-

*Epidendrum porpax*

### Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

#### Blue: *Epidendrum porpax* – Stephanie Byrne

*Epidendrum porpax* is found in wet forests in the mountains from Mexico to Brazil, usually at several thousand feet above sea level, growing as an epiphyte. The small creeping and freely branching stems end in a single bug-like flower at their apex. Individual cultural conditions can influence the timing of flowering, but the majority of the awarded examples bloomed in fall or winter. There are numerous cultural awards for plants bearing at least one hundred and in a couple of examples over 1000 flowers at once. Most of these plants were grown mounted, which is the easiest way to account for the creeping growth habit but does mean rather frequent watering most of the year. It is hard to imagine why anyone would attempt to make a hybrid between this species and some other orchid, but there are nine of them registered. In most cases the genes of *Epi. porpax* are so dominant that the result isn't much different and definitely not an improvement over the species. Perhaps the best result is the cross with *Epi. medusae* called *Epi. Panama Ruby*. It is, unfortunately, nearly as difficult to grow in this climate as that high elevation cloud forest species is itself.

#### Red: *Dendrobium victoriae-reginae* - Vinh Nguyen

*Dendrobium victoriae-reginae*



*Prosthechea garciana*

**Red: *Prosthechea garciana* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

*Gomesa Jiaho Queen 'Jiaho'* AM/AOS

### **Class 5: Oncidium Alliance**

**Blue: *Gomesa Jiaho Queen 'Jiaho,'* AM/AOS – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

When awarded in May 2019, this show-stopping orchid was one point shy of a First Class Certificate, receiving a score of 89 points. The same month at a different show venue, another plant, 'Williams' First,' scored 92 and achieved the most coveted flower quality award this one just missed. The flowers were just a tad larger, which may have been a factor. The judges' enthusiasm for our exhibited clone is expressed in the official award description: "Twenty stunning, intensely colored flowers evenly displayed on a single branched inflorescence; sepals and nicely ruffled petals deep espresso, near black, oxblood undertones and blue iridescence overlay; lip bright clear lemon yellow, large, sharply defined espresso spot centrally, lateral lobes lemon yellow; column espresso, column wings oxblood; anther cap yellow; substance firm; texture shiny; commended for dramatic color contrast." There are four Brazilian species involved in this cross in varying amounts. Three of them clearly and easily fit into the expected look for *Gomesa*. One, however, is an outlier and different authorities recognize it either as *Oncidium crispum* or *Gomesa imperatoris-maximiliani*. So, when not recognizing the more pompous sounding synonym, this grex can also be called *Oncidesa Jiaho Queen*. Spectacular as it is, before

*Miltonia phymatochila*

you rush to track one down for yourself, know that all the species involved grow in habitats with cool to even chilly nights and mild to warm days year-round. Truly hot days are exceedingly rare, so don't expect success summering it outdoors in this area or in a greenhouse without evaporative cooling. *Gomesa* species in general are known to be a bit touchy and usually do best mounted with daily watering and quick drying.

**Red: *Miltonia phymatochila* – Vinh Nguyen**



### **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](http://www.orchiddigest.com) to join online.

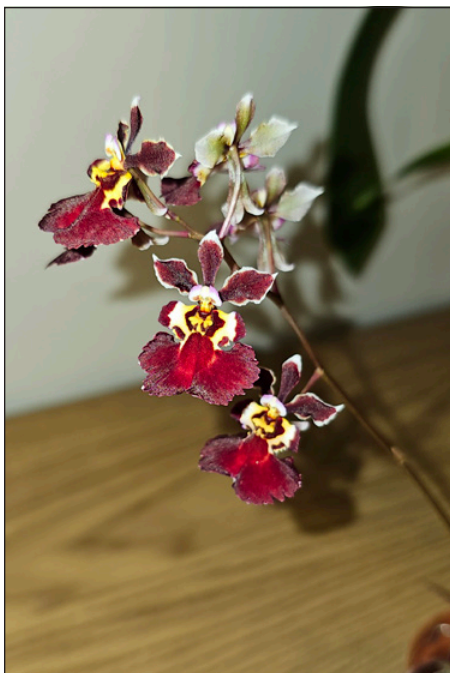




*Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'*

**White: *Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance,'* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate**

**White: *Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**



*Tolumnia Jairak Rainbow*



*Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* (Carson's)

## Class 6: Slipper Alliance

**Blue: *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* – Carson Barnes**

The photo I received of this plant is spectacular with four stunning flowers whose long spiral twisted petals are nearly touching the exhibit table despite the blooms being carried well up above the foliage. I was also surprised to see that the plant is growing in a 6-inch square Vanda basket with hanger which does seem to be lined but would still require quite frequent water for a species that wants to be constantly wet while in active growth. The advantage would be that the petals are not impeded in their lengthening by reaching the surface of a growing bench and can attain maximum stature, which can sometimes exceed 24 inches.

This species has often been labelled as *Phrag. wallissii*, but current nomenclature accepts this longer name, which was described more than 50 years prior. The plants grow on the Pacific slope of Costa Rica, Panamá, and Colombia, with some sources including Ecuador to the south and Nicaragua, Guatemala, and Mexico to the north. It grows both epiphytically and lithophytically depending on condi-



*Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* (Danny & Diane's)

tions in the host environment, and does best in bright diffused light and mild temperatures.

**Red: *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

**White: *Paphiopedilum leucochilum* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**



*Paphiopedilum leucochilum*



*Phalaenopsis deliciosa**Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi*

## Class 7: Phalaenopsis

### Blue: *Phalaenopsis deliciosa* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Despite the fact that this species had a widespread natural range, it doesn't show up in collections very often here in America. This plant, based on the tag in the photo, is a tetraploid (4n) version of the species, with double the normal set of chromosomes. Tetraploid orchids often have fuller flowers of heavier substance but are not always as fast growing as their diploid counterparts. Indeed, the flowers of this plant are a bit fuller in form and stronger on color pattern than all the other images of the species I looked at. The habitat starts in Sri Lanka and extends across much of Southeast Asia and out to Indonesia, Borneo and the Philippines, in locations from near sea level to around 1500 feet above. It can be found colonizing the trunks of teak trees grown in plantations on Java. All these areas are warm and moist most of the year, with about a month-long dry season in winter, through dew and fog still occur at that time. The pretty flowers are barely more than one half inch across and come a few at a time in succession for several months. Despite the lack of a real floral show, *Phal. deliciosa* has been used a number of times in registered hybrids, and more than 60 crosses have it as a parent or in the family tree.

### Red: *Phalaenopsis cornu-cervi* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

*Phalaenopsis zebrina*

### Red: *Phalaenopsis zebrina* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

### White: *Phalaenopsis violacea* collection – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

*Phalaenopsis violacea* collection*Schoenorchis fragrans*

## Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

### Blue: *Schoenorchis fragrans* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

An extensive collection of *Schoenorchis* could be raised in a very small space, so long as your eyesight is good enough to enjoy them. For me, magnifying reading glasses are required. In describing *Sns. fragrans*, all of the measurements given for the parts of the plant are in tenths of an inch! The entire plant is rarely more than 2 inches across unless it has become an older specimen with multiple growths. But get in there close and this is a very beautiful orchid, and Danny & Dianne have grown it well, with what looks like four inflorescences packed with tiny rose-purple flowers. Interestingly, plants are described as often growing on the roots of another vandaceous species, *Renanthera imschootiana* in the wild, which might create a bit of a color clash if both were in bloom at the same time, since the flowers of the latter are bright red orange. While there are at least 28 described species, there are no registered hybrids for any of them. The daunting mechanics of performing cross pollination on the miniscule flowers and then sowing the seed from what would be very tiny pods is probably a contributing factor to this lack of progeny. The suggested care is for mounted culture,





*Rhyncostylis coelestis* 'Laurette' AM/AOS

with warm to hot summers with frequent watering followed by slightly cooler winters with somewhat less watering.

**Red: *Rhyncostylis coelestis* 'Laurette,' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes**

**White: *Cleisostoma striata* – Vinh Nguyen**



*Cleisostoma striata*



*Coelogyne usitana*

## Class 9: Miscellaneous

**Blue: *Coelogyne usitana* – Vinh Nguyen**

*Coelogyne usitana* is a fascinating species that was only botanically described at the beginning of this century. It is found on Mindanao Island in the Philippines where it grows at about 2500 feet above sea level. Given its unique look, it is hard to imagine that it went undetected by orchid collectors for so long, growing in a country that is rich in species and has been thoroughly scoured by botanists for nearly two centuries. If you do a search on the species, you really will find scant information about it still. There are good descriptions of the downward facing flowers with their near white segments contrasting with a velvety cinnamon-red-brown lip, borne one at a time on a pendant inflorescence that can continue to lengthen over a long period and bear 20 or more blooms in succession. None of these sources, though, mention anything else about the plant habit, but since I have grown *Coel. usitana* myself I can elaborate. The inflorescence quickly emerges out of the center of a rolled-up leaf on a developing growth and the first flower usually opens well before the growth is matured. Eventually a narrow, conical, deeply fluted pseudobulb, a few inches in length forms and the attached leaf unfurls to reach 12 or more inches in stature. It is thin, but tough, with a shiny surface, prominent longitudinal veins and slightly wavy margins, and I think rather showy for orchid foliage. Given where it comes from, you would expect a plant that wants generous watering from late spring until fall, and then somewhat



less in the cooler shorter days of winter. A lined basket or suspended pot is needed to accommodate the flowering habit. Orchidwiz says to grow it warm to hot, though at the elevation it comes from, you would expect nights, especially in winter, to be cool. I have three mature plants and for a long time they seemed decidedly unhappy. New growth would begin then turn black at the tip and fail to develop further, followed by more that would do the same, or the developing bloom spike would turn black and die before even the first flower opened. But for some reason this year they have decided to perform as they should, even though I have changed nothing about the way I am growing them. Possibly the relatively mild and moist early summer this year has been the deciding factor. One has three inflorescences developing at once and the other two seem to be doing the same! Still, I have far to go to match the highest cultural award ever given to this species, an example called 'Vistamont' that had 11 open flowers on 11 inflorescences awarded in California in Novem-



*Taeniophyllum* sp.*Habenaria* Bright Finch*Pectabenaria* Flamigo

ber 2015. If you get *Orchids* magazine from the AOS and review the award photos, you will recognize the name of the grower of that plant, Cynthia Hill. She obviously has a deep passion, perhaps obsession for her plants and grows many to perfection.

**Red: *Taeniophyllum* ssp. – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan**

**Red: *Habenaria* Bright Finch – Nick Rust**

**White: *Pectabenaria* Flamingo – Nick Rust**



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