



DECEMBER EVENT

Monthly Meeting: Monday, December 11, 2023

Fellowship Hall, Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church

We will gather at 6 p.m.

Holiday Party! See below for details

Members can bring plants to sell

Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging

Atlanta Orchid Society Holiday Party

Our December meeting will be a Holiday Potluck Party with a Gift Exchange at Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church in Brookhaven, which is not our usual location at the ABG. It will start at 6 p.m., one hour earlier than our usual starting time. We ask you to bring a delish dish to share on our potluck table; the Society will provide a Honey Baked Ham. To make it less likely that we end up with a tableful of brownies and cookies, please bring a dish as suggested based on your last name:

A-E Main Dish,

F-K: Side dish,

L-O: Salad,

P-Z: Dessert.

If you want to participate in the gift exchange, bring a small orchid-related gift or orchid under \$25. When you bring

a gift, you'll get a ticket, and we'll pick tickets from a hat to select the gifts making for a fun time. If you put your gift in a decorative bag, it will surprise the lucky recipient.

We'll have monthly ribbon judging too, so bring in your bloomers. Feel free to wear your ugly Christmas sweater or any other holiday apparel to liven things up. We'll also install the new Board members, so it will be a fun evening for all.

About the location of the party

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church is located at 3016 Lanier Dr., NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319, one block off Peachtree Road behind Oglethorpe University at the corner of Lanier Drive and Woodrow Way. The entrance to our spot (Fellowship Hall) is on Woodrow Way.

Change of venue for AOS Judging in December

AOS monthly judging will take place this month on Saturday 9 December at the same location as the holiday party, at the **Fellowship Hall of Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church**, 3016 Lanier Drive, Brookhaven, GA. The Fellowship Hall's parking lot actually opens on Woodrow Way.

Education at 11am followed by AOS judging at 1:30pm. Please bring plants for judging!

Doug Hartong
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center

Orchid Growing Supplies

Here is the current inventory of 50 L bags of Kiwi Bark, sphagnum moss, and various formulations of MSU fertilizers (available in 25 lbs boxes or in 1 pound jars).

Call Jon at 770 846 9541 until Monday 11 December at 2 p.m. if you want Jon to bring the stuff at the holiday party.

You will be able to pay our treasurer at the party when you collect the goods.

New Members!

The Atlanta Orchid Society is delighted to welcome new members!

Please welcome Taylor Schultz and Leroy Donald.

We hope to see y'all at this month's holiday party! It's an even better way to meet people than our usual monthly meetings.

Item	Kiwi Bark										AAA Sphagnum Moss		MSU Fertilizer							
	#1 <1/8"		#2 1/8-1/4"		#3 1/4-1/2"		#4 1/2-3/4"		#5 3/4-1"		3Kg Bale	1.5 Kg 1/2	RO Soft 13-5-15-8-2		K-Lite 12-1-1-10-3		Hard/Well 19-4-23-2-0		N Free 0-7-5-0-8	
Type	50 Liter	1 Gal	50 Liter	1 Gal	50 Liter	1 Gal	50 Liter	1 Gal	50 Liter	1 Gal			25# Box	1# Jar	25# Box	1# Jar	25# Box	1# Jar	25# Box	1# Jar
NonMember	\$60	\$7.00	\$60	\$7.00	\$60	\$7.00	\$60	\$7.00	\$60	\$7.00	\$185	\$70	\$120	\$9.00	\$120	\$9.00	\$120	\$9.00	\$120	\$9.00
Member Price	\$48	\$5.50	\$48	\$5.50	\$48	\$5.50	\$48	\$5.50	\$48	\$5.50	\$170	\$60	\$90	\$6.50	\$90	\$6.50	\$90	\$6.50	\$90	\$6.50
Inventory	0		4		10		14		0		3	1	1	12	0	17	10lb	7	15lb	8

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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](#).



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

AtIOS Board Business: Elections to be held at this month's meeting

The board elected by the members at the last meeting will be sworn in at this month's meeting. For the record, the elected board is:

President: Bailey Santwire

Vice-President: Fi Alonso

Secretary: Janet Sherwood

Treasurer: Edison Gu

Trustees: Jon Crate and Danny Lentz

IPP : Carson Barnes

Maria Beug-Deeb and David Mellard have one more year to serve as trustees, and Véronique Perrot has two more years. Cynthia Van der Wiele is resigning from the board, and the board chose Fred Pippin to serve the remainder of her term.

We thank the people leaving the board for their service and welcome the new board members.

EVENTS CALENDAR

December

9 – AOS monthly judging at Oglethorpe Presbyterian (see front page for details)

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Holiday Party and Pot Luck at Oglethorpe Presbyterian

January 2024

7 – Atlanta Orchid Society board meeting, 1-4 p.m. Contact [Firelli Alonso](#) if you want to attend the meeting

8 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: panel discussion on how to grow orchids

13 – AOS monthly judging

February

10 – AOS monthly judging

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: 2024 Show preparation

March

8-10 – AtIOS Orchid Show: mark your calendars!

10 – AOS monthly judging

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for November, 2023

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



Brassavola appendiculata

Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

Blue: *Brassavola appendiculata* – Paul Reavis

Apparently, what we have been calling *Brassavola cucullata* for years is actually *B. appendiculata*. The real *B. cucullata* is a smaller grower with flowers that don't have the long draping segments according to the Species Identification Task Force of the American Orchid Society. I will defer to their expertise on that matter because other sources are all over the map with the two species. Most want to make them synonyms, in which case *B. cucullata* would take precedence since it was described in 1813 and *B. appendiculata* not until 1845. But apparently somewhere

along the way the former name was accidentally or incorrectly applied to the latter species where it "stuck" for over a century. The real *B. cucullata* is rarely seen in collections so nearly all the plants labelled as such are actually *B. appendiculata*. The natural range is from Southern Mexico to Nicaragua and includes Belize, El Salvador, and Honduras. Not only is the flower shape unique in the genus, but also individual plants will display a wider range of color than other *Brassavola* species, with some flowers having the golden yellow segments of our exhibited plant, while a few are reddish or pinkish and quite a few are just greenish white. The narrow pseudobulbs and terete whip-like leaf are somewhat pendant, and most



Rhyncolaeliocattleya Asia Pacific

people grow this species mounted. The unusual flower shape comes through rather strongly in hybrids made with this species, creating some whimsical and charming results. I have found both the species and its hybrids to be somewhat slow growing. Once fully mature, *B. appendiculata* can produce several flowers from the same point at the base of the leaf and I have a photo from 2009 of a plant we once had that produced thirteen flowers at once. Though mounted on driftwood, that plant eventually declined, possibly because it prefers warmer nights in winter that we were giving it.

Red: *Rhyncolaeliocattleya Asia Pacific* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

White: *Brassavola grandiflora* – Tim Cape



Brassavola grandiflora

*Dendrobium victoriae-reginae**Dendrobium glomeratum*

Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

No Entries

Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

Blue: *Dendrobium victoriae-reginae* – Janet Sherwood

Despite the spelling on most tags of this species, the name is correct and accepted by Kew as I have it above. Some individuals of this beautiful orchid from the Philippines come fairly close to violet-blue, while most are violet purple. It grows in dense mossy forests from about 4,000 to 9,000 feet above sea level and is definitely not an orchid to grow outdoors unprotected from our summer heat. Copious water in summer with less in winter, but not to the point of drying the plant out, along with mild temperatures and medium light levels are what *Den. victoriae-reginae* likes best. It stands to reason the awards for plants with more than one hundred flowers open at once are from places like coastal northern California, British Columbia, and New Zealand. There are no cultural awards at all for any plants grown in the southern tier of this country. Here we should be happy enough if our plants ever have a couple dozen stunning blooms at once. The flowers are mostly produced in small clusters along the upper third of older stems that have become leafless with

time, but a just matured cane that is still leafy often produces one cluster from near its apex before it starts defoliating. New growths often emerge halfway up older stems making a basket or mount the most logical way to grow this one. I would imagine in the wild it rambles along those mossy limbs over time.

Red: *Dendrobium glomeratum* – Véronique Perrot



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*Epicattleya Fascination*

Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

Blue: *Epicattleya Fascination* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

Appropriately named, this is a fascinating cross between *C. guttata* and *Epi. cristatum*. In such hybrids, the *Epidendrum* growth habit of leafy canes and the distinct flower shape is dominant, with the other parent contributing to larger flower size and more unusual color pattern. The expectation would be that at maturity this plant will be rather tall with a dozen or more flowers per inflorescence. Both parents are known to exceed six feet in height in the wild. The flowers emerge from a flattened terminal stem covered in short leafy bracts and may produce additional flowers from side nodes in the future, so should not be removed unless obviously brown and dead.

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

*Prosthechea garciana*

*Cyrtorchilum meirax*

Class 5: Oncidium Alliance

Species

Blue: *Cyrtorchilum meirax* – Stephanie Byrne

Cyrtorchilum contains about 190 species that were split off from *Oncidium* and occur primarily in wet montane forests in Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru above 3000 feet. *Cyr. meirax* can grow as high as 5600 feet and as such is best for indoor culture or in a controlled environment that can be kept from becoming hot. The cute plants are near miniature and produce pretty little yellow flowers with brownish markings. The plant exhibited has better form and color than many photos of this species. Surprisingly there are no registered hybrids that were made from it, though it could expand the color and form currently available in small growing Oincidinae hybrids.

Red: *Oncidium nanum* – Fred Pippin

Hybrids

Blue: *Oncostele Catatante* ‘Sun King’ – Fred Pippin

Oncostele Catatante is one of the many successful hybrids in this breeding group created by James McCully (The Orchid-Works) on the Big Island of Hawaii and introduced in 2002. It has remained popular for its easy cultural needs and ability to produce loads of flowers on multi-branched inflorescences. At the South Carolina Orchid Show in April of

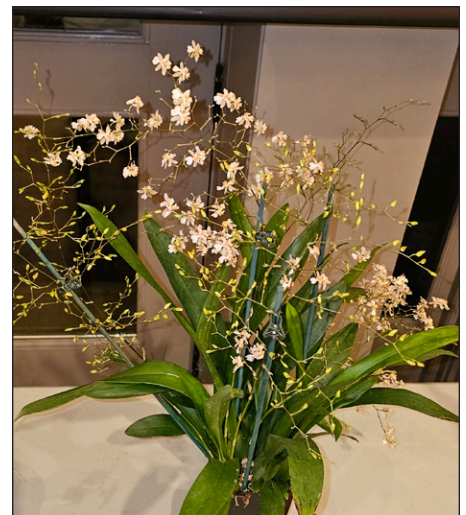


this year in Columbia, an amateur grower exhibited a plant with at least a dozen inflorescences carrying 50 or more flowers each. It was quite a sight! To achieve good results with this orchid, grow it in bright but diffused light in a moisture retentive, yet well-draining mix. Do not let it fully dry out between watering, fertilize regularly, and avoid exposure to extreme summer heat. Also, if you choose to stake inflorescences, make sure they are secured almost to their apex or the top of the spike may bend over and break under the weight of the open flowers. If you have room for them to arch naturally, it is better not to stake at all.

Red: *Oncidium Tsiku Marguerite* – Fred Pippin

*Oncostele Catatante* ‘Sun King’

White: *Tolumnia Jairak Firm* ‘Red Devil’ – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

*Oncidium Tsiku Marguerite**Tolumnia Jairak Firm* ‘Red Devil’



Paphiopedilum Fluttering Fred

Class 6: Slipper Alliance

Paphiopedilum

Blue: *Paphiopedilum* Fluttering Fred – Victoria Schaefer

This is one of the “Maudiae Type” hybrids from the work of Graham Wood at Lehua Orchids in Mountain View, Hawaii. It takes traditional breeding lines for this group and adds doses of *Paph. sukhakulii* several times in the family tree to achieve broader, more horizontally placed petals with plenty of spots. The registered name is somewhat of a play on the names of the immediate parents, *Paph. Montera* Moth x *Paph. Fred’s* Aura. This flower is nice, but not as well presented as some of the siblings out of the same cross, which held their dorsal sepal more upright. It could be that it is still not fully open or will have better presentation on a future flowering. While the general color pattern is fairly fixed with each individual in these crosses, many factors influence the subtleties of form and presentation with each flowering cycle. If you prefer to water infrequently, grow hybrids such as these in a finer, moisture retentive mix, but be ready to repot once every one or two years. I find they do so much better in a medium grade mix that drains fairly quickly, but you will water a minimum of twice per week and sometimes 3 times in a week with this method as conditions change

throughout the year. When well grown, these Paphs. are rewarding with long lasting flowers occurring a various times during the year as new growths fill out.



Paphiopedilum stonei



Paphiopedilum spicerianum



Phragmipedium Eumelia Arias



Red: *Paphiopedilum* stonei – Carson Barnes

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

Phragmipedium

Blue: *Phragmipedium* Eumelia Arias – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

Phragmipedium Eumelia Arias was the second hybrid ever registered using the newly available *Phrag. kovachii*, introduced by Peruflora in 2007. It pairs that species with the diminutive *Phrag. schlimii* (our white ribbon winner in this section this month). While it cuts the flower size in half compared to *Phrag. kovachii* at about 3 inches in spread, I would suspect the plant is a bit easier to grow and flower. The highest scoring award for an individual from this cross was an 86 point Award of Merit given to a plant exhibited by Quintal Farms in January 2015. They are a wholesale grower on the Big Island of Hawaii situation at an elevation with year-round mild temperatures ide-



Phragmipedium longifolium var. *gracile*

al for growing many types of orchids to perfection. As with most Phrags, this one does best in bright diffused light grown in a plastic pot with a moisture retentive but free draining medium and never allowed to fully dry out.

Red: *Phragmipedium longifolium* variety *gracile* – Carson Barnes

White: *Phragmipedium schlimii* – Carson Barnes



Phragmipedium schlimii



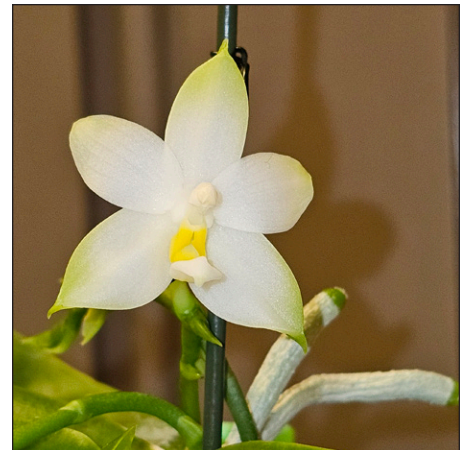
Phalaenopsis Joy Spring Canary 'Japan Peach'

Class 7: Phalaenopsis

Blue: *Phalaenopsis* Joy Spring Canary 'Japan Peach' – Kim Williams

This beautiful yellow hybrid was introduced in 2002 and has received over a dozen awards from the American Orchid Society including an Award of Quality for 12 plants exhibited together at the Redland International Orchid Festival in 2005. Surprisingly it has only three species in its family tree, *Phal. amboinensis*, *Phal. micholitzii*, and *Phal. violacea*, combined together over three generations. I imagine the flava form of the first species and the alba form of the last must have been used in order to keep other color out of the flower. A few of the examples of this cross show a tone-on-tone pattern inherited from *Phal. amboinensis*, but all the images I can find keep the flowers basically yellow with at most a faint blush of purple on the base of the lateral sepals. All the species in this orchid come from rather hot places at or near sea level with high humidity year-round.

Red: *Phalaenopsis bellina* forma *alba* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate



Phalaenopsis bellina forma *alba*



Angraecum eburneum ssp. *superbum* 'Georgia Star' AM/AOS



Vanda Suksamram Sunlight

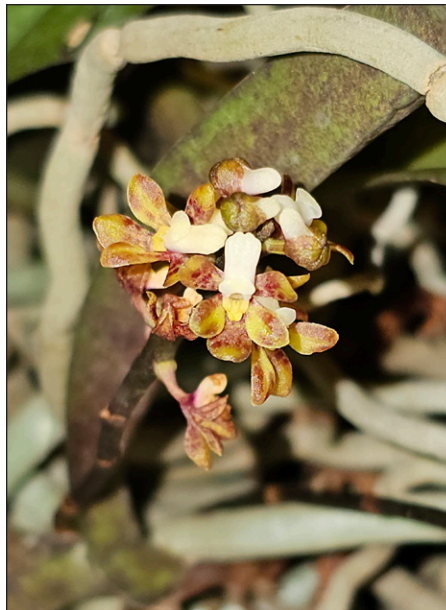
Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

Blue: *Angraecum eburneum* ssp. *superbum* 'Georgia Star,' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

This large imposing species grows in the Seychelle and Mascarene Islands, two remote archipelagos in the Indian Ocean. It can become a large clump over time with stems reaching six feet in height, so not a good subject for small growing spaces. A well grown plant generally has 10 to 12 long lived, fragrant and nonre-supinate flowers arranged in two rows along several arching to ascendant inflorescences, each up to about 5 inches in height including the nectar spur. There are numerous AOS awards for plants with more than 100 open flowers at once with the pinnacle being the '4N Nursery' cultivar which received a Certificate of Cultural Excellence of 99 points in November of 2019 with 526 flowers and 130 additional buds on 65 inflorescences. *An-gcm. eburneum* grows best with bright filtered light in a humid environment, with plentiful watering summer into the first

half of fall and less, but not total dryness the balance of the year.

Red: *Acampe ochracea* – Fred Pippin



Acampe ochracea

White: *Angraecum eburneum* – Bailey Santwire

White: *Vanda* Suksamran Sunlight – Fred Pippin



Angraecum eburneum

*Pleurothallis stricta*

Class 9: Miscellaneous

Species

Blue: *Pleurothallis stricta* – Véronique Perrot

This is a cloud forest species from Colombia and Ecuador which on paper should not do well under our conditions but is apparently much more adaptable than its native habitat would imply. In the wild it is found above 6500 feet and up to at least 8000 feet above sea level in cloud forest where the temperature ranges from about 50°F at night to less than 70°F during the day, year-round. Six to eight small flowers can form on each thin wiry inflorescence that emerges from the base of the shiny elliptical leaves, generally about this time of year and again in late winter or early spring. Older leaves are highly prone to developing keikis which can remain on the plant to flower or be potted up separately, making this a very easy species to propagate. In 2014, a cultivar named 'Judy Lindsay' received a Certificate of Cultural Merit with 870 open flowers and an additional 250 buds on 87 inflorescences. I sympathize with the student judge that had to count them! Grow this plant in filtered light, preferably in a controlled indoor or greenhouse growing space, with regular watering throughout the year and very minimal drying in between.



Red: *Pelexia olivacea* – Danny Lentz & Dianne Morgan

*Pelexia olivacea*

White: *Coelogyne cobbianum* – Bailey Santwire

*Coelogyne cobbianum*

*Zygolum Louisendorf grex**Zygonisia Cynosure 'Blue Birds' AM/AOS*

Hybrids

Blue: *Zygolum Louisendorf grex* – Paul Reavis

Both *Zygolum Louisendorf grex* and *Zygonisia Cynosure* (also a blue ribbon winner in this category) combine *Zygotetrum* with another allied species that grows in hotter locations making them fairly easy subjects to do well with in our climate. In the case of the former, that species is *Zygotheca labiosum* found in the warmer lowland tropical forests across northern South America and in the latter, it is *Aganisia cyanea* found in the upper Amazon basin. Giving medium light and keeping them fairly moist will keep the foliage from becoming spotty and result in flowers on new growths throughout the year. For those unfamiliar with this breeding group, they are somewhat unusual orchids in that the inflorescences emerge from bracts at the base of newly developing growths and finish their bloom cycle before the leaves are fully expanded and basal pseudobulb has

developed. Happy plants can produce two or sometimes even three inflorescences from the base of the same growth and flowers are generally capable of lasting a couple months in good condition. Some, like these two blue ribbons winners can have a lovely fragrance during the daytime at the right temperature and humidity. “Zygos” have lots of thick aggressive roots and appreciate deeper containers as they grow larger. They can push themselves up out of the pot if enough space isn’t available to accommodate them.

Blue: *Zygonisia Cynosure* ‘Blue Birds,’ AM/AOS – Janet Sherwood

Red: *Cycnodes Taiwan Gold* ‘Orange’ – Graham Wyatt

Red: *Bulbophyllum Elizabeth Ann* ‘Buckleberry,’ FCC/AOS – Roy Harrow

White: *Habenaria Hampson* – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

*Cycnoides* Taiwan Gold 'Orange'*Bulbophyllum* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry'
FCC/AOS*Habaneria* Hampson**Orchid
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