



## MAY EVENT

**Monthly Meeting:** Monday, May 13, 2024

**Day Hall,** at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

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

**Manny Aybar: Greenhouses and Automation**

*Members can bring plants to sell*

*Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging*

### Manny Aybar: Greenhouses and Automation

Manuel Aybar works in the technology industry. He is originally from the Dominican Republic (a grower's paradise, as he describes it). He has been growing orchids for about 26 years. The genus that got him started was *Dendrobium*, in which he specializes (especially in phalaenopsis-type *Dendrobiums*). Member of the American Orchid Society since 1997 and the Greater North Texas Orchid Society since 2000, Manuel Aybar is an Accredited Judge of the American Orchid Society, and serves currently as a Chair for the AOS Dallas Judging Center ([www.djc-aos.org](http://www.djc-aos.org)). His current research includes the orchids of the Dominican Republic, for which he has gone on numerous orchid collecting trips back to his home country. He has been extensively involved in the judging of many shows around the US, including the Miami International Orchid Show and most of the southwest region (SWROGA) shows. He has also served as an international judge for Orchid Shows in Taiwan (TOGA 2010,

2011, 2013, 2015 and 2016), Peru, Costa Rica, Colombia, as well as the World Orchid Conference in Miami (2008), Singapore (2011), South Africa (2014), Ecuador (Judging Chair-2017).

He is affiliated with the Southwest Regional Orchid Growers Association (SWROGA), and within this association he belongs to the publications committee and serves as the Webmaster for the organization's web site. He has given several Orchid Seminars and Potting classes at Smith and Hawkins, North Haven Gardens, and other popular gardening stores. He offered a series of orchid workshops for Range Rover, US as a part of the Land Rover Destination Tour. He is a regular lecturer for local orchid societies and visiting speaker for societies around the country.

Manny Aybar paid us a visit in October 2023 and delivered a presentation titled "Orchids of the Dominican Republic." Impressed by our hospitality, he expressed his enjoyment of interacting



with us and even inquired about the possibility of a return visit for another talk. This time, he will discuss "Greenhouses and Automation."

In this talk, Manny dives into his own experience testing many different devices for greenhouse automation that could help any grower have better monitoring and control of the orchids in their collection.

### President's Message

A good number of shows have passed us by, and the last hurdle of shows are coming up before the summer fever holds us hostage to our air conditioners. Excellent orchid opportunities arise such as the Redlands in Homestead, Florida, with a great variety of plants seldom seen in our US nurseries for sale, and the show in Memphis, Tennessee, which is always beautifully arranged with impressive plants in bloom. You might catch me hovering the sales tents in Redlands with 14 bags full of orchids! It's our

love and determination for these orchids that make us go certain distances to admire, especially those judges who went to the Asheville orchid show last month and judged exhibits in the dark due to the storm causing a power outage. That's a challenge and a deep love for sure!

My plants are getting repotted into fresh media with slow-release fertilizers and preventative measures applied, they'll be going outside soon to frolic in the warm weather. This comes with some need for vigilance, especially those birds

and squirrels that like to dig up the media in search for bugs, nesting material or their forgotten nuts hidden in the media and the occasional insects that chew on our plants—especially those slugs and grasshoppers that enjoy the heat and humidity of our southern climate. This said, I still have 200 more or so orchids to repot and no time! I hope we all can relate to my dilemma!

There is the talk by Manny Aybar this

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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](#).

## President’s Message

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month on greenhouses and automation. As a person who constructed their own greenhouse with their own blood, sweat, tears and hard-earned money from scratch with a few choice words, I would appreciate any tips and advice, especially trying to regulate the temperatures during heat of summer which is a challenge on its own. Humidifiers or cooling pads tend to not be as effective due to the ambient humidity outside being high already. Perhaps an AC unit would work? We’ll find out! Then we have our annual ice cream social and ABG tour in June.

I always appreciate feedback on how I can better serve you all as a president and fellow orchid friend. I have a few ideas in the works but here’s a few spoilers for you. A “project plant” competition where we will get the same seedling of a hybrid or species depending on what we all are comfortable with and see who is the first to bloom and receive bragging rights! There is also an auction set for November, but alas I can’t spoil it all so I won’t say the dates just yet.

Happy growing as always, and may your orchids prosper!

## EVENTS CALENDAR

### May

10–12 – Triad Orchid Society Show (High Point, NC)

11 – AOS monthly judging

11–12 – Volusia County Orchid Society Show (DeLand, FL)

13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Manny Aybar on Greenhouses and Automation

17–19 – Redland International Orchid Festival (Redland, FL)

17–19 – Memphis Orchid Society Show (Memphis, TN)

31–2 June – New Orleans Orchid Society Show (Metairie, LA)

### June

1–2 Central Florida Orchid Society Show (Orlando, FL)

8 – AOS monthly judging

10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: ABG Orchid Conservatory Tour and Ice Cream Social

### July

8 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Ti Do (Florida Orchid House) on Soft Cane Dendrobium Cultivation

12–14 – Baton Rouge Orchid Society Show (Baton Rouge, LA)

13 – AOS monthly judging

### August

10 – AOS monthly judging

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

### September

7–8 – Smoky Mountain Orchid Society Show (Knoxville, TN)

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

14 – AOS monthly judging

19–22 – Alabama Orchid Society Show (Birmingham, AL)

## Connoisseur's Corner: The Genus *Miltonia*

(Pronunciation: mil-TONE-ee-ah) (Abbreviation: Milt.)

Notable species: *Miltonia spectabilis*, *Miltonia moreliana*, *Miltonia flavescens*, *Miltonia regnellii*, *Miltonia clowesii*, *Miltonia phymatochila*

Long confused with a sister genus, *Miltoniopsis*, due to the morphology of the flowers which led many growers to believe that *Miltonia* are hard to keep alive in warm climates. This would be true for *Miltoniopsis*, genus native to the American Cordillera, specifically the Andean regions of South America as well as high elevation regions in Central America that experiences a constant influx of clouds that maintain cool temperatures and moisture. *Miltonia* is native to the central lowlands and eastern highlands of South America where they experience a greater temperature and moisture variation and seasonality than their Andean counterparts. Most species of *Miltonia* can be found in Brazil where most of these geographical features are seen. There are 12 species and 8 natural hybrids in the *Miltonia* genus, as well as countless intergeneric hybrids made with it as it readily hybridized with *Oncidium*, *Odontoglossum*, *Brassia* and other Oncidiinae.

*Miltonias* are a medium sized plant with compressed pseudobulbs that are ovate-oblong in shape with two leaves at the apex, and most species are pleasantly fragrant.

Generally speaking, most *Miltonia* can grow in variable temperatures from 40°F to 95°F with some small attention to care. If they are experiencing cold temperatures, ensure that the foliage is dry and not in direct airflow. If hot, increase air circulation, provide some shade as well as make sure the root zone stays moist. Year round humidity of 60-80% is appreciated, with a slight drying between watering and a somewhat dryer winter can be recommended to avoid complications with the roots. Do not let these plants go bone-dry for too long. Plants that are overwatered tend to experience stubby root tips, root rot of older roots and shriveling of the backbulbs, while underwatering would result in smaller pseudobulbs compounded with crinkling or accordion pleating of the developing leaves on the new growth, and shriveling of older growths can be



*Miltonia flavescens* (photo by Bailey Santwire)

seen. Their leaves are thin so it is easy to burn if care is not taken, but they do like *Cattleya*-level lighting, which is significantly more than what their *Miltoniopsis* counterpart would appreciate. Here is a good rule of thumb to figure out if your plant is getting enough light: if it's dark green, slowly acclimate to higher levels of light until the pseudobulbs take on a light green-yellowish coloration. Too high, you'll see burn marks on the leaves along with pink pigmentation. *Miltonia*

are known for growing in high levels of light that their leaves and pseudobulbs take on a yellowish color without any ill effect which can be concerning for a novice with this genus. A combination of consistent watering, temperature and lighting will lead to a profusion of blooms and growths on a *Miltonia* that generally takes place from spring to fall depending on the species.

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## Connoisseur's Corner

Continued from page 3



*Miltonia regnellii* v. *alba* 'Santwire's Diamond'  
CHM/AOS (photo by Charles Wilson)

A happy *Miltonia* will double in size, if not triple. A mature growth has the capability of making two or three new growths, and each of those growths have the capacity of making one to three inflorescences with anywhere between one to two flowers for some species and up to fourteen for others. *Miltonia phymatochila* is an exception with a single branched inflorescence with hundreds of blooms.

Potting media for these plants should be well draining but able to retain some moisture. I've found good success by mixing fine/small fir bark, small grade perlite and fine/small charcoal and placing the plants into a saucer with holes placed on the bottom for drainage. A shallow,

wide pot would be useful for this genus as they ramble and take on a spreading habit. They will grow well in sphagnum moss and perlite but it's troublesome attempting to avoid causing excessive root damage while removing old media. They can also be mounted with good success as long as they are watered sufficiently.

Miltonias are not as sensitive to salt build-up like *Miltoniopsis*. Weak amounts of fertilizer in a daily watering regime does well for these plants, but if you're growing in higher levels of light, they typically require slightly higher amounts of fertilizer. Be sure to flush the media with regular water twice a month if you are fertilizing every week.

A growing tip for these plants is to refrain from using oil-based products to treat for insects or fungi as the sun can burn the plants easily due to the refractive properties of oils. If you do need to use such products, keep the plants in shade until it eventually washes off or only apply during cooler weather.

This genus is a very rewarding plant in terms of vigor, size, scent and floriferousness if you're looking for something a bit different from the standard yellows and browns of the *Oncidiinae* family.

Happy Growing!

Bailey Santwire



*Miltonia moreliana* 'Goodstuff' AM/CCE/AOS (photo by Ramon de los Santos)



AtLOS exhibit, Show Trophy and Silver Certificate

## Judges' Corner (1)

The Atlanta Orchid Society Show was ribbon- and AOS-judged on March 9th, 2024. Thirteen plants were pulled and evaluated for AOS Awards and 5 awards were granted. The AOS Show Trophy was given to the Atlanta Orchid Society with 85 points; this exhibit also was awarded a Silver Certificate.

2024-2060 AOS Show Trophy

2024-2061 AOS Silver Certificate

2024-2062 *Paph.* Odette's Romance 'MBF' AM/ 87 points (*Paph.* Odette's Enchantment x *Paph.* Friedrich von Hayek). Exhibitor: Marble Branch Farms

2024-2063 *Ctt.* El Cerrito 'Cohryh' AM/ 82 points (*Guar. aurantiaca* x *C. crispata (flava)*). Exhibitor: Jon Crate and Firelli Alonso

2024-2064 *Rth.* Exotic Mini Spark 'Maneki Hill' HCC/77 points (*C. Mini-pet 'My Pet'* x *Rth.* Laszlo's Spark 'Mini Flare'). Exhibitor: Scott Elliott

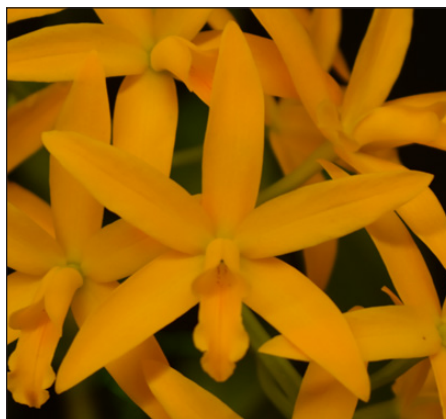
2024-2065 *Paph.* Presidential Moon 'Sissy' HCC/78 points (*Paph.* Luna Magic x *Paph.* President Fred). Exhibitor: Owens Orchids Etc.



*Paph.* Odette's Romance 'MBF' AM/AOS



*Paph.* Presidential Moon 'Sissy' HCC/AOS



*Ctt.* El Cerrito 'Cohryh' AM/AOS



*Rth.* Exotic Mini Spark 'Maneki Hill' HCC/AOS

2024-2066 *Phal.* My Sweetie 'Bella' AM/80 points (*Phal.* I-Hsin Smile x *Phal.* South Cha-Li). Exhibitor: Steven Tacopina

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong  
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



*Phalaenopsis* My Sweetie 'Bella' AM/AOS

## Judges' Corner (2)

The Deep South Orchid Society Show, which contained 223 orchids, was ribbon- and AOS-judged on Friday, March 22, 2024. It was held at the Coastal Georgia Botanical Gardens in Savannah, GA. Twelve plants were considered for an American Orchid Society award and one plant received an award. The AOS Show Trophy, which received 83 points, was awarded to Marble Branch Farms. All award photography was taken by Charles Wilson.

2024-2067 AOS Show Trophy 83 points. Exhibitor: Marble Branch Farms

2024-2068 *Gastrophaius* Micro Burst 'George's Gold', HCC/AOS 78 points (*Gastrochis pulchra* x *Phaius tankervilleae*). Exhibitor: Marble Branch Farms

Doug Hartong  
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



Marble Brach Farms exhibit, Show Trophy



*Gastrophaius* Micro Burst 'George's Gold' 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)*



# Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for April, 2024

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Véronique Perrot



*Cattleya schilleriana*

*leriana* is about 4.2 inches. There can be as many as 5 blooms to an inflorescence, occasionally even more, though higher numbers can make the presentation unpleasantly crowded. Due to its compact size and comparatively large flowers, *C. schilleriana* has been widely used in further breeding, especially in the creation of hybrids with spotted flowers. More than 6000 registered crosses have it in their ancestry. To flourish, *C. schilleriana* should have perfect drainage and rather high humidity. When actively growing, water should be increased, but the roots must still dry quickly. Mounted on cork or grown in a basket with large media that will not break down quickly are the most recommended ways to success with this species. Repotting only when new roots are forming is essential, or plants may refuse to grow again.

**Red: *Cattleya intermedia* 'Hootie Blue'**  
HCC/AOS - Carson Barnes

## Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

age spread for awarded plants of *C. schil-*

### Species

#### **Blue: *Cattleya schilleriana* - Fi Alonso & Jon Crate**

This Brazilian species is named after Consul Schiller, a 19<sup>th</sup> Century German orchid grower who had an extensive collection. It comes from a very limited range in the state of Espírito Santo, Brazil near the headwaters of the Rio Jucu, about 25 miles inland from the Atlantic Coast. For reference, this is several hundred miles northeast of Rio de Janeiro. The plants are found on cliffs above the river growing on mossy rocks and trees hanging off the vertical rock faces. This particular example of the species is much better than average for several reasons. First, the spade-shaped lip is very flat and wide spreading. Many plants have lips that recurve on both sides making a less attractive presentation. The flowers are not as cupped as average examples. And finally, the sepals and petals are wider than typical and have a nice arrangement of spots. I cannot judge the size of the blooms from the photo, but the aver-



*Cattleya intermedia* "Hootie Blue"





*Cattleya lueddemanniana forma coerulea* 'Blue Blood'

**White:** *Cattleya lueddemanniana forma coerulea* 'Blue Blood'- Carson Barnes

### Hybrids

**Blue:** *Cattleya angereri x harpophylla* - Barbara Barnett

This is an unregistered cross between two species from the state of Minas Gerais in Brazil. *C. harpophylla* also occurs in the neighboring state of Espírito



*Rhyncho brassoleya* Copper Queen

Santo. While they both have somewhat similar looking orange flowers, they grow in different habitats within their range and thus a natural hybrid would be unlikely. The former species inhabits shady, moist forests at about 1600 to 3000 feet above sea level while the latter grows more exposed on rocks and scrubby vegetation from about 3500 to 4300 feet above sea level. Both the flowers and the growth habits of this plant are about



*Jackfowlieara* Appleblossom 'NN'

midway between each of the parents in appearance. While both species are considered a bit tricky to grow well, their hybrid should be more adaptable in cultivation.

**Red:** *Rhyncho brassoleya* Copper Queen - Fred Pippin

**White:** *Jackfowlieara* Appleblossom 'NN' - Carson Barnes



*Cattleya angereri x harpophylla*



*Cymbidium* Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit' AM/AOS

## Class 2: *Cymbidium* Alliance

### Blue: *Cymbidium* Dorothy Stockstill 'Forgotten Fruit' AM/AOS – Vinh Nguyen

Introduced more than 30 years ago, *Cym.* Dorothy Stockstill remains perennially popular for its heat tolerance and ability to produce curtains of flowers on mature well-grown plants. Dozens and dozens of awards have been granted to plants with hundreds of flowers. One plant grown in Australia had about 1600 blooms when it was exhibited in October of 1996. Since that country is south of the equator, that time is mid-spring in that hemisphere. There is a good dose of *Cym. madidum* from Australia in its background, which helps provide the heat tolerance, plus equally large doses of *Cym. devonianum* for a pendant spiking habit and *Cym. floribundum* for profusion of bloom. The balance of the ancestry is made up of some of the large-flowered species that help give the flowers a full

appearance. To grow a showy specimen with unblemished foliage, give it bright light and never allow the plants to dry out during the growing season. You can use a deeper pot with a coarse medium and actually allow the plants to sit in a shallow amount of water during summer to make this requirement easier to meet. Don't skimp on the fertilizer during the growing season either.



## 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.

*Dendrobium farmeri*

### Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

#### Species

##### Blue: *Dendrobium farmeri* - Loy Xingmen

*Dendrobium farmeri* is a lovely species in the Callista Section from Southeast Asia where it grows in mountainous areas at about 1000 to 3000 feet above sea level. It was named after the English supervisor of the Calcutta Botanical Garden in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. While the flowers generally last only about a week in good condition, a well-grown mature plant can be a glorious sight and there are over a dozen awards for plants bearing from 450 to 900+ flowers at once. The inflorescences emerge from nodes along the stems and can bear a couple dozen or more blooms each. Each growth has the ability to flower several times from different locations contributing to the big floral show. Many forms are white or nearly white with a contrasting deep yellow lip bordered in white. The most sought-after forms are similar to the plant exhibited, with an ethereal lavender pink wash over the sepal and petals. Like other *Dendrobium* from that region, cultivation must simulate the monsoonal climate in which it grows, with frequent water from about May through Septem-

ber, and less in winter along with cooler nights or a strong diurnal range to stimulate bud production. In the deciduous tropical forests where it grows, plants are somewhat shaded in summer but get high light after the leaves drop in fall, so

*Dendrobium aphyllum*

placing the plants in a good bright location during their rest period is beneficial.

**Red: *Dendrobium lindleyi* - Edison Gu**

**White: *Dendrobium aphyllum* - Véronique Perrot**

*Dendrobium lindleyi*



*Dendrobium* Hawaii Stripes

## Hybrids

### Blue: *Dendrobium* Hawaii Stripes – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

This cross introduced by H&R Nurseries on the island of Oahu in Hawaii mixes three different sections of the genus, *Latouria*, *Phalaenathe* and *Spatulata*. The original batch made quite a sensation with its sprays of up to a dozen or more perfectly formed striped flowers with contrasting white or yellow lips resulting in more than a dozen awards including six Awards of Merit, two First Class Certificates, and Award of Quality and an Award of Distinction. Naturally that batch of plants quickly sold, and H&R remade the cross in order to supply the demand. Through the sometimes unpredictable quirks of genetics, the new offering has failed to yield the same outstanding results and no plants out of the second batch have been awarded to date. I was one who purchased a good number of them with high hopes only to be dis-

appointed at the results. Fewer flowers, many not even striped despite the name, and less perfect form have been the hall-



*Dendrobium* Super Ise

marks of this second group of seedlings. The plant exhibited is likely from this newer batch, and while the promised striped veins are present, it is not as full and flat as even the lowest scoring awarded plants from the first batch. *Den. Hawaii Stripes* performs best with bright diffused light, regular watering with good drainage in summer when growth is active and somewhat less with slight drying in between in the cooler months.

**Red: *Dendrobium* Love Memory ‘Fizz’ AM/AOS – Fred Pippin**

**Red: *Dendrobium* Super Ise – Vinh Nguyen**



*Dendrobium* Love Memory ‘Fizz’ AM/AOS



*Dendrobium* Red Senator

**White:** *Dendrobium* Red Senator – Carson Barnes



*Encyclia patens* x *incumbens*

#### **Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance**

**Blue:** *Encyclia patens* x *incumbens* – Bailey Santwire

The originator of this unregistered hybrid was obviously not looking for bold colors, as they are not present in either parent. The former species is native to Brazil where it grows from Pará, just south of the mouth of the Amazon to Matto Grosso in the interior south of the country and is quite variable in plant size and flower count, almost to the point that one could question whether this is one of several different species. The latter parent comes from well up in the mountains of southernmost Mexico and neighboring Guatemala. It is distinguished by a wonderful fragrance and the ability to produce an abundance of small flowers on each branched inflorescence, with the average awarded plant bearing more than 160 per spike. Hopefully this plant has inherited some of that lovely perfume to compensate for the limited color range. In general, *Encyclia* plants flourish in bright light, grown baskets or on mounts, but can do fine in a very shallow pot with well-draining medium. The main appeal in a cross like this would be the abundance of flowers on a well-grown mature example.

**Red:** *Procatavola* Key Lime Stars – Véronique Perrot



*Procatavola* Key Lime Stars



*Oncidium* Catatante 'Sun King'

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

**Blue:** *Oncidium* Catatante 'Sun King' – Fred Pippin

Kudos to Fred Pippin for a really beautiful example of this well-known but not often well-grown intergeneric hybrid! It is the result of combining two equally well-known parents, *Ons.* Wildcat and *Onc.* Sphacetante. Generally speaking, to achieve plants abundant in flower with largely unblemished foliage in this breeding line, you cannot follow a strict once per week watering regime or subject them to direct sunlight or summer heat in Georgia. Dappled or diffused bright light, twice per week watering and somewhat more aggressive fertilization than many other orchids along with more controlled temperatures will reward the effort with a plant you can be proud to exhibit. Last year at the South Carolina Orchid Show in Columbia, an amateur grower displayed a large plant with more than a dozen inflorescences, each bearing well over 50 blooms. I have discovered with *Onc.* Catatante in particular that you must either stake the in-



*Oncidesa* Cocoa Cappucino 'Cocoa'



*Oncidium maduroi*



*Phragmipedium pearcei* 'Little Angel' HCC/AOS



*Oncostele* Hilo Firecracker 'Lucky Strike'



*Miltoniopsis phalaenopsis*

**Red:** *Oncidium maduroi* – Edison Gu

**White:** *Miltoniopsis phalaenopsis* – Edison Gu

**White:** *Oncostele* Hilo Firecracker 'Lucky Strike' – Steve Schwab

florescences to their tip or decide to let them arch naturally. If you stake them part way, the unstaked portion almost always breaks under the weight of the fully open flowers.

**Red:** *Oncidesa* Cocoa Cappucino 'Cocoa' – Véronique Perrot

## Class 6: Slipper Alliance

**Blue:** *Phragmipedium pearcei* 'Little Angel' HCC/AOS – Carson Barnes

This clonal name received a Highly Commended Certificate of 78 points in Houston on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 2012. While described as a higher elevation species, growing in Ecuador and Peru on the eastern slopes of the Andes, it seems to adapt to much warmer growing conditions such as would be experienced in the southeastern US. However, plants must remain moist at all times as they normally grow next to streams or on dripping cliffs in their natural habitat. *Phrag. pearcei* is compact growing and despite having flowers that are primarily green and white with a bit of purple at the tips of the petals and on the inflorescence, the pattern on each blossom is quite interesting. The green is much darker along the veins in all the segments giving the flowers a striped appearance, and the inside edge of the pouch lip has an intriguing pattern of green and purple dots. And if you look close enough the top edge of the column has a pair of dark brown bristles almost like bushy eyebrows. Because of its relatively small plant size, *Phrag. pearcei* has at least 45 first generation hybrids and over 150 total progeny. Bright diffused light, constant moisture without remaining soggy and mild temperatures will suit this species best. Like most members of

*Paphiopedilum wardii*

the genus, it is a sequential bloomer so there is more than one flower on each inflorescence only rarely and usually just for a day or two until the older bloom drops. However, a nicely grown specimen may have a dozen or more active inflorescences at any given time keeping the plant in bloom for months.

**Red:** *Paphiopedilum wardii* – Karl Harden

*Phalaenopsis* No ID*Phalaenopsis sanderiana*

## Class 7: Phalaenopsis

**Blue:** *Phalaenopsis sanderiana* – Edison Gu

Based on numerous photos of this species from Mindinao Island in the Philippines, the exhibited plant is a superior example, with flat, fuller flowers and more even pink coloration than most. While not often seen in collections today, it is the ancestor of more than 28,000 registered hybrids including many available commercially at the present time. The last AOS award given to a plant of this species was a clone named 'Varina,' which received a 91-point First Class Certificate in Miami, FL in January 1965. It would be interesting to see how those flowers compare to the exhibited plant, but I could not find a photo and no detailed description accompanies the award. If you manage to find a plant of *Phal. sanderiana* yourself, grow it in filtered light and warm temperatures with year-round watering.

**Red:** *Phalaenopsis* No ID – Margaret Cekis

**Red:** *Phalaenopsis* Tying Shin Smart 'Pelo Adelina' HCC/AOS – Fi Alonso & Jon Crate

*Phalaenopsis* Tying Shin Smart 'Pelo Adelina' HCC/AOS



*Phalaenopsis Sogo Shito*

**White: *Phalaenopsis Sogo Shito* – Bailey Santwire**



*Vanda denisoniana* 'Clown Alley Orchids' AM/AOS

## **Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance**

### **Blue: *Vanda denisoniana* 'Clown Alley Orchids' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes**

*Vanda denisoniana*, named for Lady Denison Londesborough, a 19<sup>th</sup> Century English orchid enthusiast, is one of the more compact species with plants usually staying under twelve inches in height. It grows in the mountains of Myanmar, Thailand and Southeast China and therefore appreciates cooler nights in winter. The bright yellow flowers, about 2 inches across on the best plants, appear in late winter into early summer and are fragrant. There are plants that are much paler blooms and others that add a few purple dots or markings to the look. Some are also very reflexed giving a poor presentation, so purchasing one in bloom or from known good parents is advised. Give this species bright diffused light and copious watering from about May through October, with less the balance of the year. In the habitat, there is a six-month dry season with little rainfall,

but the humidity remains high and there is dew and fog on many nights. There are more than 140 first generation offspring of *V. denisoniana* but those most responsible for further breeding are primarily crosses with the former *Ascocentrum* species leading to tight spikes of numerous



*Holcoglossum kimballianum*



*Renanthera vietnamensis*

brightly colored flowers.

**Red:** *Holcoglossum kimballianum* – Edison Gu

**White:** *Renanthera vietnamensis* – Vinh Nguyen

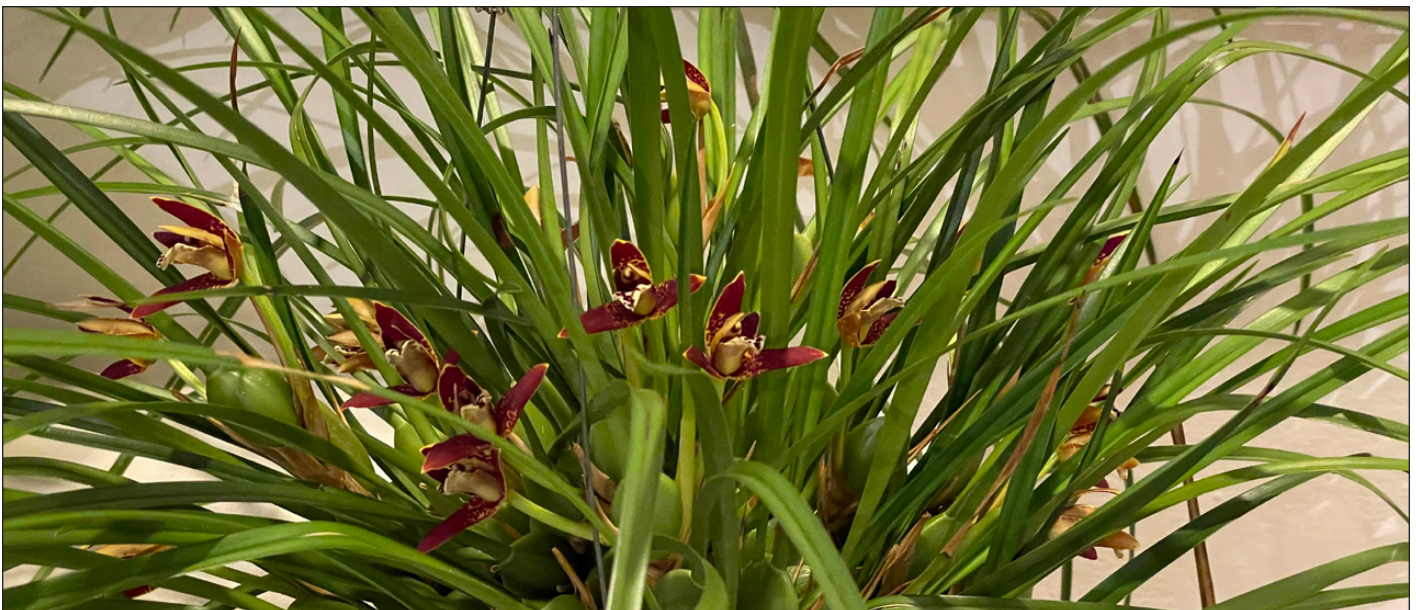
*Coelogyne flaccida*

### Class 9: Miscellaneous

**Blue:** *Coelogyne flaccida* – Carson Barnes

The species name of this orchid is in reference to the slack or pendent habit of the inflorescence in many forms. However, as this plant illustrates, there are plants that hold their blooms a little more arching or erect. The showy blooms are about 1.5 inches across but are borne up to 9 on the spike, and well-grown plants such as this one can produce many at once. There are numerous cultural awards for plants bearing hundreds of flowers. They have a strong

fragrance that is not to everyone's liking and should be kept in mind when considering acquiring a plant. *Coel. flaccida* likes to grow mounted, but that requires daily or even twice daily watering in the hot summer months, so a shallow pot or pan, such as Carson is using is the next best method. Deeper pots usually stay too wet after watering leading to an unhappy plant. A basket would be another alternative method, but use metal mesh or plastic that won't deteriorate, as like most *Coelogyne* species, this one resents disturbance once established. A cooler winter rest with less frequent water

*Maxillaria tenuifolia*



*Bulbophyllum sanguineopunctatum*

and no fertilizer is needed to induce a good floral display in late winter to early spring. There are only six registered crosses using this species. The most commonly seen one is *Coel. Unchained Melody*, which is frequently sold erroneously as the other parent species in that cross, *Coel. cristata*.

**Red: *Maxillaria tenuifolia* – Bailey Santwire**

**Red: *Bulbophyllum sanguineopunctatum* – Graham Wyatt**

**White: *Zygopetalum Arthur Elle 'Toombstone'* – Fred Pippin**



*Zygopetalum Arthur Elle 'Toombstone'*



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