



JULY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: Monday, July 14, 2025

Gardenhouse Workshop, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

Gather at 6:45 p.m;

Visit of the Orchid Conservatory starts at 7 p.m.

Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging

President's Message

Dear Members of the Atlanta Orchid Society,

Summer is in full swing, and that means it's time for one of the highlights of our calendar—the **Annual Orchid Conservatory Tour and Ice Cream Social!** Join us on **Monday, July 14**, as we gather at 6:45 PM at the **Gardenhouse Workshop** in the Atlanta Botanical Garden, with the tour beginning promptly at 7 PM.

We are delighted to once again have **Becky Brinkman**, Fuqua Orchid Center Manager, guide us through the Conservatory. Becky's deep knowledge and behind-the-scenes insights always make this a special experience, whether you're a first-time visitor or a seasoned enthusiast.

After the tour, cool off with a sweet treat at our **Ice Cream Social**, featuring the flavors you selected in our recent survey—served in satisfying two-scoop cups!

And while you're enjoying your ice cream, don't forget—we'll also be holding **Ribbon Judging**. So please **bring your blooming orchids** to share with the group. Your plants could inspire or educate someone else, and they just might go home with a ribbon!

Looking ahead to **August**, we're thrilled to welcome **Carol Klonowski** as our guest speaker. Carol is an **accredited AOS orchid judge** and a seasoned grower with a passion for **Cymbidiums**. Her talk, "*Cymbidium Splendor: Exploring the World of Cymbidiums – From Rugged Australian Species to Elegant Asian Jensoa Beauties*," will open up a new appreciation for this diverse and often underappreciated genus. She'll also **bring warm-growing Cymbidiums for sale**, perfect for our Southeastern climate.

July Orchid Growing Tips

Hot weather brings out the best—and the stress—in our plants. Here are some quick reminders to help your orchids thrive this month:

☼ **Shield from Heat** – Move orchids to shadier spots if leaves feel hot to the touch. Too much sun in July can lead to "leaf burn", especially for Phalaenopsis and Paphs.

☼ **Increase Watering (But Watch for Rot)** – Your orchids may need more frequent watering, but don't overdo it. Always let pots dry slightly between waterings and ensure good drainage.

☼ **Airflow is Essential** – High humidity + stagnant air = trouble. Fans or open windows can help prevent fungal and bacterial problems.

☼ **Fertilize While Growing** – Use a balanced fertilizer at 1/4 to 1/2 strength weekly. Many orchids are still in active growth during the summer months.

☼ **Watch for Pests** – Warm temps can bring out spider mites, scale, and aphids. Inspect your plants regularly and treat early, if needed.

Can't wait to see you on the 14th for a night of orchids, conservatory wonders, and cool, creamy indulgence.

Warm regards,

Firelli "Fi" Alonso
President, Atlanta Orchid Society
2025



**14-JUL-2025:
ANNUAL TOUR OF ABG'S
ORCHID CONSERVATORY &
ICE CREAM SOCIAL**



ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

2025 Officers

President

[Firelli Alonso](#)

Vice-President/Programs

[Véronique Perrot](#)

Secretary

[Janet Sherwood](#)

Treasurer

[Edison Gu](#)

Immediate Past President

[Bailey Santwire](#)

2025 Trustees

[Barbara Barnett](#)

[Kim Williams](#)

[Jon Crate](#)

[Danny Lentz](#)

[Nick Rust](#)

[Steve Schwab](#)

Volunteers

AOS Rep – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Greengrowers – [Danny Lentz](#)

Librarian –

MAOC Rep – [Doug Hartong](#)

Meeting Hospitality – [Dan Alvear](#)

Membership – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Silent Auction – [Carson Barnes](#)

Monthly Ribbon Judging – [Barbara Barnett & Carson Barnes](#)

Newsletter – [Véronique Perrot](#) & [Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep – [David Mellard](#)

2025 Show Chair – [Danny Lentz](#)

2025 Show Co-Chair – [Firelli Alonso](#)

Website – [Danny Lentz](#)

Social Media – [Firelli Alonso](#)

The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 66: Number 7 – July 2025

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](#).

Reminder: South Metro Orchid Society Auction on 16 August

South Metro Orchid Society auction details:

Registration: 10:30 am–noon

Auction starts at noon

Location: Mike and Mary Cawthon,

135 S Mt Carmel Rd,
McDonough, GA 30253,

Text Mary at 404-630-5624,

Mike at 678-499-3487, or

Joe at 404-353-4908 for details.

Cash and checks accepted

Please note: This is not a child or pet friendly event

And our auction is scheduled for 1 November!



EVENTS CALENDAR

July

12 – AOS monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: ABG Greenhouses Tour and Ice Cream Social

August

9 – AOS monthly judging

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Carol Klonowski on Cymbidiums
16 – South Metro Orchid Society auction (see above for details)

September

5–7 – Kentucky Orchid Society Show (Louisville, KY) NOTE THE DATE CHANGE (was originally 26–27 September)

8– Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Helen Hull-Sanders on orchid pest control

13 – AOS monthly judging

19 – 21 –Alabama Orchid Society Show (Birmingham, AL)

October

11 – AOS monthly judging

13 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

November

1 – Atlanta Orchid Society Auction

8 – AOS monthly judging

10 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Susan Wilson on bifoliate Cattleyas

Judges' Corner: Monthly Judging at the Atlanta Judging Center, May 10, 2025

The monthly judging held on June 14, 2025, presented an opportunity to say thank you to the Gulf Coast Orchid Society for their donation to the Atlanta Judging Center of \$250 in lieu of a speaker's honorarium for Charles Wilson. We are truly appreciative of this continuing support which makes the operation of our center possible.

The monthly judging for the Atlanta Judging Center had 10 Accredited judges, 3 Associate judges and 3 students, comprising 3 teams to judge the 12 orchids entered.

Accredited Judges: Barbara Barnett, H.B. Blythe-Hart, Aileen Garrison (Emerita), Bob Hydzik (guest judge from Carolina Center), Lowell Jacks (Emeritus), David Janvrin, Bailey Santwire, Cynthia Van Der Wiele, Charles Wilson, Susan Wilson; Associate Judges: Firelli Alonso, Andy Braun, Jon Crate; Student Judges: Edison Gu, Sam Overlie, Paul Reavis.

The below 3 awards were made. (Photos by Charles Wilson.)

Catasetum Harlequin Lily
'Resplendent' AM (85 points) exhibited by Bob Hydzik:

Paphiopedilum Cloud's Prime Crystal
'Cynthia Overlie' AM (82 points) exhibited by Sam Overlie:



Catasetum Harlequin Lily 'Resplendent'
AM/AOS



Paphiopedilum Cloud's Prime Crystal 'Cynthia Overlie' AM/AOS

Paraphalaenopsis labukensis 'Santwire's Pookie' HCC (78 points) exhibited by Bailey Santwire:

After judging, the center held its semi-annual business meeting during which two Associate judges were recommended for promotion to Accredited (Firelli Alonso, Andy Braun) and two Se-



Paraphalaenopsis labukensis 'Santwire's Pookie' HCC/AOS

nior judges (Myron Palmer, Robert Stanton) were approved for status change to Retired. Charles Wilson, Chair, and David Janvrin, Vice Chair, were re-elected for the calendar year 2026.

Please join us at our next monthly judging (July 12) at Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall. Judge training program at noon (open to all) with formal judging at 2:00 p.m. Free and convenient parking.

Calendar of regional and nearby shows:

19-21 Sep 2025 - Alabama Orchid Society (Birmingham), Carson Barnes, Show Judging Chair

26-28 Sep 2025 - Kentucky Orchid Society (Louisville), Tim Brooks, Show Judging Chair

Best regards,
Charles Wilson, Chair
Atlanta Judging Center
Best regards,

Charles Wilson
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center

Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting Ribbon Winners for June, 2025

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by Jennifer Schwab



Cattleya warneri forma *coerulea* 'Do Suzuki' AM/AOS

Class 1: Cattleya Alliance

Blue: *Cattleya warneri* forma *coerulea* 'Do Suzuki' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

This large-flowered species originates from low elevations in several states immediately north of Rio de Janeiro. It is typically found as an epiphyte on trees growing on steep rock faces along streams, and occasionally as a lithophyte on the rocks themselves. The flowers can exceed seven inches in diameter, with up to five blooms on a single inflorescence. May and June mark the peak flowering

period for *C. warneri* in the northern hemisphere.

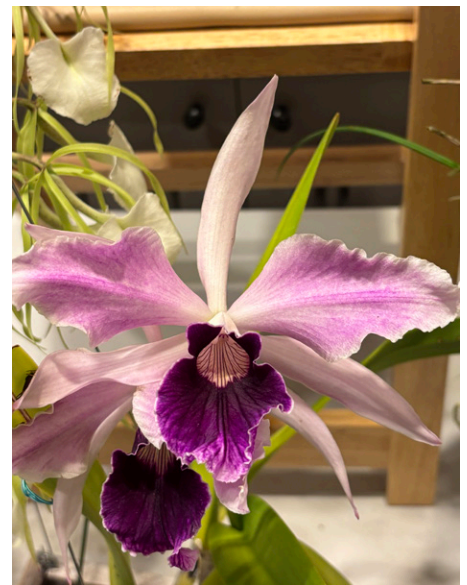
This species has sometimes been mislabeled as *C. labiata*, potentially to mislead, as that species, which flowers in Fall, was lost to cultivation for many decades. *C. labiata* was believed to originate near Rio de Janeiro but actually grows northeast in Brazil. The first recorded cultivation of *C. labiata* occurred in the collection of William Cattley in 1824, leading to the genus being named after him. Despite the differences in bloom seasons, the plants and flowers of these

two species can be quite similar.

In cultivation, *C. warneri* thrives in consistently warm environments, whereas *C. labiata* tolerates cooler nights in winter with little issue. The specimen discussed here exhibits bluish coloration, contrasting with the bright lavender hues typical of most examples. The first recorded award for this species came in 2008 when the Brazilian Orchid Lovers Society (CAOB) awarded it third place in the species category. It received



Brassavola nodosa 'Susan Fuchs' FCC/AOS



Cattleya purpurata

*Brassavola appendiculata*

an 81-point Award of Merit in Hilo, Hawaii, in May 2011. Based on photographs, Carson's plant appears to have superior color and form compared to this variety at either event. Notably, nearly 20,000 registered hybrids have *C. warneri* in their lineage.

Blue: *Brassavola nodosa* 'Susan Fuchs'
FCC/AOS – Carson Barnes

Red: *Cattleya purpurata* – Vinh Nguyen

White: *Brassavola appendiculata* – Carson Barnes

Class 2: Cymbidium Alliance

No Entries

*Dendrobium Peng Seng*

Class 3: Dendrobium Alliance

Blue: *Dendrobium Peng Seng* – Fred Pippin

This example of the primary hybrid between *Dendrobium cruentum* and *Den. tobaense* surpasses the flower count of either of the two AOS-awarded plants. Both parents belong to the nigrohirsute subsection of the genus, named for the fine black hairs that cover the stems and developing buds. *Den. cruentum* is a low elevation species from Thailand, requiring year-round warm to hot conditions, whereas *Den. tobaense* comes from northern Sumatra in and around an ancient caldera known as Lake Toba, where the elevation is close to 5000 feet above sea level and temperatures are cool to mild year-round. The combination of the two is expected to create a hybrid with greater adaptability to intermediate conditions. The pale green flowers, with deeper veins and swept back tips, feature a lip colored with intense orange. They

are often produced in pairs at random locations along mature canes, which can flower for several years before all the potential bloom nodes are exhausted. Generally, the nigrohirsute dendrobiums prefer bright light levels similar to Cattleyas and frequent watering, but they require excellent drainage to ensure that the roots dry quickly.

Red: *Dendrobium lyonii* – Vinh Nguyen

*Dendrobium lyonii*

*Dendrobium unicum**Dendrobium Blue Seas*

Red: *Dendrobium unicum* – Edison Gu

White: *Dendrobium Blue Seas* – Paul Reavis

*Encyclia tampensis*

Class 4: Epidendrum Alliance

Blue: *Encyclia tampensis* – Bailey Santwire

This native Florida species is the northernmost growing epiphytic orchid with pseudobulbs in the western hemisphere, recorded as far north as Putnam County, whose county seat is Palatka, where the all-time record low was twelve degrees Fahrenheit. It occurs from that point down the peninsula and into the Florida Keys. It is more abundant in the southern portion of the state where it sometimes forms large colonies. It was still quite prevalent on live oak trees in undeveloped tracts of land during the early 1970s when I was a young teenager living in St. Petersburg, FL; however, many of those locations have since been destroyed by development.

By orchid standards, it quickly forms a cluster of round pseudobulbs topped by a single narrow yet tough leaf. The bloom season peaks in June and July, but flowers have been observed in cultivation every month except December. Nearly twenty

awards have been given to examples with more than 500 flowers, with the albino 'Mendenhall' form being particularly vigorous, having three separate plants from different owners falling into this category. The typical form produces panicles that often branch and bear up to a dozen flowers, each slightly larger than an inch in spread. The sepals and petals are yellow-green overlaid with bronze, and the lip is stark white, bearing a strong purple blotch in the best examples, and a few purple lines in the less desirable forms. The fragrance resembles that of honey.

Commonly referred to as the "Florida Butterfly Orchid," the reason for this name is unclear. The flowers do not resemble butterflies, nor do they attract them; they are pollinated by bees and wasps. Some taxonomists believe that rather than being a true species, *Encyclia tampensis* is a hybrid swarm that includes the genes of *E. fucata*, *E. plicata*, and *E. phoenecia*. The first two of these are found in the Bahamas while the latter two are found in Cuba. However, none



Encyclia cordigera forma alba x *Epidendrum robustum*

of these species are currently found in Florida, despite examples of *E. tampensis* showing a great deal of variation in plant size, flower form, and color.

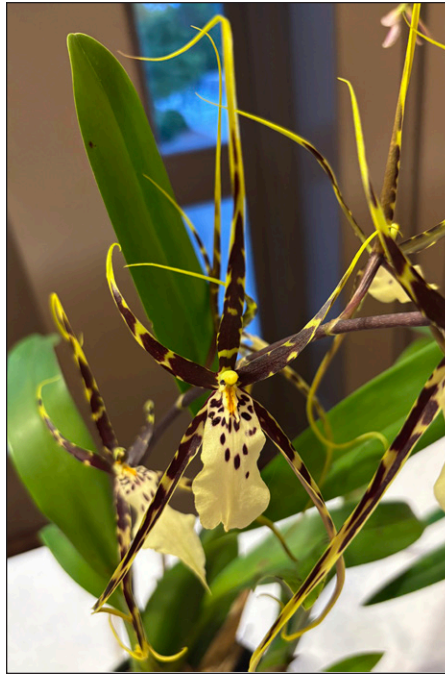
Red: *Encyclia cordigera* forma alba x *Epidendrum robustum* – Paul Reavis

White: *Encyclia tampensis* – Fred Pippin

This plant was labeled *Encyclia tampense* Butterfly Orchid. The “Florida Butterfly Orchid” is a common name, though not particularly appropriate (as noted above) for this species which was originally classed as *Epidendrum tampense*. When the genus *Encyclia* was established, the spelling was modified to agree with the ending of the Latin genus. So, to be totally correct the label should read: *Encyclia tampensis* “Florida Butterfly Orchid.”



Encyclia tampensis



Bratonia hybrid, probably

Class 5: *Oncidium* Alliance

Blue: *Brassidium* Kenneth Bivin ‘Santa Barbara’ AM/AOS – Véronique Perrot

The orchid being sold as *Brassidium* Kenneth Bivin ‘Santa Barbara’ HCC/AOS does not match the award photo or description for that plant. The actual orchid by that name received a Highly Commended Certificate of 78 points in 1981 and was upgraded to an Award of Merit of 82 points in 1998. It has a white labellum with mahogany-red blotches on either side of the column and segments of the same color with bright chartreuse tips. The lower two sepals have distinct outward curves, and the individual blooms are more widely spaced on the inflorescence, showing the influence of the *Oncidium cariniferum* parent. The flowers of the exhibited plant resemble a *Bratonia* (*Brassia* + *Miltonia*) hybrid but I cannot confirm a specific name. Regardless of its exact identification, the flowers are large and visually striking.

Red: *Oncostele* Firecat ‘Harmony’ – Fred Pippin

Red: *Miltoniopsis* Breathless ‘Beauty’ – Fred Pippin



Oncostele Firecat ‘Harmony’



Miltoniopsis Breathless ‘Beauty’



Brassia gireoudiana, or more likely, *Brassia* Spider's Gold 'Prolific'

White: *Brassia gireoudiana* 'Town Hill' – Fred Pippin

Carson Barnes thought this plant was not pure *Brassia gireoudiana* and I agree. I have commented on this orchid in the past. The flowers look identical to the orchid called *Brassia* Spider's Gold 'Prolific' which is a mixture of *Brs. gireoudiana*, *Brs. verrucosa* & *Brs. arcuigera*.



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



American Orchid Society

Education. Conservation. Research.

JOIN THE AMERICAN ORCHID SOCIETY

12 issues of *Orchids*, the Society's monthly full color magazine chock full of insightful articles and tempting ads for plants and supplies.

10% off purchases from the Society's Bookstore and Orchid Emporium.

Reduced or free admission to participating botanical gardens.

For a limited time, if you join for two years you will also get a \$30 gift certificate (good on an order of \$100 or more)

at any one of 13 commercial growers who advertise in *Orchids*.

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

JOIN TODAY

Single Membership, 1 year - \$79, 2 years - \$153

Student membership, 1 year - \$54, 2 years - \$103

JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT www.aos.org



Phragmipedium Leslie Garay



Paphiopedilum moquettianum 'Foamy' AM/AOS

Class 6: Slipper Alliance

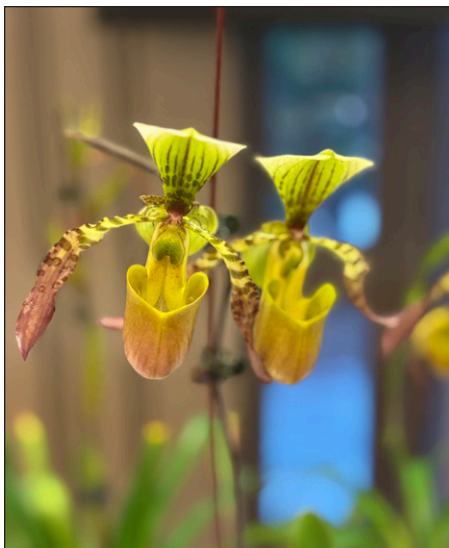
Blue: *Phragmipedium* Leslie Garay – Fred Pippin

Phragmipedium Leslie Garay is a cross between *Phrag. caudatum* and *Phrag. longifolium*. In this example, the influence of the former species did not come through as well as in the awarded plants, which have lightly twisted petals in excess of 14 inches. Nonetheless, they are large and showy and the plant robust and well on its way to forming a large clump. By *Phragmipedium* standards, this should be a relatively easy orchid to grow, preferring medium light levels, mild to warm, but not hot temperatures, and to remain on the damp size year-round. The Eric Young Orchid Foundation, located on the island of Jersey off the northwest coast of France, used a version of this orchid in twenty different registered hybrids in the late 1990s and early 2000s. More recently, Ecuagenera has registered a cross between it and *Phrag. kovachii*. That one has my curiosity, but I was unable to find any photos of the result.

Red: *Paphiopedilum moquettianum* 'Foamy' AM/AOS – Carson Barnes

Red: *Paphiopedilum* Charlene – Fred Pippin

White: *Phragmipedium* Mountain Maid – Bailey Santwire



Paphiopedilum Charlene



Phragmipedium Mountain Maid



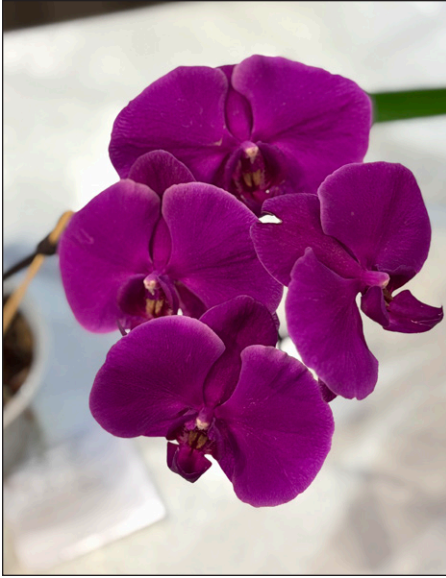
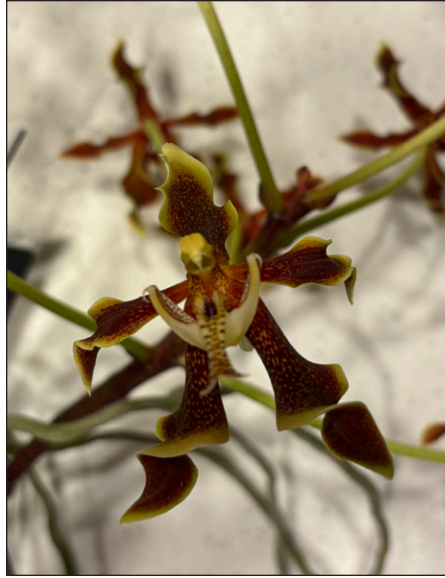
**Orchid
Digest**

When you're serious about orchids.

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 to join online.

*Phalaenopsis* No ID*Paraphalaenopsis labukensis**Cleistocentron gokusingii**Phalaenopsis* No ID

Class 7: Phalaenopsis

Red: *Phalaenopsis* NOID – Steve Schwab

White: *Phalaenopsis* NOID – Steve Schwab

Class 8: Vandaceous Alliance

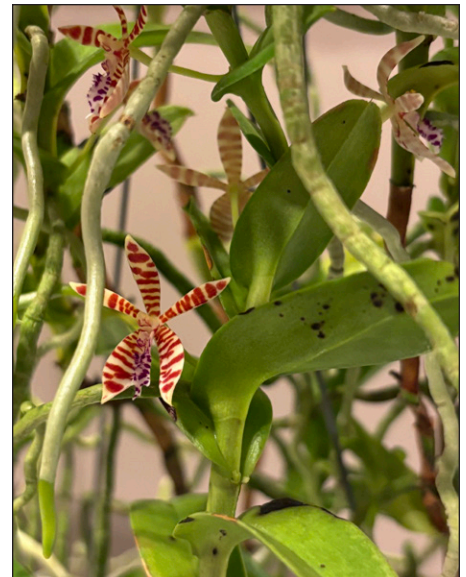
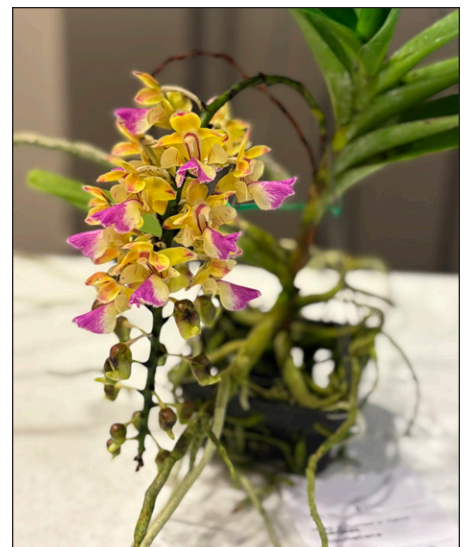
Species

Blue: *Paraphalaenopsis labukensis* – Bailey Santwire

This orchid from Borneo, the largest of the four species of *Paraphalaenopsis*, can produce terete leaves up to six feet or more in length. Plants grown in cultivation tend to be larger and have more flowers than those in the wild along the Labuk River and on the slopes of Mt. Kinabalu. Each inflorescence can bear seven or more three-inch flowers, typically in March or April, although this example is blooming later in the year. Each flower has star-shaped petals with undulating margins that are yellow-green overlaid with cinnamon brown in a speckled pattern, and the fragrance resembles that particular spice. This species is often grown mounted on tree fern or in a shallow basket with tree fern chunks or another medium that does not break down quickly. It requires bright but filtered light, consistently warm temperatures, good humidity, and frequent watering. There are several registered hybrids between this species and other members of the vandaceous group, which are generally considered novelties rather than showy orchids.

Red: *Trichoglottis smithii* – Vinh Nguyen

Red: *Cleisocentron gokusingii* – Vinh Nguyen

*Trichoglottis smithii**Aerides houlettiana*



Vanda Suksamran Sunlight

White: *Aerides houlettiana* – Vinh Nguyen

Hybrids

Blue: *Vanda Suksamran Sunlight* – Fred Pippin

Vanda Suksamran Sunlight was registered in 1993 by Suksamran Orchids of Bangkok, Thailand, and was originally classified as an *Ascocenda*. Two different species formerly in *Ascocentrum*, along with five traditional *Vanda* species, contribute to its genetic makeup. This includes approximately one eighth from the violet blue *Vanda coerulea*. While this specimen displays a strong shade of orange, there are some offspring from the cross that are paler yellow with a slight bluish tint around the edges of the blooms. The American Orchid Society (AOS) has awarded six Highly Com-

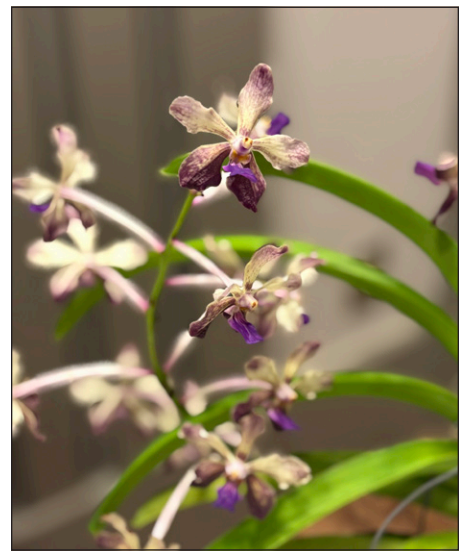
mended Certificates and three Awards of Merit to various examples of this orchid. It is also a parent in at least eleven registered hybrids. One notable hybrid is *Paravanda Golden Delight* (crossed with *Paraphalaenopsis denevei*), registered by R.F. Orchids in 2018. This hybrid exhibits characteristics from both parents and features a strong golden color. The 'Crownfox' AM/AOS form is currently available from Norman's Orchids (Orchids.com) in California.

Red: *Vanda Fuchs Harvest Moon* x *Dhongchai Pusavat* – Fred Pippin

White: *Vandachostylis Mary Ellen* – Fred Pippin



Vanda Fuchs Harvest Moon x *Dhongchai Pusavat*



Vandachostylis Mary Ellen

*Warczewiczella discolor*

Class 9: Miscellaneous

Blue: *Warczewiczella discolor* – Paul Reavis

There are eleven recognized species of *Warczewiczella*, but only this one and *W. amazonica* are commonly grown. *W. discolor* grows in shady montane forests in Costa Rica and Panamá between 2300 and 7500 feet above sea level, where it stays mild to cool year-round. The name comes from the two-toned flowers, with pale greenish-white or cream sepals and petals and purple-brushed petals and lip. Each inflorescence produces a single, partially open flower. The plant lacks pseudobulbs and each fan-shaped growth can yield several flowers, usually from April to June. Well-grown plants may have 50 or more flowers, though the foliage often hides them. *W. discolor* is best grown in baskets made of tree fern or plastic, filled loosely with tree fern chunks and sphagnum. Paul is growing his plant semi-hydroponically in clay pellets. It will be interesting to see how it does over time with this type of culture. High humidity and frequent watering from May to November are essential, with less water during other months. It should be kept indoors or in a controlled environment, as it's unsuitable for outdoor growth in typical Atlanta summers.

Red: *Bulbophyllum claptonense* – Paul Reavis

*Maxillaria tenuifolia* 'Edna'

White: *Maxillaria tenuifolia* 'Edna' – Paul Reavis

*Bulbophyllum claptonense*

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