



FEBRUARY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, February 14, 2022

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

Glen Decker: My Life with Slippers

*Details of the Zoom meeting will be emailed a few days before the meeting
Send pictures of your blooming plants to Danny for show & tell after Glen's talk*

My Life with Slippers

Glen Decker, formerly the owner of Piping Rock Orchids, has been growing orchids for over 40 years, and holds the degree of Associate in Applied Science in Ornamental Horticulture. He was the previous chair of the American Orchid Society's Publications Committee and a past Director of the Orchid Digest Corporation. Glen has won numerous AOS awards, including the Butterworth Prize, Nax Trophy, WW Wilson Award and the Carlyle A. Luer Award. He has appeared in Martha Stewart's Better Living Magazine and on a PBS TV special *Orchid Delirium*. He rewrote the Slipper section of

the Brooklyn Botanic Garden's *The Best Orchids for Indoors* and was the technical editor for the *Orchids for Dummies* book. He also has written many articles on Paphiopedilums and Phragmipedium, which have been published worldwide.

Glen will tell us about his life with slippers. It's about his journey to see slipper orchids around the world, including Peru, Ecuador and throughout Europe, and the things that he has learned about growing them in the process. The lecture will include some history, travel, culture and stories about the people with in his obsession.



Time to Renew!

It is time to renew your membership with the Atlanta Orchid Society! Go to the [AtIOS web site](#) and click on the Join/Renew button on the front page. You can also send a check to our treasurer, Jason Mills-Shoulta (address on page 2).

This does not apply to members who joined at the show last November: your membership is valid until the end of 2022. If in doubt, contact [Jason!](#)

ABG Flower Show

The Atlanta Botanical Garden will be holding their biennial flower show in February, and they have included orchids in the horticultural competition. Plant entry is Wednesday, February 23, 1-5 p.m. or Thursday, February 24, 7-9 a.m., and the show is open February 25-27. If you are interested in entering plants you can find more information at [abgflowershow.org](#).

AOS Judging
AOS judging was canceled for January. However, there will be AOS judging this Saturday, 12 February. Contact [Doug Hartong](#) for details.



Another one of the C. Tropical Song challenge plants that Danny finally bloomed.

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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 63: Number 2 – February 2022

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](#).

Novice Growers for February 2022

Falling for Orchids: Happy Valentine’s Day!

It is so easy to love orchids. But as a novice grower how many orchids have you seen? With each speaker new orchids are introduced. It will sometimes speak to us or it could be “Love at first sight.” Could this be your favorite orchid?

Gosh, you are just so infatuated with this new plant you have to have one or two. Now to grow it. Oh my, what did they say about it?? Can I do that at my house? So, you read about it, look up all the photos you can locate, have pin-ups of it on your commuter. A photo next to your bed. Dream about it and the blue ribbon you will receive for it.

Two months later, it is sagging, drops a leaf, pouting. What have you done, right or wrong? Too much water or too little? Remember, right plant; right place, this is an ole Master Gardener saying. Did the information about the plant say

“cold grower”? “winter rest”? “no water until new roots appear”? Sometimes we just love the looks of a plant so much we ignore the care guidelines. If that is the case, admit it and try one. You will at least have tried. My rule of thumb is “three times and then give up.” Sometimes we love orchids we just can’t grow.

Don’t be broken hearted: by next Valentine’s Day you will have two or three more orchids that have been love at first sight. I had a friend in South Florida that kept falling for the same plant over and over again (500 plants). That can happen when you find yourself growing a few groups well and there is a wide range of choices in those groups. Sounds like fun, doesn’t it?

Best of luck with falling in love with an orchid. Happy Valentine’s Day!

B. Barnett

Meeting Minutes for 10 January, 2022

The January 10th, 2021 monthly meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society was called to order by Danny Lentz, President, at 8 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom. The president greeted guests. Our speaker Fred Clarke gave an introduction and then proceeded with his presentation, *Becoming as 80th Percentile Grow-*

er. After the presentation, Fred fielded questions. The meeting was then turned over to Danny Lentz who showed photos of member plants in bloom. The meeting was then adjourned.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February

- 12 – AOS monthly judging, maybe?
- 14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: My Life with Slippers

March

- 12 – AOS monthly judging, maybe?
- 14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Notes on plants submitted to the virtual meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society for January 2022

Notes by Mark Reinke; photos by various members of the AtIOS



C. trianae 'Jungle Feather' JC/AOS



L. rubescens



Scaphyglottis behrii

Cattleya Alliance

Species

Carson Barnes showed us an unusual color form of one of the large flowered species in *Cattleya trianae* 'Jungle Feather,' JC/AOS. For those not familiar with that award designation, it is a Judges Commendation, usually bestowed on a flower that has unusual characteristics which the judges wish to recognize. In this case, the unusual feathering pattern found on the two petals is what drew their attention. This species from Colombia is in the family tree of nearly 24,000 registered hybrids. Sadly, it is becoming very scarce in the wild due to over collecting and habitat destruction.

Carson also gave us three different examples of *Laelia anceps*. This species has wide range in Mexico, usually growing in

warm oak forests that are seasonally deciduous beginning just south of the Texas border and all the way down the Gulf of Mexico side, and in Oaxaca and possibly Guerrero and Jalisco on the Pacific side. There are numerous color forms in different regions. It is a very tough and adaptable orchid that has been established on trees in places like Santa Barbara, California where it sometimes endures light freezes without harm. Flowers are borne on long spikes that take months to develop starting with new growths in summer and generally flowering in late fall to winter. The flowers last longer if plants can be kept cool during blooming.

Bailey Santwire showed us another of the true *Laelia* species with a darker than typical form of *L. rubescens*. This orchid grows in a similar range in Mexico and also down into Central America.

The heads of flowers on stiff wiry spikes have segments that vary from white to lavender with a contrasting dark purple throat except in the true alba form. This species needs high light to perform at its best, with plentiful water in summer, but much more sparing in winter.

We also saw two species that are grouped in the Cattleya Alliance but don't necessarily look like they fit. Bailey's *Scaphyglottis behrii* is from the same general area as the previous species but usually in wetter forest niches. The flowers are small for the plant size, but Bailey did a good job of showing one in close up detail. Barbara Barnett showed us the Brazilian species *Leptotes unicolor*, whose small lavender flowers are more in scale with the plant size. Her plant has flowers that open nicely compared to typical examples.



Three different examples of *L. anceps*



Ryn. Daffodil



Ryn. Beautiful Nicole



Rlc. Little Toshie x Ctt. Gold Digger

Hybrids

Bailey Santwire showed us one of the seminal hybrids in orange cluster flower breeding, *Rhyncanthe* Daffodil, a primary hybrid between *Rhyncolaelia glauca* and *Guarianthe aurantiaca*. It was introduced in 1949 and is in the ancestry of more than 1,000 modern hybrids, mostly descended through the 1980 introduction of *Rth.* Orange Nugget, which has this orchid as one parent. His entry of *Rhyncanthe* Beautiful Nicole is a cross between Ryn. Daffodil and *C. warscewiczii*. You can certainly see the influence of the former, but the lavender genes of the latter are strong enough to cancel out the yellow or orange base color.

Bailey also presented us with *Blc.* Petite Stars 'Nilva's Amorcito,' HCC/AOS, a cross between *Bc.* Richard Mueller and the species *Laelia rubescens* just dis-



Blc. Petite Stars 'Nilva's Amorcito' HCC/AOS



Rlc. Hsinying Williette '#9'

cussed. There are only two awarded examples of this hybrid registered in 1998. This one was granted in July of last year at the Atlanta Judging Center.

Jon & Fi once again had *Cattleya* White Reception 'NN' in bloom, illustrating the ability of this large pure white to bloom more than once in a year.



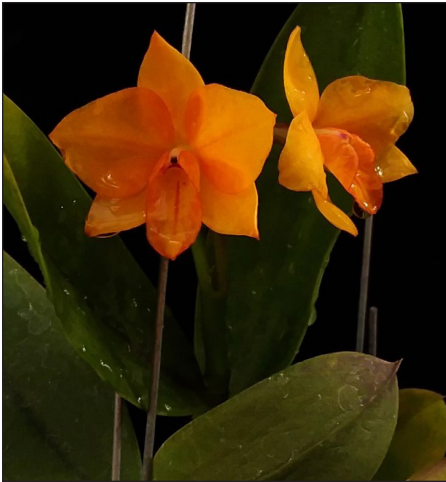
Leptotes unicolor



C. White Reception 'NN'

Maria Beug-Deeb sent in a photo of a cross that I had done many years ago, *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* Little Toshie x *Cattlianthe* Gold Digger. Possibly this plant came by way of Nancy Newton. Some of these were quite cute, but I didn't feel there was enough overall consistency to register the cross. The colors are very attractive but the lip on most was a little more closed and irregular than I was hoping for.

I showed off a nice cross, not of my making, between *C.* Tokyo Magic and *Rlc.* Williette Wong called *Rlc.* Hsinying Williette '#9.' I got in a batch of these a few years ago and I'm glad I kept one, because the flower quality improved tremendously as the plant matured. A more recent acquisition of mine is *Cattlianthe* Faikon Ball 'Yuan,' a true miniature hybrid made from *C. cernua*. I got this one from Norman's Orchids last summer and it arrived in a tiny pot growing in sphagnum moss. Here in the South, using that media for cattleya types is generally a



Ctt. Faikon Ball 'Yuan'

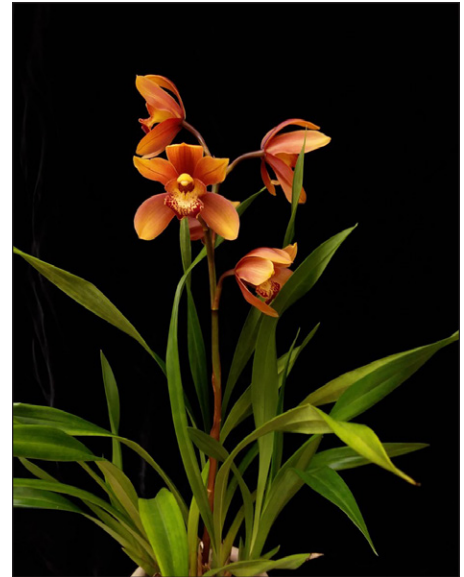
recipe for failure, and so at the earliest opportunity I repotted it into bark. When I first removed it from the original part it had just a few live stubs for roots, but with some pampering in the new media it has put out a nice new crop of big fat roots. In addition to the species I mentioned, its background includes about 30% *C. coccinea* so I will definitely have to give it extra attention in our climate.



Cym. Here Comes the Sun

Cymbidium Alliance

I was the only member to submit any plants in this category this month. *Cymbidium* Here Comes the Sun is a large "standard" type with flowers nearly 5 inches across and an inflorescence almost 3 feet tall. Such types need space but make a big impression. It is a fairly new cross, registered by Andy Easton of New Horizon Orchids in 2017. *Cymbidium* Fire on the Mountain 'Sunset' is a much more compact growing plant, and more suitable for limited spaces. One of



Cym. Fire on the Mountain 'Sunset'

its parents is *Cym.* Valerie Absolonova, a cross developed by Everglades Orchids making this plant especially heat tolerant. It is also capable of blooming more than once per year and the flowers have a fragrance similar to *Den. unicum*.



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.



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

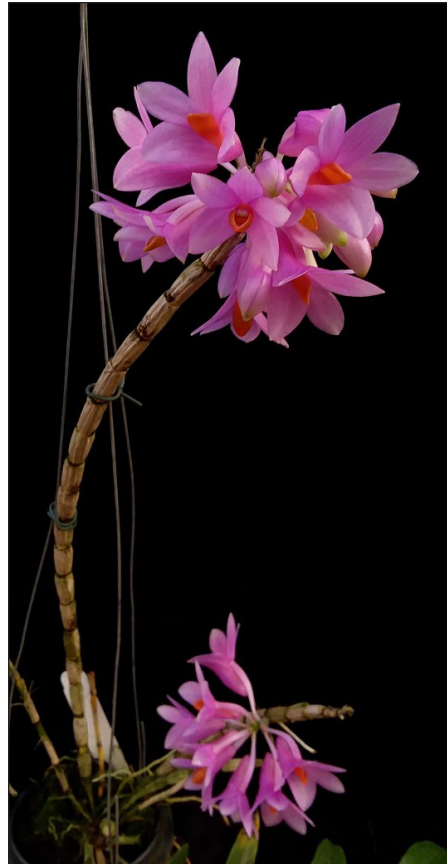
JOIN TODAY

Single Membership, 1 year - \$79, 2 years - \$153
Student membership, 1 year - \$54, 2 years - \$103
JOIN OR RENEW ONLINE AT www.aos.org

*Den. farmeri*

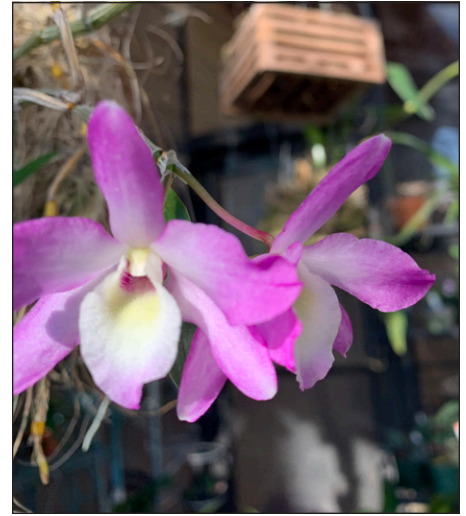
Dendrobium Alliance

We had three different *Dendrobium* species this month revealing some of the diversity in the genus. Once again, Bailey had his unusually dark *Dendrobium farmeri* in flower. His plant is unusual for this species in that it blooms more than once per year for him. Peak flowering is typically in April. I showed off the blooms of *Dendrobium pseudoglomeratum*. While this plant is very similar to *Den. glomeratum*, it comes only from the mountains of New Guinea, generally has flowers of a more orchid pink color in denser clusters and borne on stouter canes. Because of the elevation it grows at, intermediate conditions suite it better in cultivation. Véronique's *Dendrobium aberrans* is a miniature species also from the mountains of New Guinea. It is

*Den. aberrans**Den. pseudoglomeratum*

in the Latouria section, and many popular compact hybrids have been made by combining it with other members of the section.

We had several hybrid examples of plants from Section *Dendrobium*, those species that are generally deciduous and bloom on the previous season's growth after being stimulated by cooler nights and less watering in winter. Barbara Barnett showed off *Dendrobium Kokomo*, which has two miniature species, *Den. moniliforme* and *Den. stricklandianum*, as a large part of its genetic makeup, keeping it quite small in size. I had an entry in this group with *Den. Sofia Bloyer*. This cross was done by member George Guenther when he worked at Orchids Limited in Minnesota. It has even more *Den. moniliforme* in its background, but also a dose of the warm growing *Den. friedricksianum* giving it a more trailing habit. It seems when I bought the plant several years ago while it was quite small, there were two different seedlings growing together as I have white, peachflowers on different stems. This orchid has a small root ball and is still living in the original 2.5" pot. Maria Beug-Deeb's entry also has some

*Den. Kokomo**Den. Sofia Bloyer**Den. Angel's Breath*

of the same two miniature species in its genetics but crossed to a standard Noble type. She listed the plant by the parents



Den. Blue Violetta x Red Maroon

of the cross but should update her tag as the combination of *Den.* Himezakura x Ise was registered in 2015 by Carter and Holmes Orchids as *Dendrobium* Angel's Breath.

Finally, Jon & Fi once again had *Dendrobium* Blue Violetta x Red Maroon in flower. This unregistered combination of two "hard caned" types mixes the Phalaenathe and Spatulata sections together which helps achieve deep, saturated color not found in the wild in either group.



Epi. magnoliae

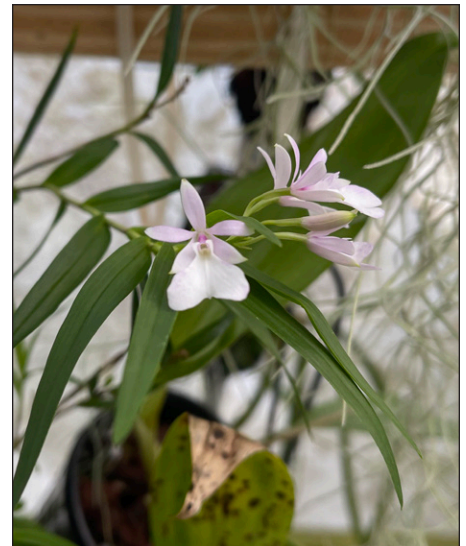
Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

Bailey had several species in this group, including our native *Epidendrum magnoliae*, *Epidendrum centropetalum* from Central America and *Prosthechea cochleata*, found on all sides of the Caribbean basin including South Florida. *Epi. centropetalum* is part of a group of species primarily from Central America that for many years were grouped in a genus called *Oesterdella* and many tags are still listing them as such. They have, however, been recombined back into *Epidendrum* recently. For the species Bailey exhibited, that required a slight name change to avoid duplication within the genus.

I showed off a nice older plant of *Epicatanthe* Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall,' AM/AOS, which combines *Ctt.* Trick or Treat with the aforementioned *Epi.*

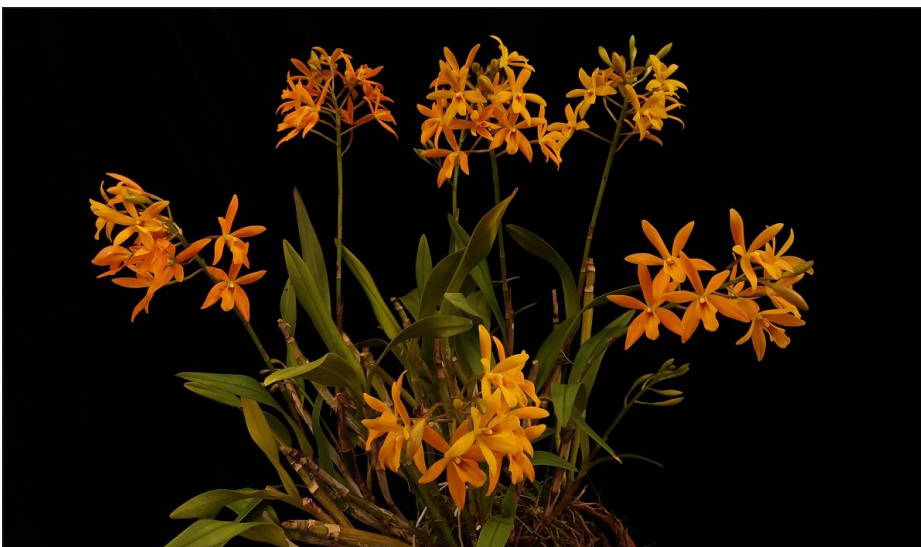


Prosthechea cochleata



Epi. centropetalum

magnoliae. This plant is from the first batch of mericlones produced by Carter & Holmes of their awarded plant and is true to the original. When they later produced a second batch, the individual plants were variable in color and form and never grew as well as that first group.



Epicatanthe Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS



Onc. Twinkle (Left: Bailey's; right: Véronique's)



Oncostele Eye Candy 'Pinkie'

Oncidium Alliance

Bailey and Véronique both submitted photos of *Oncidium Twinkle* in bloom. This orchid is a cross between two small growing species from Central America, *Onc. sotoanum*, which is usually lavender pink, and *Onc. cheiroporum* which is yellow. The resulting hybrid produces some plants that are pink and some that are orange, but the majority of the seedlings are white as a result of the two pigment genes "cancelling" each other out. Because these species are small with especially fine roots, *Onc. Twinkle* needs more frequent watering than most *Oncidium*s to do well. When a plant is grown well, the results can be a profusion of bloom. There are more than a

dozen awards for plants bearing over 1,000 flowers at once.

Onc. sotoanum provides *Onc. Twinkle* with a vanilla-like fragrance. This same species gives *Oncidium Sharry Baby*, presented by Jill Heske a more chocolate-like scent. This orchid was introduced in 1983 but remains in demand. Two recent offspring from it, *Onc. Heaven Scent*, and *Onc. Aka Baby* still provide fragrance, but with better growth habits and denser flowering.

More than a dozen different species go into *Oncostele Eye Candy 'Pinkie'*, shown by Jon & Fi. That may be why this cross with fairly large, boldly patterned flowers does so well in this region, despite

ly well under LED lights, producing loads of flowers even though the foliage goes a little yellow in that environment.

Maria Beug-Deeb showed us the charming green and white flowers of *Oncidium Irish Mist 'Wintergreen,'* which is a primary hybrid of *Onc. fuscatum* and *Onc. multistellare*. Both species come from medium to high elevation in the Andes Mountains and so this orchid needs to be kept as cool as possible to do well in Atlanta. I would definitely not put it outside during the summer!

Finally, I showed a plant of *Brassidium Urchinesque 'Standing Tall'* AM/AOS in flower. The clonal name of this one is quite apt as the inflorescence on this blooming was much longer than my 30-



Onc. Sharry Baby



Epicatanthe Butterfly Kisses 'Mendenhall' AM/AOS



Onc. Irish Mist 'Wintergreen'

inch metal stakes. The crosses with *Brassia* in them are well worth seeking out for their large flower size and heat tolerance. I like this one especially well as it has a tight growth habit and doesn't crawl out of the pot too quickly.



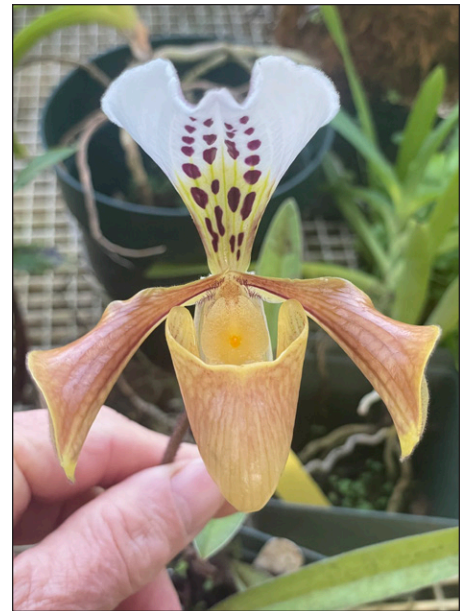
Paph. glanduliferum

Slipper Alliance

In this group Carson Barnes had several species to show us including *Paphiopedilum glanduliferum* from New Guinea. This multifloral species often has just two flowers to the spike, as shown, but has proved valuable in hybridization. The cross with it and *Paph. rothschildianum* called *Paph. Susan Booth*, has almost 150 awards from Orchid Associations worldwide. Carson also showed us *Paphiopedilum gratrixianum*, a species from Laos and Vietnam whose single flower per inflorescence has lots of character. Its charms have inspired many to use it in hybridization starting more than a century ago, yet none of the results have been particularly successful.

Phragmipedium pearcei is a nice compact species from Peru and Ecuador, also presented by Carson. The climate data from its habitat would seem to indicate that it needs chilly nights year round, yet Carson has done well with it here in Atlanta for a number of years.

In hybrids, Kristy Nicholas showed us *Paphiopedilum Spring Ecstasy*, a 2020 registration from Lehua Orchids in Hawaii. It combines the albino forms of four different species, with *Paph. sukhakulii forma album*, a fairly recent introduction to the breeder's arsenal, employed to help broaden the petals and move them to a more horizontal position.



Paph. gratrixianum



Paph. Spring Ecstasy



Phrag. pearcei

*Phal. amboinensis* 'White' x self

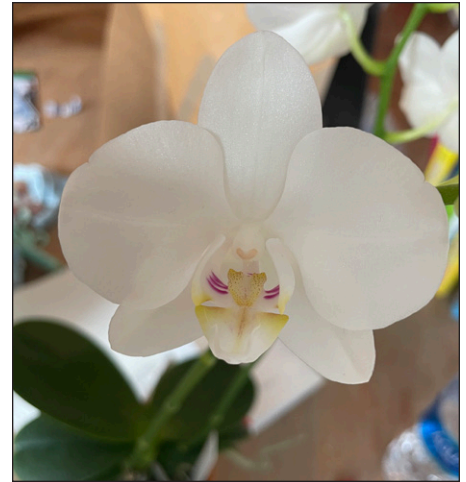
Phalaenopsis Alliance

Jon & Fi had two entries in Phalaenopsis that we have seen several times in the past, showing their ability to flower throughout the year. *Phalaenopsis amboinensis* 'White' x self and *Phal. Yaphon Oh Mygod* both had particularly beautiful foliage and more flowers at once than previous submissions, showing what good culture does over time.

Meredith Newton showed us a young *Phal. amabilis* just beginning to open its first flower. This important and widespread species lies in the ancestry of more than 33,000 registered hybrids, including, no doubt, Norrie Keenan's white

*Phal. amabilis*

Phalaenopsis without identification. On the Indonesian island of Java, *Phal. amabilis* can be found on trees overhanging the sea where they are occasionally washed with salt spray! I do not recommend this treatment for your plants in cultivation, however.

*Phal.* NoID*Phal. Yaphon Oh Mygod*

amazonsmile

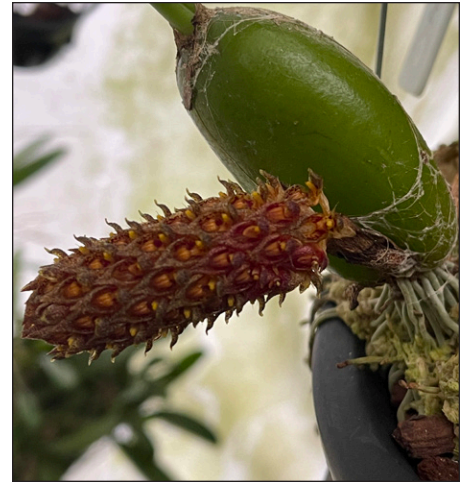
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*Agcm sesquipedale*

Vandaceous Alliance

Jon & Fi had the only entry in this group with a young plant of *Angraecum sesquipedale* in flower. This species from Madagascar is famous for its extremely long nectar spur, which caused Charles Darwin in 1862 to speculate that there must be some undiscovered moth with a proboscis long enough to exploit it. It was not until just over two decades after

Darwin's death that *Xanthopan morgani praedicta*, a sphinx moth with a 10-inch proboscis was described, and yet nearly a century more before it was actually recorded visiting *Agcm. sesquipedale* in the wild. This orchid can bloom on a fairly small plant, but with time can exceed three feet in height with several simultaneous inflorescences.

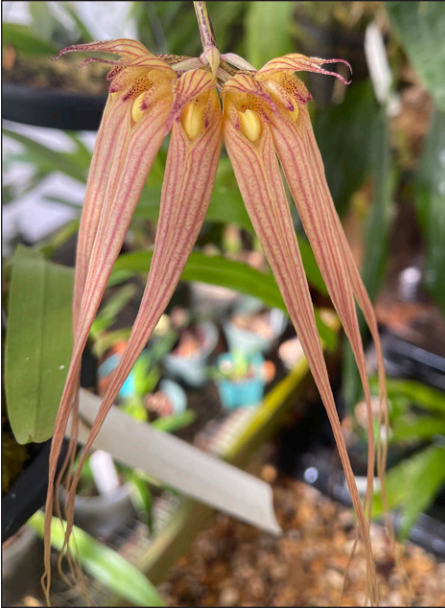
*Bulb. careyanum**Bulb. lasiochilum*

Miscellaneous

Old World Orchids

Bulbophyllum is the largest orchid genus with over 2,000 species already described and more being discovered each year. Bailey showed us five, starting with the miniature *Bulbophyllum mucronatum* (syn. *Bulb. alagense*) from the Philippines. This species name is a reference to the leaves ending in a sharp point. Next, we saw *Bulb. careyanun* from the Eastern Himalayan region, which carries its tiny flowers in a dense, cylindrical raceme. Then we saw *Bulb. lasiochilum* from Thailand, Burma and Malaya. Its species name refers to the shaggy hairs on the lip. Moving on, we saw the captivating *Bulb., longissimum* from Thailand, whose name needs no explanation. This one is a favorite of the judges and has earned many awards including three First Class Certificates and three Certificates of Cultural Excellence. Lastly,

*Bulb. mucronatum*

*Bulb. longissimum*

Bailey showed us *Bulb. odoratum*, that occurs primarily in Indonesia, Borneo and the Philippines and is supposed to have a sweet scent at night.

Bailey also submitted a photo of *Coelogyne tomentosa* from western Java, an attractive pendant flowering species. Flowers can occur in almost any month of the year, but they are not very long lasting.

*Coel. tomentosa**Bulb. odoratum*

Nicholas Rust treated us to four different *Habenaria*, two species and two hybrids. We saw a close up of one flower of *Hab. arenaria*, one of the more subtle species from South Africa and Mozambique and *Hab. rhodochelia* 'Rusty Red,' an undeniably showy species from Southeast Asia and the Philippines. In hybrids we saw one of Nicholas' own creations, *Hab. Arbor Vitae*, a cross between *Hab. medioflexa* and *Hab. trishosantha*, literally just registered, and *Pectabeneria* Cockatiel, a mix of three species registered by Leon Glicenstein in 2020.

Nicholas also presented with a collection of several different forms of the Jewel Orchid *Ludisia discolor*.

Véronique Perrot gave us a close up look at the flower of *Phaiocalanthe* Kryptonite 'Parkside,' a terrestrial hybrid that can produce many tall, successively flowering inflorescences on a mature plant,

*Ludisia discolor**Hab. arenaria**Hab. rhodochelia* 'Rusty Red'*Hab. Arbor Vitae**Pectabeneria* Cockatiel



Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite 'Parkside'



Fredclarkeara After Dark 'SVO Black Cherry' FCC/AOS



Pterostylis obtusa

and *Pterostylis obtusa*, an early flowering species from the genus of Australian terrestrials that bloom with the onset of winter rains and die back to underground tubers in the summer dry season.

New World Orchids

The entries in this category centered around members of the Catasinae group. Both Jill Heske and Nicholas Rust showed off selections of *Fredclarkeara* After Dark that have received the highest flower quality award of First Class Certificate. Jill had the 'SVO Black Cherry,' FCC/AOS variety and Nicholas 'SVO Black Pearl,' FCC/AOS. Fred Clarke's creation, registered in 2002, was groundbreaking for its new and improved breeding in Catasinae. It has garnered over 100 awards and already become the progenitor of more



Fredclarkeara After Dark 'SVO Black Pearl' FCC/AOS

than 30 new registered hybrids. Nicholas also showed us *Fredclarkeara* Upgrade 'Select,' which is *not* descended from the previous, *Fredclarkeara*, by the way, is any combination of *Catasetum*, *Clowesia*, and *Mormodes*. *Monnierara* Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft,' FCC/AOS, also shown by Nicholas is a combination of *Catasetum*, *Cynoches* and *Mormodes* and came out in 1999. Being the very first "black" flower in this group, it received a high award at

the time, but would probably be marked down for its reflexed lip nowadays. Finally in this group, we saw *Catasetum* Nicholas Rust, just registered on December 20, 2021 by Fred Clarke. I'm sure Nicholas is very honored to have one of Fred's creations named after him.

Nicholas also showed us two lovely Pleurothallids, first *Lepanthes dellasandroi* from Ecuador with fairly large flowers for the genus, and then *Sca-*

*Fredclarkeara* Upgrade 'Select'*Lepanthes dellasandroi**Monnierara* Millenium Magic 'Witchcraft'
FCC/AOS*Cism* Nicholas Rust*Galeandra magnicolumna* 'Jumbo'

phoselaplum breve from the cloud forests across northern South America.

Lastly, Nicholas showed us *Galeandra magnicolumna* 'Jumbo' from Colombia and Venezuela. There are about 40 species of *Galeandra* in the tropical Americas but for some reason few are seen in cultivation. They are generally compact, with showy flowers at the tip of a deciduous fusiform pseudobulbs. There are a few hybrids between this genus and various members of *Catasinae*, mostly through *Gal. devoniana*.

*Scaphoselaplum breve*