



The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

The Atlanta Orchid Society is affiliated with the American Orchid Society, the Orchid Digest Corporation and the Mid-America Orchid Congress.



Newsletter Editor: Danny Lentz

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www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org

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AUGUST EVENTS

The Monthly Meeting:

**Topic: Martin Motes will speak on Vandas
8:00pm Monday, August 13
at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, Day Hall**

Martin Motes is a second generation orchidist who has been growing orchids for 50 years. He is president of Motes Orchids, a major producer of vandas. He has bred hundreds of new hybrids, for which he has received scores of American Orchid Society awards including three FCC's and three Awards of Quality. In addition to his extensive orchid credentials, Martin has a PhD in English and has taught at several colleges.

In addition to plants, Martin and his wife Mary will have copies of their books for sale. Martin is the author of "Vandas: Their Botany, History, and Culture", and Mary has written a humorous novel about the orchid business called "Orchid Territory".

Please remember to have your entries for ribbon judging in place by 7:50.



Vanda Mimi Palmer

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Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

Membership in the Atlanta Orchid Society is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households. Yearly membership runs January 1-December 31. Anyone joining in the third quarter will get a 50% discount on the current year's membership. Anyone joining in the fourth quarter will purchase a membership for the following year. You can join at one of our monthly meetings, or contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application.

For directions to the Atlanta Botanical Garden, please visit their web site at www.atlantabotanicalgarden.org or contact one of our society's officers listed on page 2.

Newsletter Submissions

To submit material for the newsletter, or to sign up for the email version of the newsletter, please contact Danny Lentz. The deadline for submissions is the 20th of the previous month.

MAIL TO: Danny Lentz
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Advertising

Advertising is now being accepted for our newsletter. The size and number of ads may be limited at the discretion of the editor. Advertising Rates per issue are: ¼ page \$10, ½ page \$20, 1/8 page text only \$5.



Phal. Gemstone's Gold Fever

Events Out and About

August

Saturday, 8/11 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Monday, 8/13 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m.
Martin Motes from Motes Orchids in Homestead, FL will speak on Vandas.

September

Saturday, 9/8 American Orchid Society monthly judging, Atlanta Judging Center, 2 pm, ABG basement workshop.

Monday, 9/10 Atlanta Orchid Society monthly meeting, ABG, Day Hall, 8 p.m.
Steve Burger and Greg Smith will give a presentation on KeikiPro, a new phytohormone concentrate.

November 9-11 AtIOS Fall Show

January 23-27 19th WOC – Miami
<http://www.19woc.com>

Welcome to our New Members:

Greg and Crystal Smith - Lula, GA

Orchid lover downsizing

14x22 foot greenhouse full of orchids (in spike - Paphs, Phrag. Ecuabess, Lycastes, warmer Miltonias); large part of collection is Paphs. Long list of books, Fitch Orchid Album original botanical orchid lithographs; old hummingbird with botanical orchid prints. Slatted wood baskets 2/\$5; treefern logs or pots, \$1; fluorescent light fixtures \$5; new fluor. bulbs \$1; flasking bottles with rubber stoppers \$1; Paph-Pots 25 cents; used plastic pots free.

Linda Wish
orchidwish@comcast.net

Minutes of the July 9th Meeting

- o The Atlanta Orchid Society Meeting was brought to order by President Mark Reinke. Visitors were welcomed and introduced. New memberships were announced.
- o Reba Herzfeld read an email that she received from the Reinhardts concerning their serious automobile accident. They are slowly recovering.
- o The minutes from the last meeting were approved as printed in the newsletter.
- o Roy Harrow reminded everyone about the orchid auction at his pool on July 29th.
- o The next board meeting will be on August 11th. Members were told to see a member of the board if they have issues to be addressed at the board meeting.
- o Reba Herzfeld asked members to see her if they are entitled reimbursements for Orchid Society business.
- o Members were reminded of the upcoming fall show November 9-11.
- o Our thanks to the orchid judges: Jeff Wolf, David Mellard, Jeff Whitfield, Barbara Dampog, Marianne Gilmore, and David Kessler.
- o Our thanks to those who donated plants to the raffle table: Gary Collier and Mark Reinke, Mikie Emerson, and others.
- o Our thanks to those who provided refreshments: Sarah Groves, Gary Collier, Terry Glover & Bob Grzesik, Jeff Whitfield, Bill White, Elaine Jacobson, Jeff Wolf, Helen Weil, Barbara Dampog, and others.others.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Quattlebaum

Member Announcements

If you have any news you would like to share with the society please send me a short announcement. -danny

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 \$32/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 issue devoted to a single genus. For membership application forms contact Fred Missbach (404-237-1694)

JULY 2007 EXHIBITION TABLE AWARDS with notes by Mark Reinke

Class I – Cattleya Alliance

Species : **Blue- *Cattleya harrisoniana*- Collier/Reinke** : *Cattleya harrisoniana* and the related species. *C. loddigesii* are but two of several pairs of Brazilian bi-foliolate cattleya species that have been the source of many headaches for taxonomists, hybridizers and hobby growers alike! For many years, the Royal Horticultural Society did not recognize them as separate species at all, so it is a best an educated guess which one resides in the ancestry of hundreds, if not thousands of registered hybrids. Though superficially very similar in appearance, a clear distinction between them is aided by geography, flowering season and certain physical characteristics. The fact that a ribbon is being presented to a plant in bloom in July, rather than December or January, marks it as *C. harrisoniana* rather than *C. loddigesii*. Additionally, *C. harrisoniana* grows in the hot, humid coastal lowlands, while *C. loddigesii* is found in the relatively cooler inland mountains, starting with the second range back from the coast, so their natural ranges do not overlap. Generally, *C. harrisoniana* has a deeper and very even lavender color, with narrower segments and heavier substance compared to the more delicate lavender, fuller, and often lightly speckled flowers of *C. loddigesii*. And finally, *C. harrisoniana* blooms from a green sheath on a new growth, usually before roots initiate, while *C. loddigesii* blooms from a dry sheath well after the new growth has matured and formed roots. The bi-foliolate cattleyas in general are much more particular about being repotted, and this should ONLY been done when the current lead growth is making new roots. They resent disturbance in general and tend to prefer to hang over the side of the pot than grow in it. Unlike the unifoliolate group, when a plant has shriveled due to disturbance or poor culture, it can rarely if ever be revived and it is best to pass it up rather than waste time on it.



Cattleya harrisoniana



Bc. Saint Alban

Red – *Brassavola nodosa* ‘Susan Fuchs’ FCC/AOS – Collier/Reinke

White – *Brassavola cucullata* – Dampog

Hybrids : **Blue – Bc. Saint Alban – Harrow** : Bc. Saint Alban in an ‘antique’ hybrid originally registered by Sanders in 1908. It is a cross between *Rhyncolaelia (Brassavola) digbyana* and *C. schilleriana*. This particular plant is part of a batch of seedlings that Marble Branch Farms acquired from an amateur breeder who was unaware the cross was even registered. This ribbon winner is the best result we have seen so far from the grex and has a wonderful, delicate beauty. It is amazing how little of the cattleya parent is seen in the flower form and color. Bc. Saint Alban was apparently viewed as something of an experiment, and no further hybrids were ever made from it. I think it would be worth seeing if it could be paired with modern miniature cattleya hybrids to create the full, ruffled lip that graces so many of the large flowered ancestors of *Rhy. digbyana*.

Red – Blc. Momilani Rainbow ‘The Gypsy’ HCC/AOS - Herzfeld

White – Blc. Waianae Leopard ‘Ching-Hua’ HCC/AOS - Jacobson

Class II – Cymbidium Alliance : No Entries

Class III – Dendrobium Alliance

Blue – *Dendrobium unicum* – Kessler : This same plant won a blue ribbon in March of this year, attesting to its long flowering season when well grown. The species name is a reference to its ‘uniqueness.’ However, sources do not agree as to which of its several unique qualities was the inspiration to the person who named it: the unusual summer bloom season, the nonresupinate orange flowers with unusual fragrance, or the fact that unlike other deciduous dendrobiums, the leaves wait until the second year to fall. Maybe all of them! See the April, 2007 newsletter for cultural tips on this eye catching miniature.

Red – *Dendrobium farmeri* var. *album* - Dampog

White – *Dendrobium auriculatum* – Mellard/Marino



Dendrobium unicum

Class IV - Epidendrum Alliance

Blue - *Prosthechea (Euchile) mariae* – Hartong : This species was under Epidendrum for purposes of hybrid registration for many years, and was moved to Prosthechea a few years ago, along with the closely related *Pros. citrina*. Dressler and Pollard placed them both in the separate genus of *Euchile* (“beautiful lip”) as far back as 1974 because of their unique characteristics which do not fit well into any of the other genera either species has been know by over the years. They definitely bear no close resemblance to any other Prosthechea! Both glaucous-leaved species occur in fairly dry oak forests of Mexico, with *Euchile mariae* occurring in the NW mountainous region almost to the U.S. border. We have found that only plants mounted on bare driftwood thrive over time in our collection, where they are watered daily in summer and less frequently in winter, and always allowed to dry well before dark. They are quite tolerant of a wide range of temperatures from cool to warm seasonally, but always prefer a 15 or 20 degree drop in temperature at night. This orchid has been used fairly extensively in hybridization with other members of the cattleya alliance. The most awarded cross is Proslaeliocattleya Mae Bly (x Lc. Ann Follis), a lovely hybrid with green flowers and a showy purple lip, which despite being introduced 40 years ago, is still widely available in several clonal forms.



Prosthechea mariae

Red - *Prosthechea* (syn. *Anacheilium*) *chacoensis*- Mellard/Marino

White – *Encyclia tampensis* – Collier/Reinke

Class V – Oncidium Alliance

Blue – *Oncidium (Trichocentrum) jonesianum* – Hartong : This species is one of the most beautiful in the Cebolletae (onion-leaved) section of *Oncidium* (or *Trichocentrum*, according to recent taxonomic studies). It is considered difficult to grow well, coming from rather shady, humid, but not particularly rainy forests bordering rivers in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay. The showy flowers normally occur in fall. Although it can be grown in a pot with excellent drainage, most sources recommend a mount as the best way to avoid rot, which is the nemesis of these terete-leaved species.

Red – *Psychopsis Memoria* Bill Carter – Collier/Reinke



Oncidium jonesianum

Class VI – Cypripedium Alliance

Species : **Blue – *Paphiopedilum concolor* – Lentz/Morgan**

Red – *Paphiopedilum concolor* - Kessler

Multiflorals : Blue – *Paphiopedilum Berenice* ‘Riopelle’ AM/AOS – Kessler : This striking multiflora slipper orchid is a primary hybrid between *Paph. lowii* and *Paph. philippinense* and the finest clones exhibit the best characteristics of both parents. My most recently updated software lists 65 awards for this orchid which was surprisingly registered way back in 1891. The plants available today are all from remakes of the cross, often using the very best parents obtained from decades of selection. The most recent entry was a 90 point CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence) given to the clone ‘Val’ which carried 18 open flowers and 3 buds on 4 inflorescences and grown in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada! The ‘Riopelle’ clone exhibited on the show table received its flower quality award in 1980. So far, no one has discovered a way to effectively clone *Paphiopedilums* and the only way to obtain awarded examples is by division of the original plant, so expect to pay the appropriate price!

Red – *Paphiopedilum Transdoll* – Kessler

White – *Phragmipedium Grande* ‘Glenn’s Pride’ AM/AOS – Kessler

Uniflorals : Blue – *Paphiopedilum Wossner Tigerhenry* – Mellard/Marino

Red – *Paphiopedilum Magic Lantern* – Kessler

White – *Paphiopedilum Winwine* ‘Dark Ruby’ – Lentz/Morgan



Paphiopedilum Berenice

*Paphiopedilum concolor**Paphiopedilum Wossner Tigerhenry**Phalaenopsis bellina*

Class VII – Phalaenopsis Alliance

Blue – *Phalaenopsis bellina* – Lentz/Morgan : *Phalaenopsis bellina* is a prized species from warm, very humid, shady forests near water in Malaysia and Borneo. It is one of the fragrant phalaenopsis, and produces a couple exquisitely colored flowers at a time in summer and fall from inflorescences that continue to bloom for many years. It is closely related to *Phal. violacea*. The best forms bear blossoms with jade green edges, transitioning gradually to brilliant magenta in the center, and years of selective breeding have produced fuller flowers than typical wild collected plants. The broad, pale green leaves with convex edges are beautiful themselves, but grow so tightly together that you should always be careful not to allow water to remain trapped between them for any length of time, or rot can occur. Although it has received a handsome share of awards itself, so far none of the more than 30 registered hybrids made directly from *Phal. bellinat* have received even one!

Red – *Doritaenopsis Meshach* ‘King David’ Grzesik

White – *Doritaenopsis Purpls Martin* ‘KS’ - Harrow

*Angraecum Lemförde White Beauty*

Class VIII – Vanda Alliance

Blue – *Angraecum Lemförde White Beauty* – Grzesik : *Angraecum Lemförde White Beauty* is correctly spelled with an umlaut over the letter ‘o’ and was registered in 1984 by Lemförder Orchideenzucht in Lemförde, Germany. It is a primary hybrid between two Madagascar species; the celebrated *Angcm. sesquipedale*, a warm grower from wet lowlands, and *Angcm. magdalenae* found in areas several thousand feet above sea level that have a cool, dry period in winter. The resulting hybrid can be somewhat tricky to grow well, preferring very bright warm, wet conditions in summer, and as bright as possible in winter, with slightly less water and cooler temperatures. It is much smaller grower than *Angcm. sesquipedale*, but with similar and slightly fuller evening fragrant flowers. The very first plant awarded, back in 1990, ‘Colossus,’ had larger blooms than any seen since, at about 7.75 inches across, and received a score just two points shy of the First Class Certificate.

Red – *Vanda tessellate* ‘Mary Motes’ FCC/AOS x *Ascocenda John De Biase* ‘Fuchs Indigo’ FCC/AOS - Pulignano

White – *Vanda Crownfox Starburst* - Whitfield

*Stanhopea jenishiana*

Class IX – Miscellaneous

Blue – *Stanhopea jenishiana* – Mellard/Marino : The Stanhopeas are a fascinating group of New World orchids distributed from Mexico to Brazil, normally in wet montane forests. Their flowers are larger to very large, wonderfully unusual and complex, and arise from an inflorescence that normally grows straight downward from the base of a mature pseudobulb. For this reason, a wire basket lined with moss is the best choice as it provides the least amount of obstruction to developing flower

spikes. While the flowers last in good condition for only a few days, they are also wonderfully fragrant, and most species will develop several spikes during the bloom season. The whole development process of the inflorescence is fascinating to watch. *Stanhopea jenischiana* is a species that grows on the western slopes of the Andes from Peru to Panama, and eastward to Venezuela. These areas have a very wet summer, but a dry, humid winter, so this species is one of the few that needs a drier rest in winter in order to flower well in summer. The particular plant exhibited had excellent deep yellow background color and good bold spotting, better than most examples you will see. *Stan. Jenischiana* has a higher than typical flower count for the genus, with 7 to 10 blooms per inflorescence common. In 2004, the clone 'Catorce' received an 87 point Award of Merit with an impressive 14 flowers on a single spike!

Red – *Eulophia* ssp. - Harrow

White – *Cynorchis gibbosa* – Mellard/Marino

Collector's Corner : *Stanhopea* David Mellard

The 60 or so species that make up the genus *Stanhopea* (pronounced stan-hope-ah) are found in Central and South America. The genus is abbreviated *Stan.* and is named for the 4th [Earl of Stanhope](#) (Philip Henry Stanhope) (1781-1855). These mostly epiphytic orchids are found in damp forests from [Mexico](#) to Brazil in warm to intermediate conditions, making them ideal for growing in the southeast. Their usually short, ovate, closely spaced [pseudobulbs](#) have one long, gracefully arching plicate or elliptic [leaf](#), which is difficult to maintain in spotless condition.

The complex, spectacular flowers are usually fragrant but unfortunately very short lived, lasting only 2 to 4 days. Because the pendant inflorescence grows straight down from the pseudobulb (rather than arching out and then downward), the spike usually emerges from the bottom and sometimes from the side of the container; therefore, most stanhopeas are grown in wire and wooden mesh baskets.

The flower structure consists of a pedicel (7), along with sepals (6, middle left) and petals (2) that sway back, exposing the column (1) and complex lip (see labeled diagram). The lip consists of the hypochile (5), mesochile (4), epichile (3), and horn (6, bottom). The flower's fragrance is generated in the hypochile, attracting male euglossine bees. When the bee touches down on the lip, the insect makes a frantic effort to collect the chemical attractant. The slippery, waxy lip is designed to funnel the bee so that it glides down the hypochile thus brushing the column's anther. The stipe adheres to the bee, which dislodges the pollen sacs as the bee moves away. The bee flies away with the stipe and pollen sacs attached. When the bee approaches another flower for its nectar reward, it lands on the hypochile, slurps the rewards, and as it maneuvers through the slippery funnel, the pollen sacs are deposited onto the stigmatic surface of the ovary.



Stanhopea tigrina



(photo courtesy of Jay Pfahl)

The flowers are short lived probably because they are so efficient at attracting euglossine bees. It's an evolutionary advantage that the flower quickly stop attracting bees and other insects that might see the nectar and flower as food, thus damaging the developing capsule.

Most stanhopea flowers flash prominent, elegant horns on the epichile. The exception are the species *Stan. annulata*, *Stan. avicula*, *Stan. cirrhata*, *Stan. ecornuta*, and *Stan. pulla*. A second group has short or truncated horns; they include the species *Stan. candida*, *Stan. grandiflora*, *Stan. reichenbachiana*, *Stan. tricornis*, and the natural hybrid *S. x herrenhusana*. The structure of the labellum of this group is in general, not as complex as other members of the genus. Probably the most common stanhopea in cultivation is *Stan. wardii*.



Stanhopea candida



Stanhopea tricornis



Stanhopea napoensis



Stanhopea panamensis

Stanhopeas look just like other orchid flowers when you look at them from this angle.

RECENT ACTIVITIES OF THE ATLANTA JUDGING CENTER

The following awards were granted at recent sessions of the AOS Atlanta Judging Center. They are provisional awards pending official publication in the *Awards Quarterly*. Certificates of Horticultural Merit and Certificates of Botanical Recognition are also provisional pending identification by an AOS certified taxonomist prior to publication of the award.



Dendrobium falconeri 'Genevieve' CHM/AOS 83 pts.
Natural Spread: 5.0-cm H x 5.0-cm V
Thirty-six striking flowers on three branched, pendulous canes to 63cm with two emerging canes, mounted on wood; sepals and petals white, violet apically; lip white, violet apically, vivid dark maroon basally surrounded by canary yellow; column white; substance fleshy; texture matte; commended as an extremely attractive, hard to grow species seldom seen in cultivation; species native to Thailand; identified by David Banks, June 2007.
Exhibitor: Doug Hartong

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For \$60.00/year, you reap the following benefits:

- 12 issues of *Orchids*, the Society's monthly full color magazine chock full of insightful articles and tempting ads for plants and supplies.
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Paphiopedilum Alma Gavaert 'Peggy Ambler'
HCC/AOS 76 pts. (lawrencianum var. album x Maudiae)
Natural Spread: 11.3-cm H x 9.5-cm V
Three flowers on three erect 30-cm inflorescences; sepals and petals white, sepals with distinct grass green stripes, petals overlaid grass green, darker green warts centrally; pouch chartreuse, staminode chartreuse overlaid dark grass green on stigmatic surface; substance firm; texture matte.
Exhibitor: David Kessler



Ascofinetia Nak Wendy 'Mello Spirit'
AM/AOS 81 pts. (Asca. Meda Arnold x Neof. falcata)
Natural Spread: 2.7-cm H x 3.2-cm V
Twelve flowers and eight buds on two upright inflorescences; flowers uniformly rose-purple; lip lighter rose-purple, darker centrally with contrasting white side lobes and nectary, anther cap cream; substance firm; texture crystalline.
Exhibitor: David Mellard & Sal Marino



© Danny Lentz

Coelogyne usitana 'Suwada' AM/AOS 81 pts.

Natural Spread: 9.6-cm H x 6.6-cm V

One flower and two buds on two inflorescences; sepals and petals light green; lip dark chocolate brown with three prominent keels; column lighter chocolate brown; substance firm; texture crystalline.

Exhibitor: Fred Missbach



© Maureen Pulignano

Phragmipedium Les Dirouilles 'Anita Gould'

HCC/AOS 79 pts. (Sorcerer's Apprentice x Grande)

Natural Spread: 15.1-cm H x 24.5-cm V

One flower and one bud on one 80-cm inflorescence; sepals light green with red-brown venation; twisted petals chartreuse with light cranberry margins coalescing distally; pouch green on exterior, interior lighter green, spotted green and red; staminode green with red hirsute margins on upper half; substance firm; texture glossy.

Exhibitor: David Kessler



© Danny Lentz

Sobralia klotzscheana 'Mello Spirit'

CBR/AOS

Natural Spread: 10.1-cm H x 5.0-cm V

Four aged ivory-colored flowers on four blooming canes; robust plant 120cm tall grown in a 25cm nursery can of chopped coconut husk, sponge rock and sphagnum moss; leaves elliptic, acuminate, rigid, 9cm wide by 27cm long; consistent with genus, flowers fade rapidly exhibiting signs of age; lip disk and entrance of throat blushed light rose, extended into throat as seven diffused lines; substance soft; texture waxy; recognized for rarity in cultivation; species native to Ecuador; identified by John Beckner, OIC#14170.

Exhibitor: David Mellard & Sal Marino

Please visit our web site at

<http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org>

The Atlanta Orchid Society web site contains recent newsletters and articles, cultural information for growing orchids in Atlanta, as well as a calendar of events and information about our annual shows.

Recent Blooms at the Atlanta Botanical Garden, July 2007

Photos © Danny Lentz



(top left) *Rhynchosstylis retusa*

(top right) *Gongora ecornuta*

(middle right) *Masdevallia tuerckheimii*

(bottom right) *Mormodes* sp.

(bottom left) *Sigmatostalix picturatissima*





Maxillaria pseudoreichenheimiana

Photo © Eric Hunt, www.orchidphotos.org