



NOVEMBER EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, November 9, 2020

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

Tim Culbertson on

Amazing Soft-Leaved Orchids

Details of the Zoom meeting will be emailed a few days before the meeting

Amazing Soft-Leaved Orchids

Although I teach middle school kids for a living, one of my passions has always been plants. I began growing orchids as an offshoot from working at Longwood Gardens in Philadelphia just after college.

From the very beginning it was all about Paphs, particularly awarded and select clones of historic importance, of which my collection numbers nearly 3000. While I love finding old, rare stepping stones in paph breeding, I also do a little hybridizing of my own, and growing up my own babies is a blast. I am the second-youngest accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, and have served in various capacities with various orchid societies in California and on the East Coast. I love meeting other people who like orchids too, and doing so often finds me traveling to shows, vendors, and peoples' greenhouses to see the latest and greatest in new hybrids and to get the best orchid gossip. I like to be involved in plants as much as possible: in addition to Longwood, I've worked at the Smithsonian Institution tending to their orchids, and for years for the United States National Arboretum, collecting rare plants and documenting cultivated species and hybrids for their herbarium. In short, I really like plants.

For your meeting, I'll be sharing a presentation entitled "Amazing Soft-Leaved Orchids". These plants are easy to grow and flower, are vigorous, and have low

cultural demands beyond the needs for heat and water. Genera in this group, including *Pescatorea*, *Cochleanthes*, *Bollea*, and *Huntleya*, are under-represented in collections of mixed genera; their beautiful (and often blue) flower colors argue favorably for their inclusion, as does their tendency to produce specimen plants quickly when grown well. By the end of this presentation, you will have a new appreciation of what goes into breeding trends for these types of plants, as well as an appreciation of their beautiful flowers and ease-of-growth. I hope this talk will encourage you to try one in your collection. PowerPoint presentation will include many pictures along with cultural tips

Tim has put together a sale list of plants to accompany his talk. It will be emailed along with the newsletter.



Three specimens of *Cochleanthes discolor*, one of the soft-leaved orchid species offered by Tim

Notice to All New Growers

What questions do you have about growing orchids?

What can we do to help you? Just ask.

Contact Barbara Barnett with your questions at barnettbarbara14@gmail.com

We will get you the answers to your concerns.

If I don't know, I know someone who does!

By the way, it is time to bring your plants indoors when the temperatures get below 40 degrees.

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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](#).

Minutes of September and October Meetings of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The September 14th, 2004 meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society was called to order by Helen Blythe-Hart at 8 p.m. Due to the current Covid19 situation, the meeting was held via Zoom. Helen welcomed the guests who were present. David Mellard made mention of the need for a nominating committee. Danny Lentz introduced Dave Sorokowsky who gave a presentation on Maudiae Paphiopedilums. After the presentation, Dave fielded questions from the members. Danny showed photos sent in by members. The meeting was then adjourned.

The October 12th, 2020 meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society was called to order by Helen Blythe-Hart, President, at 8 p.m. Due to the Covid19 situation, the meeting was held via Zoom. Helen Blythe-Hart welcomed the new members. Helen announced the Society orchid swap which is to be held Saturday, October 25th. Danny Lentz introduced Peter T Lin, who gave a presentation on Compact Vandaceous Species and their Hybrids. After the presentation, Peter fielded questions from members. Danny showed photos that members had sent in of their in-bloom plants. The meeting was then adjourned.

Is something munching buds and young leaves of your plants?

Could roaches be the culprits? Member Marion Finley uses these roach tablets. Here is what she says: “These are little tablets that look a bit like large aspirin. I just place them on a plastic lid and leave them where I think roaches are passing through. I can tell they have eaten them because the edges of the tablets have been nibbled, and I occasionally find only the dead ones.”



EVENTS CALENDAR

November

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Tim Culbertson on Amazing Soft-Leaved Orchids.

14 – American Orchid Society monthly judging, maybe. Contact [Doug Hartong](#)

December

12 – American Orchid Society monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Plants and Potions—Cocktail Party and Orchid Auction

Notes on plants submitted to the virtual meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society for October, 2020

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



Gur. bowringiana (Dan', Fred's, and Vinh's)



Cattleya Alliance

This month we had only one species represented in this section, but three members, Dan Williamson, Fred Missbach and Vinh Nguyen, all had different examples of *Guarianthe bowringiana* in flower. This is not surprising as October is the peak bloom month for this orchid native to Guatemala and Belize. It was originally classed as a *Cattleya* and named after a 19th Century British orchidist, Mr. J.C. Bowring. The correct pronunciation for the species name should be “bow-ring-ee-AH-na,” without the “g” taking on the sound of “j” as many growers are inclined to say. In 2003, it, along with the other three cluster flowered species from Central America were separated from *Cattleya* into a new genus, *Guarianthe*, due to genetic differences. While the new name seems a bit awkward to pronounce, it means “beautiful flower.” *Gur. bowringiana* is most often found growing into large mats atop rock boulders or outcroppings, though it does also sometimes grow on trees. The base of each pseudobulb is swollen and the new growth is covered by somewhat inflated sheaths, which are distinguishing characteristics when the plant is out of flower. This is a very tough orchid that can grow to a robust size with good care, which makes it an easy plant for beginners, but also means it can outgrow its

welcome over time. I have a very nice plant of the bright violet “coerulea” form like Fred’s, that hangs in the back of my greenhouse and is at least 8 feet in all directions. There are a number of color forms, but the pure white form with no brush of purple in the throat is the rarest and most valuable. The only real downsize to this species is that the flowers are not very long lasting, a trait often passed along to its hybrids.

Larry Kikket showed us one of the classic primary hybrids in this group, *Cattlianthe Chocolate Drop*, a cross between *Cattleya guttata* and *Gur. aurantiaca* registered back in 1965 by Stewart’s Orchids that is still popular when new batches become available. The most commonly seen form is ‘Kodama,’ AM/AOS, which



Cattlianthe Chocolate Drop

looks very similar to Larry’s plant. There is also a rare yellow variant sometimes available. This orchid can become a large specimen with time. I showed off a primary hybrid at the opposite end of the scale in terms of size, *Cattleya* Roy Evelyn ‘MBF’ AM/AOS, a cross between two miniature species from Brazil, *C. sincorana* and *C. brevipedunculata*. Both of these species come from niche habitats in the harsh interior of that country when they live on dew, mist and scant rainfall. This plant originally came from Bill and Cathy Meincer’s Florafarm Nursery years ago, and I got it by way of Bob Grzesik. I grow it in lava rock in a clay pot and hang it up high in my greenhouse. In 2015 it got an Award of Merit at the Alabama Orchid Show in Birmingham. By 2017 it had 18



C. Roy Evelyn 'MBF' AM/AOS



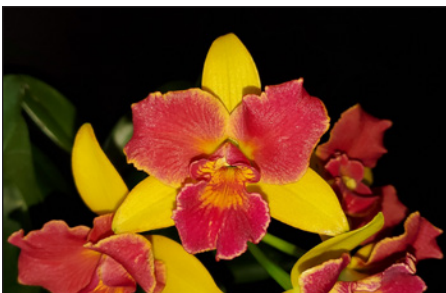
C. Dream Catcher

flowers but was pulling itself out of the pot. I divided it into 6 plants and this is one of those divisions. I sometimes get a few flowers in March or April, but always the biggest display in September or October.

Danny and Dianne showed off their C. Dream Catcher, another wonderful miniature that combines four different Brazilian species and can flower almost any time of the year. I keep trying to self-pollinate or sib cross my plants of this great little wonder, but I have never been able to get a pod to take.

In the compact size, Jon and Fi showed us their *Rhyncattleanthe* Burana Beauty 'Buenflor,' AM/AOS. This version differs from the more commonly seen 'Burana,' HCC/AOS clone in that the purple overlay almost entirely covers the two petals. It is a dense grower whose family tree is a virtual "kitchen sink" of species. The clusters of up to five, fragrant flowers can come almost any time of the year.

Larry Kikkert once again showed us his *Brassocattleya* Hamlyn's Magic, which



Rhyncattleanthe Burana Beauty 'Buenflor'
AM/AOS



Bc. Hamlyn's Magic

was in bloom for the July virtual meeting. The frequency of flower is one of the traits that make *Brassavola nodosa* hybrids perennially popular.

Dan Williamson submitted a great photo of the spotty C. Piñata Surprise, which probably straddles the line between compact and standard growth sizes. It mixes several species from Brazil that range from small to large with varied bloom seasons. Likely this orchid has good fragrance and can bloom more than once per year. The cross was registered by amateur breeder Keith Davis in 2009.

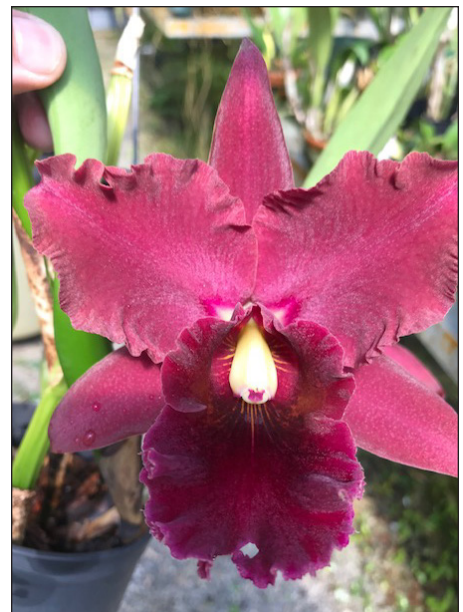
The balance of the entries in this group were various large flowered hybrids. If I had to pick out my top favorite from these options, it would be Fred Missbach's *Rlc.* Yonges Island 'Mr. T' which has absolutely huge vivid purple flowers. This 1987 introduction from Carter and Holmes is another offspring of the famous *Rlc.* Oconee, and bears another obscure place name from the state of South Carolina. Yonges Island is actually a peninsula in the Wadmalaw River, which is an arm of the North Edisto River just to the south of Charleston. Neither body of water is a true river, but merely tidal estuaries on the inland side of coastal barrier islands. Fred also showed us a different form of *Rlc.* Port Royal Sound from the 'Raye' clone he submitted for the August meeting. This one is called 'Black Bart' and is appropriately a deep wine purple. I discuss the cross in more detail in the September newsletter. I checked, and while Carter and Holmes doesn't have either of these available in their current listings, they have three crosses with similar breeding



C. Piñata Surprise



Rlc. Yonges Island 'Mr. T'



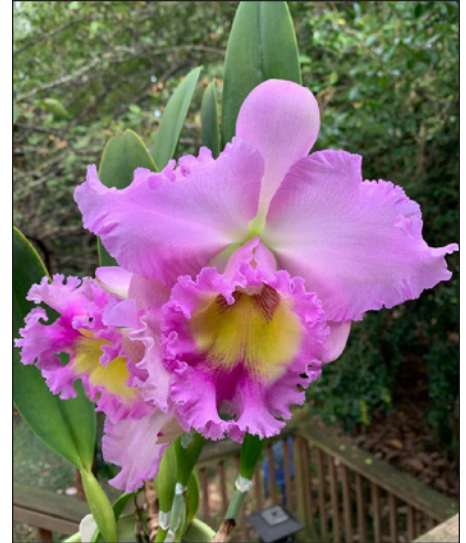
Rlc. Port Royal Sound 'Black Bart'



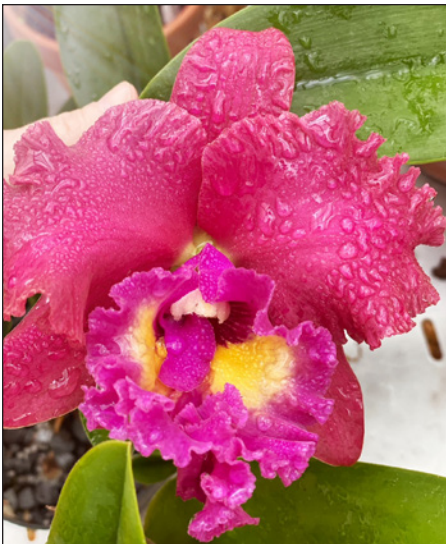
Rlc. Shingong Beauty 'King of Red'



Rlc. Odom's Orange Dream



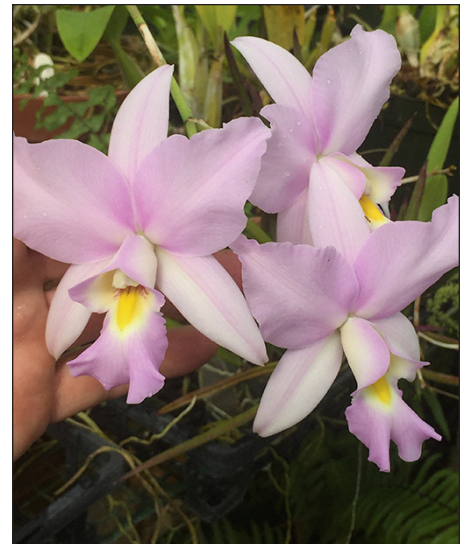
Not *Cattlianthe Portia*



C. Tainan City 'General'



Rlc. Spring Gem 'Spring Pink'



Carson's mystery *Laelia* hybrid

for anyone who is a fan of deeply colored, fragrant cattleyas.

Maegan Brass showed off two examples of cattleya breeding from Taiwan that build on the heritage on *Rlc*. *Oconee* and introduced about a decade later than the above selections. *Rlc. Shingong Beauty 'King of Red'* has a very large flower as the photos illustrate, though more purple than actual red in this clone. *C. Tainan City 'General'* has a more salmon red tone, which can be quite striking under certain conditions. This particular photo shows a slight deformation of the flower that can occasionally occur in this color range, though probably will resolve itself as the plant grows stronger and more mature. Maegan also showed us what must be a different seedling of *Rlc. Odom's Orange Dream* (Hawaiian Thrill

x *Waianae King*) from the one she had in bloom for the August meeting. This one has much less purple in the lip and really shows of the delicate peachy-apricot coloring.

In the more traditional orchid lavender shades, Fred showed us his *Rlc. Spring Gem 'Spring Pink'* registered by Suwada Orchids of Japan in 2003. Looking at the background of this orchid I see good doses of various *Cattleya* species with bloom periods in every one of the four seasons, so perhaps this one can bloom in spring as well as fall. Dan Williamson showed us a very large and showy flower that is apparently labeled as *Cattlianthe Portia*. It, however, is definitely *not* that orchid, which is a cross between *Gur. bowringiana* and *C. labiata*, which has clusters of medium sized flow-

ers. Another mystery plant was Carson Barnes' entry, which definitely has *Laelia anceps* in its background. However, there are too many progeny of that species with similar looks to narrow it down.

Jon and Fi showed off a couple of photos of *Cattleya White Reception*. The



C. White Reception



C. Houston (Ladies?)

name is probably a play on the fact that this white beauty is an offspring of *C. Hawaiian Wedding Song*. I got in some of these a few years ago and kept a couple for my own enjoyment because they can produce large white flowers in the middle of summer when few white cattleyas are to be found. Marion Finley submitted a photo of a white cattleya she labeled as *C. Houston*. There is not a registered hybrid with that name, but there is one called *C. Houston Ladies*, that based on the parents, could possibly produce white flowers.



Den. lasianthera



Den. tangerinum

amazonsmile

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Dendrobium Alliance

Carson Barnes showed of two great species in the Spatulata group this month. *Dendrobium lasianthera* is considered one of the showiest species of the group, but also one of the more difficult to grow and flower in cultivation. It comes from very humid, hot, lowland forests in Papua and New Guinea. The plants can reach three feet tall. *Den. tangerinum* comes from the same region but can grow up to 4,000 feet above sea level, so is easier to grow in cultivation. It generally remains at or under two feet in height and can be especially floriferous when well grown, with awarded examples exhibiting hundreds of blooms. Both species have been widely used in hybridization.

Corliss' *Den. Susie Gallis* is an example of what is often called "semi-ante-

lope" breeding, which mixes members of the Spatulata group with those of the Phalaenathe. In this instance, *Den. canaliculatum*, a miniature member of the Spatulata section is a grandparent and helps keep this plant fairly compact.

Larry Kikkert showed off the dramatic bicolored blooms of *Den. Ekapol 'Panda No.2'* AM/AOS, which, despite having some Spatulata ancestors four generations back, is heavily influenced by the large amount of *Den. phalaenopsis* in its background leaving little trace of the "antelope horn" look.

I submitted a photo of *Den. victoriae-reginae*, with several clusters of violet blue flowers closely spaced on the upper portion of a cane. This species from the mountains of the Philippines is not a fan of hot temperatures and I have had trou-



Den. Susie Gallis



Den. Ekapol 'Panda No. 2'

ble keeping them going in the past. This is a plant in a batch I have been growing under LED lights in my greenhouse, and they are all doing much better for me under these conditions. The species is gradually deciduous and generally blooms sporadically on older, leafless stems.



Den. victoriae-reginae

Vinh Nguyen showed us *Den. bullenianum*, which has similar habits but is a larger, more sprawling plant that comes from lower elevations in the Philippines and also from Western Samoa. Each inflorescence, arising from bare canes, can contain a couple of dozen small deep yellow flowers with purple stripes.

Vinh also showed off another of the peculiar species from Australia, *Den. cucumerinum*, which produces succulent pickle-like leaves off a wandering rhizome, and spidery, nonresupinate, creamy white flowers with purple stripes. This one comes from New South Wales, the province that includes the metropolis of Sydney.



Den. bullenianum



Den. cucumerinum



American Orchid Society

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Vaughnara. Fiftieth Anniversary 'Newberry'

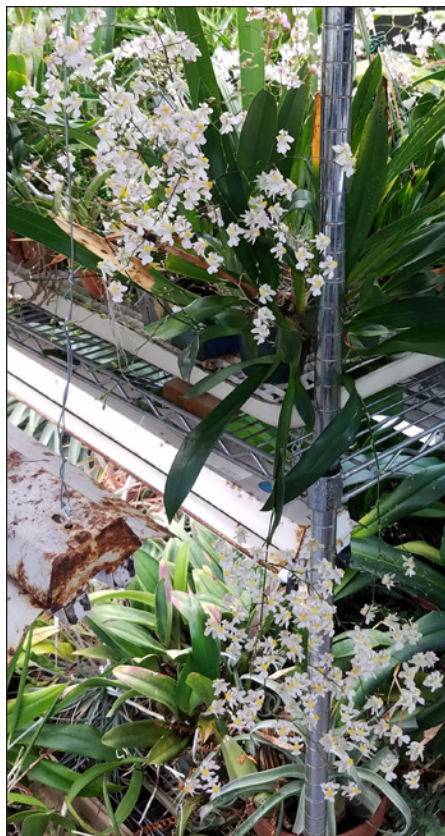
Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

Larry Kikkert submitted the only plant that falls into this category, *Vaughnara* Fiftieth Anniversary 'Newberry' which combines our native species, *Epidendrum magnoliae* with *Bc. Richard Mueller*. It is probably the best performing cross ever made from that species, and can flower several times per year, eventually making a compact but floriferous specimen.



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.



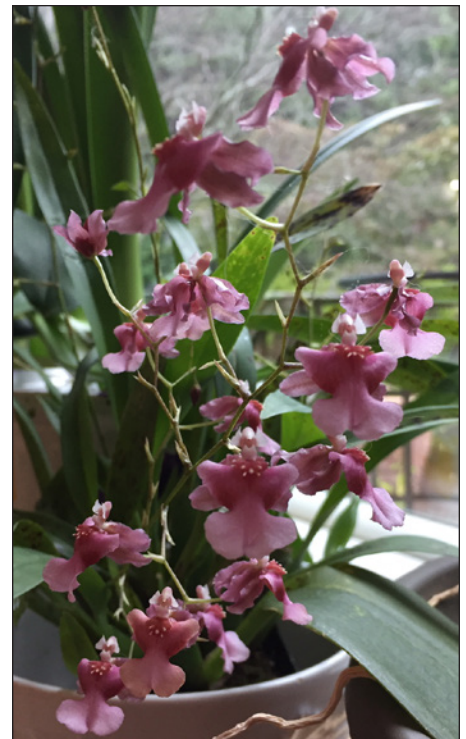
Onc. Tsiku Marguerite



Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'

Oncidium Alliance

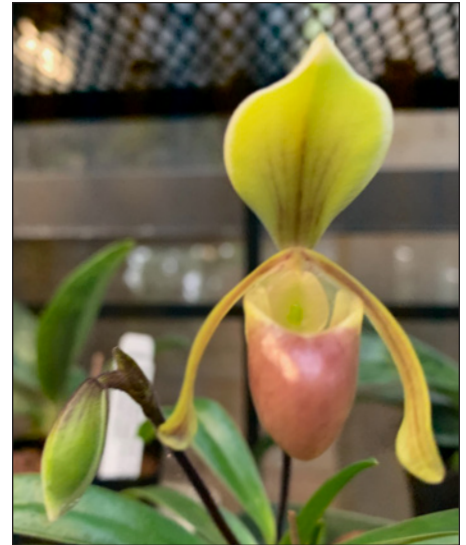
This month we had three hybrids that are descended and receive fragrance from *Oncidium sotoanum*, a compact, small flowered species from Mexico and Central America. The best expression of that trait may be in Jon and Fi's *Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'*, which most noses read as "chocolately." This plant is so well known that even people with limited exposure to orchids have heard of it and ask for it, keeping growers busy meeting the demand. Danny & Dianne's *Onc. Tsiku Marguerite* is a mix of *Onc. sotoanum* and another dwarf species, *Onc. cheiroporum*, keeping it very compact and floriferous. And Maria Beug-Deeb submitted a photo of a plant that had lost its tag, but is almost



Onc. Rosy Sunset?



Miltonopsis Pink Aurora



Paph. helenae



Schunkeara Big Shot 'Hilo Sparkle'

certainly *Onc.* Rosy Sunset, which mixes the two species just mentioned with *Onc. fuscatum*, making it a slightly larger, but equally floriferous plant, but also adding a medicinal undertone to the scent.

Jon and Fi also showed us once again, *Schunkeara* Big Shot 'Hilo Sparkle,' which I write about a more length in last month's newsletter, and they also submitted a couple of excellent shots of *Miltoniopsis* Pink Aurora, which has a wonderful pattern of pink and purple over a pale yellow background.



Paph. henryanum



Paph. Wössner Helene

Slipper Alliance

Barbara Barnett showed us two small growing and fairly recently discovered species in bloom. *Paphiopedilum helenae*, from limestone bluffs and ridges in Northeastern Vietnam was not described until 1996, while *Paph. henryanum*, which we also saw from Danny and Dianne last month, comes from the border of Vietnam and China and was described in 1987. The former species is one of the parents of Barbara's *Paph. Wössner Helene*, which combines it with *Paph. charlesworthii*.

Danny and Dianne's *Paph. Raingreen's Doll* is mostly a mix of *Paph. charlesworthii* and *Paph. henryanum*, which is evident in the look of the flower, but four other species, including rather surpris-



Paph. Raingreen's Doll

ingly, the multifloral *Paph. philippinense* make up small parts of its ancestry.

Carson Barnes showed another of his awarded examples of *Paph. moquettianum*. This one he is calling 'Flurry' AM/AOS. He has three other awarded plants that I could find called 'Foamy,' AM/AOS, 'Flippy,' HCC/AOS and 'Floppy,' HCC/AOS. This species from Java can have up to three rather large flowers in succession. His photo shows off well the unusual textured surface of the dorsal sepal.



Phal. amboinensis

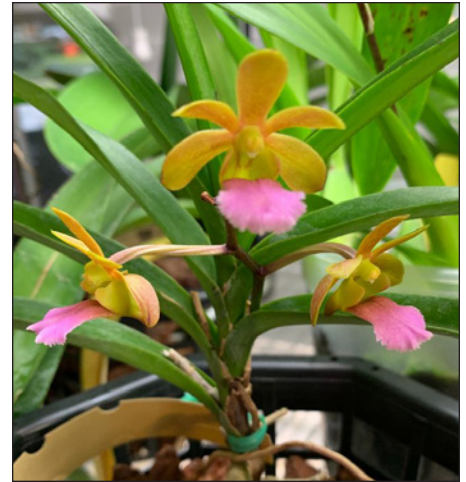
Phalaenopsis Alliance

The only entry in this section this month was Jon and Fi's *Phalaenopsis amboinensis*, a beautifully grown plant with flowers on four separate inflorescences. This seems to be the same plant that was in bloom for the July meeting, attesting to the fact that there are recorded flow-

erings in every month of the year for this species found on Ambon Island in the Moluccan Archipelago and also on the island of Sulawesi. The strong color pattern of the flowers has been useful in hybridization and there are now well over 17,000 registered hybrids with this species in their ancestry.



Paph. moquettianum 'Flurry' AM/AOS

*V. tessellata* Robert AM/AOS*V. merrellii**V. Motes Pixie Dust*

Vandaceous Alliance

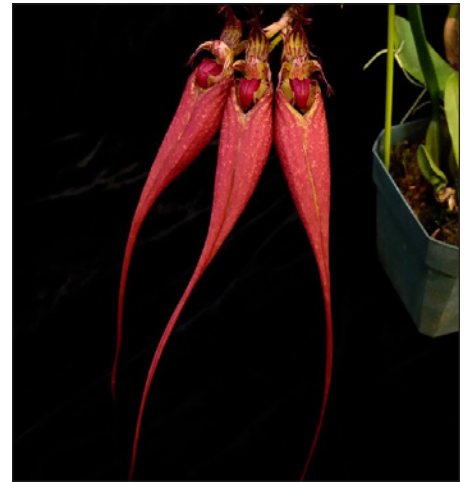
This month we were treated to a pair of interesting *Vanda* species. Carson Barnes showed us *Vanda tessellata* 'Robert' AM/AOS, which comes from Sri Lanka, India, Nepal and Burma, generally at low elevations, although the range includes areas with cool nights in winter, making it a good intermediate to warm grower. This awarded example has rather faint tessellation on the segments but fuller form than typical examples. Jason and Ed submitted a photo of *V. merrellii*, a species from the Philippines with richly colored flowers. Their example has good form for the species as well. Both of these species have been fairly widely used in hybridization, especially in conjunction with the former *Ascocentrum* species that are now merged into *Vanda*.

Dan Williamson submitted a photo of *V. Motes Pixie Dust*, which has *V. vietnamica* (formerly *Christensoniana vietnamica*) as one parent. That dwarf species with mostly green flowers tends to produce delicately colored offspring, but this one has rather strong hues and great contrast between the lip and the flower segments. There was a plant of this cross awarded in 2018, the year of its registration, but the colors described for it seem much more subdued than Dan's plant.

Jon and Fi showed us their *V. Siriwan*, with full white flowers blushed purple and a deeper purple lip. It is hard to imagine that this cross is more than 50% *V. sanderiana*, given this delicate color. I assume the alba form of that species must factor in. The also showed off their

Vandachostylis Lou Sneary 'Bluebird,' which I wrote about last month. Chances are, with the extended bloom season of this orchid, we will see more of them in bloom into winter. My plant now has four "pups" large enough to spike and has been blooming from various places for the last two months already.

*V. Siriwan**Vandachostylis*. Lou Sneary 'Bluebird'

*Ctsm.* Orchidglade*Lysudamola* Red Jewel 'Sweet Baby' AM/AOS*Bulb.* Lovely Elizabeth*Ctsm.* Jumbo Eagle*Cyc.* Golden Showers

Miscellaneous

With consistency, we get to see many unusual and wonderful orchids in this "kitchen sink" category. This month, Carson Barnes showed off the large flowers of *Catasetum* Orchidglade. This was one on the first *Catasetinae* crosses registered in the modern era, dating back to 1974. It comes in a kaleidoscope of colors and patterns owing to the variability the two parents, *Ctsm. expansum* x *pileatum*. Dating from the year 2000, Danny and Dianne's *Ctsm.* Jumbo Eagle is also a primary hybrid made with *Ctsm. expansum*. In this case the other parent is *Ctsm. sanguineum* and the results could not be more different than the previous entry. Their example is particularly striking in both pattern and color.

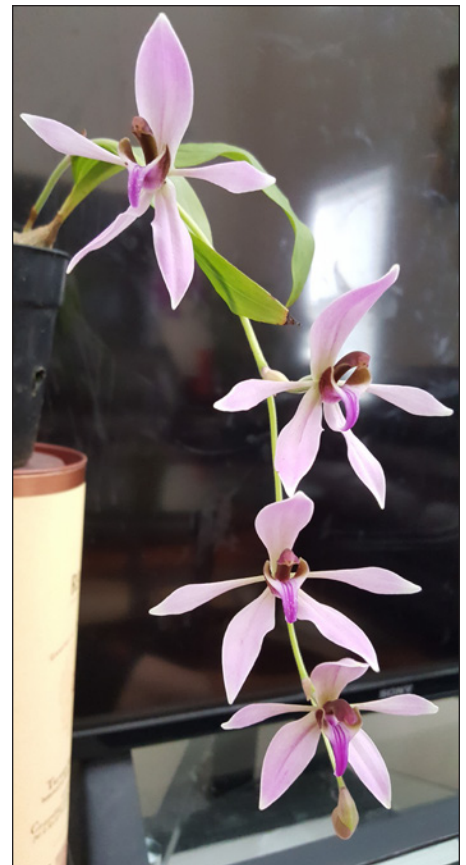
In the same group, Véronique showed off a nicely flowered *Cycnoches* Golden Showers, an excellent yellow flower that gets good size from *Cyc. chlorochilon* and nice bud count from *Cyc. herrenhusanum*.

Another impressive bloomer is Danny & Dianne's *Lysudamola* Red Jewel 'Sweet Baby,' AM/AOS. While the nothogenus is a combination of *Anguloa* + *Lycaste* + *Sudamerlycaste*, more than 90% of the genetic "pie chart" for this beauty is made up of *Lycaste* species which certainly dominate in the look of the flowers. This was widely available a few years ago, but you will struggle to find it now.

I showed an example of a remake of *Bulbophyllum* Lovely Elizabeth (Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry, FCC/AOS x *rothschildianum* 'A-doribil II'), one of only two crosses I have successfully made in that genus. This one is unusually dark and should be impressive when full-

grown. Next month I'll show a side by side comparison between this one and a sister seedling from the same pod that is blooming now. They are quite different even though only two species factor into their genetics. The weird flowers almost always make an appearance just in time for the Halloween season!

Another species named in honor of the Rothschild family is Vinh Nguyen's *Ancistrochilus rothschildianus*, an unusual deciduous species that grows as an epi-

*Ancistrochilus rothschildianus*

*Bulb. flavofimbriata**Muscarella alata**Polystacha neobenthamia**Masd. microptera*

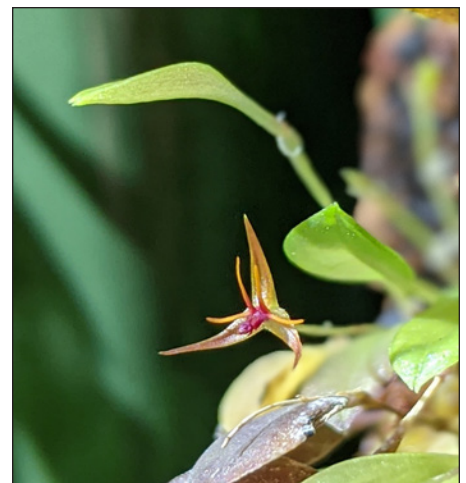
phyte in equatorial Africa. This one can eventually make a specimen loaded with flowers and deserves to be seen more often.

Our Pleurothallid master, George Guenther, once again delighted us with six tiny treasures from his extraordinary collection. Kew now returns *Epicrianthes flavofimbriata* to its originally described genus of *Bulbophyllum*. Obviously, it isn't a Pleurothallid since it comes from Borneo, and the plant isn't that tiny since the pendant stems can trail down at least a foot. But the small flowers borne in the leaf axils are quite amazing as George's close up photo reveals. They look uncannily like a spider sitting the middle of some odd spotted *Masdevallia* bloom. George *did* have a real *Masdevallia* species to show off, the whimsical looking *Masd. microptera*, whose curly tipped flowers are huge compared to the tuft of foliage. Another even tinier pleurothallid is his *Muscarella alata*, whose tuft of small foliage fits neatly into a tiny clay

pot, while the liberal smattering of tiny flowers hovers above on thin wiry stems.

George really showed off his photography skills in capturing three tiny *Lepanthes* species in intricate, close up detail. There is not a lot written about any of these beyond the fact that they all grow from 4,000 up to 7,000 feet above sea level in their respective montane forest habitats. The super tiny *Lepanthes eros* is from Colombia, while the orange flowered *Lepanthes lucifer* is from Ecuador and *Lepanthes tipulifera* hails from Costa Rica.

While all the entries up to this point in the group are primarily epiphytic orchids, we had a good selection of terrestrial species as well. Carson showed us a good close up on the flowers of *Polystacha neobenthamia*, a species from Tanzania that is both terrestrial and lithophytic, producing dense clusters of white flowers with a purple spotted lip atop tall stems that compete with the grasses

*Leptanthes eros**Leptanthes lucifer**Leptanthes tipulifera*



Spiranthes odorata (top: Doug's;
bottom: Mark's among *Sarracenia leucophylla*)

amongst which it grows. The blooms are described as long lived and fragrant.

Both Doug Hartong and myself showed off good examples of one of our native orchids, *Spiranthes odorata*, commonly known as the Fragrant Ladies' Tresses Orchid. Doug has a nice dense stand growing in a pot, while mine are naturalized in our large bog garden along



Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite x *Calanthe Grouville*

with *Sarracenia* and other companion plants. Originally, when we constructed the bog garden about a decade ago, a small handful of these were planted out. Over time they have seeded widely throughout the site, this year producing hundreds of spikes. I was surprised to even find a clump blooming on top of a pile of old lumber behind the shed closest to our man-made wetland! The natural range of this species is throughout the southeast US as far north as Virginia generally in wetlands or persistently damp areas.

Danny and Dianne showed off an as of yet unregistered cross between *Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite* x *Calanthe Grouville*. Robust in growth, like the first parent, the flowers more closely resemble the second. Given plenty of water and feeding during growth, this orchid can fill a large pot quickly. While this seedling batch has pretty much sold out, there is a new one available crossing *Phaiocalanthe Kyrptonite* with *Calanthe vestita* that so far seems to stay a little smaller in size but is still very vigorous.

Lastly, but definitely not least, Nicholas Rust once again amazed us with beautifully grown *Habenaria* species and hybrids that most of us have never seen before. *Hab. Cerebellum* is so new that it isn't even yet in my latest update of Orchidwiz. The RHS lists it as a cross between *Hab. medioflexa* and *Hab. carnea*, added to the register on August

10th of this year, and registered by Nicholas himself. The former species is one of those with a deeply fringed lip that is native to SE Asia but not seen much in cultivation. This translates into almost birdwing like side lobes to the lip in this cross, while the sepals show just a faint brush of the rosy tones of the other parent. Next we saw a spectacular community pot of blooming seedlings of *Hab. crinifera*, along with a good close up showing the flower detail. This is truly an extraordinary display. This species is described as coming from Sri Lanka and India into the Eastern Himalayas. *Hab. Fornix* also sent me scrambling for information. It is another registration by Nicholas from this year, in this case combining *Hab. crinifera* and *Hab. medioflexa*.



Hab. Cerebellum

*Hab. crinifera*

Once again, we are treated to an impressive compot of blooming seedlings along with a good close up showing the intricacies of the flower. Finally, we get a wonderful shot of the entire plant and flowers of *Pecatbenaria* Little Angel, which is *Hab. carnea* x *Pecteilis hawkesiana*. And lest you think Nicholas has now shown us the lion's share of what can be done in this breeding group, there are apparently more than 700 species of *Habenaria* and 9 species of *Pecteilis* described, leaving plenty of opportunity for yet more new things for us to see!

*Hab. Fornix**Pecatbenaria* Little Angel