



OCTOBER EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, October 12, 2020

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

Peter T. Lin on

Compact Vandaceous Species and their Hybrids

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

Compact Vandaceous Species and their Hybrids

Peter started growing orchids over 35 years ago, but then stopped due to school and starting a career. It wasn't until about 15 years ago that the orchid "bug" came back and he is now heavily involved once again! He is an accredited judge with the American Orchid Society, and a hybridizer of mini-catts. He enjoys meeting with other orchid enthusiasts, and can often be found at various orchid shows and societies around the country.

Due to limited growing space, Peter likes to specialize in miniature orchids, both species and hybrids, and has re-

ceived numerous AOS awards. His interests in orchids include Dendrobiums, Angraecoids, and Neofinetias. He is also known as "Mr Sophronitis" as he has a passion for growing and collecting them. He maintains a collection of a thousand or more orchids at his home in Southern California in 3 small greenhouses, outdoors, as well as an offsite greenhouse.

Peter will talk about the many different small growing species and hybrids within the Vanda alliance. This fast paced PowerPoint presentation will include many pictures along with cultural tips



Vanda testata (left) and *V. falcata* (right), two compact species from Barbara Barnett's collection

Plant and supplies swap / sale

Sunday, 25 October

11 a.m. – 1 p.m.

**Atlantic Station
Parking Deck**

286 16th Street Entrance
Atlanta, GA 30363

**Got plants and supplies
that need a new home?**

**— Come and swap them
for stuff you need**

**Interested in growing
your collection?**

**— Come and get cool plants
for cheap!**

We will meet inside the Parking Deck, Rain or Shine
**Social Distancing
and Masks Required**
Semi-Outdoors, but protected.

Parking is Free for 2 hours or less.

Click on the link below for a picture of the entrance of the parking deck

<https://goo.gl/maps/p9dfZcgzD-Wid8dFa8>



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 fourth quarter will purchase a membership for the following year. Contact the society's Treasurer (see page 2) for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website: www.atlantaorchidsociety.org

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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 61: Number 10 – October 2020

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](#).

Welcome to new members!

Michael Beers, Kristy Nicholas, and Ron Utterback (Atlanta, Ga)
Lydia Adams & Ryan Hanes (Flintville, Tn.)

Timothy Deeb-Swihart (Atlanta, Ga.)
Sharon Lawson (Forest Park, Ga)
Charles Milsted (Hoschton, Ga)

Nominations and Elections to the Board of the AtIOS

Our nominating committee this year is chaired by Barbara Barnett. The other members are Dan Williamson, Danny Lentz, Kyle Brooks, and Véronique Perrot.

None of the current officers reach their term limit at the end of the year, and all are willing to continue serving in their current roles. Trustees Trac Nguyen and Maegan Brass will reach the end of their three-year term. Atushi Matsumoto and Carl Quattlebaum will continue their terms as trustees through 2021, and Larry Kikkert and Véronique Perrot through 2022.

We welcome back Jason Mills-Shoulta to the Board, and we thank Maegan for accepting to be a trustee for another three years.

Here is the slate of officers and trustees proposed for election to the board for 2021:

President: Helen Blythe-Hart;
Vice-President: Danny Lentz
Treasurer: Jon Crate
Secretary: Jody Gomez
Trustee: Maegan Brass
Trustee: Jason Mills-Shoulta

The election will be held at the November meeting

International Speaker Day on 31 October 2020

Confinement and all the bother with Covid-19 is a pain on multiple fronts, but it does bring some unexpected benefits. The series of talks organized by Orchid Digest is one of them. It will allow us to hear talks given live by orchids special-

ists in South Africa, Colombia, Equador and Brazil without having to fly anywhere. Registration is \$30. See the link for details:

www.orchiddigest.com/speaker-day-2020.html

A message from Terry Furuta

Normally I give my bloomed out phals that I replace in the arrangements in lobbies of buildings to a lady who re-blooms them and gives them to the Atlanta Battered Women's Shelters. All the shelters are closed and she has run out of room for plants.

I would be happy to give the phals to anyone in the AtIOS who wants to pick them up from my shop. Most of them came from Peach State Orchids and they

are big, healthy plants.

I have some oncidiums, dendrobiums and other special plants that I would sell for \$5 to \$10 each if anyone wants them. I have a grammatophyllum that is huge for \$15.

Take care!

Terry

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Atlanta, Georgia 30305

terry@terryfurutadesigns.com

EVENTS CALENDAR

October

10 – American Orchid Society monthly judging (tentative): Magnolia Room, ABG, 1 p.m. Contact Doug Hartong to confirm judging will take place (orchid169345@gmail.com)

12 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, via Zoom: Peter T. Lin on Compact Vandaceous Species and their Hybrids

25 – Plant and supplies swap/sale, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.; see front page for details

31 – Orchid Digest international speaker day; www.orchiddigest.com/speak-er-day-2020.html

November

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Tim Culbertson and Breeding with the Pescatorea Alliance and the Search for Blue.

14 – American Orchid Society monthly judging

December

12 – American Orchid Society monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Plants and Potions—Cocktail Party and Orchid Auction (see at right)

Plants and Potions

Cocktail Party and Orchid Auction

You're cordially invited to our December meeting for a virtual holiday cocktail party, where we sip our libations of choice and socialize with our fellow Orchid Enthusiasts from the comfort of our homes over Zoom. We have many orchids to be auctioned as well as show and tell of our orchids in bloom. I'll be spreading the Holiday Spirit by wearing my Santa hat—hope you put on some festive jingle too!!

Thank you to everyone who has participated in our orchid meetings since we've had to go virtual in April. It's been a crazy year- I for one, am so happy to have beautiful blooming orchids as a respite to the craziness going on in our country.

My windowsill Garden of Eden is filled with slippers and moth orchids, queenly Cattleyas and dancing ladies. There are so many wonderful orchids to grow- I feel very grateful to have had the amazing line-up of speakers this year to share more about these diverse plants with us. It's great to be able to bend the ears of people who grow under lights, in coolers, greenhouses and to be able to get advise about culture, potting or dividing these incredible plants our extraordinary members grow.

Much appreciation to VP Danny Lentz for facilitating our monthly meetings, seamlessly conducting the Zoom, doing our auctions and for finding us amazing speakers from around the world that we wouldn't have been able to have otherwise. Thank you also to David Mel-lard for helping me transition into being president and Barbara Barnett not only for her help with Membership, but her unsung behind-the-scenes help to make our society succeed. Véronique has done a terrific job with our informative newsletter, putting together the photos of our virtual Plant Table about which Mark Reinke of Marble Branch Farms so thoughtfully informs us.

Big thank you's to Nancy for her generous donation and to Jon for keeping a tally on the totals. Maegan reaches out to new members and Jody has come through for us above and beyond just being Secretary. Thank you to all of the Board Members and Officers that keep our group vibrant and growing but most importantly, our members- we would not exist without you.

Happy Holidays—hope to see you next year.

Respectfully yours,
HB



HB's Garden of Eden

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

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



C. labiata forma coerulea

Cattleya Alliance

We have a few species exhibited in this group that deserve further discussion for various reasons. Danny & Dianne showed us a rare color form of the “type” species for the genus *Cattleya*. Their plant of *C. labiata forma coerulea* had three large showy flowers with pale mauve segments and a deeper violet lip, with a hint of yellow radiating out of the throat. This species was described in 1824 and was the first cattleya to be imported back to England. The name of the entire genus, if fact, was given in honor of William Cattley, the British Merchant and Horticulturalist who first flowered this species in his collection. This orchid was described as coming from the Organ mountains near Rio De Janeiro, perhaps with the purpose of intentionally misleading collectors, but was later found to occur in the states of Ceará Paráiba, Pernambuco, Alagoas, and Piauí, which are at the far northern end of the eastern mountain ranges of Brazil. Numerous color forms of *C. labiata* exist and it factors into more than 20,000 registered hybrids. The similar looking *C. warneri* was for many years often sold as *C. labiata* but can be distinguished from it because it blooms in the spring rather than the fall.

Vinh Nguyen showed us another Brazilian species he submitted under the old

name of *Laelia dayana*. When the Brazilian *Laelia* species were merged with *Cattleya* in 2008, that name presented a problem because there was already a natural hybrid described as *C. x dayana (forbesii x guttata)*, as well as a registered cross from 1908 originally called *Lc. Dayana (C. velutina x L. crispa)* that would also be called *Cattleya Dayana* under the new changes. To avoid additional confusion, the species was renamed *Cattleya bicalhoi*. This miniature grower bears a similarity to *Cattleya pumila* but comes from mountains closer to the coast in the states of Rio de Janeiro and Minas Gerais. It can be distinguished from that species by having smaller, somewhat more “droopy” flowers with a greater contrast between the segments and the darker lip that also has more prominent keels. Both species require attention to grow well and do best mounted with frequent water and cool to mild temperatures.

HB (Helen Blythe-Hart) presented a brightly colored species commonly labeled *Hexisea imbricata*. However, it and the other members of the genus have been reassigned as of 2002 to *Scaphyglottis*. While it may not look at first glance like it belongs in this section, the Mid-American Orchid Conference show schedule puts this species in class 16 “Cattleya allied genera species other



C. bicalhoi (formerly *Laelia dayana*)

than above.” *Scgl. imbricata* is one of the showiest species in the genus and comes from wet lowland and montane forests over a wide range that includes southwestern Mexico, Central America and northern South America.

Switching to hybrids, crosses involving *Brassavola nodosa* were again well represented. I showed off one of my prized possessions, a division of an awarded form of one of the famous and important parents: *Brassocattleya* Rich-



Scgl. imbricata (formerly *Hexisea imbricata*)



Brassocattleya Richard Mueller 'Summerfields Orchids'

ard Mueller 'Summerfield Orchids,' AM/AOS. This plant is almost always in bloom for me. The cross, originally registered in 1965, combined *B. nodosa* with the then newly described *C. milleri*. It took a while for hybridizers to recognize its value as a parent, but an explosion of new crosses using it were registered in



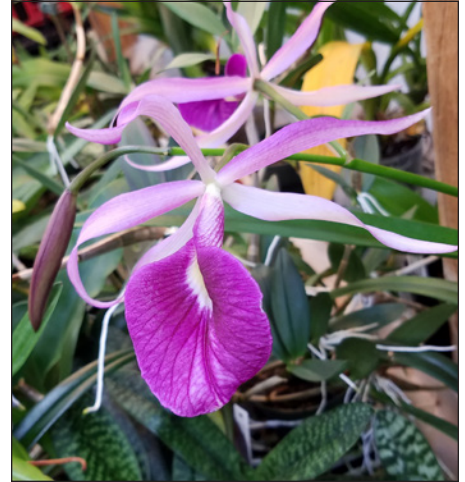
Bc. Yellow Bird (HB's)

the 1990s and 2000s, and more than 200 named crosses have descended from it. Many of those are now becoming scarce, so I am using this plant to help create future generations of free blooming, easy growing "nodosa type" cattleyas. One such cross that *has* enjoyed recent remakes is *Brassocattleya* Yellow Bird, and both Dan Williamson and HB showed off plants in bloom of this one that takes *Bc.* Richard Mueller back to *B. nodosa*. This orchid tends to bloom heavily in winter and then repeats some flowering in late summer. If kept long enough, it can form a specimen with hundreds of long-lasting flowers open at once.

Jon and Fi once again showed us their *Bc.* Tigrinodosa in flower, a cross that, as I mentioned before, combines *B. nodosa* with *C. tigrina* and was just recently registered by Jon. Danny and Dianne



Bc. Tigrinodosa



Bc. Morning Glory



Cattlianthe Trick or Treat

showed us a nice dark example of *Bc.* Morning Glory, which combines *B. nodosa* with *C. purpurata*. This cross, dating from 1958, is another that is so good that it gets remade from time to time.

Danny and Dianne's *Cattlianthe* Trick or Treat is something of a temporal anomaly. This cross is a normally very reliable later winter bloomer. Perhaps the fact that they grow it under lights has altered its usual flowering time.

Two great compact crosses that I talked about last month were once again on display. Dan Williams showed off *Rlc.* Little Toshie 'Yellow Rose' and Larry Kikkert presented *Rhyncattleanthe* Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow.' Larry please note how I have presented the name here—that is how the tag should read.

We also had two classic large flowered hybrids to admire this month present-



Rlc. Little Toshie 'Yellow Rose'

ed by Dan Williamson. *Cattleya* Senhora Diane Leitao 'Classic' was registered in 1977 by Sea Goddess Nursery, once co-owned by the late actor, Raymond Burr.



C. Senhora Diane Leitao 'Classic'



Rlc. Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick' AM/AOS



Rhyncattleanthe Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow'

The famous *C.* Bow Bells is represented multiple times in the family tree of this orchid which can be seen in the full, luscious shape. *Rhyncoaeliocattleya* Susan Fender 'Cinnamon Stick,' AM/AOS is a more recent introduction, registered by Carter & Holmes in 1994. It is the epitome of classic "art shade" breeding and the autumnal colors really pop when photographed backlit by the sun! The strong influence of *C. dowiana* can be seen in the bold yellow lines radiating out of the red-purple lip.

Finally in this group, I got a chance to show some examples of my own tinkering in cattleya breeding. Through research and a lot of trial and error, I have learned both the joys and the heartbreak that comes with the quest to create new and interesting results in this group. From the time one makes a cross until the first flowers can be seen takes the investment of four to seven years. Only then do you discover whether you were on to something or just wasted time on an orchid dud! Often it is a mix of both, as a few good results will surface out of an otherwise mediocre attempt, or beautiful flowers come at the cost of undesirable growth or blooming habits. True orchid perfection is very elusive! While definitely *not* perfect, these are a few of my "hits" that happened to be in bloom this month.

Guaricattonia Ernest Cromwell x *C.* Fire Magic is an example of successfully crossing a compact cattleya with a

Broughtonia hybrid. Most *Broughtonia sanguinea* hybrids are notoriously infertile, but they make lovely clusters of flowers on strong stems, while staying fairly small in plant stature. This one has fairly large three inch flowers that blend yellow and purple. I only got a few plants out of this cross and this one I kept. It flowered for the first time last year with just two blooms. This time there were five so I'm hoping for even more in the future.

Similarly, I got only a few plants out of the cross *Rlc.* Goldenzelle x *Lc.* Coastal Splendor. The latter is a semi-alba *L. anceps* hybrid with large flowers on strong stems. While most came out semi-alba,



Guaricattonia Ernest Cromwell x *C.* Fire Magic



Rlc. Goldenzelle x *Lc.* Coastal Splendor



Rlc. MBF Exotic Dream 'MBF'



Rlc. MBF Love King 'MBF'

as one would expect, this one is pale yellow with deeper yellow and purple in the lip. The cross took nearly a decade to flower for the first time. This one shows promise and hopefully will improve on its second flowering. It is also wonderfully fragrant. I have another in bloom now that is a true semi-alba, but it does not have the good flat form we tend to prefer and has no fragrance.

Rlc. MBF Exotic Dream 'MBF' is an example of a cross I liked enough, plus had enough seedlings to sell, to make it worth registering. It is *Rlc.* Exotic Appeal x *C.* Dream Catcher. This plant has many leads and nearly always in bloom with flowers that glow so much I had to

tone down the photo. But the trade off is that the plant is somewhat twisted and pleated, courtesy of its famous grandparent, *Rlc.* Eve Marie Barnett 'Magnificent Watermelon Gold,' FCC/AOS which had flowers of unreal beauty, but with the worst of growth habits to go with them.

My last offering in this group is *Rlc.* MBF Love King 'MBF' which is *C.* Love Fresh x *Rlc.* George King 'Southern Cross.' The latter parent is a mericlone mutation of a standard sized cattleya that has the original lavender of its segments color blocked and therefore can often produce semi-alba flowers in crosses. In the case of this plant, they are pale cream with color in the lip making them

very similar to *Rlc.* George King parent, though scaled down. They also possess its intense fragrance. The 3.5 inch flowers are held on strong stems just above 8 to 10 inch growths that form such a tight clump that this plant now has four leads in just a 4 inch basket. I liked it enough to make a self-pollination and have seedlings coming along in my lab.

amazonsmile

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*Cym. dayanum*

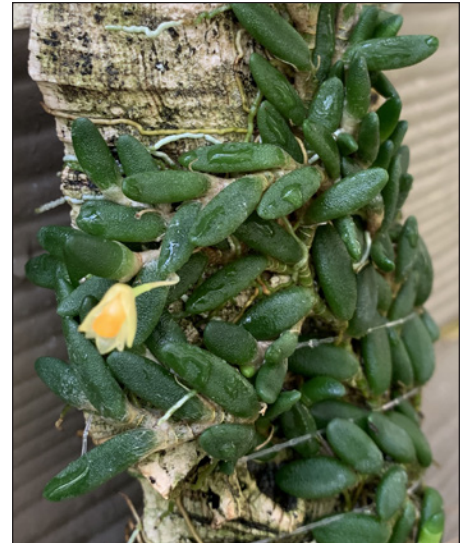
Cymbidium Alliance

This is not the season in which to expect to see the blooms of large or medium sized Cymbidiums, especially hybrids, though there are a few out there. Instead we were presented with two examples of smaller flowered species that are currently in their peak bloom period. I showed off a nicely flowered *Cymbidium dayanum*, which has grown up from a small plug seedling to this nice plant in just 3 growing seasons. This species is fairly widespread in the mountains from northeastern India, through Southeast Asia and China to Taiwan and Japan, and also in the Philippines, Borneo, the Celebes and Sumatra. It can be found both as a terrestrial and as an epiphyte, often on cliffs or in rotting logs where its pendent inflorescences can hang down properly. The leaves are long and grassy and the pseudobulbs small and hidden in the leaf sheaths. This plant is considered typical in color pattern, but I also have a form that is almost solid red, sometimes referred to as variety *angustifolium*, and a beautiful *album* variety, that for me always blooms a few weeks later. The flowers can be very abundant, but only last a few weeks.

David Mellard showed a plant he labeled as *Cym. formosanum album*. However, I believe this is actually *Cym. ensifolium*

*Cym. ensifolium forma album*

um forma album, which typically blooms at this time of year. I have a clone called 'Iron Bone Sue' that is in flower now and looks identical to David's in both plant and flowers. The actual *Cym. formosanum* is allied with, or the same as, *Cym. goeringii*, and typically has only one flower per spike with a decided triangular appearance. It would more likely be blooming in late winter than now. Despite having only a few small flowers per stem, *Cym. ensifolium* has been a very important parent for breeding warmth tolerant hybrids because it grows even in rather hot regions like Southern India and Sri Lanka. With the right pairing, much more dramatic flowers can be achieved in a single generation.

*Den. lichenastrum*

Dendrobium Alliance

This month we saw a great group of species that illustrate the wide diversity in the genus *Dendrobium*. Two of them come from Australia. Barbara Barnett showed us the aptly named *Den. lichenastrum*, a tiny species from the northeastern part of that country that forms a mat of succulent, textured growths that cling close to tree trunks almost in the manner of a lichen. The tiny flowers come in many colors and are rarely abundant but can occur off and on throughout the year. From the same region, but usually found in humid locations in mangroves or along rainforest streams, is Doug Hartong's *Dendrobium taylorii*. While known as *Cadetia taylorii* since 1912, it was recently returned to the genus under which it was described in 1884.

A similar situation is in play with George Guenther's *Den. tentaculatum*, which occurs just to the north of the pre-

*Den. taylorii*

*Den. tentaculatum*

vious two species on the island of New Guinea. It has been known in collections as *Diplocaulobium tentaculatum* for many years but has been recently returned to the name given in its original description in 1905. A fully mature plant can have many of these spidery flowers open at once.

David Mellard showed us the beautiful flowers of *Dendrobium cumulatum*. This is a gradually deciduous species from the mountains of Southeast Asia and Borneo that produces pendulous clusters of flowers from older bare canes. Most wild collected plants have much paler color than what you see here. David's plant is likely from a recent batch that originated with the selfing of a particularly dark

*Den. cumulatum**Den. subclausum*

clone known as 'Ching Hua.' I have several from that batch as well, which boasts lots of purple in the foliage in addition to the enchanting blooms.

Vinh Nguyen once again showed off his *Den. subclausum*, which he submitted in July and is in bloom again. This variable species from the Molucca Islands and New Guinea can bloom off and on throughout the year from its tangle of thin wiry stems. While many forms have flowers the stay semi-closed, Vinh's plant has nicely open ones. This form is often referred to as *variety speciosum*.

*Den. Samarai*

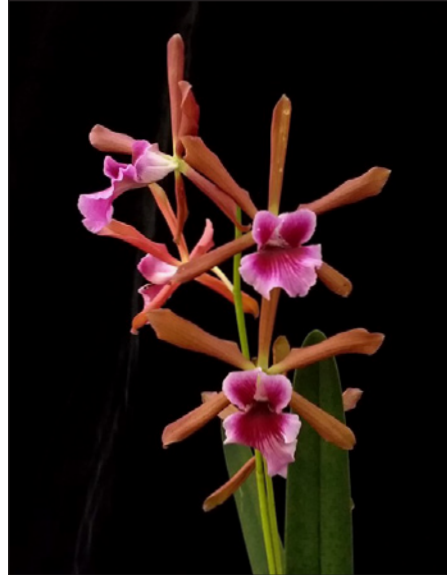
Jon and Fi showed us their plant of the hybrid *Den. Samarai*, which combines *Den. antennatum* and *Den. stratiotes* from the *Spatulata* section and shows off its striking "antelope horned" flowers for months at a time. Their example has particularly evenly twisted petals and bold striping on the lip. A mature plant will become large and bushy but can have hundreds of flowers open at once.

George Guenther provided the highlight of this section for September with his striking *Den. Swiss Mountain Palace* covered in gorgeous bicolored flowers. This hybrid takes the cross between *Den. cuthbertsonii* and *Den. glomeratum* back to the former species. Likely it lives a charmed life inside one of his specialized growth chambers along with other cloud forest orchids. Outside of such conditions I believe it would be near impossible to keep alive in our climate.

*Den. Swiss Mountain Palace*



Epicattleya Fascination



Catyelia Maui Chocolate



Psychopsis papilio

Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

We had two entries in the section for September. Dan Williamson submitted his very striking *Epicattleya Fascination*, which is a hybrid between *Epi. cristatum* and *C. guttata*. I really like the colors on this one. I imagine it will be a tall, slender plant at maturity, and hopefully should produce more flowers to the inflorescence. I showed off *Catyelia Maui Chocolate*, which is a cross between *C. tenebrosa* and *E. phoenicea*. This particular version was done by the late David

Johnston, who was a member of the AT-LOS for a number of years. There ended up being two slightly different seedlings in the same pot. Both have wonderful flowers and, despite having once per year blooming parents, can flower twice per annum.

Oncidium Alliance

The three species represented this month are vastly different in look, though less so in their cultural requirements. HB showed us a normal flowered (as opposed the peloric form she submitted last month) of *Psychopsis papilio*. See last month's newsletter for details about this species. Jon and Fi once again had their *Miltoniopsis roezlii forma xanthina* in flower. This rare yellow form of the warmest growing member of that genus is a frequent bloomer, spiking quickly on every new growth produced throughout the year. The fragrance is wonderful. Véronique showed us a nice close up of the tiny flowers of *Gomesa radicans*, a species from the coastal mountains of southeastern Brazil that forms a large ball of narrow grassy leaves that partially obscure the many to hundreds of flowers it can produce.



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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.



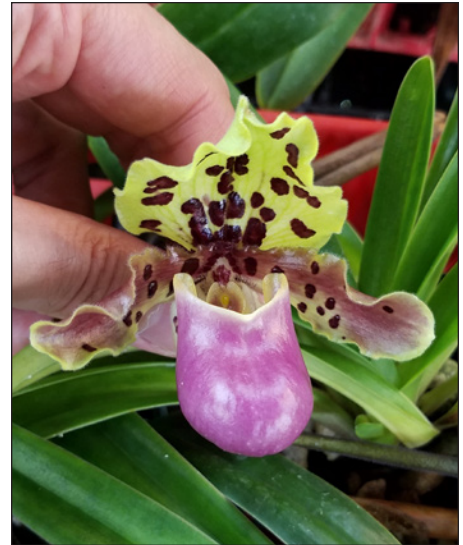
Miltoniopsis roezlii forma xanthina



Gomesa radicans



Schunkeara Big Shot 'Hilo Sprakle'



Paph. henryanum

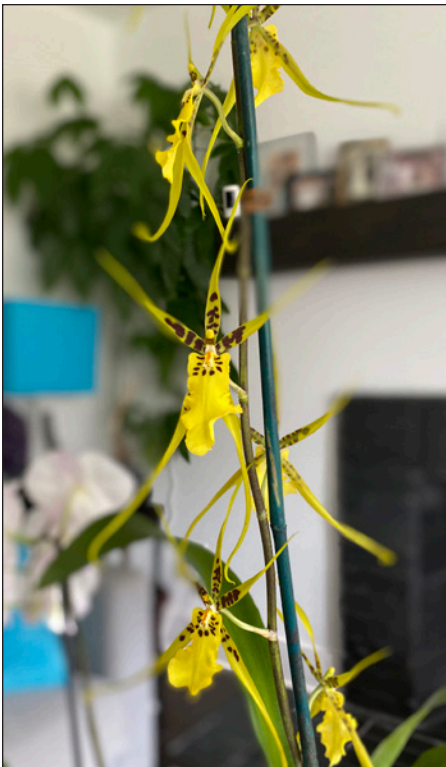
There were two hybrids shown that include *Brassia* in their ancestry, given them a starry appearance. Jon and Fi showed off their *Schunkeara* Big Shot 'Hilo Sparkle,' AM/AOS. While originally registered as a *Beallara*, things have changed a lot in the Oncidium Alliance since 2006 and this orchid's current nothogenus name is a combination of *Brassia* + *Miltonia* + *Miltonopsis* + *Oncidium*. The beautiful fragrance of this orchid comes from the fact that it is 25%

Mps. roezlii.

Michael Beers submitted a number of photos this month but did not include the name of the orchid in the file name leaving me guessing. I am, however, fairly certain that his photo number 5 is *Brassidium* Urchinesque 'Standing Tall,' AM/AOS. I have one of these and really enjoy how easy growing and freely blooming it is. Michael, next month please include plant ID if you have it, with your photos. THANKS!

Slipper Alliance

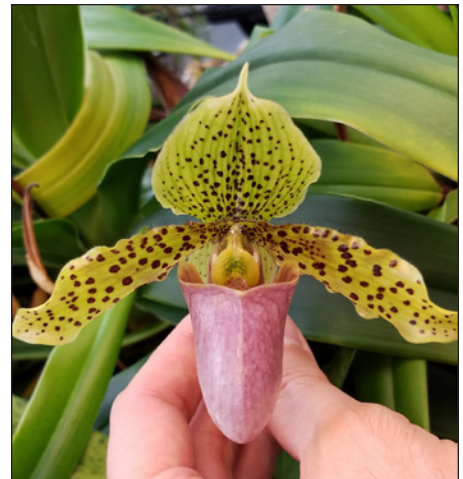
In slipper orchids this month Danny & Dianne showed us a wonderful small species plus two different primary hybrids made with it. *Paph. henryanum*, found in a very restricted area in Southwest China and only described in 1987 is a near miniature grower with comparatively large and flashy flowers notable for the orchid pink pouch lip and a striking dorsal sepal that is normally green peppered with an irregular pattern of large dark purple dots. To create *Paph. Doll's Kobold* it was crossed with *Paph. charlesworthii*, which usually changes the background color of the dorsal to white and organizes the spots into vertical bands. For *Paph. Graham Robertson*, *Paph. henryanum* was crossed with *Paph. sukhakulii*, which broadens the reach of the petals and gives lots spots on both



Brassidium Urchinesque 'Standing Tall' AM/AOS



Paph. Doll's Kobold



Paph. Graham Robertson

*Paph. Maudiae**Paph. Chiara**Paph. Charmingly Wood**Paph. godefroyae**Paph. Walnut Valley**Paph. Toni Semple 'MBFII' AM/AOS*

petals and dorsal. Both of these crosses were registered in 1992 and were among the very first group of hybrids made with the newly introduced species.

Roy Harrow showed us a nice album form of *Paph. Maudiae*. Since I wasn't able to participate in the virtual meeting in September, I'm not sure if he was using the name generically as a "Maudiae Type" or his plant was an actual *Paph. Maudiae* (*callosum* x *lawrenceanum*), the cross originally registered in 1900 and which started a breeding line that continues to produce scores of new hybrids each year. The demand for these easy growing, easy blooming ladieslippers is as strong as ever. Helen Weil showed us another album flower of similar breeding but substituting *Paph. sukhakulii* for *Paph. callosum* for a somewhat wider spreading flower with broader petals. The cross, called *Paph. Chiara* was registered in 1976 and probably originally used the typical color forms of the parents. An album form of *Paph. sukhakulii* may not have been available that long ago. The species itself was only described in 1965. My first slipper orchid ever was the normal form of *Paph. sukhakulii* and was purchased about 1969 or 1970 from Hausermann's Orchids. I paid \$20 for it

which in today's dollars would be over \$140! Karl Harden submitted a photo of *Paph. Charmingly Wood*, which is an example of current breeding descended from the normal color form of *Paph. Maudiae*. This orchid is a full 28 generations away from the original primary cross in its family tree!

Roy Harrow also showed us an example of *Paph. godefroyae*, a species in the Parvisepalum group that grows on limestone cliffs above the sea in Thailand. Some forms of this species are much more heavily spotted which is quite striking, but most with that look tend to remain fairly cupped as if they never fully open. This species factors into the ancestry of Jon and Fi's *Paph. Walnut Valley*, which they showed us last month and now is on its second bloom from the same inflorescence.

I was happy to have my *Paph. Toni Semple 'MBFII,' AM/AOS* in flower again. It scored 83 points and was awarded in September 2019 at the Alabama Orchid Show in Birmingham. This time it had 5 large flowers for a very striking display. The cross is *Paph. lowii* x *haynaldianum* and this version obviously used the album forms of each species. My other entry in this group was *Paph.*

*Paph. Worthy Fred*

Worthy Fred, a nice dark example of a cross between a vinicolor Maudiae type and *Paph. charlesworthii*.



Phal. fasciata



Phal. Kenneth Schubert 'FANGtastic Violet'



V. falcata



Phal. Nobby's Purple Eagle



Phal. Oh Mygod

Phalaenopsis Alliance

This month we had just one species represented at the meeting. Larry Kikkert showed off his *Phal. fasciata* with one open bloom on each of two inflorescences. Presumably this is the same plant that was in flower for the July meeting. Each inflorescence can continue to flower in the summer/fall bloom season for up to five years, and despite the sparsely produced small blooms, this species helps to bring color and pattern into breeding lines, and so now factors into the family tree of more than 11,000 registered hybrids.

The three hybrid entries in this group for September have similar growth and flowering habits to the above but are *not* one of the many crosses with *Phal. fasciata* in their family tree. However, they all have a heavy dose of *Phal. violacea*, which can be seen in their overall look. Barbara Barnett's *Phal. Nobby's Purple Eagle* is more than half that species, Danny and Dianne's *Phal. Kenneth Schubert 'FANGtastic Violet'* is exactly half, and Jon

and Fi's *Phal. Oh Mygod* (note that this is how the registered name is spelled) is only about 25% *Phal. violacea* even though it is introduced multiple times in the family tree. In general, all of these prefer warmth, high humidity and fairly shaded conditions year-round.



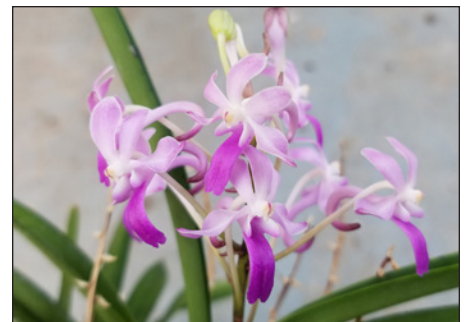
Van. Lou Sneary

Vandaceous Alliance

We are reaching the end of the main bloom season for *Vanda falcata* and its hybrids. David Mellard showed us a nice example of the species itself, a version with lavender pink flowers instead of the more typical white. Danny and Dianne showed three examples of its primary hybrid with *Rhyncostylis coelestis* called *Vandachostylis Lou Sneary*. The 'Bluebird' form tends to have an extended bloom season from late summer into early winter, while the 'Pinky' form flowers all at once this time of year and only rarely spikes at other times. My plant of *Van. Lou Sneary 'Pinky'* has been part of our



Van. Lou Sneary 'Bluebird'



Van. Lou Sneary 'Pinky' (Danny & Diane's)



Van. Lou Sneary 'Pinky' (Mark's)



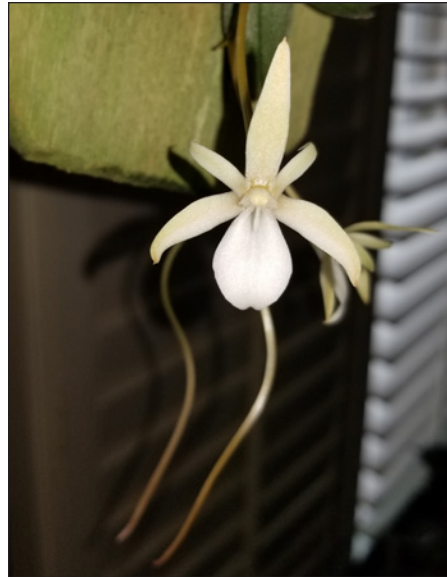
Van. Rainbow Stars 'Blue Charm'

collection for over 25 years. My photo shows the portion I kept after dividing it up a few years ago. George Guenther's *Vandachostylis* Rainbow Stars 'Blue Charm' has a more complicated family tree that involves not only *Rhy. coelestis*, but *V. curvifolia*, *V. coerulea* and *V. sanderriana*. However, it is 3/4ths *V. falcata* and the look and growth habits of that species totally dominate the result.

George also showed us *Schoenorchis micrantha*, a tiny flowering species that



Schoenorchis micrantha



Angraecum curwonianum



Aeranthes caudata

has a widespread habitat from Southeast Asia through many of the mountainous Pacific Islands and into northeastern Australia. One of the common names for this species is The Tangled Flea Orchid!

Doug Hartong shared with us his *Aerangis curwoniana*, a small species from shady humid mountain forests of eastern Madagascar that has comparatively huge flowers. According to Kew, this species is more properly called *Angraecum curwonianum*.

Vinh Nguyen showed us another species from Madagascar, *Aeranthes caudata*, which produces up to five somewhat spidery, green flowers, one at a time in succession, from a wiry stem that can be up to eighteen inches long.



Coryhopea Hayden Dallas

Miscellaneous

Our members grow a surprising number of unusual and rarely seen species and hybrids that end up in this category. I've spoken at orchid society meetings all over the Southeast, including Florida, and I can't think of one event that has had a show table as diverse as ours is on a regular basis.

This month was no exception and one of the most unusual entries was Doug Hartong's *Coryhopea* Hayden Dallas. The photo listed the grex name as Hayden Allen, so it took me some searching to locate this peculiar hybrid between *Coryanthes macarantha* and *Stanhopea jenischiana* which was only registered last year by an individual in Winston-Salem, NC. The fact that Doug has three open flowers on a single inflorescence, on what is likely still a young plant, reflects the flower count of the *Stanhopea* parent. An older plant might be able to produce several more to the spike.

There were some exceptional Pleurothallids exhibited by George Guenther again. His *Lepanthes domingensis*, as the name implies, comes from the mountains of the Dominican Republic, as well as from neighboring Haiti. The small, but colorful, orange-red flowers are produced in succession from a drooping inflorescence that grows out of the stem just be-

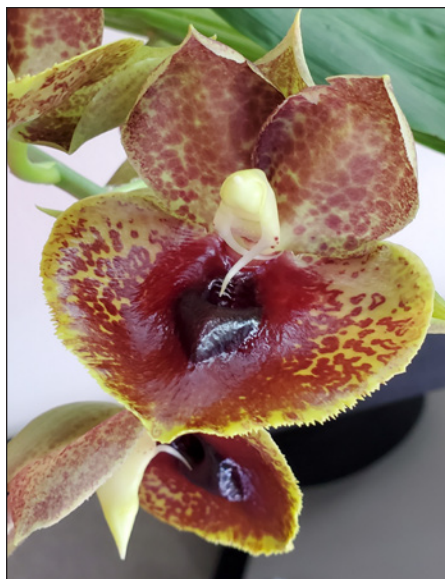
*Lepanthes domingensis**Trisetella hoeijeri**Lepanthes x uxoria**Masdevallia nigricans**Dracula marsupialis*

low the broadly oval leaves. Another one with colorful flowers, albeit very tiny, is his *Lepanthes x uxoria*. This one comes from cloud forests in Ecuador. All the sources I looked at treated it as a species, but George's file name indicates it is a natural hybrid. Since he is the expert in this group, I'll take his word for it. Another species from Ecuador with tiny flowers is *Masdevallia nigricans*, with semi-closed purple blooms striped yellow. George's final entry from that same country is one of the most intriguing, *Trisetella hoeijeri*, which produces wide spreading "moustache" flowers that are white with red stripes in succession from wiry stems that hover over a tuft of small leaves.

Jon and Fi had a Pleurothallid entry as well with their *Dracula marsupialis*, which also comes from Ecuador and produces downward facing three pointed flowers with a pouch shaped lip. Each inflorescence can produce several flowers in succession.

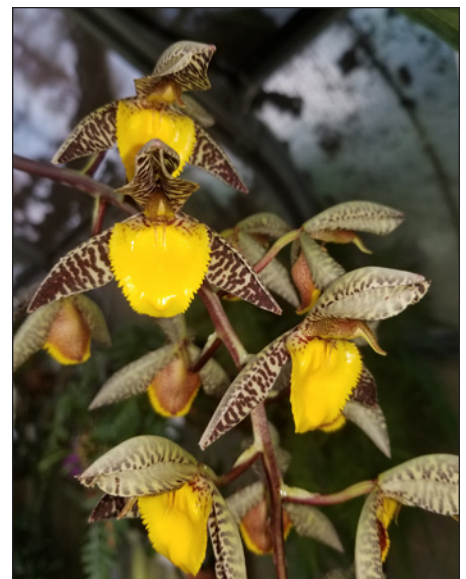
Jon and Fi also showed us a nicely colored *Catasetum expansum*. This highly variable species yet again comes from

Ecuador, but at lower, warmer elevations where a long dry season forces the plants to become deciduous. In this same group, Doug Hartong exhibited a strikingly colored hybrid from the breeding program of Fred Clarke (Sunset Valley Orchids near San Diego) called *Catasetum Double*

*Ctsm. expansum*

Down. This one has *Ctsm. expansum* well back in the family tree, but also four additional species in the mix. Introduced in 2015, there are already five AOS awards for various plants out of the cross.

We had two *Coeloglyne* entries this month. Larry Kikkert showed us a young

*Ctsm. Double Down*

*Coel. fimbriata**Coel. ovalis*

plant of *Coel. fimbriata* with several open flowers. This creeping, mat forming species from the mountains of Southeast Asia can produce several hundred flowers when grown into a specimen. Véronique showed us *Coel. ovalis* which has a very similar looking flower to the previous species but is a slightly larger grower and comes from middle elevations in the Himalayas and Southwestern China. It too can produce specimen plants with one hundred or more flowers at a given time.

Both Vinh Nguyen and Larry Kikkert had plants of *Bulbophyllum echinolabium* in bloom this month. Vinh's photo gives a sense of how large the flowers are even compared to a fairly large growing plant for the genus. The fantastic, but foul smelling, flowers can be up to 16 inches from tip to tip and each inflorescence can produce several in succession, with flowering possible nearly any month of the year. Nicholas Rust showed us an interesting hybrid that includes this species as a grandparent. *Bulb. Joni Sielaff* was registered by Bill Thoms, a well-known

*Bulbo. echinolabium* (Vinh's)*Bulbo. Joni Sielaff*

amateur grower of this genus, just last year. It also includes *Bulb. phalaenopsis* in the family tree so I imagine it could also run you out of the room with its odor.

The rest of this group represented terrestrial species. Larry Kikkert shared with us *Zygopetalum* Jumpin Jack, which mixes up to five, mainly ground dwelling species from South America. Maria Beug-Deeg presented a very attractively hued bloom of *Sobralia decora* 'Mello Spirit.' The original plant garnered David Mellard a Certificate of Cultural Merit in September 2006 with 33 flowers open at once. Since the individual flowers last only about a day, this was a major accomplishment! Luckily, each growth produces flowers in succession to prolong the flowering season. It is native to Mexico and Central America where it is common

*Zygo. Jumpin Jack**Sobralia decora* 'Mello Spirit'

as a roadside wildflower in some locations.

We had several entries in the *Habenaria* group. David Mellard showed off a photo of two magnificent spikes of *Habenaria medusa* with about three dozen large spidery blooms between them. This species comes from Sumatra, Java, Borneo and Sulawesi. He also submitted an image with two very nice spikes of *Habenaria* Raingreen's Ice Bird, which has the previous species as one parent. Nicholas Rust presented a great photo with two spikes of *Hab. dentata*, a species from the Himalayas, Southeast Asia, The Philippines, Taiwan, China and Japan. He also gave us a nice close up view of a flower of *Pecteilis radiata*, which has often been classed as a *Habenaria*, but comes from much colder climates, occurring in

*Hab. medusa*

forest glades of China, Japan and Korea at elevations close to 5,000 feet above sea level.

Finally, Nicholas showed us a terrestrial species that is a first for me, *Brachycorythis helferi*, and for which information is scarce. Jay Pfahl describes it on his orchid species site as "Found in Assam India, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Thailand and Laos as a small to medium sized, hot to

*Hab. Raingreen's Ice Bird*

cool growing terrestrial species at elevations of 300 to 1600 meters in deciduous mixed forests, bamboo forests and open grasslands with lanceolate or ovate-lanceolate, acuminate leaves and blooms in the late spring through fall on a 3" to 8" long [6 to 20 cm], erect inflorescence with acuminate, lanceolate floral bracts that enclose the several [to 15] flowers."

*Hab. dentata**Brachycorythis helferi**Pecteilis radiata*