



FEBRUARY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, February 8, 2021

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

John Nelson on

Orchids of Madagascar

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

Hope for Madagascar: Orchids of Madagascar

Hope for Madagascar is the topic for this month's meeting. Presented by John Nelson of Louisiana Orchid Connection, the talk begins with a brief orientation to the island nation. It then presents still photos combined into a video documenting forest walks John and his partner Tin made a few years ago. Finally, there will be photos of orchid species bloomed by Tin and John from imports that they have made over the past few years from the country made possible as an outgrowth

of their visit and meeting with a local nursery.

Tin and John import plants from Madagascar several times a year, combining pre-orders from interested hobbyists and collectors. These imports help to support their lab where Tin works full time propagating species from around the world.

You are invited to visit Tin and John's store at laorchid.com or their eBay site at www.ebay.com/str/louisianaorchidconnection



A few species from Madagascar, clockwise from the top: *Aerangis articulata*, *Grammangis spectabilis*, *Angraecum conchoglossum*, *Gastrochis humboltii* (all photos by Danny Lentz).

Dues are Due for 2021!

Yearly membership runs January 1-December 31.

Membership in the **Atlanta Orchid Society** is \$30 for individuals or \$45 for households.

To join the Society or to renew your membership, contact Jon Crate (jon@fai.us) the society's treasurer, for a membership application, or complete an application online at our website: www.atlantaorchidsociety.org

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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 January 11 Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The January 11th, 2021 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 and visitors. Jon Crate reviewed the Treasurer’s report. Mark Reinke in-

stalled the society’s new officers. Danny Lentz introduced Kristen Uthus, who gave a presentation on Masdevallias and Draculas. After the presentation, Kristen fielded questions from members. Danny showed photos that members had sent in of their in-bloom plants. The meeting was then adjourned.

EVENTS CALENDAR

February

8 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: John Nelson, from Louisiana Orchid Connection, on the Orchids of Madagascar.

14 – American Orchid Society monthly judging is CANCELLED

26 - 28 – Gulf Coast Orchid Society Show, Gautier, MS. joannvaz@bellsouth.net

March

8 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

20 – Zoom Education Day to Celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Wheeler Orchid Collection and Species Bank. Visit the Central Indiana Orchid Society web site (centralios.org) for more info and to register

Notes to New Growers

To begin, Atlanta Orchid Society members are happy to help new growers with questions about orchids in general. Always remember that there is more than one way to do something but the general principles tend to be the same.

When you want immediate answers, it is good to have a good reference book at hand. *The American Orchid Society Guide to Orchids and Culture*, written by Mary Gerritsen and Ron Parson, is a good place to start. This book can be purchased from the AOS online shop. Cost for non-member is \$29.99 and for member \$22.49.

The photos are fabulous, wonderful basic information, culture that is specific for many genera. I recommend this for the new grower that wants immediate answers at your fingertips.



Join the Atlanta Orchid Society

See front page for details

Notes on plants submitted to the virtual meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society for January 2021

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



B. subulifolia

Cattleya Alliance

Dan Williamson was the only member to present a species in this group this month with his *Brassavola subulifolia*, an orchid native to the island of Jamaica, and as you can see from the photo, capable of producing more than a dozen, smallish flowers per inflorescence. Often labeled as *B. cordata*, a name that refers to the heart shape of the lip, the accepted name was applied 5 years earlier and refers to the awl shape of the terete foliage. Plants can become large specimens with time, and there are numerous awards for examples with hundreds of flowers. The foliage can be up to 15 inches long



Pcv. Key Lime Stars

and that trait explains the key difference between *Procatavola* Walnut Valley Lime Stars, presented by both Larry Kikkert and myself, and Pcv. Key Lime Stars, presented by Dan Williamson. Both crosses have *Cattleychea* Lime Sherbet as one parent, but the former has *B. Little Stars* as the other while the latter has *B. nodosa*. *B. Little Stars* is a cross between *B. nodosa* and *B. subulifolia* and results in longer, somewhat sprawly foliage on that cross. Otherwise, the individual flowers are quite similar between the two. Also seen this month once again was Jon Crate and Firelli Alonso's *Bcl. Cecillia Irene* which descends from *B. nodosa* through *Bc. Richard Mueller*. The other parent in that cross, *L. aurea*, has rather short-lived flowers, but luckily that trait



Bcl. Cecillia Irene



Pcv. Walnut Valley Lime Stars (top: Larry's; bottom: Mark's)

does not carry through to this hybrid.

We are coming into the normal bloom season for the Central American species, *Guarianthe aurantiaca*, and a number of our entries this month descend from it.



Ctt. Miracle of Mine



Rth. Kaboom



Rth. My Orange 'NN#2'



Rth. Golden Child x *Ctt.* Miracle of Mine

The species itself has small flowers that don't always open fully, but they are usually a deep orange color and have heavy substance, so with the proper pairings and several to many generations, lots of excellent results with vibrant colors can be achieved. In several of the photos submitted, the connection to this species is more direct and more obvious, as is the case with Barbara Barnett's *Ctt.* Miracle of Mine, in which *Gur. aurantiaca* is

a grandparent but the compact size and flat form are helped along by the influence of *C. briegeri* and *C. coccinea*. In my entry of the as of yet unregistered cross between *Ctt.* Miracle of Mine and *Rth.* Golden Child, there is also some *Gur. aurantiaca* well back in the ancestry of the other parent. Both of these fine crosses were made by Ben Oliveros of Orchid Eros in Hawaii. Ben used to live in Atlanta and many of the long-time members know him personally. He moved to the Big Island to further his love of orchids, and there is a great article about his breeding efforts in the December, 2020, issue of *Orchids Magazine*.

Other entries in which *Gur. aurantiaca* features on both sides of the family tree include Barbara Barnett's *Rth.* Kaboom, a cross done by Fred Clarke that usually comes out orange, Jon & Fi's bright yellow



Ctt. Blazing Sun 'NN'

low *Ctt.* Blazing Sun 'NN,' and my entry of *Rth.* My Orange 'NN#2,' both introductions by Newman's Nursery in Hawaii.

Two other entries, the highly variable *Rth.* Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow' shown by Larry Kikkert and *Rth.* Momilani Rainbow 'The Gypsy,' AM/AOS shown by me, don't have obvious connections to *Gur. aurantiaca* but it does figure on or more branches of rather complex family trees that include over a dozen species in total.

My entry of *Guaricattonia* Starrlyn 'Yellow Flare' has *Gur. aurantiaca* as a grandparent, but the influence of *Broughtonia sanguinea* is so dominant that the only obvious trait inherited by the former is the heavier substance of the flowers.



Rth. Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow,' take 1



Rth. Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow,' take 2



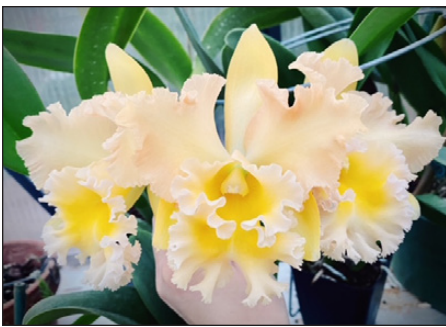
Rth. Momilani Rainbow 'The Gypsy' AM/AOS



Guaricattonia Starlyn 'Yellow Flare'



Rlc. Golden Sands 'Elizabeth Off' AM/AOS



Rlc. Robert Palmer 'Palmer's Peach'



Rlc. Carolina Splendor

Moving on, we had some nice examples of large flowered, standard sized plants that are descended from *C. dowiana*. This species has beautiful butter yellow tepals and a rich purple lip graced by vivid gold lines and spots, but it does not possess exhibition form, with overlapping segments carried on a flat plane, so multiple generations of selection are normally needed to achieve that look. My entry of *Rlc.* Golden Sands 'Elizabeth Off,' AM/AOS, was a 1970 introduction by Waldor Orchids, but is the result of crossing two much older parents from the turn of the 20th century that were not far removed from the species. This is very evident in the more open form of the rich yellow flowers. In Maegan Brass' *Rlc.* Robert Palmer 'Palmer's Peach,' the flowers are much fuller, but still not flat. Jon & Fi's *Rlc.* Pink Empress 'Jen-Su,' AM/AOS, has very full flowers that are usually flatter, but the color has moved far away from the realm of art shades leaving little evidence of its hidden *C. dowiana* ancestry. My entry of *Rlc.* Carolina Splendor, on the other hand, keeps those elusive jewel tones and also shows off good form. This is the third seedling out of a remake of that cross by Carter & Holmes which I have flowered but the first one that fulfills its potential. This is common in this type of breeding. The bad traits we want to get rid of that come from *C. dowiana* can reappear in a percentage of the offspring many generations removed. My entry of *Rlc.* Enzan Fantasy, which is a first blooming seedling of a remake of that cross done by Ben Oliveros, is perhaps the most successful in achieving the overlapping form we are often looking for. And after I took the photo, the flower continued to mature with



Rlc. Enzan Fantasy



Rlc. Pink Empress 'Jen-Su' AM/AOS



C. Seagull Apricot x *Rlc.* Circle of Life



Ctt. Astrea 'Ginny' AM/AOS

much more yellow in the base color creating a wonderful glowing coral bloom.

Dan Williamson entry of *C.* Seagulls Apricot x *Rlc.* Golden Circle shows the strong influence of *C. coccinea* in color, size and form. It does have *C. dowiana* on one side but its influence has been overshadowed.

Finally, Maegan Brass showed off her *Ctt.* Astrea 'Ginny,' AM/AOS, a primary hybrid between *C. loddigesii* and *Gur. skinneri* originally registered in 1897. Only the 'Ginny' version of this cross has ever achieved note. It originates with Carter & Holmes and every year when the South Carolina Orchid Show is held in February, you will see several large, impressive older specimen plants covered in flowers.



Den. Nagomi



Den. Nora Tokunaga

Dendrobium Alliance

The four entries in Dendrobium for January showcase the diversity in this large genus. George Guenther's *Dendrobium* Nagomi is a charmingly cute marriage between the high elevation *Den. cuthbertsonii* and the low elevation *Den. bracteosum*, both native to New Guinea. The pretty bi-color flowers are undoubtedly long lasting in this pairing. I imagine this one could be a fussy grower, but if you are interested it is currently listed as available by Ecuagenera.

Den. Nora Tokunaga, presented by Larry Kikkert, is a floriferous primary hybrid between *Den. atrovioleaceum* and *Den. rhodostictum*, both in the Latouria section. It was one of the early crosses in this breeding line by Roy Tokunaga of H&R Nurseries in Hawaii and introduced in 1996. When well grown, this group forms bushy evergreen clumps that can have more than 100 long lasting flowers at once.



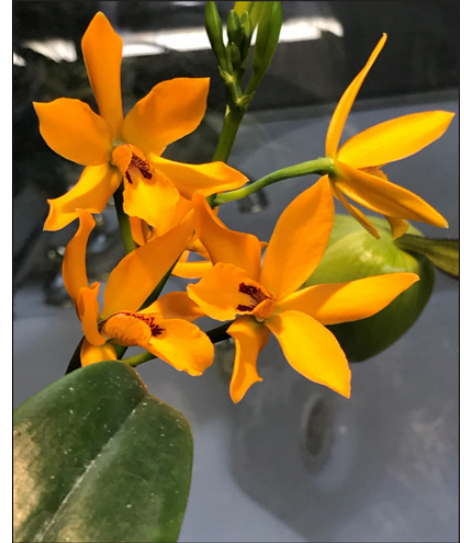
Den. Ise



Den. Touch of Gold

Den. Ise is a primary hybrid between *Den. moniliforme* and *Den. stricklandianum (officinale)*, both members of the section Dendrobium, which are partially to fully seasonally deciduous. My plant came from the crossing of two siblings owned by Carter & Holmes. It has unusually large flowers for the pairing.

Quite different looking is my entry of *Den. Touch of Tangerine*, which is a pairing of *Den. Touch of Gold* and *Den. tangerinum*, which explains the name even though the flowers are mostly in golden shades and not orange. The long lasting "antelope" flowers will come at various times of the year on bushy plants that eventually get fairly large.



Enanthleya Magic Wand

Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

Larry Kikkert had the only entry in this group for January with his *Enanthleya Magic Wand*, which is a cross between *Guaricyclia Kyoguchi (Gur. aurantiaca x E. incumbens)* and the ever popular *Ctt. Trick or Treat*. You might see this one listed as an *Epilaeliocattleya*, but that name is now invalid. *Enanthleya* = *Encyclia* + *Guarianthe* + *Cattleya*. Larry's plant is likely still young as this cross can large heads of flowers when mature.



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*Oncostele Eye Candy 'Pinkie'*

Oncidium Alliance

Not many entries were represented in this group in January. HB showed off her *Oncostele Eye Candy 'Pinkie'* (which was also shown Karl Harden last month and I forgot to mention). This is the easiest cross I have found to grow in our area that carries through the larger, fuller, patterned flowers of the cool growing *Onc. alexandrae* (*Odont. crispum*). Most other hybrids with this type of flower tend to not do well in our hot summers.

Jon & Fi showed off *Lockhartia serra* which I wrote about in the December, 2020, newsletter. Quite a few members got these plants from the ABG in our auction a couple of years ago.

*Paph. delenatii*

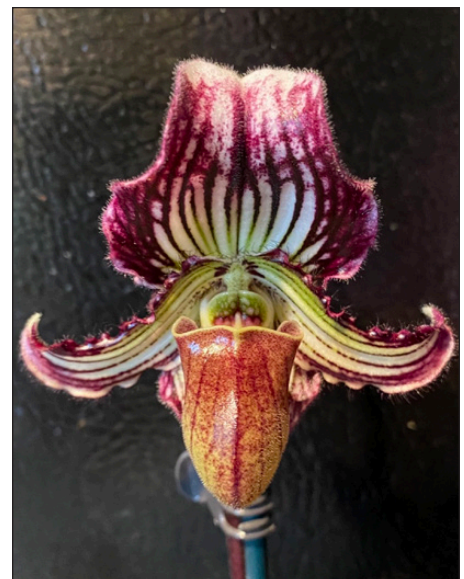
Slipper Alliance

In species, Danny & Dianne showed off a much darker clone of *Paphiopedilum delenatii* than the one we saw from them last month. They also showed us an interesting hybrid made from that species, *Paph. Gina Short*, which combines it with *Paph. Pinocchio*. The sequential bloom habits of the latter are evident, but the color and shape of it have disappeared under the dominance of *Paph. delenatii*. Danny & Dianne also showed us *Paph. tonsum*, a species from the mountains of Sumatra that has unusually large flowers compared to the size of the plant. The chartreuse undertones of this flower are particularly vivid. HB beautifully illustrated the quirky personality of *Paph. fairrieianum* with her excellent close up image, revealing the profusion of fine hairs covering the flower. This species

*Lockhartia serra**Paph. Gina Short**Paph. tonsum*

comes from northeast India where it is often growing on grassy slopes in rather bright conditions.

We saw several examples of complex breeding including Danny & Dianne's *Paph. Luther Pass* and HB's *Paph. Gigi* x *Veritilario*, which both show the more

*Paph. fairrieianum*

*Paph. Luther Pass**Paph. Hsinying Wolf**Paph. Shin-Yi Tiger**Paph. Gigi x Veritilario*

Dan Williamson gave us two different examples of multifloral types that share the same three species, but in different proportions. *Paph. Hsinying Wolf* and *Paph. Shin-Yi Tiger* are both a mix of *Paph. glanduliferum*, *sanderianum*, and *Paph. rothschildianum*, but the varying proportions of each species produce rather different results.

Finally, we had some additional examples of Maudiae type breeding from Lehua Orchids with Danny & Dianne's *Paph. Petula's Knight*, HB's *Paph. Spring Egret* and my *Paph. Luna Spots*.

traditional color patterns of this line, derived from many generations of recombining the genes of *Paph. boxalii*, *insigne*, *spicerianum*, and *Paph. villosum*. Larry Kikkert's *Paph. Mele Moon* represents a more recent trend of selection for full flowers that are primarily yellow with limited markings.

*Paph. Luna Spots**Paph. Mele Moon**Paph. Petula's Knight**Paph. Spring Egret*

*Phal. violacea**Phal. schilleriana**Phal. Taida King's Carolina 'Little Zebra'*
AM/AOS*Phal. Miva Smartissimo 'Firelli'* AM/AOS*Phal. Charming Warszawa**Phal. Classic Pink*

Phalaenopsis Alliance

In species, Danny & Dianne showed us a single flower of a very nice violet blue *Phal. violacea*. There are many different color forms of this lowland species from Borneo, Sumatra and Malaya, but this shade has been one of the most popular and most awarded in recent years. HB showed us a fairly typical example of *Phal. schilleriana*, a pink flowered species from the Philippines with beautiful silver mottling on the foliage. Nearly thirty thousand registered hybrids can trace their ancestry back to this species.

Jon & Fi showed us a number of different hybrids in bloom, including *Phal.*

Taida King's Caroline 'Little Zebra,' AM/AOS and *Phal. Miva Smartissimo 'Firelli,'* AM/AOS, which we saw last month, but now with more open flowers. They also submitted the delicately brushed shades of the lovely *Phal. Charming Warszawa*. (Warszawa is the Polish spelling of their capital city.) The large, open lip reveals that it is descended from *Phal. World Class 'Big Foot,'* a chance mutation that has led to a whole new breeding line. Finally, they gave us *Phal. Classic Pink*, a hybrid that dates all the way back to 1979 and features the previously mentioned *Phal. schilleriana* multiple times in its family tree.

amazonsmile

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Angraecum equitans



Oberonia rufilabris



Bulb. lepidum

Vandaceous Alliance

We had but one species in this group for January. George Guenther showed *Angraecum equitans*, a dwarf species from the northern end of Madagascar where it grows at fairly high elevations on the branches of trees laden with moss and lichens.

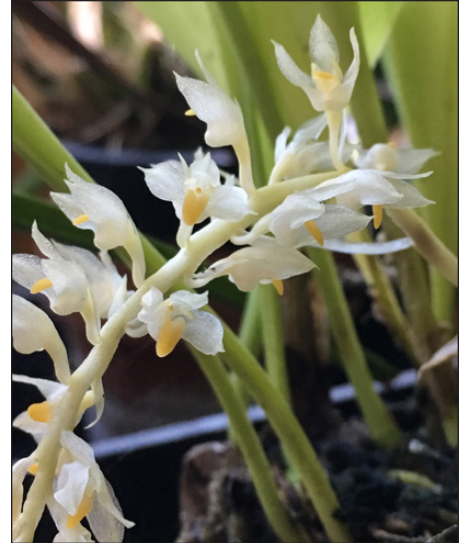
Dan Williamson submitted *Vanda Motes Adorbs*, which is a primary hybrid by two species that only recently were merged into *Vanda*, previously known as *Ascocentrum ampullaceum* and *Christensoniana vietnamica*.

Miscellaneous

We had just a handful of Old World species in this group, including George Guenther's *Oberonia rufilabris*, which comes from a number of locations in southeast Asia and presents long fox tail inflorescences of tiny flowers from flattened fan like growths.

Larry Kikkert showed us two examples of *Bulbophyllum lepidum*, a widespread species that is also quite variable in the coloration and shape of its cute daisy wheel flowers.

Véronique showed us a very differently looking species, *Bulb. obtusisepalum*, from Borneo, Java and Sumatra, with slender racemes of up to 40 small white-to-cream flowers. She also showed us a



Bulb. obtusisepalum



Vanda Motes Adorbs



Pterostylis obtusa

nice close up of the Australian terrestrial *Pterostylis obtusa*, which I wrote about in more detail in the previous newsletter. Finally, she submitted a couple of photos of a well flowered *Phaiocalanthe* Kryptonite 'Parkside,' a rewarding and vigorous orchid that can be grown into a plant with hundreds of flowers with a bit of time and pampering.



Lastly in the Old World group, Barbara Barnett showed us *Coelogyne* Unchained Melody, a hybrid between *Coel. cristata* and *Coel. flaccida* that is often mislabeled as the former species. It is a good, reliable bloomer that can form a large specimen with time. About a year ago a plant with 266 flowers was awarded at the National Capitol Orchid Show.

Switching to orchids that come from the New World, we once again were treated to a host of small Pleurothallids from George Guenther's special growing enclosures. The tiniest of all for this month would be *Andinia lappacea*, from Ecuador. The entire plant is about the size of George's thumb. He then showed us two somewhat larger *Lepanthes* species, *Lths georgii*, with tiny flowers produced



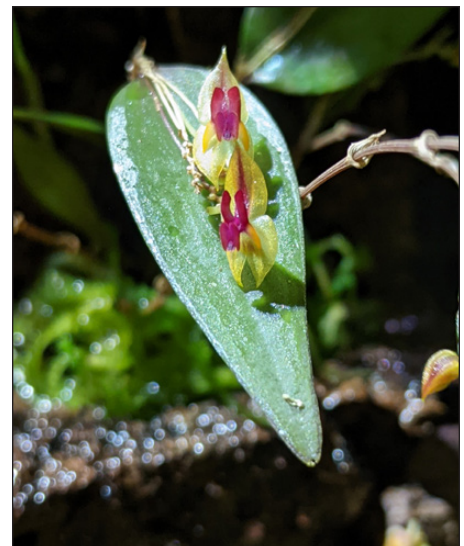
Andinia lappacea



Phaiocalanthe Kryptonite 'Parkside'



Lths. georgii



Lths. regularis



Coel. Unchained Melody



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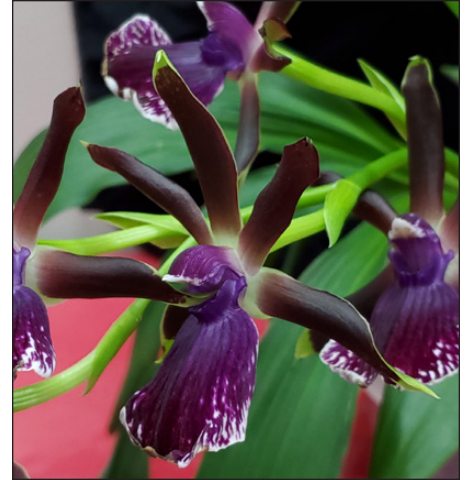
*Masdevallia anceps**Masdevallia vieirana**Platystele baqueroi**Masdevallia Marguerite #2* HCC/AOS

in succession from a fishbone-like inflorescence, and *Lths. regularis*, a species from Panamá with some of the more colorful flowers in the genus. Next he gave us a look at two very small *Masdevallia* species, *Masdevallia anceps* from Ecuador and *Masdevallia vieirana* from Colombia. Finally, he showed us *Platystele baqueroi*, a species from Ecuador with almost translucent elongated flowers. As pretty as it is, there is little information about it.

Danny & Dianne showed us a very colorful bloom of *Masdevallia Marguerite #2*, HCC/AOS, which is a hybrid of *Masdevallia veitchiana* and *Masdevallia infracta* registered by J&L Orchids back in 1982. There are more than a dozen different awarded clones of this cross.

Jon & Fi once again had their *Zygolum Louisendorf grex* in bloom which we have seen several times, and also *Zygosepalum* QF Amanda, a more recent cross with similar coloration but a fuller shape to the flowers. In the same group, Larry Kikkert showed us *Tsubotaara Melinda Marie 'Blue Fairy'*. It combines *Aganisia*, *Pabstia* and *Zygopetalum*.

Larry also gave us the showy *Stenorhyncos speciosum*, a distant relative to our native *Spiranthes* orchids that is widespread from the Greater Antilles to Mexico, Central American and northern South

*Zygolum Louisendorf grex**Zygosepalum* QF Amanda*Tsubotaara Melinda Marie 'Blue Fairy'*



Stenorrhynchos speciosum

America, which it grows as a terrestrial, lithophyte and epiphyte.

Lastly, I showed a different clone of *Chysis* Maritza Bielecki from the one I had in bloom for the November meeting. These are seedlings flowering for the first time, but they can form showy specimens with time. The inflorescences emerge along the side of developing new growths which go on to form leafy club shaped pseudobulbs after the blooms fade.



Chysis Maritza Bielecki