



SEPTEMBER EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, September 14, 2020

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

Dave Sorokowsky on Maudiae Paphiopedilums

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

Mottled leaf, or Maudiae, Paphiopedilums

After receiving his degree in biochemistry from the University of Toronto, Dave opted to step outside his chosen field and operated a tropical fish import business for eight years. Upon returning to school, Dave received a degree in enology and viticulture from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. While attending Brock, Dave began acquiring orchids one 2" pot at a time and before he graduated, Dave had over 100 orchids. Winemaking and a passion for orchids prompted Dave to seek a warmer climate in California about one year later. Dave has been growing paphiopedilums for

about 15 years and seriously hybridizing for the past 10 years. He is an accredited AOS judge and his paphiopedilums have received over 100 awards to date from the AOS and CSA. Many of those awarded plants playing important roles in his breeding program.

Dave will speak about the Maudiae, or 'Mottled Leaf' Paphiopedilums. He will review Maudiae Paphiopedilum hybrids over the years, look at where we started, important breakthroughs in breeding, key hybridizers, and where we are going in the future.

Dave is offering a 10% discount on orders over \$100, with the discount code NY2020. His web site is paphparadise.com



Four examples of Maudiae Paphs, clockwise from the top: alba, Raisin Jack, Dark Prince, Hsingying Rainbow
(Pictures by Danny Lentz)

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The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

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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](#).

EVENTS CALENDAR

September

12 – American Orchid Society monthly judging: CANCELLED until further notice

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, on Zoom: Dave Sorokowsky of Paph Paradise, on Maudiae Paphiopedilums

October

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

November

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

Minutes of July Meeting of the Atlanta Orchid Society

The July 13th, 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. Larry Kikkert made a motion to approve the minutes from the June meeting and Danny Lentz seconded the motion. Danny announced the Society orchid swap which was to be held Saturday, July 18th from 9:30-11:00 am. Danny Lentz introduced Jim Cootes, who gave a presentation on Orchid Species of the Philippines. After the presentation, Jim fielded questions from members. Danny showed photos that members had sent in of their in-bloom plants. The meeting was then adjourned.

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Longtime AtlOS member Marianne Gilmore has clay orchid pots to give away. Please call if interested 404-636-8118.

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

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



C. Callistoglossa



C. Hardyana



C. Valentine

Cattleya Alliance

This month only photos of Cattleya hybrids were submitted, but there were some really outstanding ones. Fred Missbach, who is a member but lives far outside the city and rarely attends in person meetings, has a fantastic Cattleya collection and this month we got to see a small sampling of what he grows. *Rhyncolaelio-cattleya* Port Royal Sound 'Raye' is one such example. The cross was registered by Carter and Holmes in 1983 and like many of their hybrids from that period, bears the name of a geographical location in the state of South Carolina. Port Royal Sound is the historic inlet between Hilton Head Island and St. Helena Island that leads to the city of Beaufort, estab-



Rlc. Port Royal Sound 'Raye'

lished in 1711. Befittingly, this magnificent salmon flower with a deep purple lip has a regal quality, and was the result of pairing the famous plum red *Rlc. Oconee* with the yellow with red lip *C. Amber Glow*. There are several different named clones of this orchid that have been available from time to time. Both the 'Mary Ellen' form (named after Mary Ellen Carter) and the 'Newberry' form (the town where Carter and Holmes is located) have received awards in the past, but so far, the 'Raye' form has not, though it is certainly deserving. Raye Holmes was the wife of Mac Holmes, Sr., one of the founders of the company. Along with Waldor Orchids in New Jersey, Carter and Holmes is one of the oldest orchid companies still in business in the US, having started as a Cattleya cut flower operation just after World War II. Believe it or not, the demand for cut Cattleya orchids was so high that a single flower could sell as much as \$18 wholesale in the late 1940s. That is the equivalent of about \$195 in today's currency!

Fred also shared with us special examples of three very historic primary hybrids, dating from the very early days of Cattleya breeding. *Cattleya Callistoglossa* is a cross between *C. warszewiczii* and *C. purpurata* registered by Veitch in 1882. This example uses the alba forms of both parents. *Cattleya Hardyana* (1896)

'July's Freedom,' FCC/AOS is a cross between *C. warszewiczii* and *C. dowiana* and this plant was given the highest flower quality award in 2017. This form was created using the semi-alba form of *C. warszewiczii*, and in my opinion is one of the most beautiful expressions of beauty in the genus. Typically the color blocking of the sepals and petals in large flowered semi-albas is dominant, so the yellow segments of the other parent, *C. dowiana*, are not expressed in the result. Anyone who has long experience growing Cattleya orchids knows that the two species in this cross are both considered somewhat challenging to grow, requiring attention especially in winter, when they need high light and careful watering to prosper. Fred's third example of a primary hybrid is *C. Valentine* (1900), which combines *C. loddigesii* and *C. warneri*. In this iteration of the cross, the coerulea forms of both parents were used. In case you missed it in my past comments, the dates in parentheses after the names are there because after the Brazilian *Laelia* and *Sophranitis* species were merged into Cattleya in 2012 there were situations where the same grex name had been used for more than one hybrid registration in the past that would now each be classified simply as a *Cattleya* in the new nomenclature. The date is the registration year of the specific cross in question.



Rlc. Marcella Koss 'Pink Marvel'



C. Yellow Warbler



C. Pole Star x *C.* Lana Coryell



Rlc. Odom's Orange Dream



C. cernua x *Rth.* Paxton Brooks

There are now three different *C.* Valentine crosses, this one from 1900 and one from 1937 (*Laeliocattleya* when registered) and another from 1954 (*Sophrolaeliocattleya* when registered).

Keeping with the large flowered types, Karl Harden showed us *Rlc.* Marcella Koss 'Pink Marvel,' an example of breeding from 1970, and Maegan Brass showed us *Rlc.* Odom's Orange Dream, which she must have purchased before they registered their cross of *Rlc.* Hawaiian Thrill x *Waianae* King in 2018.

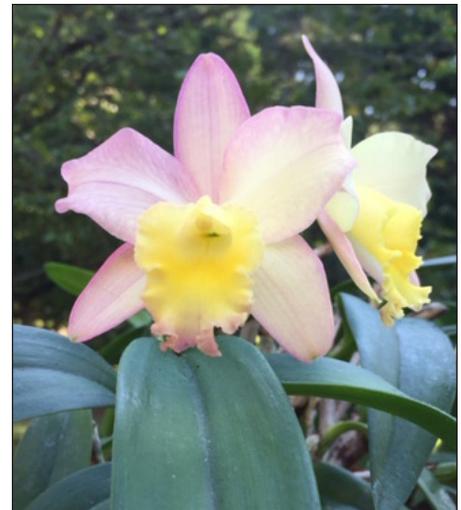
At the other end of the scale we had some very nice examples of miniature and compact crosses to look at this month. The most "mini" of all of them is my example of *C.* Yellow Warbler, which is from a remake I did of this combination of *C. cernua* and *C.* Love Fresh that was originally registered Hoosier Orchids in 2004. Because *C. cernua* is such a tiny parent, this cross does not produce a lot of offspring, but the dozen or so that I have flowered ranged from yellow to red and all shades in between. The resulting plants are rarely over 4 inches tall and

can bloom multiple times per year. Only the plants I have grown mounted have survived in the long term for me. I also showed off a first blooming seedling of a Carter and Holmes cross between *C. cernua* and *Rth.* Paxton Brooks. The latter parent is a standard sized grower, so this one, while still a mini, is a good deal larger than *C.* Yellow Warbler. I bought two seedlings of that cross and the first of them to bloom was disappointing. This one shows much more promise and the color in person is almost fluorescent! I recommend, however, that you not pass final judgement on the merits of a first blooming *Cattleya* plant. Sometimes the flowers improve dramatically in subsequent bloom cycles.

Dan Williamson showed off an example of a cross I made some years back between *C.* Pole-Star and *C.* Lana Coryell. While I flowered several of these and have kept a couple, *this* one is the most outstanding result I have seen and exactly what my mind imagined when making the cross. The flower is full and the lip color is very unusual. Dan, when you are

ready to divide it, just name your price! With many *Cattleya* crosses, there is a 60/30/10 principle at work in the genetics. Sixty percent will be average to nice, 30 percent will be inferior and only ten percent (or even less) will represent a true improvement. This one is definitely at the top of its class. Both Larry Kikkert and Maria Beug-Deeg shared photos of *Cattlianthe* Fairyland, another true miniature grower. While many plant tags separate the name into two words, the official registration is as I have it here. This one has been around since 1990 and there are several awarded forms, though the most common one found in commerce is 'NN' which stands for Newman's Nursery in Hawaii. I have found this one to be a bit slow growing when small, but it eventually forms a nice multi-lead plant like Maria's.

Danny Lentz showed us *Rlc.* Little Toshie 'Yellow Rose.' This is an outstanding compact hybrid that tops out at about 12 inches with flowers up to four



Cattlianthe Fairyland (Maria's)



Rlc. Little Toshie 'Yellow Rose'

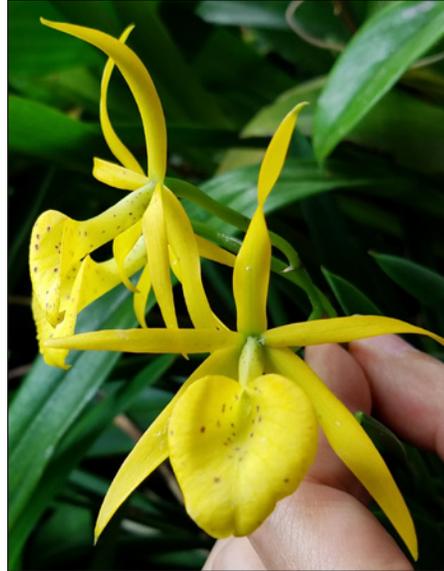
inches across. It was first registered in 1994 and many excellent examples were cloned and put into commerce. Sadly, it is almost impossible to purchase any longer, but deserves to be remade or have one of the good forms mericloned again so more people can own it. The cross is *C.* Beaufort x *Rlc.* Toshie Aoki.

Larry Kikkert submitted a photo of his *Rhyncattleanthe* Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow' which is an offspring of *Rlc.* Little Toshie and exhibits a very unusual color pattern with bold yellow bars running through the center line of each petal. This cross has an astounding 28 separate species in its family tree and has produced several examples with bizarre color combinations, but also some that were basic yellow or lavender with no overlaying pattern.

Once again we had some great exam-



Rhyncattleanthe Coral Gold 'Pacific Rainbow'



Bc. Yellow Bird

ples of crosses influenced by *Brassavola nodosa*. Danny showed us *Bc.* Yellow Bird, one of the classics that is once again available in commerce. It is a good twice per year bloomer and can make an amazing specimen with time. Jon and Firelli showed off a really fantastic example of *Blc.* Cecillia Irene. This combination of *Bc.* Richard Mueller and *Laelia aurea* was registered all the way back in 2011 so they should update their name tag. When it first came out I purchased many seedlings to flower and sell, but this example is the best color I have seen from the cross. Jon and Fi also showed off *Myrmecatavola* Tiger Lily 'MBF,' which they got at the annual auction as a division off a plant I have had for many years. This cross is *Bc.* Richard Mueller x *Myrmecophila tibicinis* and was registered in 1998 by H&R Nurseries in Hawaii and this plant dates from the first batch of seedlings. The mother plant is very large nearly always in flower. The blooms open orange and then mature to a clear yellow. When I tried to make my own version of the cross, the results were very different.

We had two different bi-foliolate entries this month. Dan Williamson showed us a dramatically colored example of *C.* Fascelis, a cross of *C. bicolor* and *C. aclandiae* registered in 1900 and remade numerous times. If you do an image search for this hybrid you will see that the results vary widely, in part because of the numerous variations available of each parent. Dan's plant has a great vivid purple lip with stark white side lobes contrasting with



Blc. Cecillia Irene



Myrmecatavola Tiger Lily 'MDF'

the camouflage pattern of the segments. Warren Prince showed us a plant labeled *C.* Pixie Gold x *Ctt.* Mollie Tyler. Assuming the label is correct it is an example of the dominance of the lavender color gene in *Cattleya* breeding. The first parent listed is a cross of two small growing bright yellow species while the second parent combines four larger lavender species. Breeders who have had years



C. Fascelis



C. Pixie Gold x Ctt. Mollie Tyler



Cym. Miss Taipei Unveiled

of experience have learned that most of the small yellow and orange species from Brazil will not carry their color through when mixed with the larger lavender types, and this has created something of a road block that can only be overcome by pairing them with a cross that has a good dose of *C. dowiana* in the background, the only large flowered species that has a yellow base color.

Cymbidium Alliance

There was only one Cymbidium entry this month, HB's *Cymbidium* Miss Taipei Unveiled. Note that the "Unveiled" is part of the registered name. This very compact and fragrant hybrid has been widely dispersed through commerce worldwide with erroneous or incomplete identification. As I recall, HB received her plant labeled as *Cym. ensifolium*. While it is one quarter that warm growing and summer blooming species, it is also one quarter cooler growing large flowered species and 50% *Cym. sinense*, from which it inherits fragrance. It should be capable of flourishing under a wide variety of conditions with a preference for bright light and plentiful watering. There is one example that received in Award of Merit in 2015 with 47 open flowers and 32 additional buds on a total of 12 inflorescences.

amazonsmile

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*Den. glomeratum*

Dendrobium Alliance

I showed off a nicely flowered example of *Dendrobium* Blue Seas, which falls in the Spatulata Section. Still a fairly young plant, it had 10 inflorescences with somewhere around 200 flowers and buds in total. As typical for this group, they are long lasting and the plants are very free flowering. The cross has the dwarf species *Den. canaliculatum* as a grandparent which helps to keep it from becoming too large of a plant, but in full spike this one was close to three feet in all directions. These types like bright light, warm temperatures and frequent water with good drainage.

I also showed an example of *Den.*

*Den. trinervium*

glomeratum sometimes labeled as *Den. sulawesense*, which gives you an idea of its natural range, which also includes the Molucca Islands and western New Guinea. This species flowers on bare older canes, usually in summer, but occasionally at other times as well. The long lasting flowers can be bright magenta like this example, or somewhat paler shades, always with a small orange lip. While this plant is still small, they eventually become rather rangy, with canes up to several feet long and are most easily managed in a basket or at least on a

*Den. aurantiflammeum*

hanger. They like shade, warmth and year round watering with only slight drying in between.

Véronique submitted a photo of her plant of the miniature species *Den. trinervium*, which I describe at some length in last month's newsletter.

And finally, leave it to Vinh Nguyen to once again show us a *Dendrobium* that is rarely seen and quite special, *Den. aurantiflammeum*, a species from Borneo that produces large, ribbon-like orange flowers on older bare canes. While not much information is available from multiple sources, here is how Jay Pfahl describes it on orchidspecies.com: "Found in Borneo in hill forests, lower montane mossy forests often on ridges and heath forests at elevations around 900 to 1400 meters as a large to giant sized, warm to cool growing epiphyte with erect, tough, wiry, becoming pendant, branching stems that often produce keikis and carrying a few per branch, narrowly linear, 3 main nerved, dark green, narrowly obtuse, minutely mucronate, and minutely papillose apically sometimes curled up margins leaves that blooms in the spring, summer and fall on 3 to 10, along the apical leafless portion of the younger stems, successively few flowered inflorescence with one flower per inflorescence open at any one time but up to 10 at once on any one stem." I also did discover that *Orchids* by Hausermann has young plants in 2 inch pots, described as being about 2 years from blooming, for \$19.99 each in case you were wanting to add this species to your collection.

*Den. Blue Seas*

*Enc. alata, or belizensis?**Prosthechea cochleata**Psychopsis papilio* 'Mendenhall' FCC/AOS

Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

Dan Williamson showed us a plant labelled as *Encyclia alata*, but more likely *Encyclia belizensis* which Kew wants to lump in with the other species but has major differences in plant and flowering details. And Marion Finely showed us a good close up of her *Epidendrum porpax*, which I describe at length in the July newsletter. Bailey Santwire submitted a photo of his *Prosthechea cochleata*, which I also discuss at length in the July newsletter.

Oncidium Alliance

For me, the star of this section was Dan Williamson's *Psychopsis papilio* 'Mendenhall,' FCC/AOS. Among the many dozens of awards this species has received, only four were judged to be good enough for a First Class Certificate. And while it has been 35 years since the 'Mendenhall' form was so honored, it still stands out for its exceptional size and ability to produce flowers of perfect form. Any orchid with a clonal name 'Mendenhall' comes from Carter and Holmes Orchids on Mendenhall Rd. near Newberry, SC. It should be noted that two of the other FCC's were awarded in Venezuela, where the species is native and presumably easier to grow well. Its range extends as far

*Epi. porpax*

*Psychopsis papilio*

east as Trinidad and as far west as Peru, usually in mountain forests, but at low to medium elevations. All the best *Psychopsis* I have personally seen were grown on windowsills and not in a greenhouse. I think I always end up keeping them too wet. HB showed off a peloric example of this species where the two normally wing-like petals are full and ruffled with expanded apices like the lip for a bizarre monstrous twist to the butterfly theme.

Bailey showed us a great flower close up and also a second photo illustrating the growth habit of *Lockhartia amoena*.

*Lockhartia amoena*

The flowers clearly show their close relationship to the Oncidiums, but the plant itself looks decidedly different from most other members of the group. The lax stems are covered in short, alternating leaves that from a distance look more like a jungle cactus. There are nearly three dozen described species of *Lockhartia* from the tropical Americas, all with the same “braided” growth habit. This one comes from mainly Costa Rica and Panama, usually on tree trunks and branches in lower mountain forests.



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*Paph. armeniacum**Paph. concolor**Paph. Feng Chun**Paph. gratrixianum**Paph. glaucophyllum**Paph. Delrosi*

Slipper Alliance

New member Warren Prince obviously likes *Paphiopedilum* species as he showed off examples of *Paph. armeniacum*, *Paph. concolor*, *Paph. glaucophyllum*, and *Paph. gratrixianum*, the latter blooming rather out of season, which normally would peak between October and February.

Danny showed off two additional species, *Paph. leucochilum*, with a bold pattern contrasting with its milk white lip, and *Paph. sangii*, a species not often seen from Sulawesi. The rather peculiar shape and color pattern is typical and despite having obvious shortcomings from a judging standpoint, there are at least 20 flower quality awards bestowed to it by the AOS.

Both Danny and I showed examples of a primary hybrid between *Paph. henryanum* and *Paph. purpuratum* called *Paph. Feng Chun*. The two plants came from the same seedling batch, but still displayed a fair amount of variation. Danny also showed of a large bloom of *Paph. Delrosi* (*delenatii* x *rothschildianum*), a cross that has brought some nice pink tones into the breeding lines. The flowers are often over 6 inches across and mature plants can have two or rarely even three per inflorescence over comparatively compact plants.

Jon and Fi showed off another *Paph. delenatii* hybrid, this time paired with *Paph. primulinum* to create *Paph. Deperle*. Typically the flowers in this cross are white or palest blush, but this plant came from a batch made with the darkest available forms of both parents. There can be three or four flowers on a single inflorescence, but they open in sequence so that it is rare to have them all on the spike together. They also showed us their plant of *Paph. Walnut Valley*. The cross on this one is *Paph. moquetteanum* x *Greyi*,

*Paph. leucochilum**Paph. sangii*



Paph. Deperle



Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements



Phrag. Apple Pie x Acker's Lovely



Paph. Walnut Valley



Phrag. Charleston Sunrise

but the color and shape of the former is all but obliterated by the latter, a cross, both natural and man-made, between two *Parvisepalum* species.

We had a sampling of both new and old *Phragmipedium* hybrids this month. Danny submitted images of two different plants of *Phrag. Sedenii*, a hybrid of *Phrag. longifolium* and *Phrag. schlimii*



Phrag. Sedenii

originally registered in 1873 and possibly the first cross ever made in the genus. Because it is a good grower and bloomer of manageable size, it has never faded in popularity. Danny also showed us *Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements* a much more recent hybrid of *Phrag. besseae* and *Phrag. sargentianum*. Registered in 1992, it was one of the first crosses made with the recently discovered bright orange red species and is now responsible for nearly 200 registered hybrids that take advantage of its saturated red color.

One of these subsequent hybrids was *Phrag. Charleston Sunrise* submitted to us by HB. It was registered in 2004 by the late H.P. Norton of Moncks Corner, SC and has *Phrag. Mem. Dick Clements* on both sides of the family tree, at least one of them made with the *flavum* form of *Phrag. besseae* in this example. H.P. Norton passed away last year at the age of 94 and was as well known for his excellent orchid hybrids as he was loved for his amiable personality. He was so taken by the beauty of *Phragmipedium* orchids that he built an air conditioned greenhouse to shield them from the relentless summer heat of the South Carolina Low Country!

HB also submitted a beautiful and as of yet unregistered hybrid between *Phrag. Apple Pie* and *Phrag. Acker's Lovely*. Both these parents blend the vivid color of *Phrag. besseae* and the pastel shades of *Phrag. schlimii* to help create this warm rose pink confection.

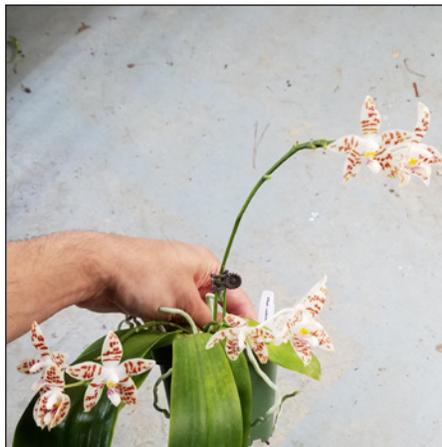
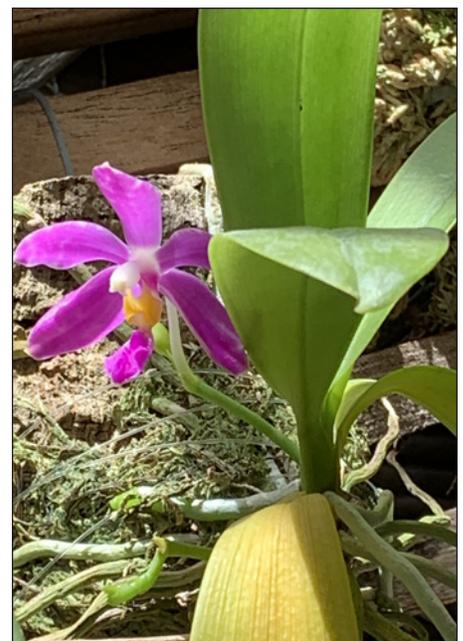
*Phal. violacea*

Phalaenopsis Alliance

We are in the middle of the peak bloom season for *Phalaenopsis violacea*, and Danny proved that point by showing off five different examples of this fragrant species from shady, humid places in the lowlands of Sumatra, Borneo and Malaya. There are many color variations available, and though only two or three flowers occur per bloom cycle on each inflorescence, well grown plants can eventually have a half dozen or more spikes flowering at once. Danny's *Phal. bellina* and *Phal. zebrina* come from the same regions and have similar growth habits and

cultural needs. All of them are happiest kept at 70F or warmer. Together, these three species are in the family tree of more than 11,000 registered hybrids.

Barbara Barnett showed us another fragrant species, *Phal. pulchra*, which comes from the Philippines and produces a few shiny magenta flowers at a time, but eventually will produce keikis at the end of each inflorescence which themselves flower, so that at least one sizeable plant was awarded in 2012 with over 100 blooms open at once!

*Phal. bellina**Phal. zebrina**Phal. pulchra*



V. falcata

Vandaceous Alliance

Summer is peak bloom season for *Vanda falcata*, formerly known by most of us as *Neofinetia falcata*. While this change is a recent occurrence we are still adjusting to, it turns out that the name was applied all the way back in 1854 so it was given precedence over the more familiar designation, which was not employed until 1925. Barbara Barnett showed us a beautiful example of the species with at least 30 delicate white flowers with long curved nectaries. She also showed us her plant of *V. Lucknow* which is *V. falcata* x *testascea*, and *not* the cross listed on her tag! Like Dan's plant of this cross that was in bloom last month, the color and shape are dominated by *V. falcata* over the other parent. Dan Williamson



V. Lucknow

showed off his *Vandachostylis* Walnut Valley, which has *V. falcata* as a grandparent on *both* sides, and though a deep purple color, still strongly resembles that species in size and form despite having several very different looking ancestors in its family tree. Believe it or not, the almost giant sized *V. sanderiana* is one of them!

And while we are on the topic of that larger species, Vinh showed us the beautifully tessellated, violet blooms of his *V. Barbara Ferri*, which basically mixes *V. sanderiana* with *V. coerulea* over multiple



Vandachostylis Walnut Valley



V. Barbara Ferri

generations to achieve this 2017 introduction from R.F. Orchids in Homestead, FL.

*Stan. saccata**Stan. martiana*

Miscellaneous

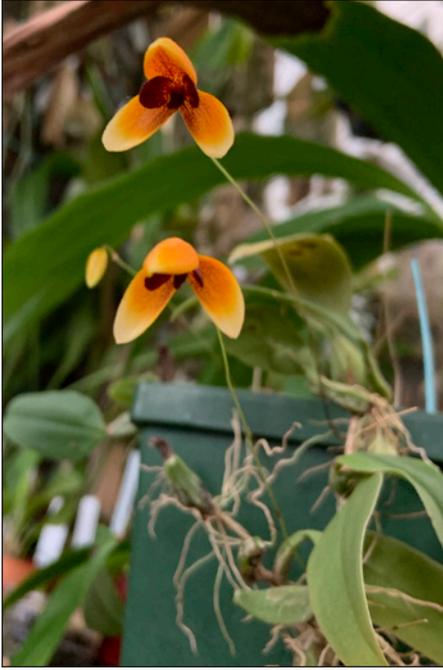
We are still in peak *Stanhopea* season and we had three entries this month. Bailey Santwire once again shared his *Stan. saccata* with us. Even though the individual flowers last only a couple of days, well grown plants can have multiple inflorescences to extend the bloom season further. The species name on this one means “sack shaped” and refers to the vague pouch-like look of the lip. At least a dozen other orchid species share this name and for similar reasons. Dan Williamson showed off *Stan. tigrina*, who’s species name is even more commonly encountered in orchids with a distinct stripe-like color pattern. But few can match the size of these flowers, which can reach up to 7 inches across. Since his plant is blooming outdoors, I’m surprised there are no insects in the photo, attracted by the powerful fragrance that

*Stan. tigrina*

is emitted from the formidable blossoms. This species is king in the forests of the eastern mountain slope of Mexico above Veracruz. Finally, in this group, I showed off a photo of *Stanhopea martiana*, which comes from the opposite side of Mexico, growing in the mountains above the Pacific in the states of Nayarit, Jalisco, Guerrero and Oaxaca. This species has full shaped white flowers with a few random dark purple blotches near the center for maximum contrast. Despite its beauty, you will struggle to find a plant available in commerce. Ours came from former AtLOS member Alfonso Ducette, whose family has a large landholding in Jalisco. Many years ago he brought us some seedlings of orchids he collected off their property. Until it bloomed, we did not know which species this one was, but were thrilled once we discovered it was both beautiful and scarce! Bailey also showed us *Gongora quinquenervis*, which is actually from a genus related to *Stanhopea* and there are a few bizarre examples of hybrids between the two. The flowers are much smaller and more numerous, but close inspection reveals their struc-

tural similarity to *Stanhopea*. This species comes from Peru, but the genus ranges from Mexico to Bolivia and Brazil.

*Gongora quinquenervis*

*Bulbo pardolatum**Bulbo annamense*

Bailey showed us two more *Bulbophyllum* species this month. *Bulb. pardolatum* comes from the Philippines and is a small grower with pretty thumbnail sized orange flowers with leopard spotting, which is the meaning of the species name. It is hard to see the spots without a good closeup, but I was able to enlarge the original photo and verify their presence. He also showed off his *Bulb. annamense*, a *Cirrhopetalum* type with large umbels of dusty pink flowers. This one comes from Vietnam and the name is in reference to an archaic epithet for that country. I'm hoping to soon be able to take another division of my large plant of this species to put in a future auction. Unfortunately, it has a habit of growing back on top of itself, making getting a good section out intact rather difficult.

*Sobralia fimbriata**Sobralia andreae*

Bailey also showed us two *Sobralia* species of manageable size for the genus. *Sobralia fimbriata*, still putting out its showy, but short lived blooms since the May meeting, and *Sobralia andreae*, a recently described (2006) species from Colombia with vivid purple blooms.

Special mention needs to go to David Mellard's magnificent clump of *Platanthera ciliaris*, the Yellow Fringed

Orchid, a very showy species native to damp roadsides, savannas and wetlands in the eastern USA from New England to Florida, although becoming rare in many locations. Slow growing and slow to establish, David has cultivated this eye popping colony in a "mini bog" he created in front of his house. It has had a number of growing seasons to become this exceptional.

*Platanthera ciliaris*

*Hab.* Raingreen's Pink Paw*Hab.* Bird of Paradise*Hab.* *xanthocheila*

And finally, I had to save the best for last. Nicholas Rust essentially presented a master class on *Habenaria* for us this month. He submitted photos of three different species in bloom and a total of 13 hybrids, most of which I had never seen before and which showed off the amazingly diverse results possible in an orchid group that has only recently received much attention. Indeed all but two of the crosses he showed off were registered in only the past few years. It was hard to decide what drew the eye more; the stunning close ups of *Hab.* Raingreen's Pink Paw, *Hab.* Bird of Paradise, and *Hab.*

xanthocheila, or the colonies of multiple inflorescences of *Hab.* medusa 'Mutant Giant', *Hab.* Regneiri (the only hybrid in the group from the early 20th Century), *Hab.* Light Wings. The "icing on the cake" was the images of the stunningly large, palest blush blooms of *Pectabenaria* Thai Dancer, a hybrid between *Habenaria carnea* and *Pecteilis susannae* only registered in 2018. I think it is fair to say that Nicholas has a magnificent obsession with this group of Asian terrestrial orchids and I'm happy he has shared it with us!

*Pectabenaria* Thai Dancer*Hab.* medusa 'Mutant Giant'*Hab.* Regneiri*Hab.* Light Wings