



# JANUARY EVENT

Monthly Meeting: 8 p.m. Monday, January 11, 2021

From the comfort of your living room via Zoom!

**Kristen Uthus on**

**Masdevallias and Draculas**

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

## Masdevallias and Draculas: Not as Scary as You Think

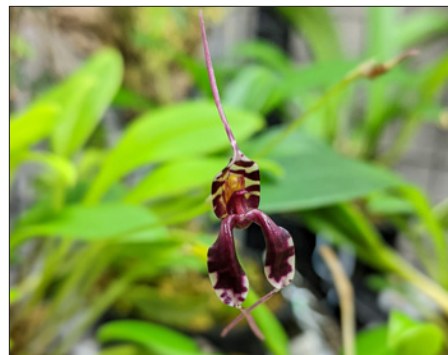
Dr. Kristen Uthus studied both plant and animal ecology and evolution at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) and the Ohio State University (OSU). She then taught biology and ecology at several colleges including VCU, OSU, University of Michigan, and Eastern Michigan University. The daughter of a plant fanatic, Kristen has been growing orchids for over 20 years, and in 2014 she fulfilled her dream of making orchids a full-time commitment by purchasing New World Orchids.

Although she enjoys growing many varieties of orchids and other plants, miniatures remain her passion—the weirder the better. New World Orchids specializes in Japanese species such as *Neofinetia falcata*, *Dendrobium moniliforme*, and *Sederia japonica*, but her miniature selection includes many other small species including Pleurothallids, Bulbophyllums, and Angraecums. Although never entirely up to

date, you can check out some of NWO’s offerings at [www.newworldorchids.com](http://www.newworldorchids.com).

Kristen lives in Manchester, MI, about an hour west of Detroit. She is supported in her orchid pursuits by her husband, Dr. Kevin Wehrly, and her two sons, Henry and Gus.

Kristen will talk about Masdevallias and Draculas. This subset of the Pleurothallid Alliance has long been beloved by orchid growers; however, she hears the refrain, “I can’t grow them” way too often. You would be surprised at the success the average grower can have under “normal” growing conditions. She will talk about



*Masdevallia ximenesae* at the ABG (photo by Danny)

what makes these two genera so attractive, how to grow them in intermediate to warm conditions, and some great species to try if you are still hesitant.

## Notice to All New Growers

Do you have questions about growing orchids? Just ask.

Contact Barbara Barnett with your questions

at [barnettbarbara14@gmail.com](mailto:barnettbarbara14@gmail.com)

Check out Barbara’s new column on page 2!

## A Word from the President:

Bring on 2021!! I’m sure for a change we’re all glad to have 2020 hindsight!! Not everything was bad though, as the satisfaction of coaxing our green “Pets” into full bloom has been one of the silver linings of this past year as a “Stay Calm and Orchid On” attitude really took root for me. Watching new shoots and leaves emerging signaled a soon reward of beautiful color, fragrance, or fantastical form amid the mayhem of the crazy year. They gave me something beautiful to look forward to despite the grim headlines and were a welcome respite from the unrelenting advertisements.

I for one, am looking forward to another year of learning about the amaz-

ingly wonderful family of Orchids. Since we’re not quite out of the woods yet with the crazy Covid still running amuck, we’ll continue to host out meetings over Zoom until we can safely meet again so **please remember to pay your dues** and stay tuned... [www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org](http://www.AtlantaOrchidSociety.org)

Another ray of sunshine is that Danny has already started making his list of speakers for us to enjoy in 2021. He’s been amazing at finding us orchid experts from around the world to share their knowledge with us when ordinarily, we wouldn’t be able to have such a range of speakers in person during the course of a year.

I welcome the new Board Members, I look forward to working with you all in this shiny New Year and serving our membership!! I’m hoping we can think about doing a live orchid show, perhaps in the fall.

We had a really fun December meeting with our silly sweaters, Santa hats and Orchid Trivia while sipping our portions of choice and admiring our fellow members beautiful plants. The auction was a success and it was great to visit with everyone- we had so much fun that we still had a good group going at 11!! Hope to see you for the next meetings. Together, we’ll make 2021 a great year as we Stay Calm and Orchid On!!

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## The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 62: Number 01 – January 2021

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](#).

### Novice Growers Culture Notes for January

Winter is here and we need to have a discussion about **winter rest**.

In general, plants do not need frequent watering and fertilizing in winter due to the cold. In my greenhouse, that could be every 10 to 14 days. But in my sun room, that could be every 7 days. There is no absolute, your grow zone could be more or less depending on the humidity. Signs of too little water are leaves in accordion and shriveling pseudobulbs. The precursor to this is in the fall we have been cutting back on water and fertilizer.

**Winter rest is more specific.** This consist of no watering or fertilizing specific genera. It usually starts mid-December and lasts for about three months. When days get a little longer and some new growth starts, roots and leaves appear. At that time watering and feeding resume.

There are some genera that require very dry winters. Catasetums are in this group (refer to Fred Clarke’s instructions at Sunset Valley Orchids). This very dry group also includes some sections of Dendrobiums (there is a list of specific winter care for each section of Dendrobiums on the [AOS.org](#) website on the Dendrobium culture sheet). There are no absolutes; remember that in their natural environment these plants get some moisture

from dew and fog. If you see pseudobulbs shriveling, the plants are not getting enough moisture, try misting. Neofinita falcatas require three months of rest, January through March, with misting every two weeks but no fertilizer. There are other orchids genera that require this kind of rest. If you have questions, it is important to have some research materials handy. Ask the members of the society or look at the AOS website. You may want to join to get additional information.

### Staking Inflorescences

This is the season that Phalaenopsis are putting out bloom spikes. Attention should be given to staking. It is important to train that inflorescence so it will not get out of control. Also, do not turn the plant in order to keep the flowers from twisting. All of this enhances the presentation. Along this thought, winter and spring blooming Cattleyas are putting out sheaths and buds. If the sheath dries you may slit it open to allow the bud to emerge. Staking is also a good idea as the buds enlarge and get heavier the stems can be weak and need support. Use sturdy stakes and green twist ties or large daisy clips for Cattleya. Be careful not to snap the stem. It happens when least expected.

### EVENTS CALENDAR

#### January

8 – NO American Orchid Society monthly judging

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Kristen Uthus on Masdevallias and Draculas



**Time to renew  
your AtLOS membership!**

[www.atlantaorchidsociety.org](http://www.atlantaorchidsociety.org)

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

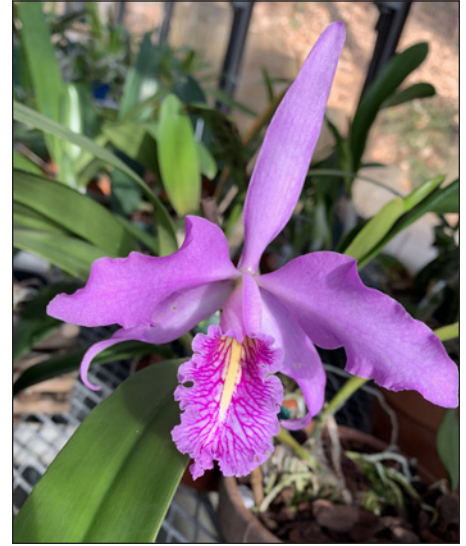
Notes by Mark Reinke; Photos by various members of the AtIOS



*C. cernua*



*Leptotes unicolor*



*C. maxima*

### Cattleya Alliance

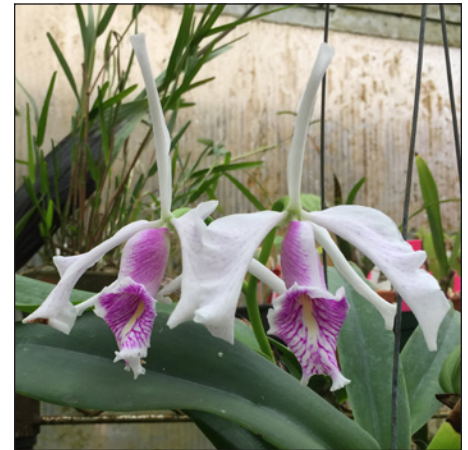
This month we had 33 entries in the Cattleya Alliance. I'm going to break them down into five groups so that they are easier to discuss. First we will start with species. Barbara Barnett showed us two miniature examples from southeast Brazil, *Cattleya cernua*, with its eye-catching orange flowers and the more subtly colored *Leptotes unicolor*. As Barbara's photos reveal, both of these species are best grown mounted in good light with plenty of water while actively growing, and somewhat less when not.

Both Barbara and David Mellard had plants of *Cattleya maxima* in bloom. David's was the rather rare *Cattleya maxima* *forma semi-alba* with white segments and a colored lip. It is very difficult to ob-

tain a good example of this color form, and definitely worth holding onto when you do. I discussed this species at more length in last month's newsletter.

Danny & Dianne had a rather early blooming example of *Cattleya lueddemanniana* to show off. This species from Venezuela has peak flowering in March. The full flowers, compact growth habit and excellent fragrance have made it a key player in large flowered Cattleya breeding, with nearly 15,000 registered hybrids descended from it. The beautiful lip patterns make this one of my favorite *Cattleya* species.

Lee Finley showed us a typical colored example of *Laelia rubescens*, and I showed an example of one that is white with a purple throat, which I call *L. rubescens*



*C. maxima* *forma semi-alba*

*forma albo-oculata*, but which also might be found labeled *forma semi-alba* or *forma albescens*. This species from Mexico



*C. lueddemanniana*



*L. rubescens*



*L. rubescens* *forma albo-oculata*



*Cattlianthe* Fairyland (left: Maria's; right: Mark's)



*Lc. Dubescens* 'Maui Beauty' AM/AOS



*Blc. Cecillia Irene*

Jon Crate & Fi Alonso yet again showed off their excellent example of *Blc. Cecillia Irene* and Lee Finley presented *Brassavola Little Stars*, rounding out this group with examples of crosses descended from *B. nodosa*.

Next let's look at the entries I have grouped together by their compact growth habits. We can use these plants to create a sort of "mini course" on breeding in this group, showing how a starting point from some original species can take the look of the plant and flowers in various directions. We will start with my entry of *Lc. Dubescens* 'Maui Beauty,' AM/AOS. The defining look of this 1979 introduction from Stewart's Orchids is achieved through *L. rubescens*, the species we discussed above. The dark throat, cluster habit and strong inflorescence carried above the foliage are all a result of its genetic influence. The fresh beauty of this one is something I coveted for many years before finally obtaining a division through David Off of Waldor Orchids in New Jersey. This orchid has never been mericloned so this is a division that goes back to the original awarded plant.

Next we have two examples of hybrids descended from *C. Mini Purple*, an important cross between two mini Brazilian species, *C. walkeriana* and *C. pumila*, that was introduced in 1965.

Carson Barnes' *Cattlianthe* Blue Angel 'Glove' has the coerulea form of that cross as an immediate parent, thus retaining a fairly large, flat flower for the size of the plant, but in a violet-mauve palette. John & Fi's *Cattlianthe* Secret Love 'KB' uses the normal lavender form of *C. Mini Purple*, but gets a strong amount of yellow in the throat by way of having both *C. loddigesii* and *C. harriso-*



*Cattlianthe* Blue Angel 'Glove'



*B. Little Stars*

and Central America likes very bright light and rather sparing water after new growths have hardened off and flower spikes are underway, but a well grown specimen is both compact and quite beautiful during its rather brief flowering period

The next group to look at are the hybrids with miniature to near miniature growth. Both Maria Bueg-Deeb and I exhibited the charming little *Cattlianthe* Fairyland, each of us showing off a slightly different clone. While tags may separate the registered name into two words, it is officially as shown here. This little *C. Beaufort* hybrid has rather long-lasting flowers and has been delighting growers for 30 years.



*Cattlianthe* Secret Love 'KB'

*niana* in its ancestry. Likely both of these orchids still have some trace of the sweet scent of *C. walkeriana* as an added attraction.

Moving on, we have several selections that owe their existence to *C. intermedia* var. *aquinii*, a rare peloric mutation of a Brazilian species that was quite a sensation when discovered in the wild and is the most common source for flowers with boldly splashed petals. That trait is abundantly obvious in Dan Williamson's *C. Tropical Chip* 'Fuji,' HCC/AOS and John & Fi's *C. Tropical Song*. However, when making crosses using this genetic line, the resulting seedlings can show a remarkable range of looks, and in the case of Dan Williamson's *Cattleychea*



C. Tropical Chip 'Fuji' HCC/AOS



C. Tropical Song

*Cattleychea* Siam Jade

Siam Jade, the peloric trait does not carry through. There are many other clones of *Ctyh.* Siam Jade in which it does. Note that Dan's plant also has a mutant bloom formed by two fused buds. Usually this kind of occurrence is an isolated event and may not repeat itself in future flowerings.

Now let's look at a group of plants descended from *C. coccinea*, a miniature Brazilian species with comparatively large orange to red flowers. It lives in moss laden mountain forests filled with cool, buoyant air off the Atlantic Ocean

and by itself is challenging to grow in climates such as ours. However, it has been useful as an ancestor of many modern mini and compact Cattleyas. My entry of *Rlc.* Lisa Taylor Gallis 'Nora' AM/AOS has *C. Beaufort* as one direct parent. *C. Beaufort* marries *C. coccinea* with *C. luteola*, a species from the Amazon basin that loves warmth. This combination makes for a miniature orchid that is much easier to grow, and since tetraploid versions became available in the 1980s, has given us an array of wonderful compact and mini hybrids that are typically also good repeat bloomers. *Rlc.* Lisa Taylor Gallis was made by crossing *C. Beaufort* with a large white tetraploid Cattleya, and the result is stunning, especially once a plant has multiple leads such as this one. Incidentally, this plant is still growing in a 3.5" plastic pot that has rooted into an empty basket. The unregistered hybrid of *Rlc.* Little Toshie x *Ctt.* Gold Digger submitted by Maria Bueg-Deeb is an example of one of my early attempts to take a *C. Beaufort* hybrid and combine it with a cluster flowered type. Of all of them I flowered myself, this combination of clear bright yellow and a contrasting red lip was common, but so was the elongated or misshapen appearance of the lip. Had the flowers had good form to go with the great color, I would have registered the cross.

The 1998 introduction of *C. Circle of Life* by the late Frank Fordyce revolutionized flower size in the compact group. He created it by marrying that finicky *C. coccinea* with a large-flowered lavender called *C. Culminant*. The result was a rather short plant with large, flat, brightly colored flowers, typically over 4 inches across. But the big blooms often

*Rlc.* Dream Circle*Rlc.* Lisa Taylor Gallis 'Nora' AM/AOS*Rlc.* Little Toshie x *Ctt.* Gold Digger

suffer from a weak stem and need to be staked. However, if you take *C. Circle of Life* and combine it back to one of the large-flowered types, and the plant size usually stays short, but the flower stem improves dramatically. This is evident in two of my entries for the month that are *C. Circle of Life* offspring: *Rlc.* Dream Circle (x *Rlc.* Hisako Akatsuka) and *Rlc.* Mysterious Valley (x *Rlc.* Jeremy Island), both of which did not require staking to show themselves off.

*Rlc.* Mysterious Valley



*Cattlianthe Mrs W. N. Elkins*



*Brassanthe Maikai 'Spotted Star'*



*Laelianthe Wrigleyi 'Blue Lagoon' HCC/AOS*



*Brassanthe Maikai 'Louise' AM/AOS*

Now we will look at plants with larger growth habits and clusters of flowers. A popular fall blooming species used to create this effect is *Gurianthe bowringiana*, a robust species from Guatemala and Belize that often grows on rocks and cliffs rather than on trees. We have four examples of such breeding this month. Carson's *Cattlianthe Mrs W. N. Elkins* and *Laelianthe Wrigleyi 'Blue Lagoon' HCC/AOS* are both examples where the coerulea form of *Gur. bowringiana* was crossed to that same form of another species. In the case of the former it was *C. purpurata*, which likely creates a plant with large, tall growths. In the latter case *L. anceps* was used, which would keep the plant size down somewhat but lengthen the flower spike. These are old crosses originally registered a century or more ago. Because of the space they require, neither is common in collections except where the plants can be grown outdoors year round. Dan Williamson submitted *Brassanthe Maikai 'Spotted Star'* and Karl showed off *Bsn. Maikai 'Louise' AM/AOS*,

two different clones of the cross between *Gur. bowringiana* and *Brassavola nodosa*. This cross was originally registered in 1944, but various clones of it have remained available and popular throughout the decades since. The latter species keeps the growth somewhat more compact, but it can still become an impressive specimen covered in scented flowers. There are at least a dozen cultural



*Guarianthe Guatemalensis*

awards for plants of *Bsn. Maikai* carrying at least 200 flowers and up to 500, which would be amazing to see in full bloom.

Dan Williamson also showed us a nice example of *Guarianthe Guatemalensis*, which combines *Gur. aurantiaca* and *Gur. skimmeri*. This plant is blooming rather early in the flowering season for this cross, which was originally found as a natural hybrid where the two Central American species grow in close proximity. There are numerous color forms of this orchid, which can also make a large specimen. We have a white one, a yellow



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*Cattlianthe Sagarik Wax 'Silk Ball'*

one and a “watermelon pink” one hanging in our greenhouse, but they have become too large to take to shows when in full bloom!

Lee Finley presented a young plant of *Cattlianthe Sagarik Wax 'Silk Ball,'* which combines three cluster flowered species plus a couple of large-flowered ones to create the glossy blooms of saturated color and a strong fragrance that traces back to *C. guttata*, one of the grandparents. When fully mature there can be up to ten flowers in the cluster with a robust plant size to match.

I submitted photos of first blooming seedlings of some of my own crosses that use *Laelia* (formerly *Schomburgkia*) *splendida* as one parent. Both *C. Rembrandt* x *L. splendida* and *Rlc. Hsinying Toki* x *L. splendida* produced only two blooms in their first flowering, but will eventually make large clusters on equally large plants. While not to everyone’s taste, there is a fairly robust demand for “Schombo” hybrids and they always sell out quickly. Unfortunately, it usually takes a while to get them to flowering size, generally 7 to 10 years from seed to first flowering.

In our final group we will check out the entries represent large-flowered breeding. Maegan Brass gave us a great photo of the lovely *Rhyncolaeliocattleya* George King ‘Serendipity’ AM/AOS, which was registered 50 years ago and has contributed to more than 200 subsequent hybrids. It has one of the most exquisite fragrances you can imagine, and under certain conditions it can be a bit more peachy in color than in her photo. The remaining entries in this group are all rather recent examples of modern “art shade” breeding. Meagan’s *Rlc. Red Diamond 'NN'* was registered in

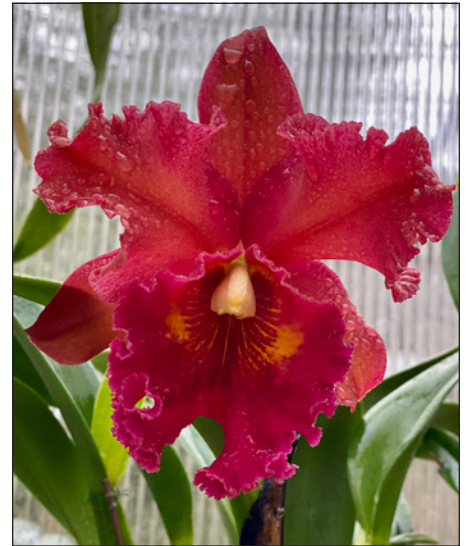


*C. Rembrandt* x *L. splendida*

2014, Danny & Dianne’s flamboyant *Rlc. Inola Bolt 'Orchidheights'* in 2008, and John & Fi’s *Rlc. Nakornchaisri Delight '# 3'* in 2009. Despite the very different colors of these recent hybrids, they all rely heavily on *C. dowiana* to achieve their look, with that species carrying up to 60% of the genetic pie chart of contributing species. It has great color and fragrance but not great form, and so the best results of crosses made with it have been combined over and over for many generations to achieve the looks desired. Generally, because there is so much *C. dowiana* in their genes, such hybrids require very careful watering in winter that allows the media to dry by nightfall to maintain a healthy root system.



*Rlc. Hsinying Toki* x *L. splendida*



*Rlc. Red Diamond 'NN'*



*Rlc. Inola Bolt 'Orchidheights'*



*Rlc. George King 'Serendipity' AM/AOS*



*Rlc. Nakornchaisri Delight '# 3'*



*Cym.* Parish Elf x Annie Kelly

### Cymbidium Alliance

Both Danny & Dianne and I submitted entries that are recent crosses done by Andy Easton of New Horizon orchids, specifically breeding to create heat tolerant and somewhat more compact growers. *Cymbidium* Parish Elf x Annie Kelly brings in the hot growing *Cym. ensifolium* from both parents by way of *Cym.* Golden Elf, an important cross registered by Rod. McLellan Co. in 1978 and an ancestor in close to 500 *Cymbidium* hybrids to date. The bright yellow flower with contrasting dark red markings in the lip is very eye catching. My *Cym.* Mad Pixie x Gold Rules was submitted last month,



*Cym.* Mad Pixie x Gold Rules

but I had to show it off again as a larger, more heavily flowered spike emerged, and two more are coming after this one. This cross also has *Cym.* Golden Elf on both sides, but gets its unusual color pat-

tern through *Cym. madidum*, an Australian species that more often grows in rotting hollows of trees rather than on the ground where many *Cymbidium* species make their home.

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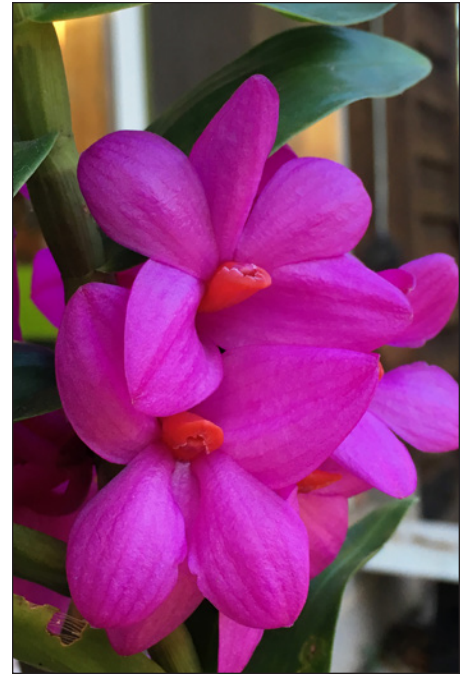
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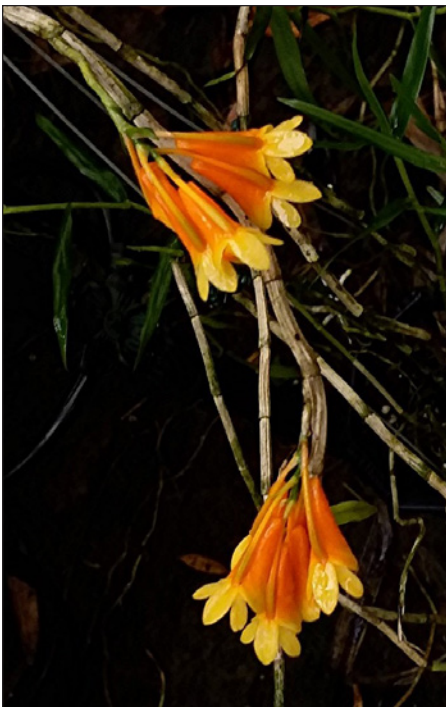


*Den. darjeelingense**Den. glomeratum*

### Dendrobium Alliance

In this group, Lee Finley showed us a small growing species often tagged *Dendrobium eriaeflorum*, but accepted by Kew as *Den. darjeelingense*, named for a province in India where it is common, and where they also grow tea commercially. The small green and white flowers are nonresupinate and can be produced from both leafy and older leafless growths.

I showed an example of *Dendrobium*

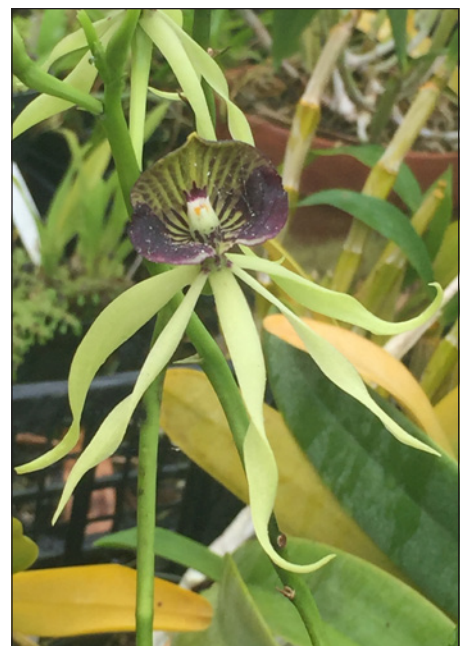
*Den. subclausum*

*subclausum* that is a more typical form of the species. In both July and September we saw Vinh Nguyen's *Den. subclausum* var. *speciosum*, which has flowers that open more widely. My plant came from Ecuagenera a couple years ago when they were at the Asheville Orchid Festival and has really become a tangle of branches since, but just beginning to have enough old growth to make some flowers.

Véronique showed off her very nicely flowering plant of *Den. glomeratum*. The color intensity and size of the blooms varies from plant to plant. Hers is a really good one!

### Epidendrum/Encyclia Alliance

Carson gave us the only entry in this category with his *Prosthechea cochleata*, a widespread New World species we have discussed before that occurs all around the Caribbean basin including southern-most Florida.

*Prosthechea cochleata*



*Onc. Twinkle 'Fantasy'*



*Onc. Rosy Sunset*

### Oncidium Alliance

We had three examples of *Oncidium Alliance* breeding that show the influence of *Onc. sotoanum* in the small, numerous, fragrant flowers on finely branched inflorescences. Lee Finely's *Onc. Twinkle 'Fantasy'* was the first to come along in this breeding line, having been registered in 1958. Corliss Rupp's *Onc. Tsiku Marguerite* takes the previous orchid back to the *Onc. sotoanum* parent again, and Véronique's *Oncidium Rosy Sunset* (yes, I'm sure that is what it is) adds in a bit of *Onc. fuscatum* for a slightly larger plant and flower.

Corliss Rupp's rather aptly named *Brassostele Tarantula 'Sweet Orange'* combines two *Brassia* species with a *Rhyncostele* species, all with quite different looks. One of them, *Brs. aurantiaca*, has flowers that are bright orange, but do



*Onc. Tsiku Marguerite*

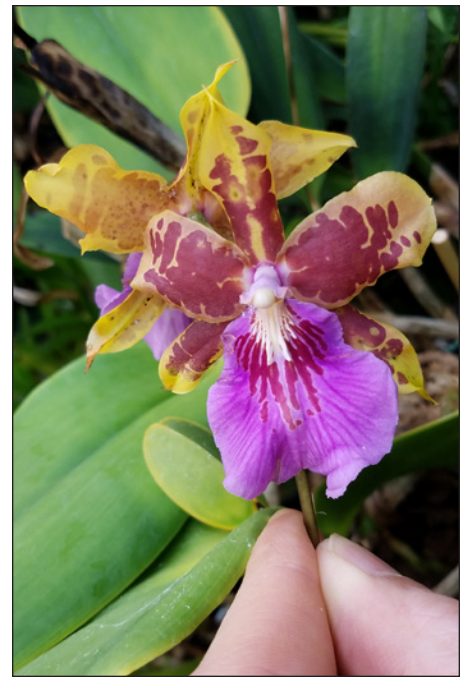
not open fully, which is why the flowers of this cross are often somewhat cupped. This orchid can bloom when still very small and is often on wholesale grower lists in spike in 2 inch pots.

Danny & Dianne's *Miltonia Sandy's Cove 'Woodlands'* AM/AOS is a real standout for me, with a bold pattern and good contrast between unusual colors.

It mixes five different Brazilian *Miltonia* species together over that same number of breeding generations for this showy result. Given time and space, this orchid can grow into a large specimen. There was a different clone awarded in 2001 with 121 open flowers on 23 inflorescences.



*Brassostele Tarantula 'Sweet Orange'*



*Miltonia Sandy's Cove 'Woodlands' AM/AOS*



*Paph. wilhelmiae*



*Paph. spicerianum* (left: Danny & Dianne's; right: HB's, clone Peridot Blush)

**Slipper Alliance**

We had nine different *Paphiopedilum* species to view this month. Carson's *Paph. wilhelmiae* was the only one from the typical multifloral group represented. It is an unusual terrestrial species from the highlands of New Guinea, often found growing on grassy slopes that were deforested in the past. The flower count is typically limited to 2 or 3 per inflorescence. It was described in 1942 and named after the Queen of the Netherlands at that time.

This is the time of year you would expect to enjoy the flowers of two of my favorite species. Danny & Dianne and Warren Prince both showed off *Paph. gratrixianum*, a nice clump forming species from Laos and Vietnam that can form a nice specimen over time, beautifully illustrated by Warren's photos. The

shiny lacquered texture and the patch of random spots on the dorsal sepals add greatly to its charm. My other favorite is *Paph. spicerianum*, and Danny & Dianne showed two different examples that were nice, but not as much of a standout as HB's plant, with quite broad and nicely wavy petals for the species. This orchid comes from northeast India, and HB's photo beautifully shows off the pubescent nature of the white, funnel-shaped dorsal sepal with a prominent central stripe and green shading near the base. Both of these species mix together an odd range of colors in the kind of artful way only possible in nature. The look of *Paph. spicerianum* is strongly evident in two hybrids shown, so I'll mention them here. First, Danny & Dianne's *Paph. Memnon*, which combines it with *Paph. charlesworthii* for a larger, broader dorsal



*Paph. Memnon*



*Paph. gratrixianum* (left: Danny & Dianne's; right: Warren's)



*Paph. Lathamianum*

*Paph. delenatii**Paph. tranlienianum**Paph. venustum**Paph. appletonianum*

sepal and also HB's *Paph. Lathamianum* which combines *Paph. spicerianum* with *Paph. villosum*.

Danny & Dianne also showed us the delicate beauty of *Paph. delenatii*, a species which can have two flowers to the spike at times, as their plant illustrates. Like *Paph. gratrixianum*, it comes from Vietnam and both species occur on slopes and bluffs where the substrate is granitic and therefore acidic in nature. HB's *Paph. tranlienianum* also comes from Vietnam, but in areas where the

substrate is composed of limestone. These facts may give hints about how to best grow these three species.

Rounding out the species, Warren Prince showed us the albino form of *Paph. venustum* from the foothills of the Himalayas, *Paph. appletonianum* from cool, misty forests in southeast Asia, and *Paph. glaucophyllum*, a sequentially blooming type from the island of Java. Warren's photo of that species shows an older inflorescence that is producing (at least) its eighth bloom in sequence and a younger spike just making its second flower.

Danny & Dianne showed us a whole range of Maudiae type hybrids from Lehua Orchids including *Paph. Hawaiian Allure*, *Paph. Jeweled Venus*, a very dark colored *Paph. Macabre Illusion*, *Paph. Magically Superb*, *Paph. Petula's Glamor* and *Paph. Worthy Fred*. The various outcomes of all of these crosses vary considerably from plant to plant, so when a really good flower comes along, it is worth hanging onto, which is what I did with *Paph. Mem. Vickie Lynn Nagy*. Not only

*Paph. glaucophyllum*

is the color and shape above average on this one, but both inflorescences are also producing a second bud, something that can happen in these breeding lines, but is uncommon.

Danny & Dianne also showed us an example of complex or Bulldog breeding in *Paph. Malibu Stacy* (entered as *Paph.*

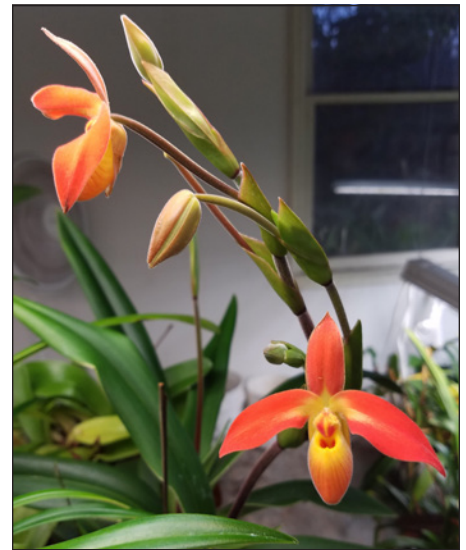
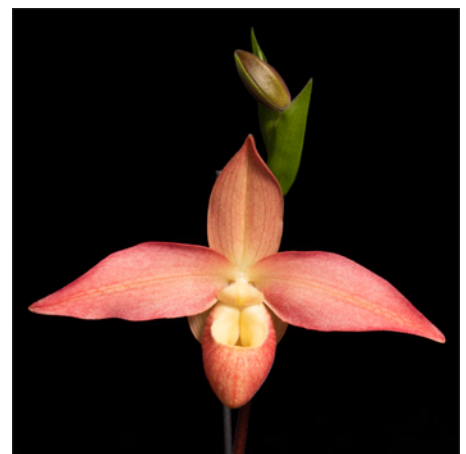
*Paph. Hawaiian Allure**Paph. Jeweled Venus**Paph. Macabre Illusion*

*Paph. Magically Superb**Paph. Worthy Fred**Paph. Petula's Glamor**Paph. Malibu Stacy**Paph. Mint Chocolate*

Gigi x Greenvale). The main bloom season for this type of cross is just beginning and tends to peak in mid-winter. Warren Prince showed us an example of a much more recent breeding trend that combines *Paph. godefroyae* with *Paph. malipoense* to create Paph. Mint Chocolate. This cross racked up quite a few awards right at the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

We also had several Phragms to see this month. Carson showed us *Phragmipedium pearcei*, one of the smaller growing species that have this color palette, coming from fairly high elevations on the

eastern slopes of the Andes in Peru and Ecuador. Danny & Dianne gave us a look at *Phrag. dalesandroi*, a showy species only described in 1996 that can produce a well-branched inflorescence, giving the opportunity for more flowers to be open at once as each one buds sequentially. Warren Prince gave us a look at a *Phrag. Don Wimber*, with warm sunset tones. This cross continues to receive awards even after 25 years. Warren's example may have the yellow form of *Phrag. besseae* in its family tree based on its softer palette.

*Phrag. dalesandroi**Paph. Mem. Vickie Lynn Nagy**Phrag. pearcei**Phrag. Don Wimber*

*Phal. tetrapsis**Phal. Miva Smartissimo 'Firelli'* AM/AOS*Phal. Yaphon Oh Mygod*

### Phalaenopsis Alliance

Jon & Fi were the only members to submit images of *Phalaenopsis* this month. We have seen the quirky *Phal. tetrapsis* with its seemingly random color patterns several times this year. Possibly extinct in the wild, it originates in the Andaman and Nicobar archipelago, a group of mostly small islands in the Bay of Bengal west of Thailand. They also showed us their awarded *Phal. Miva Smartissimo 'Firelli'*, AM/AOS which carries a nice pattern of well-placed dots on its full, flat flowers. It looks like the show is just beginning for this branched inflorescence. Finally, they gave us *Phal. Yaphon Oh Mygod*, displaying a single flower that is a pleasing blend of shades over very shiny broad foliage. Note that the official registration name is as I have it here, possibly to avoid offense to anyone.

### Vandaceous Alliance

Barbara Barnett showed us her *Vanda coerulea* in flower with good color, but with petals that have rotated to a different plane from the sepals. This is a rather common occurrence in this species. It is, however, just fine with winter temps in the 40's or 50's at night, so a good one for those who don't want to keep their growing area constantly warm.

Carson showed us a really nice close up of the flower of *Papillionanda Cindy*

Banks 'Hilltop.' There are more flowers out of view and this cross can have 8 to 12 on a single stem. It is nearly impossible to tell from the flower and growth habit that there is any *Papillionanthe* in the family tree as it only enters the equation as a great-great grandparent in the form of *Ple. teres*.

*V. coerulea**Papillionanda Cindy Banks 'Hilltop'*



*Bulb. careyanum*



*Bulb. longissimum* (top: Barbara's; bottom: Mark's)



*Bulb. Wilmar Galaxy Star*

**Miscellaneous**

This month I will split this group into those orchids which are epiphytes and those which are (mostly) terrestrial. Beginning with the tree dwelling types, we had three examples of the diversity found in the genus *Bulbophyllum*. Bailey submitted *Bulb. careyanum*, a species from the eastern Himalayas with its many small, malodorous flowers packed into a very tight cylindrical inflorescence. Barbara Barnett and I both showed photos of our plants of *Bulb. longissimum*, a species from Thailand that is rare in its natural habitat. My plant has somewhat more delicate colors than Barbara's but has finally put on a really nice show this year with more than a dozen inflorescences. I got it as a small seedling from Bill Thoms when he gave a presentation to us on the genus a good decade ago. I find that this species needs tons of water in summer to keep the foliage looking good. David Mellard showed us a plant that came from Nancy Newton, *Bulbophyllum Wilmar Galaxy Star*, a primary hybrid between *Bulb. dearei* and *Bulb. lobbii*. David was concerned about the number of flowers for such a large plant, but the main bloom season for this one should be summer, so hopefully he will see a nice showing in a few more months.

We had three different Pleurothallid entries this month and interestingly, the ranges of each one overlap in Colombia and Venezuela. Barbara Barnett showed off *Pleurothallis cardiothallis*, whose lovely dark red flowers come sequentially in the center of large heart shaped foliage. She also exhibited for us *Pleurothallis hemirhoda*, the "Half Red Pleurothallis" whose fairly large, semi-translucent flowers emerge in a bundle from the base of the leaf. David Mellard showed off his *Masdevallia impostor*, whose fairly large claw-like flowers occur several to the



*Pths. cardiothallis*



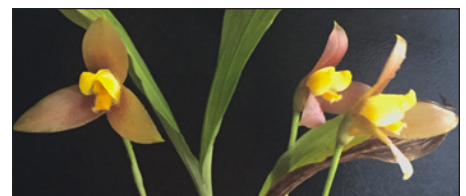
*Pths. hemirhoda*



*Masd. impostor*

spike in succession.

Carson Barnes presented his *Lycaste lasioglossa*, "the Shaggy Lipped Lycaste," whose name is clearly appropriate as evidenced in his photo. This species from



*Lycaste lasioglossa*

southern Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador is very rare now in the wild and likely extinct from much of its original range. Luckily it survives in cultivation and is an important parent in crosses in this group.

We had two different *Coelogyne* species to look at this month. Véronique showed us her *Coelogyne usitana*, a sequential flowering species from Mindanao Island in the Philippines which we have seen several times before from other members. It can continue blooming, one flower at a time, for many months. David Mellard presented us with *Coelogyne calcicola*, whose name means the “Limestone Living Coelogyne.” This southeast Asian species doesn’t have a lot of information written about it. It is considered cool growing and of course comes from forests growing on limestone. The flowers are very attractive, and my guess is that



*Coel. usitana*



*Coel. calcicola*



*Medicalcar decoratum* 'Mello Sweetbay's Eye Candy' CCM/AOS

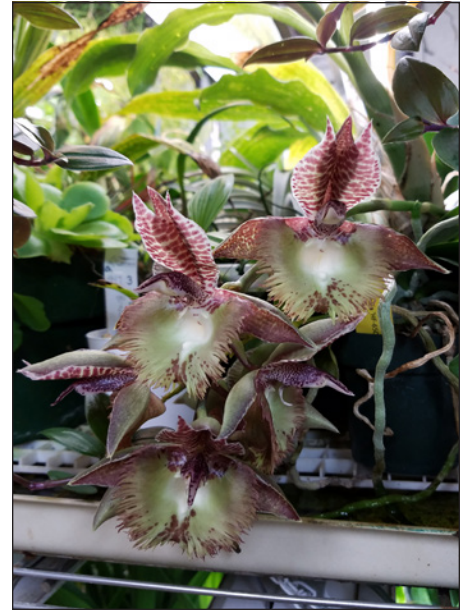
David got his plant originally from Andy's Orchids as they are the only source I could find that had it available.

David Mellard also showed us a truly outstanding example of *Medicalcar decoratum* 'Mello Sweetbay's Eye Candy.' This New Guinea species probably does not look like an orchid to many people, with its mat forming, creeping habit and tiny, ball-like orange and yellow flowers.

Danny & Dianne were the only members to present a *Ctsm.* Frilly Doris 'Sunset Valley Orchids,' AM/AOS. This Fred Clarke introduction from 2012 mixes three different epiphytic species from various parts of South America.

And finally in epiphytic types, Danny & Dianne showed us two different very showy plants of *Nottara* Lucy's Sassafras, an orchid in the *Zygopetalum* group that mixes five different genera together. One plant showed broader segments while the other had a more dramatic pattern on the segments.

Now, switching to terrestrial orchids, Bailey Santwire showed us a photo of the foliage of one of our native woodland orchids, *Tipularia discolor*, commonly known as the Crane-Fly Orchid. You will never see the flowers and foliage at the same time with this orchid. The dark green, somewhat puckered leaves with purple undersides emerge in fall and last through winter. By spring they are withering away. Then in mid-summer, slender



*Ctsm.* Frilly Doris 'Sunset Valley Orchids' AM/AOS



*Nottara* Lucy's Sassafras





*Calanthe* Rose Georgene 'Electric Pink' HCC/AOS



*Tipularia discolor*

spikes to about 12 inches tall emerge and develop a number of small flowers with subtle coloring. Often blooming in dense woodlands, they can be easily overlooked. There are many plants of this orchid in the woods on my property, and I have noticed that a few have bright, almost fluorescent green anther caps, making them easier to spot. It is very difficult to successfully transplant this orchid, so it is best left alone unless the site is being destroyed. The range of this monotypic genus is focused on the southeastern quadrant of the country. I have included a photo of the flowers in case you stumble across it in bloom, which is usually around the first of August in my area.

Jon & Fi showed us the eye-catching blooms of *Calanthe* Rose Georgene 'Electric Pink,' HCC/AOS, which combines at least 5 species from the genus together.

There could be more species involved, but one of its great-grandparents, *Cal.* Butterfly, registered in 1914 is of unknown parentage.

Carson had his *Polystachya neobenthamia* in bloom again. This terrestrial and lithophytic species from Tanzania was discussed in more detail in our November newsletter.

And finally, David Mellard showed us two fantastic examples of *Pterostylis*, in particular species that bloom at the beginning of the late fall to spring flowering season for the genus. There are more than 200 species of *Pterostylis* documented in Australia. They survive the dry summers by dying back to small underground tubers, and if well grown, will multiply profusely to give the amazing spectacle we see in David's *Pterostylis obtusa* 'Tuscarora Spirit.' As David mentioned at the meeting, his pot of *Pterostylis ophioglossa* still needs a little time to fill out. You can see many leaf rosettes that didn't produce a flower this time around, but likely will in the next flowering cycle.



*Polystachya neobenthamia*



*Pterostylis ophioglossa*



*Pterostylis obtusa* 'Tuscora Spirit' CCM/AOS