



OCTOBER EVENT

Monthly Meeting: Monday, October 14, 2024

Gardenhouse Workshop, at the Atlanta Botanical Garden

Gather at 7 p.m; Program starts at 7:30 p.m.

Chaunie Langland on the Basics of Orchid Photography

see details below

Bring your blooming plants for our monthly ribbon judging

Chaunie Langland: Basics of Orchid Photography



Whether you want to use your phone, a point and shoot, a DSLR or the latest mirrorless camera, there are things you can do to make photos of your orchids turn out their best. Choosing the best lighting, background, presentation, and orientation will make a difference whether you want a photo for your own records, for Show & Tell, perhaps to post on social media or send to friends. We will also take a brief look at using your

photos to make a video, which could be a very fun project.

Chaunie has been an orchid hobby grower for more than 30 years, is a long-time active Peninsula Orchid Society member, an inactive San Francisco Orchid Society member, an inactive Santa Clara Valley OS member and is an accredited judge with the Pacific Central Judging Center (PCJC) of the AOS. She takes award photos for PCJC which are published in Orchid Pro, *Orchids* magazine, and occasionally in other publications. Chaunie mainly grows a wide variety of orchids from Latin America, with a few African, Asian, and Australian orchids, in a modest greenhouse and outdoors in her backyard. No orchids are grown or displayed in her home due to the presence of two determined orchid batting and nibbling cats.

Please Note...

Check out page 6 for **Advice to beginning growers**, Edison's new column

Jon introduces the **Orchid Seedling Challenge** on page 3

You'll find **AOS judging notes and orchid show reports**, in chronological order, pages 7 to 12

Ribbon judging notes will be back next month. Mark Reinke lives in the mountains of South Carolina and got hammered by Helene.

Society Auction!

Hear ye hear ye, come to our society's auction on **November 2nd!** The auction will be held at the Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall in Brookhaven, 3016 Lanier Dr. NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319.

There will be more than 90 plants available to bid on, and a good number to bring home if you're the winner! Mark Reinke will be our auctioneer. Each bidder will have their own buyer ID when they register with the treasurer before the start of the auction and pay to the society at the end of the auction with their winnings.

A pizza lunch and refreshments will be provided by the Atlanta Orchid Society starting at noon. The auction to follow at 1 p.m.

This event is limited to active members and their invited guests. The auction will end no later than 5 p.m.

President's Message

October has come in with a series of challenges such as Hurricane Helene, reminding us of how fragile our infrastructure and lives can be, and leaves changing color reminding us that the cold months are not far behind. Our collections may be showing signs of preparing for the winter dormancy. We have to adjust to those changes while some cooler growers are now flourishing with the cooler temperatures. That being said, I'm currently in a race against time to renovate the old debilitated section of my greenhouse before cold weather sets in. A small number of people have seen and know of my issue.

I am also relieved to hear that many of our vendors/friends in Georgia and the Carolinas are safe and well, and making most of the situation despite the loss of power and some felled trees on their properties.

It was great to attend the Alabama Orchid Society in Birmingham and see the great plants that people have coaxed into bloom for the show. The hospitality was off the charts! I also got to meet old friends and new faces, another reason why I encourage others to attend at least one or two shows a year, because

Continued on p. 5

ATLANTA ORCHID SOCIETY

Officers

President

[Bailey Santwire](#)

Vice-President/Programs

[Firelli Alonso](#)

Secretary

[Janet Sherwood](#)

Treasurer

[Edison Gu](#)

Immediate Past President

[Carson Barnes](#)

Trustees

[Maria Beug-Deeb](#)

[Jody Gomez](#)

[Véronique Perrot](#)

[Kim Williams](#)

[Jon Crate](#)

[Danny Lentz](#)

Volunteers

AOS Rep – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Greengrowers – [Danny Lentz](#)

Librarian –

MAOC Rep – [Doug Hartong](#)

Meeting Hospitality – [Dan Alvear](#)

Membership – [Barbara Barnett](#)

Silent Auction – [Carson Barnes](#)

Monthly Ribbon Judging – [Barbara](#)

[Barnett & Carson Barnes](#)

Newsletter – [Véronique Perrot](#) &

[Mark Reinke](#)

Orchid Digest Rep – [David Mellard](#)

2025 Show Chair – [Danny Lentz](#)

2025 Show Co-Chair – [Firelli Alonso](#)

Website – [Danny Lentz](#)

Social Media – [Firelli Alonso](#)

The Atlanta Orchid Society Bulletin

Volume 65: Number 10 – October 2024

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](#).

Become an AOS Judge

The American Orchid Society Judging Program

is seeking highly motivated orchid enthusiasts to join the judging ranks

Work with other like-minded people in support of AOS awards programs and educational efforts

For more information contact us at judges@aos.org



EVENTS CALENDAR

October

5–6 – Tampa Orchid Club Expo (Tampa, FL)

12 – AOS monthly judging

14 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Chaunie Langland on orchid photography

18 – 20 8th Annual Huntington International Orchid Show (San Marino, CA)

19–20 – Gainesville Orchid Society Show (Gainesville, FL)

November

1–3 – Apopka International Fall Orchid Festival (Apopka, FL)

2 – Atlanta Orchid Society Auction (Brookhaven, GA)

9 – AOS monthly judging

11 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

December

7–8 – Fort Pierce Orchid Society Show (Ft. Pierce, FL)

9 – Atlanta Orchid Society Monthly Meeting: Holiday Party!

14 – AOS monthly judging

2024 Orchid Seedling Challenge—Project 01-SVO-10886

Get ready for the First Orchid Seedling Challenge of 2024!

What is the challenge?

We're inviting all active members to join in the fun. The challenge is simple: grow a new plant from seedling to blooming size and compete for first, second, or third place prizes (\$20, \$10, \$5) along with bragging rights.

The seedlings

This cross is going to produce some amazing medium-sized *Cattleya* alliance beauties. The cross was made by Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Southern California. It was named SVO-10886 (*Rhyncattleanthe* Martha's Exotic Magic 'Spring Beauty' x *Cattleya* Circle of Life "Mesmerize" AM/AOS). This is one of three different *Cattleya* cross flasks I bought when I visited SVO in April 2023.

There is no published photograph of the pollen parent, *Rhyncattleanthe* Martha's Exotic Magic 'Spring Beauty.' Not even Fred Clarke could supply one. It was registered by Fred in March 2021. *Rth.* Martha's Exotic Magic's pollen parent is *Rth.* Martha Clarke and the pod parent is *Cattleya* Tokyo Magic.

The pod parent for SVO-10886 is one of the most popular medium-sized *Cattleya* hybrids, *Cattleya* Circle of Life 'Mesmerize' AM/AOS. There are lots of photos of *C.* Circle of Life, and especially the awarded 'Mesmerize'.

How to get a seedling

I have 38 seedlings available, so the first 38 ACTIVE (paid or lifetime honorary) members who send me an e-mail at jon@fai.us reserving one seedling (per household) will get one. Don't snooze, or you may lose!

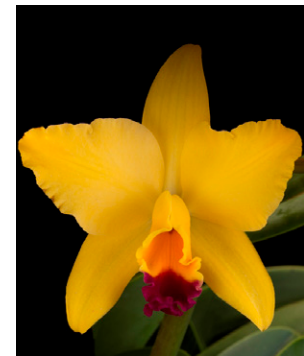
The cost is only \$5 per seedling. You can pay Edison or myself, but only if you appear on the list of first 38 who reserve a plant. Again, only one seedling per household.

The seedlings were all repotted in 2x2" pots in Kiwi Bark about 6 weeks ago. (See pictures of the seedlings at deflasking and repotting on the following page.)

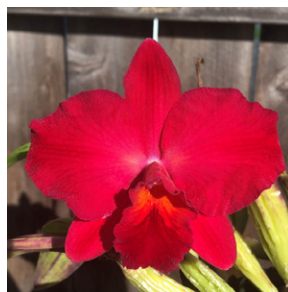
I will bring the seedlings to this month's meeting, October 14, starting at



Various individual plants of the pollen parent of the pollen parent, *Rhyncattleanthe* Martha Clarke. Which one actually served as the grandparent of our seedlings is unknown.



Pod parent of the pollen parent, *Cattleya* Tokyo Magic.



Pod parent, *Cattleya* Circle of Life.

Beginner's Corner: Choosing the Right Substrate for your Orchids

The substrate, or growing medium for your orchids, is as crucial as light, humidity, air movement, water and fertilizer. While most orchids can adapt to different media, it is best to choose one suited to your specific plant and environment.

Most orchids are epiphytes, meaning they are air-loving plants and naturally grow on trees. Their roots thrive in a mix of tree bark, moss, and leaf debris, so we can replicate this using a pine bark mix. We recommend **Kiwi Bark** and **Orchita Bark** because it's clean, uniform, and durable.

Bark Sizes:

Large Grade: For orchids with thick roots (e.g., Vandas, Phalaenopsis, bifoliate Cattleyas).

Medium Grade: For medium-rooted orchids (e.g., Phalaenopsis, slipper orchids, unifoliate Cattleyas, etc.).

Small Grade: For fine-rooted orchids (e.g., Oncidiums, Bulbophyllums, seedlings).

Air circulation is also essential for healthy roots. To enhance air pockets in your mix, try adding less absorbent materials like horticultural charcoal and perlite. A good ratio is three parts bark to one part charcoal/perlite.

For windowsill growers, bark often dries out quickly. Adding high-quality sphagnum moss can help retain moisture while allowing air to reach the roots. A helpful tip: top dress your potted orchids with a thin layer of moss to keep moisture in and water the plant when the moss layer is almost dry.

Lastly, remember to repot your orchids every one to two years with fresh medium, as both bark and moss degrade over time.

Next month, we'll explore how to choose the right pot size for your orchids. Stay tuned!

Edison Gu

Connoisseur's Corner

Continued from page 5

plants do not like prolonged soggy conditions or stagnant media. It is important to replace the medium when it starts to break down to avoid losing roots to unfavorable conditions within the media.

If you find that your root tips are burning and/or have leaf loss, your water may be too high in dissolved solids, especially calcium carbonate.

Good sources of locating these uncommon species would be Andy's Orchids, and South American vendors that come to shows in the U.S.

Happy Growing!

Bailey Santwire



Huntleya burtii 'Ariel' FCC/AOS (photo by Jorge Cespedes)

President's Message

Continued from page 1

you may find a very close friend who happens to love to share orchids! Thank you to everyone who pitched into our society exhibit by loaning their blooming plants, making tags, transporting plants as well as putting the display together and later taking it down! As always, I'm already looking forward to next year. There's only two more shows left this year "nearby" to visit. These are in Gainesville, Florida, in October, and the Apopka Orchid

Festival in November.

The next few months will pass by quickly like the breeze of crisp fall air that will come in our area. This month's speaker, Chaunie Langland, will present the basics of orchid photography. November's newsletter will have not just one but two sets of ribbon winners from September and October, which should be a delightful read. We also have our upcoming auction on November 2nd at the

Oglethorpe Presbyterian Church. Then closing out the year with our society's holiday party! Not much time but a lot to do which always seems to be the case with the holidays around this time.

Happy growing as always, and may your orchids prosper!

Bailey Santwire
Atlanta Orchid Society President

Judges' Corner: the Smoky Mountain Orchid Society Show Edition

The Smoky Mountain Orchid Society Show was held September 6–8 in Knoxville, Tennessee, at the Dogwood Botanical Garden. AOS Judging was conducted on Saturday, September 7th. The Show, consisting of 14 exhibits, included 156 plants and 28 pieces of artwork. Fourteen plants were evaluated for AOS Awards and 4 received an award. The Smoky Mountain Orchid Society received the Show Trophy which earned 83 points. All photography by Ken Lister.

2024-2088 *Paphiopedilum* Crouching Tiger 'MBF,' AM/AOS 83 points (*Paph. philippinense* x *Paph. Bel Royal*) Exhibitor: Marble Branch Farms

2024-2089 *Phragmipedium* Jeff Saal 'MaryAlice,' AM/AOS 81 points (*Phrag. schlimii* x *Phrag. Lutz Rollke*) Exhibitor: Graham Ramsey

2024-2090 AOS Show Trophy 83 points Exhibitor: Smoky Mountain Orchid Society

2024-2092 *Pectabenaria* Angelitas 'Memoria Sue Eloë,' HCC/AOS 78 points (*Pecteilis hawkesiana* x *Habenaria crinifera*) Exhibitor: Marion Allen

2024-2093 *Phalaenopsis* Connie Moody 'Newberry Delight,' CCM/AOS 83 points (*Phal. Venus* x *Phal. celebensis*) Exhibitor: Carter and Holmes

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



Paphiopedilum Crouching Tiger 'MBF' AM/AOS



Phragmipedium Jeff Saal 'MaryAlice' AM/AOS



Pectabenaria Angelitas 'Memoria Sue Eloe'
HCC/AOS



Phalaenopsis Connie Moody 'Newberry Delight' CCM/AOS



AOS Show Trophy, Smoky Mountain Orchid Society

Judges' Corner

The Atlanta Judging Center conducted September monthly judging on Saturday, September 14th. Thirteen plants were evaluated for an AOS Award and two plants received an award. All photography by Charles Wilson.

2024-2095: *Dracula chimaera*
'Nosferatu,' AM/AOS 83 points.
Exhibitor: Edison Gu

2024-2096 *Habenaria* Kakoeri 'Oxide II,' AM/AOS 87 points. (*Habenaria carnea* x *Habenaria roeblenii*) Exhibitor: Nicholas Rust

Congratulations to the exhibitors!

Doug Hartong
Chair, Atlanta Judging Center



Dracula chimaera 'Nosferatu' AM/AOS



Habenaria Kakoeri 'Oxide II' AM/AOS



The Atlanta Orchid Society at the Birmingham Show

The 40th Alabama Orchid Show, held September 20–22 at the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, drew a vibrant crowd of orchid enthusiasts, both experienced and new. The event buzzed with excitement as numerous vendors and orchid societies showcased their finest blooms, igniting a shared passion for these mesmerizing flowers. As in previous years, the Atlanta Orchid Society’s exhibit was expertly designed by Bailey Santwire and Edison Gu. We proudly displayed 32 plants from the collections of Fi Alonso & Jon Crate, Carson Barnes, Barbara Barnett, Edison Gu, Paul Reavis, and Bailey Santwire. Our efforts were rewarded with multiple blue, red, and white ribbons, along with prestigious “Best in Class” rosettes for Edison’s *Huntleya wallisii* ‘Boca de la boa’ (Miscellaneous Class) and Fi & Jon’s *Dendrobium Samarai* ‘Josabeth’ AM/AOS (Dendrobium Class). In addition, the *Huntleya wallisii* earned an AOS Highly Commended Certificate with 78 points. While the AOS Show Trophy went to the Huntsville Orchid Society, our exhibit nonetheless radiated prestige, adorned with a dazzling array of ribbons.



Atlanta Orchid Society exhibit (photo by Fi Alonso)

Firelli “Fi” Alonso



Huntleya wallisii ‘Boca de la boa’ HCC/AOS (photo by Edison Gu)