CULTURAL AWARD, February 2010

Paphiopedilum parishii Gordon

NEXT MEETING—TUESDAY 9 MARCH 2010

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8 Saving Philippine Orchids

Peterskorner is now distributing a range of orchid products from Easy Orchids (Murray and Jean Shergold) and we are happy to take orders, and bring them to the Species Society monthly meeting.

Check out our catalogue at www.peterskorner.com, phone Peter or Shirley on the numbers shown, or e-mail peterskorner@iinet.net.au.
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING
9 February 2010, 7.50pm

Present: 35
Apologies: 1
Visitors: Shirley, Val
New members: Nil
Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Lee, Mavis)
Business Arising: Nil
(Anne, Margaret.
Correspondence:
Inwards:
- Kris about fungi culture for terrestrials (Email).
- Monica Fiona Stanley Hospital Orchids (Email).
- Various newsletters including the Orchid Digest.
- GA magazine with Tony’s Epiblema article.
- Federal Dept of Families, etc. with a grant of $3,303 mainly for publications.
- City of Belmont for half hire in 2010 and a receipt for payment.
Outwards:
- E-mails to Kris (who has also joined our society) and Monica
Business Arising: Nil
General Business:
1. We had some delay in setting up this evening (I have contacted the City of Belmont and those before us are booked only to 7pm so Marg and I will wait until next month to talk to the others and ask that they finish by 7.15 at the latest remembering that our booking is actually from 7.30 to 10.30).
2. Mich explained how the grant could be spent. It is for this year only. The committee will make a plan. Mich was congratulated on her initiative.
3. Tony was congratulated on his Epiblema article.
4. Tony demonstrated a Bulbophyllum disc (there is a book too) Called “A to Why?” and asked people to contact him if they want copies. Maxine said it was available from Orchidaceous Books but was quite a bit more expensive than Tony thought. The Committee will investigate.
5. About 20 to 25 said they would be at the home visit to Carolyn’s home. Chairs and salad were requested for a sausage sizzle.
6. Technical difficulties resulted in Mich being unable to demonstrate the Society production of a CD of plants presented at 2009 meetings. However, those present collected their copies (and I must record that our copy worked well on our PCs, laptop and the work PC).
7. The meeting expressed its full appreciation of Mich, Alistair, Adrian, Maxine and their efforts plus the photography of Tony, Peter & Graham.
Cultural Award:
Noel for persisting with his plant of Paphio-

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Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January at Forster Park Hall, cnr of Abernethy Road and Keane Street, Clovedale commencing 7.45pm.
Monthly meetings commence at 7.45pm. Usually, the short formal meeting is followed by plant descriptions given by members. Supper follows to allow members time to socialise and discuss orchids. All visitors are very welcome.
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Family (1st year @ 2 badges) $31.00 renewal $15.00
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New members who don’t live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore their membership will be at the renewal fee.
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On the weekend following the fourth Thursday of each month (generally on the Sunday morning), a home visit is held at a member’s home. This gives members an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship of our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.
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Given that the prime objective of the Society is to promote the cultivation of species orchids, only species or natural hybrids are acceptable for display. Since we all may be uncertain about the identification of a plant from time to time, we encourage members to bring plants along about which they are unsure since someone may be able to identify them. There is no competition nor restriction on flower count, quality or length of ownership. We want members to be able to see species plants in flower. So even if your flowers are a bit past their best, bring them in as others may not have seen that species in flower.
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The Society provides an opportunity table for members to sell surplus plants and equipment, and for the Society to sell product from time to time. A commission of 10% is charged on all sales.
Plant Purchases
The Society endeavours to obtain a different species seedling for sale at each meeting, usually costing between $6.00 and $12.00. The Society makes a small profit on these sales which is invested in benefits to members. As it is always difficult to get new or different species, should members have 20 or more plants of one species which they feel might be suitable as a monthly plant, please contact a Committee member.
Raffle
The Society conducts a raffle each meeting and at home visits as a means of raising funds.
Plant Imports
The Society is able to use quarantine facilities provided by Ken & Chris to co-operatively import species orchids.
Management
In accordance with the Constitution, the Annual General meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.
illegal poachers, loggers, and land grabbers, etc., who indiscriminately strip our forests of their rich resources and damage the ecological landscape. The government should seek the help of and deputize concerned botanical institutions and communities to help enforce these laws. On the other hand, the government should identify botanical institutions that could be legally allowed to collect sample specimens for research and propagation purposes.

Foresters who do road clearing of fallen trees after typhoons and landslides should be taught to identify and rescue valuable species on the fallen host trees before disposing of them. Rescued species can be adopted by trained communities who can rehabilitate and propagate them to ensure their existence. Confiscated species from illegal poachers should not be disposed of indiscriminately. These plants should be turned over to responsible botanical institutions and organizations for rehabilitation and propagation.

3. Rescue and rehabilitation. Aside from illegal poaching, land development and natural calamities, aggravated by climate change, have contributed greatly to the extinction and destruction of so many species and their habitats. The government should seek the help of botanical institutions, concerned organizations and communities to help rescue orchid/plants species in the path of sure destruction. Before the government goes on a road-widening or land-development project in areas that are rich in flora, they should invite these institutions to survey the area and allow them to rescue valuable species threatened with extinction. The government should allow concerned institutions to do surveys of our forests and identify areas that are vulnerable to natural calamities (landslides, flashflood, etc.) and take sample orchid/plant specimens for pre-rescue and propagation purposes.

pedilium parishii - 19 years to first flowering.
Raffle: Chris, Mich, Tony.
Name Badge: Adrian & Deanne

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- As agreed at the November meeting, the next general meeting will be on Tuesday 9 March 2010
  Remember, while we will continue to meet at the same venue, the meeting is on the second Tuesday of each month, not the fourth Thursday!
- We have received many positive comments about the CD that has been sent to members. Michele and her team can feel justifiably proud of their efforts. For 2010, rather than doing the same again, the Committee endorsed Michele’s plan to take photos of the orchids that don’t make it to meetings. So if you have a plant that always flowers between meetings, take a digital photo and email it to Michele at mich@goatpix.com with your cultural conditions, or give Michele a call on 9262 1688 to come and take a photo.
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- Don’t forget the parking - please ensure that you park your car in the bitumen parking area whenever possible as it will avoid a fine!

Home Visit Name Badge: Graham & Margaret
Home Visit Raffle: Adrian, Lee & Michelle

President: Maxine
Vice President: Adrian
Secretary: Graham Bowden
8 Bedelia Way, Harmersley 6022, Ph/Fax 9447 4528
Treasurer: Sandra
Editor: Ken Jones
204 Park Street, Henley Brook 6055. Phone: 9296 1765
e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au
Committee:
Chris
Michele
Lee
Sharon
Tony
Mavis
Trevor

Life Members
Barry
Gordon
Joan & Ted (decd), Neville
Noel & Eva
NOTICEBOARD

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Home visits:
From 10am onwards. Please bring a plate of food to share and a chair.

28 March: Gordon & Robyn
25 April: Frank Grosvenor, (map to be published in next newsletter)

FOR SALE/WANTED

Imported plant news
A further 80-90 plants were released in mid-February and have been distributed to their owners. However, AQIS are now holding back plants that they do not feel have made enough growth, so a full tray of plants was held back. I will arrange another inspection in April.
Ken & Chris Jones

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When endangered animal wildlife (like the Philippine eagle, the Philippine tamaraw, the leather-back turtle, etc.) are confiscated from poachers, they are subsequently kept for rehabilitation and eventually subjected to captive breeding before being set free again into their natural habitats. But when orchid and plant species are confiscated from poachers, they are immediately burned and disposed of.

We believe that it is the responsibility of our organizations to make a move to solve this problem. The saving of our local orchid and ornamental plant species from natural calamities and man’s careless ways will ensure their existence for years to come. With their propagation we can restock our forests with their original endemic species. The surplus from the propagated plants may also be economically beneficial for the local communities who will stand as guardians of these species. This is because there is a worldwide demand for Philippine plants. Thailand, Taiwan, Malaysia and many other Asian countries have adopted orchid conservation, propagation and breeding programs that have created for them multi-million-dollar export industries.

Sad to say, despite the Philippines being blessed with a wealth of plant resources, favourable growing conditions and diligent, hardworking people, we do not have a thriving plant export industry. As of now, the only ones benefiting are the illegal poachers who strip our forests for their personal gains, and do nothing to restore the ecological balance of our forests.

A true orchid and plant conservation program should include the following:

1. Education. Awareness is key to making people more conscious of the existing problem. The government should seek the help of and directly work with concerned and knowledgeable botanical institutions and NGOs to disseminate information about the importance and vulnerability of Philippine orchid/plant species; identify critically endangered and threatened species and vulnerable habitats; and train concerned and interested individuals and communities on how to properly rehabilitate, cultivate and propagate these species to ensure their survival.

2. Protection and policing. Enforcement of our Wildlife Protection Laws is very important to ensure the protection of our orchid/plant species and their habitats. This should, however, be directed only to
SAVING PHILIPPINE ORCHIDS

This article by Neil B. Manubay was published in the Philippine Star. Tony sent it to me knowing of my interest in Philippine Orchids and having heard me talk about the destruction of habitat that we witnessed when travelling there in the 90s.

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The Philippines is known to be rich in orchid species. Of the 1,000 or more species known, 90 percent are endemic. Because the country has a very high level of bio-diversity, many new orchid species are being discovered in our forests yet more are being lost even before they are discovered.

Paph. hennianum var. christiansenii

Once a species is gone, it is gone forever; once extinct, it is permanently lost. Many of our wild plants and animals are in danger of extinction as a result of the loss of their habitats, climate change and the depredation of humans.

Natural calamities like volcanic eruptions, floods, tsunamis, landslides and earthquakes, complicated by climate change, can wipe out wildlife habitats in seconds. Man, on the other hand, has long been a contributor to the destruction of these habitats with his land encroachment.

Trichoglottis brachiata v philippinensis

With the exception of the protection of animal wildlife and trees, the government has no concrete program for the

MONTHLY PLANT

Oncidium onustum

Country of origin: Panama, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Description: Medium size, warm growing epiphyte

Difficulty: Relatively easy to grow

Cost: $8

Oncidium onustum occurs in Panama, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru as a miniature, warm to hot growing epiphyte from areas that have a long dry winter and is found at elevations of 25 to 1200 m. These plants come from Tinonee Orchids and have been grown on for us by Sharon.

The racemose inflorescence is curved and generally partially pendant with a few to many, long-lasting, bright yellow, non-fragrant flowers. This variable species flowers in the summer and autumn - some members seem to have very floriferous clones.

Oncidium onustum is said to be one of the easiest orchids to grow provided one understands their native habitat. In its natural habitat, it grows in extremely dry, harsh conditions in direct sunlight, often on sparse brush and cacti. This causes the pseudobulbs to shrink to hard, prune-like structures during the dry season, expanding to store water during the wet season. It is important the ensure that the pseudobulbs dry quickly after watering. The more light you can give your plants, the darker the mottling will be on the pseudobulbs, and it appears that flowering is more prolific.

This is one species that does require a distinct rest period following flowering, with no fertiliser and little moisture. While they are best on mounts such as sheoak, natural cork, or well aged hardwood, they can also be grown in small terra cotta pots or in plastic pots provide care is taken to keep them dry. I have found the major pests to be mealy bug, and hard and cotton scale. Dealing with the ants and maintaining high air movement will help keep these pests at bay.
PLANTS DISPLAYED NOVEMBER 2009

Graham and Margaret
Dendrobium helix
Micropera rostrata
Podangis dactyloceras
Prosthechea radiata

Maxine
Brassavola tuberculata
Cleisostoma crochetti
Colostylis ciliaris
Epidendrum xanthinum
Laelia cinnabarina
Phalaenopsis coru-cervi
Phalaenopsis pulchra
Podangis dactyloceras

Frank
Aerides quinquevulnera
Vanda bensonii

Vanda lamellata
Tom & Pat
Colostylis ciliaris

Ken and Chris
Aeranthes grandiflorus
Angraecum eburneum subsp.
xerophyllum
Dendrobium uniflorum
Encyclia guatemalensis (belizensis?)
Prosthechea cochleata var. alba
Renantherella histrionica

Adrian and Deanna
Cryptostylis ovata
Micropera rostrata
Sobenikoffia robusta

Peter & Shirley
Aeranthes grandiflorus
Brassia maculata
Cattleya harrisoniana
Cattleya intermedia var. alba
Lycaea aromatica
Oncidium leucocilium
Phalaenopsis coru-cervi
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Podangis dactyloceras
Psychopsis papilio
Rhyncholaelia digbyana
Stanhopea indora

Vic
Aeranthes grandiflorus

Noel & Eva
Cattleya harrisoniana x sibling
Paphiopedilum parishii x self

Tony and Mavis
Dendrobium glomeratum
Maxillaria valenzuelana
Paphiopedilum niveum
Phalaenopsis coru-cervi
Phalaenopsis sanderiana
Phalaenopsis tetrarapi
Phalaenopsis violacea
Podangis dactyloceras
Vanda coeruleascens

Lee
Encyclia alata

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Dendrobium glomeratum

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4. Propagation and distribution. There can be no true conservation without propagation and distribution. Propagation ensures the proliferation of the plant species. These new propagations can be used to restock our forests with valuable plant species endemic to them. The distribution of these propagated plant species to botanical institutions, parks, communities, and concerned organizations can ensure the existence and survival of these species for years to come.

Source: http://www.phistol.com/Article.aspx?articleid=551147&publicationSub

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Name Badge: Adrian & Deanne

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Secretary: Graham Bowden
8 Bedelia Way, Harramsley 6022,
Ph/fax 9447 4528
Treasurer: Sandra
Editor: Ken Jones
204 Park Street, Henley Brook 6055. Phone: 9296 1765
e-mail: kjones@tpg.com.au
Committee:
Chris
Michele
Lee
Sharon
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Barry
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The Society is able to use quarantine facilities provided by Ken & Chris to co-operatively import species orchids.

Management
In accordance with the Constitution, the Annual General Meeting is held in May each year at which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.
Peterskorner is now distributing a range of orchid products from Easy Orchids (Murray and Jean Shergold) and we are happy to take orders, and bring them to the Species Society monthly meeting.

Check out our catalogue at www.peterskorner.com, phone Peter or Shirley on the numbers shown, or e-mail peterskorner@iinet.net.au.