

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC)

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Vol 22 No 11 May 2011

NEWSLETTER



CULTURAL AWARD, April 2011

Dendrobium bigibbum

Peter & Shirley

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 10 MAY

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

12 April 2011, 7.55 pm

Present: 34

Apologies: Gillian, Phil , Joan, Murray

Visitors: Peter

New members:

Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Mavis, Trevor)

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: The Financial Report was tabled by Sandra, and the current balance is \$2597.45 #2 A/c \$1811.09. (Neville, Ken)

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- CGU Insurance invoice, Certificate of Currency, Cover Summary
- GCA Bulletin
- City of Belmont invitation to Seniors Clubs Development Day 6th May 2011
- AOF - various information leaflets.
- Email, Alex Maximiano (OrchidWiz) re Ron Heberle photos
- Email, Orchid Botany Holiday Programmes by Nature Guiding Association
- Catalogue from Tinonee Orchids

Outwards:

- . Email (Tony) to Alex Maximiano agreeing to the use of Ron Heberle's orchid photos and accepting his offer of OrchidWiz software for the club.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

- Tony spoke briefly of the late Barry who was a Life Member of our Society and

this was followed by a minute's silence.

- Peter donated several plants to be auctioned with 50% of proceeds to go to the club. Thanks Peter.
- Thank you to Anne & Geoff for the donation of a box of Hoya cuttings for 50c each with all proceeds to go to the club.
- A reminder was given that the next meeting will also be the AGM.
- Ken had the first inspection of the Dec. import of plants.
- Acknowledgement was given to all helpers and Tom as auctioneer at the recent auction at Barry 's orchids & equipment. A laminar flow cabinet (in good condition) is still for sale and any offers are to be directed to Ken or Tony. Several flasks in poor condition were offered to any members who were willing to try and save any plants from them.
- A quantity of fertilizer and plant conditioner was donated to the club to raise funds. Containers were sold at \$5 & \$2.50 each.
- Adrian thanked those who attended the home visit and auction of Noel's plants.
- The auction of Peter's donated plants was conducted and raised \$122.

Cultural Award: A large and vigorous plant of *Dendrobium bigibbum* grown by Peter

Raffle: Judith , Margaret

Name Badge: Gordon

Special Raffle: Margaret , Ian

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- The May meeting is the Annual General Meeting. The AGM will take place first followed by the usual monthly meeting. There are vacancies for Committee members so please give this some thought. In accordance with the Constitution, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer are up for election although the current incumbents have indicated their willingness to continue.
- Two of our members, Graham Bowden and Tony Watkinson have been invited to join the Australian Orchid Foundation. Membership of this body, limited to only 100 members is by invitation. These invitations recognise the work of these two members and we congratulate them accordingly.
- If you haven't ordered your new badge yet, please see Mich. The cost for badges with a magnetic clip is \$13.50, and with pin is \$11.50.
- 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!

President: Adrian

Vice President: Graham

Secretary: Maxine Godbeer
2195 Hidden Valley Rd, Parkerville
6081

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 (dec'd)

Gordon

Joan & Ted (dec'd),

Neville

Noel & Eva r

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH- COMING EVENTS

Home visits:

At 10am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and a plate of food to share.

29 May - Noel and Eva

26 June - Ken & Chris .

FOR SALE/WANTED

Oliphant, model CWS 900 laminar flow clean air work station for flasking. Barry 's laminar flow is for sale, priced to sell at \$1,500 ONO (new price \$4,500). While it has not been used for some time, it was in good working order when last used and was tested some years back. An autoclave for preparing media is also available. Contact Tony on 9342 3799.

Some of the orchid fertiliser and tonic demonstrated at the last meeting is still available. Cost is \$5 for 500g of fertiliser and \$2.50 for 250g of tonic. This special offer will not last long.



Imported plant news

I have tentatively arranged another inspection for mid May (as soon as I can arrange a day's leave). I expect that about 20% of the December shipment will be ready for inspection and possible release, although many of these plants will belong to Brett and some to Eastern States members.

Ken & Chris Jones

MONTHLY PLANT

Scaphyglottis sp aff Behrii

Country of origin: Mexico - Venezuela

Description: Small sized plant , bushy

Difficulty: Generally easy to grow

Cost: \$5



This month's plant has been provided by Geoff and Jaqui Stocker as a bonus. They are so vigorous that Geoff refers to them as cattle food. The photo above is *Scaphyglottis behrii* - I expect that the flower of this species is similar given the identification as *aff behrii*.

It appears to be a central and northern South American species from the limited information that I was able to locate. Its habitat is said to be wet montane forests at sea level to 1300 m in Mexico, Guatemala, Belize, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia and Venezuela. It is described as warm to hot growing, so will need protection in our cold wet winter (if we get one!). The small, insignificant white flowers are carried on short racemes that emerge at stem segment apices.

We grow a similar species, *Scaphyglottis livida* that tends to grow into a bushy plant as new apical growths occur atop one

another. It is a fine rooted species, and so we use small pine bark as a medium, but from information provided by Geoff Stocker, I suspect that this species would do well on either wood or cork provided humidity can be maintained in summer as it is primarily a rain forest orchid. We have not experienced any particular pest problems and this genus appears to be quite vigorous.

Graham & Margaret

Oncidium longipes
Prosthechea cochleata var. *alba*

Maxine

Bulbophyllum dearei
Dendrochilum cobbianum
Haraella retrocalla
Jumellea comorensis
Miltonia clowesii
Phalaenopsis mariae

Ken and Chris

Dendrochilum longifolium
Epidendrum elongatum
Pleurothallis hamosa

Adrian & Deanna

Christensonia vietnamica
Dendrobium lichenastrum

Epidendrum nocturnum
Miltonia X bluntii
Trichoglottis philippinensis

Peter & Shirley

Aerides lawrenciae var. *sandersianum*
Cattleya bowringiana
Dendrobium bigibbum
Doritis pulcherrima var. *chumpornensis*
Doritis pulcherrima 'Blue'
Miltonia clowesii
Paphiopedilum liemianum
Phalaenopsis hieroglyphica

Noel & Eva

Coilostylis ciliaris
Doritis pulcherrima 'Dark Red'
Prosthechea cochleata

PLANTS DISPLAY



Coilostylis ciliaris
Noel & Eva r

Miltonia clowesii
Maxine
Peter & Shirley



Tony & Mavis

Dendrobium bigibbum

Dendrobium bigibbum 'Blue'

Dendrobium bigibbum 'Striped'

Kingidium delicosum

Phalaenopsis sanderiana

Doritis pulcherrima Blue

Peter & Shirley



YED APRIL 2011

Aerides lawrenceiae var. *sandersianum*

Peter & Shirley



Christensoniana vietnamica

Adrian & Deanna

Photography by Tony

Reflections on Orchid Nomenclature

Knowing my penchant for unusual orchids, Tony sent me the following post from a MR Geoff Hands (a UK orchid grower).

Re-reading this post caused me to reflect on orchid nomenclature, including those where the epithet can be used to describe the species' resemblance to another plant (including orchids). I thought it might be interesting to do a little research to see what I could find. I found that there are many interesting examples and thought that it might be fun to write some of them up. It would be fair to say that the most frequent examples are found in less common, but more diverse genera such as Pleurothallidinae.

Under the heading *Phymatidium tillandsioides*, Barb.Rodr (1881) Geoff's post said "just as a change from talking about bee orchids, I would like to share this plant with you. I count 18 spikes, and guess 60 or so flowers. They need a hand lens to see them (almost) but using my macro lens with the camera on a tripod, so as to use f45 and an exposure of 4 seconds produced these results.

The orchid species encyclopaedia has it under the name *Phymatidium falcifolium* and an interesting picture - which fails to show the long spur or the fringed lip, or at least not very well." His flowering plant is in a 2" pot, so it is very much a miniature.



416c *Phymatidium tillandsioides* - complete plant in two inch half-pot.

As you can see, this species looks very much like a Tillandsia (air plant) - clearly the reason that it was named. However, as Geoff Hands observed, this name has been found to be synonymous with *Phymatidium falcifolium* (a botanical species that I imported some years ago, but no longer have).

Staying with the epithet of Tillandsia-like, *Elleanthus tillandsioides* Barringer (1985) from Costa Rica is another botanical specimen that resembles a Tillandsia and has been named accordingly. Unfortunately, I was not able to find a photo of this species.

Searching a little further, another orchid named after a genus that its flower resembles is *Bulbophyllum masdevalliae* Kraenzl. (1902) from New Guinea and Queensland. As the photo on the following page shows, this species has a flower that is very similar to many of the Masdevallia genus.



Pholidota is an Asian genus of about 40 species, most of them with two-ranked, closely-spaced arching flower racemes. *Coelogyne pholidotoides* JJ Sim(1903) is a species where the epithet was chosen due to its resemblance to the genus *Pholidota*. This somewhat insignificant species is found in Borneo and has a



short creeping rhizome, and a two-ranked flower raceme (when in bud), much like plants in the genus *Pholidota*.

The sub-tribe Pleurothallidinae is one where several examples can be found. The genus *Restrepia* is South American and its diminutive flowers have an



exaggerated labellum with thin, occasional wire-like petals and sepals. *Pleurothallis restrepioides* Lindl.(1836), the *Restrepia*-like *Pleurothallis* is a small species from) Colombia, Ecuador and Peru in wet montane forests . As the photo shows, this species looks much like plants in the genus *Restrepia*.

Another species in the Pleurothallidinae subtribe is *Brachionidium restrepioides* (Hoehne) Pabst, (1975). I was also unable to find a photo of this botanical from Brazil, but note that it is has been described as the *Restrepia*-like *Brachionidium*

These nomenclature oddities don't end there however. While my research indicates that some of the epithets based on the genus of another flowering plant have subsequently been ruled invalid,

they are nevertheless interesting.

Angraceum chilochistae (now correctly described as *Microcoelia exilis*) Lindl. (1830) from Natal South Africa, Swaziland, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Zambia was initially given this epithet because it resembled the leafless *Chilochista* from Asia. This curious species is found on trees in riverine forests and coastal forests, often in the smallest branches almost hanging free at elevations around 500 to 2000 m.



and South East Queensland. As can be seen from the above in-situ photo, it closely resembles the vegetative habit of *Coelogyne* species.



For my final example, I found *Dendrobium bulbophylloides* Schltr (1912). Found in New Guinea, this species was named for its vegetative and floral resemblance to plants in the genus *Bulbophyllum*.



Closer to home again, *Liparis coelogyneoides* Meull (1860) is the smallest of the Australian *Liparis* species. It was originally described as *Sturmia coelogyneoides*, or the *Coelogyne*-like *Sturmia*, but more correctly it is *Liparis coelogyneoides*. This botanically interesting orchid is found in New South Wales

I also found *Pleurothallis bulbophylloides*, *Dendrochilum bulbophylloides*, *Eria bulbophylloides*, and *Polystachya bulbophylloides* (although the latter is an invalid name)

ABOUT US

Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January at Forster Park Hall, cnr of Abernethy Road and Keane Street, Cloverdale commencing 7.45 pm. 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

Membership Fees

Family (1st year @ 2 badges) \$53.00
renewal \$30.00 (Badges with magnet fastening additional \$4.00)

Single (1st year @ 1 badge) \$31.50
Renewal \$20.00. (Badge with magnet fastening additional \$2.00)

New members who don't live in Perth will not require name badges, therefore their membership will be at the renewal fee

Monthly Home Visit

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 that our mutual interest provides, and to see how others go about growing their orchids.

Monthly Plant Display

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.

Plant Sales

The Society provides an opportunity 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.

If unclaimed, return to
The Editor
204 Park Street, Henley Brook WA 6055

The logo for Peterskorner is written in a stylized, cursive font. The letters are primarily purple with a blue-to-purple gradient and a slight shadow effect, giving it a three-dimensional appearance. The text is slanted upwards from left to right.

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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 **(please confirm your order the week prior to the meeting).**

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