



Vol 23 No 4 September 2011



CULTURAL AWARD, August 2011
Amesiella monticola
Maxine

NEWSLETTER

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 13 September

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MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

8 August 2011, 7.45 pm

Present: 35

Apologies: Sandra & Bill , Chris, Val

Visitors: Nil

New members: Peter E

Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Anne, Gordon)

Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: The Financial Report was tabled by Lee. Current balance is \$2,924.05, #2 A/c \$1,811.54. (Neville, Mavis

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Email Merle re. 2012 AOC Conference
- Email B. Burbage - enquiry re membership financial status
- Email Dr D Deeley re Fiona Stanley site orchids.
- E. Beltrame - membership renewal
- Orchid Digest
- Various club Newsletters
- Flier Kings Park Festival
- GCA - Our Gardens magazine

Outwards:

- Letter to city of Belmont re kitchen renovations

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:

- Membership fees now well overdue.
- Donations of plants suitable for raffle were sought.
- Mich asked for feedback regarding the CD that was produced last year.
- Ken's license for his quarantine house has been renewed.

- Graham discussed Dr. D. Deeley's report on the plants rescued from the Fiona Stanley site.
- The Special Raffle will be *Oncidium splendidum* & *Maxillara spp.* Orange
- Peter gave a short description of his "PH box". He recommended the Farmnote website for education & explanation of the PH factor in relation to growing plants.
- Thanks were extended to Sharon for her Home Visit last month. Next one is at Bowdens'..
- Tom conducted the auction of *Coelogyne graminifolium* (successful bidder- Gordon \$25) and *Rhynchostylis gigantea* 'Cartoon' (Gordon again! \$35). Thank you to Peter for the donation of the *Rhynchostylis gigantea*

Cultural Award: A pleasing plant of *Amesella monticola* grown by Maxine.

Raffle: Trevor, Judith

Name Badge: Graham

Special Raffle: Graham, Lee

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- **IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP OVERDUE?**
Annual membership fees were due in May. If you haven't been able to get to a meeting, or it may have slipped your mind, please pay as soon as possible. As you know, we have had to bear a very substantial increase in our hall hire and newsletter printing costs and need to manage our budget carefully to make sure that we can continue to provide you with the benefits of membership of this eclectic group. If you receive a paper copy of the newsletter, this will be your last if you haven't renewed your membership
- Bruce Larson and Merle Arrah will be at the September meeting to talk to us about the 2012 Australian Orchid Conference. As the Species Society has advised that we will put in a display, this is your chance to find out more about what we need to do, and to start thinking about how we'll do it.
- 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 **Secre-**

tary: Maxine Godbeer

2195 Hidden Valley Rd, Parkerville
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Treasurer: Sandra

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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.

25 September—Maxine .

October—no home visit

FOR SALE/WANTED

Oliphant, model CWS 900 laminar flow clean air work station for flasking. Barry Gardner'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.

Imported plant news

With the onset of winter, growth on plants in quarantine has now slowed. As advised at the last general meeting, I will delay the next inspection as long as possible so that we can release as many plants as possible before we go to the US in October.

Ken & Chris Jones

MONTHLY PLANT

Cattleya labiata var rubra

Country of origin: Brazil,

Description: A large-flowered, unifoliate *Cattleya*

Difficulty: Said to be easy to grow

Cost: \$8.00

This month's plant has been grown on for many months by Sharon.

Cattleya labiata was first identified by William Swainson in northern Brazil in 1817, but was subsequently lost for some 70 years before being 're-discovered' in 1889. It is the type species.

Cattleya labiata var rubra is often the subject of debate. While the name indicates that it should be red, it appears that it is more the absence of any white with the whole flower being a dark reddish-lavender colouration that gives it this name. While not the largest-flowered *Cattleya*, it does reliably produce 4-5 flowers per raceme. Flowering in this species is triggered by reducing day length and can be artificially induced.

It is a robust and vigorous species that in favourable conditions will make two growths per year. It lives as an epiphyte,



<http://forum.theorchidsource.com/ubbthreads.php/galleries/266258.html>

generally on tall trees at low altitude (500m) in tropical mountain forest in northeast Brazil. Occasionally, it can also be found growing as lithophyte. Generally, this species is found in locations with good air movement, and light exposure, although the latter can be variable. It appears that this species is not strongly seasonal given the tropical distribution, although it is subject to wetter and drier seasons.

This species should grow well in a shadehouse, providing it can be kept drier during the cold winter months. As it is said to be a vigorous species, it will appreciate regular fertilising once in active growth in spring. Main pests are cotton and hard scale.

Miranda Orchids, <http://mirandaorchids.com/species02labiataVGA.htm> has some excellent photos and information.

Graham & Margaret

Caladenia filifera

Caladenia flava

Diuris corymbosa

Pterostylis barbaria

Gordon

Paphiopedilum insigne var. Harefield Hall

Ian

Dendrobium speciosum var

capricornicum

Maxine

Amesiella monticola

Angraecum equitans

Barkeria melanocaulon

Dendrochilum tenellum

Dendrochilum wenzelii

Epidendrum coriifolium

Laelia anceps var. *Veitchiana*

Ken and Chris

Dendrobium garrettii

Dendrochilum wenzelii

Octomeria grandiflora

Scaphyglottis livida

Adrian & Deanne

Caladenia reptans

Encyclia polybulbon

Pterostylis nana

Pterostylis recurva

Michele

Paphiopedilum insigne var. *sanderae*

PLANTS DISPLAY



Rhynchosstylis gigantea 'Peach'
Peter & Shirley

Dendrobium speciosum var
Capricornicum
Ian



Peter & Shirley

Phalaenopsis aphrodite
Rhynchosstylis gigantea
Rhynchosstylis gigantea 'Spots'
Rhynchosstylis gigantea 'Peach'
Rhynchosstylis gigantea 'Cartoon'

Anne & Geoff

Dendrobium tetragonum var. *cacatua*
Dockrillia teretefolia
Paphiopedilum tranlienianum

Noel & Eva

Dendrochilum glumaceum

Tony & Mavis

Phalaenopsis amabilis
Phalaenopsis equestris
Vanda lilacina



Dendrobium tetragonum var. *cacatua*
Anne & Geoff

ED AUGUST 2011

Caladenia reptans
Adrian & Deanne



Paphiopedilum tranlienianum
Anne & Geoff

Photography by Tony

Lepanthes - an intriguing genus

To conclude this short article, I will review a few more members of this intriguing genus

“When I was in Costa Rica in November and December 2010 Daniel Jiminez and I did a little expedition in the Cerro Durika area.

One day Daniel found this *Lepanthes* species 3 meters up in a tree. First Daniel thought it was *Lepanthes edwardsii* but not long after looking at internet we could see that this species was NOT *edwardsii*. 3 plants were found at this location. The first pictures were taken at Durika Community, on the plant used as

Holotype for the species description. Will be published soon in Orchid Digest as a new species”.



<http://miniorchids.wordpress.com/2011/02/22/lepanthes-durikaensis-new-species-discovered-by-daniel-jiminez/>

Another post on Orchid Source refers to two *Lepanthes* species found growing in close proximity. “I found this two plants growing about an inch away from each other. I think they are two different species. The yellow one is probably *Lepanthes woodburyana* but I can't ID the orange and red one. As you can see they are tiny! “

<http://forum.theorchidsource.com/ubbthreads.php/galleries/261112.html>

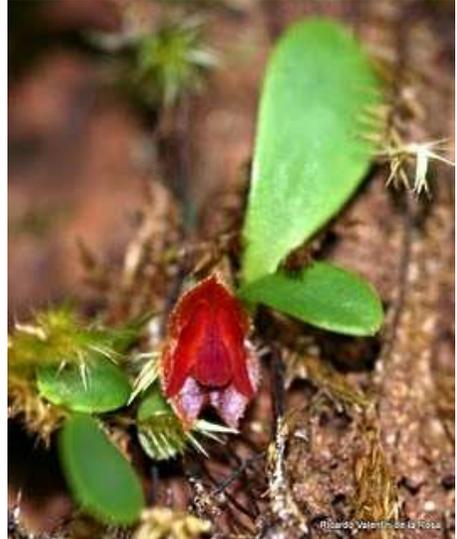


plant is not in circulation in orchid growing circles, I know of just a single plant in captivity. The photo I saw of the plant is apparently being cared by a particularly skilled orchidist as shows it

Some *Lepanthes* species are narrowly confined to particular localities, making them vulnerable to extinction due to habitat destruction, climate change and natural disasters.

The following short article at <http://ricardogupi.blogspot.com/2010/12/lepanthes-caritensis-rare-puerto-rican.html> highlights this issue for *Lepanthes caritensis*

“This orchid is rarely seen and even less often photographed. Found only in particular mountains of the east of Puerto Rico this orchid is quite tiny and often overlooked. At one time they were thought to occur in a very restricted area where only 196 individuals were known to exist. Amazingly half of the plants of the species were found in a single tree! However, it now appears to have a wider distribution than was realised. I found a few plants, but sadly after hurricane Earl thinned the canopy in the area where they grew they disappeared. Hopefully one day I will find more plants to photograph. This



thriving under cultivation.

However I ask you not to remove these plants from the wild as keeping them healthy and alive away from their natural habitat is not an endeavour for the casual orchidist and most likely will result in the death of the plant.

Lepanthes escobariana Garay 1969 is another recently discovered species from Colombia where it grows in cool to cold cloud forests as an epiphyte. Named after a Colombian orchid grower, Rodrigo Escobar., this is one of the more desirable *Lepanthes* species because of the large size of its flowers in relation to the plant.

As the photo on the following page

shows, the flowers are about 2 cm tall and are carried on long, successively-flowered spikes that arise from single-leaved growths about 3-4 cm tall. The intricate flowers are nearly transparent and beautifully and brightly coloured like most *Lepanthes*.



http://www.orchidspecies.com/orphotdir/lepes_cobariana.jpg

Another species of interest is *Lepanthes ionoptera* from Ecuador. This picture is of a plant at Ecuagenera



<http://www.rv-orchidworks.com/orchidtalk/orchids-other-genera-bloom/23298-lepanthes-ionoptera.html>

Found in Venezuela, Colombia and Bolivia at 2500 m in dense forests as a miniature, cool growing epiphyte, it is distinctive due to the large number of flowers carried on a miniature plant.

To wrap this short article up, I went looking for sites that gave information about how to grow these beautiful and intriguing species in captivity, as often these cloud forest plants do not survive once removed from their natural environment.).

While researching this article, I found a really interesting site <http://www.orchidkarma.com/> run by young lady named Karma who lives in Gothenburg, Sweden. She describes a cool vivarium (a variant of the Wardian Case) that she has constructed to grow her *Lepanthes* and other cloud forest Pleurothallids. As you will see from her web site, it obviously works well for these hard-to-grow species.

Her web site provides lots of useful links, great photos and helpful advice and I thoroughly recommend a visit if you are interested in growing these types of orchids indoors.

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 \$30 PA + 2 badges (1st year only) [Badges come in two versions. Pin fastening (\$11.50) or Magnet fastening (\$13.50) *Please indicate your preference.*]

Single \$20.00 PA + 1 badge (1st year only) [Pin fastening (\$11.50) or Magnet fastening (\$13.50)]

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

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 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.

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

The logo for Peterskorner is written in a stylized, cursive purple font with a blue shadow effect. The letters are slanted to the 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.