

THE SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY OF WA (INC.)

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[http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species Newsletter.htm](http://members.iinet.net.au/~emntee/species%20Newsletter.htm)

VOLUME 23 · NO 6 · NOVEMBER 2011



CULTURAL AWARD

October 2011: *Ada keiliana*

Anne and Geoff

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Contents

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| 2 Minutes from the General Meeting | 5 Monthly plant |
| 3 Notes from your Committee | 6 Plants displayed in October |
| 4 Noticeboard | 8 Schomburgkias – or are they Laelias? Part II |
| | 11 About us |

NEWSLETTER

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

11 October 2011, 7.50pm

Members Present: 32 as per the register

Visitors: Laura, Enid, Jo & Sue

New Member: Eric Tapping

Apologies: Mich, Tom & Pat, Chris C, Phil

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Acceptance moved: Trevor, Seconded: Ian B

Business arising from the minutes: Nil

Financial Report: The Financial Report was tabled by Sandra, and the current balance is \$3715.15. No. 2 A/C

\$1811.54. Moved: Gordon, Seconded: Ken

Correspondence:

Inwards:

- Don Franzen – renewal of membership
- John Wells – renewal of membership (2 years)
- Club Newsletters

Outwards:

- Phone call to City of Belmont checking on resolution to lighting problem in car park.
- Letter to City of Belmont advising that the car park lighting problem was ongoing.

General Business:

- Mavis has bookings for Home Visits for every month of 2012
- Thanks were extended to Peter & Shirley for hosting the September Home Visit
- Thank you to Graham & Margaret for speaking personally to COB staff regarding the ongoing problem with the car park lighting and the roller door in the kitchen. No action on either problem so a letter has been sent to the CEO of COB.

- Mich has placed the order for mounted plants of *Sarc. falcatus* & *Den. aemulum* for future monthly club plants.

- A speaker from Neutrog Fertilisers has been booked for the November meeting.

- There will be an auction of plants at the home of the late Henry Eaton, 37 Rossmoyne Dr. Rossmoyne at 9.30 am on Sunday 23rd October

- The No. 2 account was discussed by the Committee at their last meeting and the recommendations were presented to the members present.

Option 1 was that the account is left as it is until the 2012 AOC Conference where there will be the opportunity to purchase plants from overseas vendors as well as ES vendors. The advantages of this course of action is that there will be no quarantine issues or the stress of air travel for the plants, plus the opportunity of pre-ordering. This was accepted by those present.

Option 2 was for the proceeds of resale for these plants to be returned to our No. 1 account. This option was also accepted.

- A break was then taken to place bids on the Silent Auction items.
- Bids were collated while the plant description took place.

Ken Jones Culture Award: *Ada keiliana* grown by Anne & Geoff

Raffle Winners: No raffle was conducted due to the Silent auction taking place

Badge Prize winner: Lee

The successful bids of the silent Auction

were read out.

The meeting closed at 9:15 pm

Members then adjourned for supper

NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- The new edition (3rd) of Hoffman & Brown Orchids of WA is now available. A copy will be purchased for the library, as well as Orchids of Brazil. Anyone who is interested in obtaining a copy of either for themselves, please see Mich. She is looking in to prices for buying multiple copies.
- **Special raffle:** *Ansellia africana* and *Maxillaria sp.* (white)
- At the November GM there will be a speaker from Neutrog Fertilizers. Each member present will receive a complimentary pack of Neutrog products which are valued at \$25 each.
- Mich and Alastair will host the Xmas Social on 1st Jan at their place. Details on page 4.
- 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

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Committee:

Chris

Michele

Lee

Sharon

Tony

Mavis

Trevor

Life Members:

Barry (deceased)

Gordon

Joan & Ted (deceased)

Neville

Noel & Eva

NOTICEBOARD

FORTH-COMING EVENTS

The rest of this year:

Tuesday 8 November

Deliver your cut flowers for the 20th AOC Conference, Singapore:
Ezi Gro Orchid Nursery, Evandale Road, Darch
Between 9.30am and 10.30am

End of November: No home visit

13 December: Xmas Party. Do remember to bring a plant to swap.

1 January 2012

Chat and eat at Mich and Alastair's at 66 Dalry Road, Darlington.

From 4pm onwards till late.

Please bring a dessert or cake.

Buffet dinner will be provided as well as teas and coffees.

Please also bring your own favourite tippie to herald the New Year. We will supply a bathtub of ice.

You will probably need to bring a chair and whatever else you need to keep cool.

Just a note of apology for mistakes and omissions...

You may have noticed that this edition of the Newsletter is not quite what you are familiar with. Ken and Chris are away at the moment, and I have volunteered to produce this and next month's edition of the Newsletter. Ken left me his articles on *Schomburgkias* for this and next month's, so I have no claim to being erudite on the genus and genus. Thank you all, for your patience and indulgence, and I now appreciate even more what a job Ken, Chris and Tony do for us every month.

mich

MONTHLY PLANT

Pomatocalpa spicata

Country of origin: Widespread in SE Asia

Description: Small sized, warm to hot growing epiphyte also know as the spiked shape *Pomatocalpa*.

Difficulty: Depends on who you talk to...

Cost: \$10



http://www.flickr.com/photos/b_inxee/3480091409/ Photograph by b. inxee

This plant has been kindly grown by Tony and Mavis since March.

This genus, related to *Cleisostoma*, comprises about 40 species that range from Burma to the Pacific islands. The name is derived from the Greek ‘poma’ meaning ‘cover’ or ‘lip’, and ‘kalpa’, a ‘jar’ or ‘pitcher’, referring to the shape of the labellum.

They grow as monopodial epiphytes or, occasionally, lithophytes at mostly low altitudes. This species grow in hot, steamy lowlands.

The leaves are straplike and the simple or branched inflorescences are either erect or pendulous. *Pomatocalpa spicata* has pendulous inflorescences as seen in the photograph.

Most of the species prefer bright light. The larger plants grow best in pots or baskets; the smaller ones are best on slabs including this species.

Constant high humidity and heavy watering during the warmer months are recommended.

Flowering is usually in spring. There are usually a few pendulous inflorescences with numerous densely packed flowers, each 6mm across. They open progressively, with about ten open at any one time.

However, do talk with Tony and Mavis as they have achieved the best conditions for growing them through the winter.

Source: Botanica's Pocket Orchids

Graham and Margaret

Pterostylis aff. *picta*

Gordon

Dendrobium jonesii var. *magnificum*

Phaius tankervillea

Renanthera mutatina

Ken and Chris

Cattleya amethystaglossa

Dendrobium nobile var. *virginialis*

Dendrobium palpebrae

Physosiphon tubatus

Adrian and Deana

Aerangis citrata

Rhynchostylis gigantea var. *viraphrandii*

Peter and Shirley

Phalaenopsis aphrodite

Phalaenopsis equestris

Phalaenopsis philippinensis

Phalaenopsis rosenstromii

Courtney and Val

Cattleya intermedia var. *amethystina*

Cymbidium lowianum

PLANTS DISPLAYE



Phalaenopsis parishii
Tony and Mavis



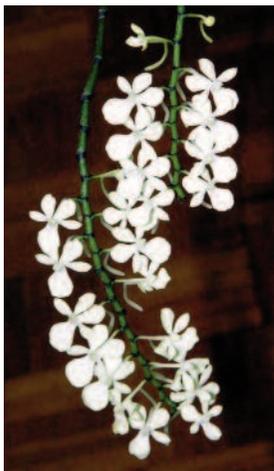
Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum
Gordon



Cymbidium lowianum
Courtney and Val



Arpophyllum giganteum
Anne and Geoff



Aerangis citrata
Adrian

Anne and Geoff

Ada keiliana
Angraecum sp.
Arpophyllum gigantean
Dendrobium linguiforme

Victor

Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum

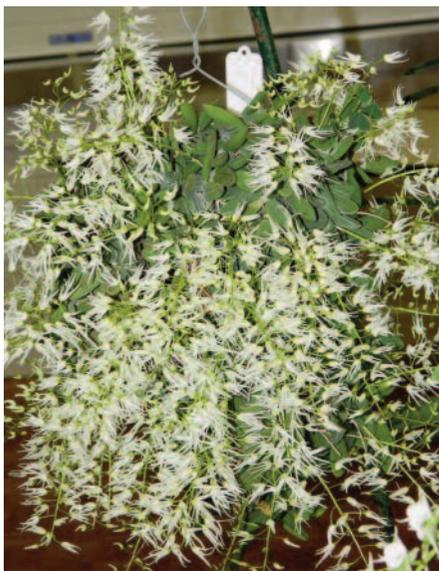
Noël and Eva

Coilostylis falcata

Tony and Mavis

Phalaenopsis amabilis
Phalaenopsis micholitzii
Phalaenopsis parishii
Phalaenopsis tetraspis var. *alba*

ED OCTOBER 2011



Dendrobium linguiforme
Peter and Shirley



Coilostylis falcata
Noel and Eva

Photography by Tony

SCHOMBURGKIA - OR ARE THEY LAELIAS? PART II

Last month, I finished part one of this article with a brief description of *Schomburgkia leudemanniana* (in error I referred to this species as *S. leudemannia*). The following photo from <http://orchidorama.free.fr/04-janvier/Schomburgkia%20ueddemanniana04.jpg> shows this species' flower form.



While conducting further research on the complex genus, I discovered photos of other species not listed in Kew's publication of orchid species, although some are shown as synonyms. Some of these are now classified as *Myrmecophila* and I will cover these in part four. What my further research showed is that there is much confusion about the members of this genus and those now in *Myrmecophila*. In a submission to a discussion forum in 2007, Timo takes the time to identify the duplications and synonyms, and asks other readers to help him compile a more definitive list. Sadly, that does not

seem to have been achieved by either enthusiasts or professionals, and I was unable to resolve the confusing range of synonyms and popular names from the on-line material available to me. However, I will press on and cover this interesting group of plants as best I can.

Schomburgkia lyonsii Lindl. from Cuba and Jamaica grows on exposed rocks or as an epiphyte on rough-barked trees in dry upland forests and valleys, generally with southern exposure from sea level to 800 meters in elevation. This high light orchid is another robust species with flower racemes up to 1.5 m tall, sometimes arching carrying a head of up to 25 short-lived flowers.

Found only in Jamaica and Cuba islands from 20° to 18° north latitude.

The flowers are short lasting, and it is the only member of the genus with non-resupinate flowers (lip on upper top position). The petals, sepals and lip are white with purple dots while the border may have a yellowish colour. They grow at low altitude up to 800m and are often in full sun. Some totally alba forms have been found, and are named var *immaculate* or '*immaculata*'.

The following photos from <http://www.orchidspecies.com/schomlyonsii.htm> shows the upside-down clustered flower of this species.

In their natural habitat, these plants are



anchored by thick strong roots that hold the 60cm pseudobulbs firmly to its chosen mount. The following photo gives some indication of the robust nature of this species.



Schomburgkia marginata (synonymous with *Schomburgkia crispa*, the type species) is also found in Venezuela, Surinam, Guyana, French Guyana, Northern Brazil, Colombia and Ecuador. It is also referred to as *Schomburgkia marginata* var. *immarginata*, but is now more correctly *Laelia marginata*.

Schomburgkia moyobambae Schltr. from Bolivia and Peru that is occasionally seen in collections is another robust, large growing species. Charles and Margaret Baker provide some useful habitat information. Apparently, this species was discovered in Peru near Moyobamba. They say that Kennedy in 1979 reported finding this species and *Schomburgkia weberbauerana* not far from Moyobamba. However, they say (as I have found), information about this genus available from the on-line world is scant. However, as it was reported in association with *Schomburgkia weberbauerana* which grows at moderate altitude of 1300 – 1800 m), it can be reasonably assumed that *Schomburgkia moyobambae* comes from a similar warm-hot habitat.

Moyobamba is the major city in the San Martín Region in northern Peru. It is called “Santiago of eight valleys of Moyobamba” or “Maynas capital”, and had a population approximately 70,000 inhabitants in 2009. Apparently, some 3,500 species of orchids are found in the region native to the area leading to Moyobamba being known as The City of Orchids. Moyobamba overlooks the Mayo River at an altitude of 860m above sea level in the humid, tropical region known as the Ceja de selva. It has a mild subtropical climate with a temperature ranging between 18°C and 28°C with an average temperature of 24°C. The

SCHOMBURGKIA - OR ARE THEY LAELIAS? PART II CONTINUED

weather is pretty dry from May to December and pretty wet from January to April.

The following photo from <http://www.slippertalk.com/forum/showthread.php?t=18079> shows the typical cluster of flowers that the post says was nearly 2m tall.



Schomburgkia schultzei Schltr. from Colombia is the next species listed by Kew; however there seems to be disagreement about where this species comes from. Jay Phal shows it as *Schomburgkia rosea* var. *schultzei* and says that it is from Venezuela as well growing at low elevation as a large sized, hot growing epiphyte or lithophyte on rocks near rivers. Colombia. Charles and Margaret Baker (on Troy Meyers' website) say that plants were originally found growing on rocks at about 1600m in the Rio Cabrera Valley. Plants, which were also growing on bare rocks, have since been collected near Pasto in

southwest Colombia, not far from the Ecuadorian border. Clearly, this location is moderate, not low altitude. *Schomburgkia rosea* var. *schultzei* flowers last up to two weeks and have a strong citrus smell during the day.

The photo from <http://www.orchidspecies.com/schombrosea.htm> shows why this species' common name is the Rosey Schomburgkia.



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 \$15.00. 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

If unclaimed, return to
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email: peterskorner@iinet.net.au



Peterskorner

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 Orchid Society monthly meetings.

Check out our catalogue at www.peterskorner.com
Phone Peter or Shirley on the above numbers or email peterskorner@iinet.net.au