REMEMBER
Next (July 10th) meeting at Wilson Community Hall, Braidrise Road Wilson

Peter & Shirley Masters
Phone: 08 93506087
Mob 0419831177
Shirley 0414948469
E-mail: peterskorner@iinet.net.au

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.
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

12 June 2012, 7.20 pm

Present: 17
Apologies: 19
Visitors: Tony, Lorraine, Lucy
New members: Nil
Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Mavis, Sharon)
Business Arising: Nil

Financial Report: The Financial Report was tabled by Graham and the current balance is $3,103.96. #2 A/c $1,812.22. (A detailed report will be given next meeting.)

Correspondence:

Inwards:
- Jenny Martin requesting names of members entering plants at AOC Conference.
- Merle Arrah giving a timeline for plant entries and setting up of displays at AOC Conference
- GCA asking for Award nominations, notifying us of the AGM.
- Catalogue from Tinonee Orchids.
- Jenny Martin with entry numbers which have been assigned to Species Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) remaining at this hall for future meetings. Norm proposed a motion to this affect, which was seconded by Jack. All voted in favour. The Wilson Community Hall has now been booked for the remainder of the year.
- The next meeting of the display committee is to be at Adrian’s on Sun. 1st July following the Home visit there.
- Mavis reminded the members that volunteer sheets need to be returned by the end of June at the latest.
- Graham reminded members that Ken will require the names of plants being (or possibly being) entered in the display, by the August meeting at the latest.
- John was thanked for his excellent Home Visit last month. Adrian has the next one on the 1st July. As usual, a plate & chairs are required please.
- Plant descriptions then followed while the auction results were tallied.

Jenny Martin - the membership names for plant entries at AOC Conference.

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:
- Jack said that he had not received a newsletter for about 6 months. Tony promised to rectify that.
- Graham advised the members present that the committee (& most members who had been asked their opinion) were in favour of the Species Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) remaining at this hall for future meetings. Norm proposed a motion to this affect, which was seconded by Jack. All voted in favour. The Wilson Community Hall has now been booked for the remainder of the year.
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AOC Conference

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Monthly Meetings
Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January) at Wilson Community Hall, Braidrise St, Wilson 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 which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.
insect’s proboscis past the stigma to the opening of the nectary, ensuring that any pollinia adhering to beak or proboscis contacts the stigmatic surface, and detaches new pollinia as it is withdrawn.

Withner however was not convinced that it was a separate and distinct species until after many years searching, he photographed a plant of *S. cernua* var. *pterocarpa* that clearly showed the swollen ovary and the two-parted callus flap. The original plant was discovered by Gardner in the Organ mountains, and was also noted on ‘rotting trees in Minas Gerais. Specimens in the Oak Ames Orchid Herbarium are shown as originating from Paraguay – unusual locations for a plant regarded as a Brazilian species, indicating the need for further field work.

Recent publications revisit this issue, arguing that *S. cernua* may not be a valid name in the first instance as its original description as *Cattleya cernua* was invalid. These same authors suggest that if *S. pterocarpa* does in fact exist naturally in Paraguay, it may be a separate taxon and require another name.

The Pygmy Sophronitis, *Sophronitis pygmaea* (Pabst) Withner is, not surprisingly, the smallest member of the genus with globulate pseudobulbs and lanceolate leaves seldom exceeding 5cm. It has tiny, deep red flowers smaller than the smallest *S. coccinea* blooms. It appears that the species was discovered by R Kautsky in the coastal mountain of Espirito Santo. Withner raised it to species status as in his view, there was no reason to make it a subspecies of *S. coccinea*. However, little is known of this species as it is rare in cultivation, and there is little, if any information about it. [http://orchids.wikia.com/wiki/Sophronitis_pygmaea](http://orchids.wikia.com/wiki/Sophronitis_pygmaea)

The final Sophronitis recognised by Withner is Wittig’s Rosy Sophronitis, *Sophronitis wittingiana* Barb. Rodrigues 1878. However, it in common with other

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**NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE**

- The Conference Display planning is well advanced thanks to Adrian who has been able to source materials at little or no cost. The following materials will also be needed, and it would be appreciate if Members could let the Display Committee know whether they can provide:
  - Spanish moss,
  - Foliage plants including ferns,
- As you are aware, the Species society is sharing a sales booth at the 19th AOC Conference with Wanneroo/Joondalup Orchid Society. If you are planning to sell plants at the conference, please get them potted up now and growing vigorously as we want to ensure that we only have well grown, quality plants for sale. While we do not wish to offend any member, any plants that do not satisfy this standard will not be accepted for sale.
- The Society is always looking for monthly plants. If you see something advertised that you think is likely to be of interest, and the vendor can supply between 20 and 25 plants, please let a Committee member know. We also appreciate donations of any species plants to be used as prizes for our raffles.
- If you haven’t ordered your new badge yet, please see Mich.

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**Cultural Award:** *Tolumnia variegata* grown by Tony and Mavis

**Raffle:** no raffle in June

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**President:** Graham
**Vice President:** Ken Jones
**Secretary:** Maxine Godbeer
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- Adrian
- Michele
- Lee
- Sharon
- Trevor
- Tony
- Mavis
**Life Members**
- Gordon
- Joan & Ted (dec’d)
- Neville
- Noel & Eva

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At 10am on the Sunday after the fourth Thursday of each month. Please bring chairs and of food to share.
* Jul - Gordon Doherty, 6 Northgate St, Karrinyup
* Aug - Ian Duncan, 5 Salen Court, Ardross
* Sept - Anne & Geoff O’Callaghan, 4 Compass Place, Waikiki

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Imported plant news

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*S. rossiteriana* is a case in point. It had traditionally been considered to be a variety of *S. coccinea* but could equally fit into *S. mantiqueirae*. If so, the name *S. rossiteriana* would have priority.

The species is generally vegetatively diminutive and has smaller flowers than *S. coccinea*, and more importantly, lacks the red midrib and leaf margin pigment unless grown in high light. The leaves are more oval and curved in shape rather than elongated and pointed as is the case for *S. coccinea*. In some instances, the leaves exhibit red pigmentation on the undersides with spotting on the leave base. The pseudobulbs are short and stocky although could not be described as spherical. The petals are more pointed, longer and narrower than *S. coccinea* although the flower is generally smaller, with the labellum elongated to a blunt point and distinct yellow veining at its base.

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In common with *S. acuensis*, bicolor and coccinea, the varietal epithet *var. xanthocheila* is applied to those forms with a yellow labellum. The smaller *var. parviflora* types have flowers approximately 2.5cm in spread compared with the normal form which is approximately 5cm. Normally, this highland species is found as an epiphyte on lichen or moss covered small trees and shrubs from 1,200-1,900m. However, *S. mantiqueirae var. veronica* Hort. from the Pico Crystal region to the west of the Mantiquera mountains has a deficiency of red pigment resulting in yellow to salmon coloured flowers, while the pseudobulbs are a bluish-green colour, and their preferred habitat is large, old trees.

The Winged Sophronitis, *Sophronitis pterocarpa* (Lindley 1853) continues to be a mystery. Its original description showed a plant with a winged, swollen ovary when compared with *S. cernua* Kraenzlin 1911 also identified a unique feature of a fleshy, two-parted callus flap at the base of the labellum, lying below the anther cap. It was postulated that this groove is a channel for guiding a bird’s beak or
The genus *Sophronitis*

Var. *pallens* is a pale light-brick colour but is not common and has not been illustrated; Var. *rossiteriana* described by Rodrigues 1877 is a clonal variation (Pabst 1972) and was used as a horticultural varietal name for a sulphur-yellow, orange-striped plant collected near Minas Gerais. There is some doubt whether this was in fact *S. mantiqueirae*;

Var. *striata* Hort. This is also a source of confusion as many *Sophronitis* flowers have darker pigment striations along veins regardless of base colour;

Var. *xanthochila* Hort. applies to flowers with a yellow labellum (correct spelling is *xanthocheila*); http://www.ne.jp/asahi/orchid/sophronitis/description_of_species.htm

Several subspecies epithets are also in use, although not validly published: Subsp. *parviflora* is now correctly described as *S. mantiqueirae*;

Subsp. *orgaoensis* is applied to *S. coccinea* from the south-east in the Organ mountains, growing at moderate altitude with stronger larger flowers; and Subsp. *espirito-santense* is applied to plants from the Espirito Santo mountains.

In summary, *S. coccinea* is the most important of the species and has been widely used in hybridising. Much has been written about it, although Withner suggests that unfortunately, much of the published information is erroneous and inconsistent.

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http://www.newworldorchids.com/pages/sophronitis.htm

MONTHLY PLANT

*Sarcochilus falcatus*

**Country of origin:** Moist forest habitats Victoria to Queensland

**Description:** Moderate sized epiphyte that forms large clumps over time.

**Difficulty:** Suitable for shadehouse culture as it is climate tolerant.

**Cost:** $12.00

*Sarcochilus falcatus* Robert Brown is a member of a genus almost exclusively endemic to Australia (12 of 13 species). Its common name is the Orange Blossom Orchid for the pleasant flower fragrance. These plants were supplied by the Australian Orchid Nursery and have been grown on by Mich. Many are in spike and all are flowering size. While the flowers are generally fragrant, there is considerable variability in labellum colour, markings and size.

This widely-distributed Australian epiphytic species is found in warm to cool rainforests as an epiphyte in exposed slopes and ridge tops where it enjoys high humidity and good air movement, especially where mists, clouds and drizzle are frequent. While confined to mountains and ranges in the tropics, it is found in both lowland and mountainous forests in the southern states. It is a very adaptable species and will quite happily colonise remnant paddock trees, fruit trees and other garden trees and shrubs.

It is recognisable by stiff, leathery, falcate leaves, and the black dead flower racemes. Its widely opening, white flowers are also very distinctive, although different colour variations are evident in cultivars including purple striping on the back of sepals and labellum. Others may have pink flushing. This species grows well mounted on weathered hardwood, natural cork or similar media, and is also successful potted in bark media. I suspect that if adequate protection is available, it would also be successful mounted on suitable garden trees given its propensity to colonise fruit trees.

It is generally resistant to pests, although slugs and snails will damage root tips and it can be quickly infested by soft and hard scale if air movement is inadequate.
Ian
Cattleya jenmanii

Maxine
Laelia anceps var. chamberlainianum
Laelia gouldiana
Gongora gratulabunda

Peter & Shirley
Cattleya percivaliana
Mastigion ornatissimum
Oncidium pulvinatum
Sophronitis brevipedunculata

Tony & Mavis
Gastrochilus dasypogon
Habenaria carneae
Tolumnia variegata

PLANTS DISPLAYED JUNE 2012

Habenaria carneae
Tony & Mavis Watkinson

Laelia gouldiana
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Photography by Tony
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President: Graham
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e-mail: kcjones@tpg.com.au
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Adrian
Michele
Lee
Sharon
Trevor
Tony
Mavis
Life Members
Gordon
Joan & Ted (dec’d)
Neville
Noel & Eva
MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

12 June 2012, 7.20 pm

Present: 17
Apologies: 19
Visitors: Tony, Lorraine, Lucy
New members: Nil
Minutes: Minutes as circulated accepted (Mavis, Sharon)

Business Arising: Nil

General Business:
- Jack said that he had not received a newsletter for about 6 months. Tony promised to rectify that.
- Graham advised the members present that the committee (& most members who had been asked their opinion) were in favour of the Species Orchid Society of WA (Inc.) remaining at this hall for future meetings. Norm proposed a motion to this affect, which was seconded by Jack. All voted in favour. The Wilson Community Hall has now been booked for the remainder of the year.
- The next meeting of the display committee is to be at Adrian's on Sun. 1st July following the Home visit there.
- Mavis reminded the members that volunteer sheets need to be returned by the end of June at the latest. Graham reminded members that Ken will require the names of plants being (or possibly being) entered in the display, by the August meeting at the latest.
- John was thanked for his excellent Home Visit last month. Adrian has the next one on the 1st July. As usual, a plate & chairs are required please.
- Plant descriptions then followed while the auction results were tallied.

Jenny Martin - the membership names for plant entries at AOC Conference.

Business Arising: Nil

Mavis, Sharon)

About Us

Monthly Meetings
Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January) at Wilson Community Hall, Braidrisre St, Wilson 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 to 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 which time the office-bearers and committee are elected. The majority of Committee members serve two year terms.

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REMEmBER
Next (July 10th) meeting at Wilson Community Hall, Braidrise Road Wilson

Peter & Shirley Masters
Phone: 08 93506087
Mob 0419831177
Shirley 0414948469
E-mail: peterskorner@iinet.net.au

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.