



The Species Orchid Society of WA display

# NEWSLETTER

## MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING

11 September 2012, 7.50 pm

**Present:** 19

**Apologies:** 9

**Visitors:** Glen Barfield (Hawaii), Graham Zerbe & Kevin Cattermole (SA)

**New members:** Nil

**Minutes:** Minutes as circulated accepted (Peter, Chris )

**Business Arising:** Nil

**Financial Report:** The Financial Report was tabled by Sandra and the current balance is \$3,675.96. #2 A/c \$1,812.45 (Ian, Sharon)

**Correspondence:**

**Inwards:**

- Smith/Zervos membership fees
- Flyer from Leone McLean for art exhibition in Yallingup Sept. 17-23.
- Merle requesting invoice for club display at Conference
- Merle - invoice for sales table fee
- GCA- notice of insurance for special events, annual reminder dates for reg., insurance etc.
- City of Belmont - refund for hall hire
- Merle - receipt for sales table fee
- Various club newsletters
- AOC Conference info.
- Various Club Newsletters.
- Garden clubs issue of Our Gardens

**Outwards:**

- Invoice to Merle for club display at AOC Conference

**Business Arising:** Nil

**General Business:**

- Chris C. explained the procedure for plant sales, passes etc. at the conference.
- Thanks were expressed to Ken & Chris for handling all vendors flasks and to all for their efforts with the display
- Ken reported that there were 16 overseas vendors, some 5400 flasks. There were 350 flasks refused entry to WA (diseased or mother flasks), 150 ordered into post entry quarantine, 41 to be shipped to Thailand. A huge undertaking for Ken, who thanked Chris for his assistance.
- Chris Jones thanked (in advance) those who have offered to help at the morning tea scheduled to be held at her residence on Saturday morning for those visitors on the Shadehouse & Nursery Tour bus.
- Next Home visit is at Jones' residence on 30th September
- The usual Monthly Sales Plant was not at the meeting so will be used for the next one.
- Ken has ordered *Miltonia spectabilis* & *Laelia tenebrosa* (near flowering or flowering size) and is also negotiating with Bill & Jan Miles to purchase left over stock after the conference.

### NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 9 October

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These plants will be used for special raffles and raffle plants.

- Ian Duncan was thanked for his home visit, having plenty of plants for members to browse through on a lovely

sunny day.

**Raffle:** Judith, Chris

**Name Badge:** Maxine

## NOTES FROM YOUR COMMITTEE

- Thank you to all those members who volunteered for the Conference, and those who worked on our Sales stall and the display to answer questions. Special thanks to Mich, Adrian, who spent much of each day at our display and signed up 16 new members.
- Mavis Watkinson has also asked us to thank all Species Society members who volunteered their time to assist with running the Conference and Show. Over 100 hours of time were given, a credit to our members who also manned the display and sales area shared with Wanneroo Joondalup Orchid society - we also thank them for partnering with us in this opportunity to generate revenue for our society and members.
- While acknowledging the contribution of members to the 19th AOC, Chris and I would also like to thank Bill and Sandra Donovan, Judith Keogh, Caroline Deas, Geoff O'Callaghan and Eric and Rosanna Beltrame who helped out with our home tour visit on Saturday morning. Thanks you for providing food (which was enthusiastically enjoyed by our visitors) and for being available to talk to participants. Feedback about this event has been very positive.

**President:** Graham

**Vice President:** Ken Jones

**Secretary:** Maxine Godbeer  
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**Committee:**

• Chris

• Adrian

• Michele

• Lee

• Sharon

• Trevor

• Tony

• Mavis

**Life Members**

• Gordon

• Joan & Ted (dec'd)

• Neville

• Noel & Eva

## NOTICEBOARD

### FORTH-COMING EVENTS

#### Home visits:

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

\* Oct - Tony & Mavis, Koondoola.

\* Nov - Judith, Mt Pleasant

### FOR SALE/WANTED

**Imported plant news**

## MONTHLY PLANT

*Jumellea* ssp (from Tampoilo)



Source: orchidsonline.com.au

**Country of origin:** Evergreen/primary forests in Madagascar .

**Description:** Moderate sized epiphyte.

**Difficulty:** Suitable for shadehouse culture with protection in winter .

**Cost:** \$10.00

This month's plant has been grown on by Adrian. We are advised that it was grown from a seed pod collected in from an unidentified *Jumellea* in Madagascar.

The genus *Jumellea* Schltr. comprises some 40-60 species almost exclusively endemic to Madagascar. They grow as both epiphytes and lithophytes, and generally in high light situations. Vegetatively, they are distinguished by the distinctive double vertical row of leaves on opposite sides of the stem, that are obtusely bilobed at the tip. Flowers, rising singly from the base of the plant are white and are generally small, though attractively displayed on thin wiry stems. In common with other Madagascan genera, the flowers have a distinctive spur positioned at the base of the column. They also have a spicy aromatic scent to attract pollinators. Unfortunately, as they generally flower in winter-spring when there is high humidity, the flowers are often marked by botrytis spotting .

This species is adaptable and will grow in a pot, with bark media or in a basket with bark or similar free draining media, or on a suitable mount remembering that it does need humidity during the hot summer months, and protection from the elements during the colder winter months when it needs to be kept drier. I grow several *Jumellea* species in the shadehouse all year round.

I have not experienced any particular sensitivity to insect pests or plant pathogens, however, in its natural habitat, it enjoys good air movement and is able to dry out by nightfall. It can be attacked by cotton scale and mealy bug if there is not enough air movement.

As we do not know exactly what the flower of this species looks like, I have attached a photo of one of the more commonly grown species, *Jumellea major*.

As the majority of member's plants were in the display, only a few that were surplus were benched.

Ian

*Dendrobium speciosum* var *pedunculata*

Graham & Margaret

*Caladenia vulgata*

*Diuris amplissima*

*Diuris magnifica*

*Drakea glyptodon*

*Pterostylis curta*

*Pterostylis nana*

## 19TH AOC - SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY of WA DISPLAY



Display set up on Tuesday

## 19th AOC Show Review



### 19TH AOC - SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY of WA DISPLAY



Some of the members 'manning' the display

Photography by Tony, and Mich

Thanks to a great team, ably led by Mich and Adrian, the Society's display was judged second in the over 9 sqm Display by an Orchid Society class and we won a further \$100. Even more importantly, I am advised that it was always busy with visitors looking at the fabulous picture boards featuring our unique west Australian terrestrial orchids, and at the live plants in our display. These picture boards are a valuable asset that we can and will use again.

You can be justifiably proud of our achievements. At the risk of missing someone, I think that it is important to give credit where it is due. Mich, Margaret and Judith put together a brilliant series of photos and text about West Australian terrestrial orchids, drawing on material from Ron Heberle, Tony and others. The educational nature of the display, which featured WA terrestrial orchids was unique and the constant positive feedback from show visitors indicate that it was well received. Adrian, ably assisted by Chris, Graham and Margaret, Mich and Judith constructed the display off-site over several weeks and erected it on-site, and placed all the plants. This was a significant undertaking and the result is a tribute to their imagination and vision. I am sure that it surprised some of our members who had not realised just how exceptional it would be.

Thanks also to our members who attended the display to talk to visitors to the Show and answer questions. Adrian and Dee, Mich, Vic, Trevor, Graham and Margaret, Chris, Noel and Judith (I apologise if I have missed anyone) made sure that someone was there at all times. In addition to answering many questions from visitors, they signed up 16 new members. This is a vitally important activity for the future of our society as it is from enthusiastic new members with new ideas that our future leaders will come.

### Big Orchids - The Genus *Grammatophyllum*!

*Grammatophyllum kinabaluense* Ames & C.Schweinf. 1920 is a Malaysian species, coming from, as the name suggests the Mt Kinabalu region in northern Borneo in lowlands and hill forests at low elevations to 900 m, growing as an epiphyte on old primary forest hardwood trees. It is also a large sized, hot to warm growing species with an inflorescence that can reach 3 to 4 meters long. This species is not common in

cultivation.



Source: [www.wildborneo.com](http://www.wildborneo.com).

*Grammatophyllum martaе* Quisumb. ex Valmayor & D. Tiu 1984 is a recently discovered species endemic to the Philippines. Found at elevations of sea level to 300m, it is also a large, hot growing epiphyte with large, slightly flattened pseudobulbs carrying up to 4, oblanceolate, leathery, 60 cm long leaves. Spring flowers are carried on a basal, stout, many flowered, up to 1.5 m inflorescence. Flowers: are up to 4.5 cm wide, dark brown with yellow markings.

Dr. Eduardo Quisimbing originally described this species, however the name was not published. Subsequently, Professor Helen Valmayor and Danilo A. Tiu published the byname in 1983 in the Philippines Orchid Review. The species was named after Mrs Martha Montilla Rivilla, a Philippine orchid enthusiast from Negros Occidental, in the Philippines. This species is found only on Negros.



Source: <http://orchidsamore.com/tutorials/Grammatophyllum-%20photo%20-%20culture.htm>

*Grammatophyllum measuresianum* Weathers 1889 (syn *Grammatophyllum grandiflorum*) is another large Philippine epiphytic, hot growing species found at elevations below 500m with ovoid, maturely wrinkled pseudobulbs enveloped by a few membranous sheaths, carrying 4 to 6, apical, broadly lanceolate, to 60 cm long leaves that blooms on a basal, upright to semi-arching, 1.5 m, many flowered, racemose inflorescence that blooms in the summer with imperfect flowers in the bottom few rows and then many faintly fragrant, waxy flowers for the rest of the expanding over time inflorescence.



Source: <http://www.orchidsonline.com.au>

*Grammatophyllum multiflorum* Lindl. 1838 is another large growing species from the Philippines. Inflorescences of mature orchids reach a length up to 1.50 meters and are packed with up to 100 long-lasting, showy flowers. Like its relatives, this species a hot and humid climate with a lot of sun. Its single flowers reach a size of about 5 cm, and can be in flowers for up to 9 months. There is also a *citrinum* form, seen shown in the following picture. This

species flowers Spring - Autumn



Source: <http://purificacionorchids.com/images>

*Grammatophyllum pantherinum* Rchb.f 1878 is found in New Guinea in lowland forests at elevations from sea level to 1200m. However, there is some disagreement between taxonomists about this species, some asserting that it is synonymous with *Grammatophyllum speciosum* and/or *Grammatophyllum papuanum* It is a large hot growing epiphyte with stout, elongated, densely leafed stems with many internodes and carrying strap-shaped, acute, midrib prominent below, coriaceous leaves. The roots often form 'nest-like' clumps which look quite spectacular. It blooms spring through autumn on basal, stout, many flowered, inflorescences up to 2 m in length. It has triangular, obtuse, concave floral bracts and large, fleshy, fragrant flowers.

It is reported that on *Grammatophyllum papuanum* inflorescences, which can bear more than fifty flowers, the lowest flowers often have no labellum. This species can be found high up in trees in exposed situations, while *Grammatophyllum*

*scriptum* can be found on Manus Island close to the sea. Jay Phal acknowledges the differing views but choose to consider them separate species for now.



Source: <http://www.hawaiiantropicalplants.com>

*Grammatophyllum rumphianum* Miq. 1869 is another large species from Borneo and Maluku where it is found growing as an epiphyte in cool to intermediate conditions. The 1.2 m arched flower raceme has 5-6cm flowers in Spring-Autumn.



Source: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/vsny/200320788/>

Continued next month

## ABOUT US

### Monthly Meetings

Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (exc January) at Wilson Community Hall, Braibrise 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> 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.

If unclaimed, return to  
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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](http://www.peterskorner.com), phone Peter or Shirley on the numbers shown, or e-mail [peterskorner@iinet.net.au](mailto:peterskorner@iinet.net.au).