The Species Orchid Society of WA display

NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 9 October

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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.
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.

- 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

NOTICEBOARD

FORTHCOMING 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
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 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*.

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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*

**MONTHLY PLANT**

**Jumellea ssp** (from Tampollo)

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

**Description:** Moderate sized epiphyte.

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

**Cost:** $10.00

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19TH AOC - SPECIES ORCHID SOCIETY of WA DISPLAY

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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.
**Grammatophyllum martae** 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.

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**Grammatophyllum measuresianum** Weather 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 membraneous 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.

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.

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**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 leaved 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.

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**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 5-6 cm flowers in Spring-Autumn.

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**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.

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Continued next month
Monthly Meetings
Monthly meetings held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (excl 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 (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.

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.