THE WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ORCHID BULLETIN

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA A MEMBER OF THE AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL. FOUNDED 1946.

VOLUME 50 NO 6



ISSUE DATE: JUNE 2010

NEXT MEETING of the Orchid Society of Western Australia (Inc.) will be held in the Collins St. Hall, cnr Collins St & Shaftesbury St. South Perth, Friday 25th June 2010 commencing at **8.00p.m.**

Orchid Society of Western Australia
Patron Mr K.C. Rex

THIS MONTH'S MEETING ITEM:

FORUM ON FERTILIZING

PRESIDENT

Mrs K. Baylis Tel 9337 6210

SECRETARY

Mr M. Baker 58 Gladstone Rd. Leeming 6149 Tel. 9310 2800

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JULY MEETING DATES

Judging Panel 7.30 pm Monday 5th OSWA Committee 7.30 pm Friday 2nd General Meeting 8.00 pm Friday 23rd

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Deadline for Bulletin Items — 9 pm Sat. 13 days prior to OSWA GM.

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Birthdays:

June - 2nd - Tom Seaman **6th -** Edwin Jacks **9th -** Fred Herbert, Edna Burgess **17th -** Maggie Longmore

And Liu shen Pohl.

July - 1st - Kevin Butler 15th - Dana Mitchell 16th - Maureen Grantham 18th - Roy Brown

We wish everyone a very Happy Birthday and also anyone celebrating an Anniversary, our best wishes to you. To anyone on the sick list, we wish you a speedy recovery.

OSWA Bulletin: The Bulletin is now online at http://members.iinet.net.au/~murray.baker/OSWA If you are happy to download the Bulletin from the web and not receive the printed copy by post, please let Murray know (murray.baker@iinet.net.au)

- Winter State Championship Show: This will be held at the South Perth Scout & Guide Hall, on the 24th & 25th July 2010. The hall is on the Ernest Johnson Oval, Pilgrim Street, South Perth (just behind the South Perth Community Hospital).
- Thank you to everyone who brought in plants to the auction last meeting and to all those who bid for them A big thanks also to Bob Longmore who acted as the auctioneer & lan Duncan who assisted him. Also to Merrilyn & Nancy who kept track of the plants bought.
- **Upcoming Meeting Items: June** Forum about Fertilising Orchids. **July** Protecting your orchids from the cold in Winter **August** Eddy Wajon- Regeneration after a fire, orchids & wildflowers.
- Eddie Wajon Eddie will be talking at the August meeting about plant regeneration after the Tenterden bushfire in 2003. We are trying to organize a trip to his property and would like to know if any members are interested in making the trip. We would perhaps organize a small bus so we could all go together. It would be a day trip and I will let you know what month.
- Raffle Remember to obtain raffle tickets if you wish to have the chance of winning a crocheted cushion donated by Meg Brown. The raffle will be drawn at this months meeting.

Hundreds of FREE (used) 2" pots. These are suitable for seedlings, tube-stock etc. but need to be washed before use. If you want any please let Murray know.

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MONTHLY PLANT COMPETITION RESULTS (MAY 2010)

Open:

Class 1B (5) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen Blc. Erin Kobayashi 'Lahaina Gold'

2. Henry Eaton Blc. Burdekin Trader

3. Henry Eaton Lc. Drumbeat

Class 1C (2) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen Hknsa. Koolau Sunset 'Hawaii'

2. N/A

Class 1E (2) 1. Henry Eaton C. Portiata 'Mel'

2. Tom & Val Seaman Lc. Aussie Sunset 'Cosmic Fire' x

C. Chocolate Drop

Class 3A (1) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen Paph. spicerianum

Class 3B (1) 1.Jack & Betty Rensen Paph. Golddollar

Class 3C (2) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen Paph. Unknown

2. Jack & Betty Rensen Paph. Shady Lady x Vintners Treasure

Class 3D (1) 1. N/A

2. Jack & Betty Rensen Paph. Sally Berndt

Class 4B (1) 1. Ian Duncan Den. Chao Praya 'Sweet' x Somsak

Class 6B (1) 1. Peter & Shirley Masters Onc. River of Gold x Arila

Class 6E (2) 1. Peter & Shirley Masters Onc. Yurla x Honey Butter

2. Peter & Shirley Masters Howeara Mary Eliza

Class 7B (1) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen V. Mimi Palmer

Class 11A(2) 1. Jack & Betty Rensen Phrag. Conchiferum

2. Jack & Betty Rensen Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice

Class 13 1. Ian Duncan Den. Thai Angel x self

Novice:

Class 15B(2) 1. Ann & Malcolm Davis

C. December Snow x Bob Betts

2. Ross & Alice Lang Ctt. Molly Tyler

Class 16C(1) 1. Ross & Alice Lang Cym. Zig-Zag 'Kiwi'

Class 20E(1) 1. NAS

Class 23A(1) 1. Ross & Alice Lang

Den. bigibbum var. compactum

Class 25B(1) 1. Merrilyn Brechin Z. Allen Greatwood

Junior: 1. Dana Mitchell *Z. mackayi*

POPULAR VOTE

Open - Onc. River of Gold x Arila—Peter & Shirley Masters

Novice - C. December Snow x Bob Betts - Ann & Malcolm Davis

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<u>Schokman Trophy Points:</u> Blc. Erin Kobayashi 'Lahaina Gold' (71pts) -Jack & Betty Rensen <u>Mem. Jim Grantham Trophy Points</u>: Phrag. Conchiferum (68pts) - Jack & Betty Rensen

CYMBIDIUM CULTURAL NOTES (JUNE/JULY 2010) by Roy Brown

The next two months are cold, wet months, with windy and blustery weather. Cymbidiums will grow quite well under these conditions, provided the pots have good drainage, allowing all the excess water to drain away freely.

Strong winds can tip the pots over from the benches, causing the plant leaves to be broken and also snapping off the young flower spikes, so I would advise you to protect the pots from very blustery weather.

Should you experience frosts in your particular district, the you will have to bring those plants in spike under cover when a frost is forecast. Flower spikes will wither and die if frost settles on them overnight.

As there is a general slowing down of the plants growth rate, there is no need to heavily fertilise your plants. Probably once during the month is sufficient. You will have to watch the weather in regard to watering. Should a dry spell occur, then don't let the pots dry out. Cymbidiums do not like dry compost.

The flower spikes will need to be trained as they develop if you want them to be presentable. Don't just allow them to grow out over the edge of the pot in an unruly fashion. Tie them up to stakes and train them so that eventually, when the flowers open, they will present themselves in a pleasing manner. This does make a difference to the whole appearance of the plant, and if you are to exhibit the plant in any of the forthcoming shows, then this is an absolute must.

CATTLEYA CULTURAL NOTES (JUNE/JULY 2010) by Henry Eaton

For the next few months we should be expecting cold nights, cloudy days, some rain and temperatures fluctuating in the 10-20C range during the day. Culture is therefor skewed towards ameliorating these conditions. Remember that the most important part of the plant is the root system. If this is maintained in good condition then you have reached your objective. This means watering the plants only when they need a drink rather than on a set schedule. When water is needed the pot will feel lighter than before. Plants in small pots will need more frequent watering than those in big pots. Watering frequency will also be determined by the water retentive capacity of your mix. I find that a mix with large pieces of bark in it gives more latitude in determining the frequency of watering as it drains very well. When you decide to water, do so on a sunny day and early in the day. This gives the plants a chance to dry up by night when the temperature may drop markedly. Wet roots do not take well to low temperatures and could rot if these conditions are allowed to persist.

Just as watering is reduced in Winter, fertilizing should I feel, be reduced, as many plants may be in a resting phase after flowering in the Autumn. These will not require fertilizer till growth resumes in late Winter or Spring. Adding fertilizer is a waste of resources.

Keep plants still to bloom well staked to best shoe off their flowers. When the buds begin to emerge from the sheaths look out for caterpillars and other chewing insects as well as slugs and snails. Bait or spray the plants to control the offending pests. Bloom plants also need some protection from the rain and good air movement around them to avoid Botrytis spotting,

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Which appears as black spots on the flowers. Hanging the plants up from the roof timbers seems to help avoid this.

The Orchid Society of WA (Inc.)

Minutes of the General Meeting held in the Collins Street Hall, South Perth, On Friday 28th May 2010

Welcome: The President opened the meeting at 8.03 pm and welcomed the members and visitors present

Attendance & Apologies: As per register

Minutes: Moved J. Brabin, seconded H.Eaton that the Minutes of the previous meeting be accepted. **Carried**

Business arising: The President advised that the raffle for the cushions would be conducted next month.

Confirmation: Moved E. Dixon, seconded H. Eaton that the Business Arising has been resolved.

Correspondence Inward:

- E-mail from Catherine Minchin thanking the secretary for the information re the Club and the growing of orchids that she had received. Stated that she would attend a meeting one evening.
- The President also received an enquiry from a Sandra O'Keefe as a result of the letters sent out by the Secretary.
- Thank you vard from Ross Lang
- Letter from Joy Marsh, Ionian club re directions etc. regarding a talk at their club meeting on June 28th. Ian Duncan to attend.
- Letter from City of South Perth giving brief details of sponsorship opportunities to community organisations etc. Referred to committee.
- Society Newsletters

Correspondence Outward:

- Letter to Royal Agricultural Society of WA accepting the invitation to participate in the 'Floral Spectacular' and advising that Kaye Baylis will attend the meeting on 15th June next.
- Letter to WAROO appointing Kaye Baylis as OSWA delegate
- Get Well cards sent to ross Lang and Bob Jones

Business Arising: Nil

Confirmation: Moved T. Seaman, seconded Val Seaman that the Correspondence Inward and Correspondence Outward be endorsed. **Carried**

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Financial Statement: Statement #415 was tabled

Moved K. Baylis, seconded M. Brechin that the financial statement be received. Carried

New Members: Mr. Tom Stacy

Reports: OJPWA (R. Brown) OSWA show at Riverton Forum 4/5/10.

Grand Champion - Bc. Glenn Maidment 'Southern Cross' - owners T&V Seaman Reserve Champion - Vuyl. Cambria - owners J&K Baylis. 6 Judges attended.

NDOS Show at Centrepoint, Midland.4/5/10

Grand Champion - Bulb. echinolabium - owners T&M Watkinson

Reserve Champion - Den. lannapa Pink 'Kyomi Beauty' - owners N&B Chapman

4 Judges & 1 Associate attended

Four new trainee Judges were welcomed to the Judging Panel at it's last meeting in the persons of Tony Watkinson, Courtney Rogasch, Chris cabassi and Carolyn Deas.

General Business:

- The alteration to By-law (b) iii "Exhibitor" shall mean a member of the Society or any other person approved by the Committee who benches a plant at any show or meeting of the society. This was ratified by a show of hands.
- The President presented the prizes to the respective winners of our Autumn Show
- The Treasurer advised that she had a number of name badges for new members.
- Ian Duncan thanked Meg Donald for spotting a lady at the autumn show walking off with one of his plaants. Thankfully he was able to retrieve it.

Popular Vote: Open –P&S Masters with Onc. River of Gold x Arila

Novice - A&M Davis with C. December Snow x Bob Betts

Raffle: Ross Lang E33, Dana Mitchell E48

Door Prize: Maxine Godbeer

Evening's Programme: an auction of orchids and other plants was conducted by Bob Longmore assisted by Ian Duncan. The last item to be offered was the OrchidWiz software with Ian Duncan being the successful bidder.

Meeting closed at 10. 15 pm