

# MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

Incorporated in Victoria (Reg No.1193Z)

Associate Member AOC

## HOST 18<sup>TH</sup> AOC CONFERENCE AND SHOW

Werribee – Victoria 8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2009

### CONFERENCE ASSOCIATES

AUSTRALIAN ORCHID FOUNDATION  
ALBURY/WODONGA ORCHID SOCIETY  
GEELONG ORCHID & INDOOR PLANT CLUB  
VICTORIAN ORCHID CLUB  
WARRINGAL ORCHID SOCIETY  
WERRIBEE ORCHID SOCIETY  
DANDENONG & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY  
HORSHAM & DISTRICT ORCHID SOCIETY  
VICTORIAN REGIONAL JUDGING PANEL

Eric Wilde  
Secretary  
15 William Road  
LITTLE RIVER Vic  
3211  
(03)5283 1364  
[ef.wilde@bigpond.com](mailto:ef.wilde@bigpond.com)

28<sup>th</sup> July 2008

## NEWSLETTER No. 5

The Steering Committee of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society have been working diligently on the 18<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference and Orchid Show for over 4 years. The Conference and Orchid Show are to be held in Werribee during September 2009, **less than a year from now**. We believe that our work is about to bear fruit. We have the organization, the venues, we are ready to go. It is now up to you, the members of the AOC, the hobby orchid growers of Australia to do your "bit". Put pen to paper and register for this event, without you, the future of this event and perhaps the future of our hobby will be placed in jeopardy.

### Early Bird Registrations are now open.

#### 1. New Committee people

Our working committee has been strengthened with the addition of Ms Barbara Duncan and Mr Mario Piovesan. Barbara brings ( apart from her charming self) a list of abilities and associations, she is a member of many Victorian Orchid Societies, the Secretary of the AOF, has had a very experienced judging career and has attended many World Orchid Conferences. She has rolled up her sleeves and relieved me of one of my duties, that of arranging the guest speaker program. ( A list of speakers and their topics will appear later). Mario, is a member of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society and is the President of the Werribee Orchid Society. Mario is our "can do man".

We thank Barbara and Mario for accepting the on going challenge of the 18<sup>th</sup> AOC Conference and Orchid Show.

#### 2. Advertising

We have advertised locally in Orchids Australia and the Australian Orchid Review. Internationally we have also had articles in the British Orchid Review, the AOS Orchid Digest and the New Zealand Internet Orchid Review. We thank each of these journals for their support.

A little problem occurred with our email address in one publication... but many people have worked their way through that problem. The adverts will run again for the October editions.

All Orchid Societies in Australia (that we have addresses for) are about to be mailed with a copy of the Schedule and a Registration Form, any other person may download an abbreviated schedule and registration form, or just contact me (above) and we will mail it out to you.

#### 3. Early Bird Registrations

Early Bird Registrations begin from the 01<sup>st</sup> September 2008. So "our" tension mounts awaiting your response...but we have had many enquiries... especially from Queensland, I do hope that you all come.

Early Bird registrations close on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009.

#### 4. The Conference Speakers Program

As I said, Barbara has been on the "case" of the guest speakers and is beginning to firm up their topics, which include:

**Mr George Hatfield: The Cymbidium Industry in the USA,  
and, Cymbidiums- Past and Future**

George is of course a well known West Coast USA cymbidium hybridiser, commercial grower, an AOS Judge and ex CSA president.

**Mr Clive Hayman and Ms Rita Cusack: The Phragmipedium Story**

Clive and Rita have been growing this interesting genus for many years, and growing them very well. Refer to the AOC records of awards over the past 10 years, their names are most prominent. It has been their devotion to this genus that has helped make them so popular.

**Mr Neville Roper: The Proliferation of Sarcochilus Hybrids in Australia**

Neville is relatively a young man, that has devoted his time to the hybridising of this genus. I am sure he is going to present a very passionate paper on Sarcochilus. Again, if you wish to know more about Neville, in your search of the awards list for phrags, also look for sarcs. I can't wait for these papers.

**Mr Gary Jong Gee: Oncidium and it's Relatives**

Gary, is well known by most serious orchid growers/people, a marvellous photographer, so very well travelled. I have been enthralled by all of his work.

**Mr Clive Halls: Masdevallias for the New Millennium**

Clive is a well known, professional Orchid nurseryman from Victoria. An apprentice nurseryman to Sander's Orchids (UK)(many years ago). His knowledge of Masdevallias is legendary and he grows them to perfection.

**Mr Dennis Diehm: Modern Mid and Mini Cattleya in Cultivation**

Dennis is a semi professional hybridist operating out of Southern New South Wales, well known for his work in the smaller types of Cattleyas. He is also doing great work with his phalaenopsis.

**Mr Kevin Hipkins: The Beauty of Specimen Orchids- Growing and Showing**

Who will forget the beautiful species cymbidium specimen that Kevin bought to Port Macquarie? Where does he get the inspiration to produce these plants? Always, for every show? Perhaps Kevin can inspire others to produce plants of this calibre for the next and subsequent AOC Conferences.

**Mr Grant Garrett: Why the Champions Received the Accolades they did**

A synopsis of the Orchid Show and its rewards, or should I say (hopefully) its awards.

**Mr Wayne Turville: Australian Native Orchid breeding**

Wayne has a nursery at Tyabb, south of Melbourne where he grows our native orchids to perfection. To see is to believe.

**Mr Gary Backhouse: Bush Gems - The Native Terrestrial Orchids of Victoria.**

**Mr Graham McKay: The Phalaenopsis Revelation - New varieties and culture.**

So the speaking program is looking good, aimed at Orchid growers and enthusiasts.

**5. The commercial area**

The commercial sellers have been asked to pay a deposit for their sites... we have 22 vying for the 20 spaces that we have planned for, but when you look at the diversity of their products it would be a shame to not include them somehow. As an orchid grower I know how to fit another plant in!!! Do you think the sellers would mind having a second layer?

Regards

Eric Wilde  
Maribyrnong Orchid Society  
Conference Sub Committee

**We thank our MAJOR SPONSORS –  
ORCHIDS AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIAN ORCHID COUNCIL, RETIREINVEST – Werribee,  
AUSTRALIAN ORCHID NURSERY, VAN SCHAIK'S BIOGRO, WYNDHAM CITY  
COUNCIL, ITALIAN SPORTS CLUB WERRIBEE, MULTI CROP, JOY AND BRAD SCOTT**