



Sarcochilus australis

MARIBYRNONG ORCHID SOCIETY

(The FRIENDLY Society)

MARCH 2007 BULLETIN

www.mosorchid.org

Affiliated with the Australian Orchid Council
Incorporated in Victoria Reg No 1193Z

Disclaimer: The Maribyrnong Orchid Society Committee will not take any responsibility for actions taken on advice or views expressed in: this or any future Monthly Bulletin, or by Guest Speakers. It is always advisable to get a second opinion.

BULLETIN CONTRIBUTION DEADLINE – 3rd Thursday of the month

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society will be held at the Maribyrnong Community Centre, Randall Street, Maribyrnong on Tuesday the 13th March, 2007.

The Early 'new growers' group start at 7.15pm and is conducted by the informative Steve Stebbing. This group runs for approximately 30 minutes prior to the start of the monthly meeting. We also have 'Pots and Ferts' and plants sales tables operating at every meeting. Members may bring 10 orchids to be sold on the sales table each month. The Society deducts 15% commission on the sale of all plants. Please note that all plants must be labeled correctly and state whether they are hot/cold growing and expected floral colour, if not in flower. Plants are also to be listed on a sales form, available from members on the Sales table, to be filled out by the selling member.

Guest Speaker this month

Our guest speaker this month will be Mr Clive Halls from Mt Beenak Orchid Nursery, and he will be speaking about Novelty Odontoglossums.

We thank Mr. Max Akam for his presentation and slide show last month, on Pleione orchids.

Our future guest speakers will be:-

<u>Month</u>	<u>Speaker</u>	<u>Topic</u>
April 07	Neil Anderton	Inverleigh Common
May 07	Dendi Orchids	Paphiopedilums
June 07	Grant Garrett	Awarded Orchids 2006
July 07	Julian Coker	Pests and Diseases
August 07	Derek Kennedy	Aussie Shade Houses
September 07	Milton Dyer	Maxi Crop Products
October 07	Nicky Zurcher	Paphiopedilums
November 07	Gary Backhouse	Victorian Native Orchids

FEBRUARY 2007 COMPETITION RESULTS

As per judges sheets

OPEN SECTION

Australian Native Hybrid

1st Fleckeri x Peach Glow B Duncan
2nd Dock Limestone A Wild

Australian Native Species Dendrobium

1st Den wassellii A Wild

Sarcochilus Species/Hybrid

1st Sarc Velvet B Duncan
2nd Sarc fitzgeraldii x Riverdene G Downie

Paphiopedilum - Novelty

1st Iantha Stage M Pearce

Cattleya Novelty

1st LC Mini Purple J & M Lattimore
2nd SLC Tangerine Jewel x Tiny Titan J & M Lattimore

Oncidium Hybrid

1st (Lava flow x Crispum) x Honey Butter J Crawford
2nd (Lava flow x Crispum) x Honey Butter J Crawford

Dendrobium – Hybrid/Species

1st Asda Muan Thong J & M Lattimore
2nd Vasco Viboon Velvet J & M Lattimore

Phalaenopsis - Hybrid

1st Unknown A Evans
2nd Cygnus J & M Lattimore

Masdevallia Hybrid

1st Parlatoreana Woy Woy N & J Walsh
2nd Kalas Delight x Kimballiana N & J Walsh

Any Other Hybrid

1st Phrag Noirmont J Crawford
2nd Prom (Stapelioides x Rollisonii) x Dina
E & F Wilde

Species Any Genera

1st Encyclia radiata M Condon
2nd Lyc depeii J Crawford

Best in Section

Phrag Noirmont J Crawford

INTERMEDIATE SECTION

Any Other Hybrid

1st Epidendrum Salmon King K Weyers
2nd Brassidium Freckles J & D Portelli

Best in Section

Epidendrum Salmon King K Weyers

ADVANCED NOVICE SECTION

Cattleya Novelty Type

1st SLC Seagulls Minicat Heaven D McAuslan

Phalaenopsis Hybrid

1st Red Jem D McAuslan
2nd Unknown D McAuslan

Any Other Hybrid

1st Colm Wildcat 'Florafest' D McAuslan
2nd Ctna Barrel of Brandy D McAuslan

Best in Section

Phal Red Jem D McAuslan

NON SECTIONAL

Seedling Flowering for 1st time

1st Den Andre Millar x alexanderae T P Nguyen
2nd Prom Olinda x Michael Wilson E & F Wilde

Best Cultivated

Den Andre Millar x alexanderae T P Nguyen

Popular Vote

Phal Unknown D McAuslan

Judges Vote

Phrag Noirmont J Crawford

Monthly Competition Winners for 2006

I would sincerely like to apologise for an error I made in last month's newsletter. I noted the winner of the Advance novice section incorrectly and would like to amend this report.

The member who accrued the most points in the monthly competition for Advance Novice was in fact our delightful and popular member **Mr. Bruce Butler**.

Congratulations Bruce, you now move up to the Intermediate section for competition this year.

Supper Roster

The club wishes to thank Doris Walker for her services in providing supper duties last month. For the March meeting we kindly have Mila Jurjelic and Anthony Scerri on Supper Roster.

The Supper Roster Schedule that was passed around at last months meeting failed to attract a sufficient amount of members willing to nominate themselves for supper duty. For this reason we will again be passing the Roster around at the March meeting, in hope that more kind members will put their names down. It is not a difficult duty and the good thing about helping with the supper duty is you get to chat and socialize with everyone that comes up for refreshments.

Thank you

Many thanks to George Downie for your assistance in producing this newsletter.

New Members

Our Society would like to welcome the following New Members to our Club - Janet Hines, Sira Rodrigues, Terry & Jenny Dark and Olga Grigorovitch. We look forward to seeing you at the next club meeting, where you will also be presented with a badge and complimentary orchid.

2007 Seedling Competition

The Club purchased 50 Promenaea seedlings for the 2007 competition. Members were invited to purchase the seedlings for \$4, in order to see who could grow their seedling the best and to see which member can flower their seedling first.

However it was disappointing that only 31 seedlings were sold at last months meeting and we were left with 19 unsold seedlings.

We are unsure why we were left with unsold seedlings. Members should not be frightened in trying to grow these little plants. Promenaeas are related to the Zygopetulum and they are not difficult to grow and flower.

The seedlings will be up the front again at the March meeting for any members wishing to purchase a seedling and take part in the competition.

Also we expect those that were sold to come back at the March meeting and we will see who has taken the advice given to them about repotting them into your own mix.

Members will also need to write out a new name tag for their seedlings. The names on most of the tags were a bit hard to read, but most of the members will be able to decipher a few words from them.

The four different seedlings offered for sale were:-

1. Promenaea Limelight x Florafest Cheetah
2. Promenaea Florafest Gold x Chameleon
3. Promenaea Crawshayana x Chameleon
4. Promenaea Chameleon x Florafest Cheetah

There are abbreviations on some of the tags, FF is short for Florafest and WOC is short for Woolf Orchid Culture. Please re-write your plant tag so they are easier to read.

ORCHID SHOW CALENDAR

Maribyrnong 2007 Orchid Shows

Autumn Show: 26th & 27th May
Winter Show: 14th and 15th July
Spring Show: 8th & 9th September
Sarcochilus Festival: 10th & 11th November

All Maribyrnong Orchid shows are conducted at our club rooms, which are located at Maribyrnong Community Centre in Randall Street.

Other 2007 Orchid Club Show Dates:-

1. Orchid Species Society
18th March - 10a.m. to 3p.m.
City of Whitehorse Horticultural Centre
Jolimont Road, Forest Hill
2. Victorian International Orchid Fair
18th, 19th and 20th May
St Sava Hall, Greensborough
3. Orchid Spectacular 17th – 19th August
Collectors Corner, Springvale



Social Trip

Anthony has organized the next bus trip for Sunday the 29th April. The bus trip will be traveling to B & T Ferns and Orchids in Silvan, then on to Clive Halls' orchid nursery at Mt Beenak. A Barbecue lunch will be provided. Cost of the trip is \$18.

Anthony currently has 24 people enrolled for the trip so there are still some vacant spots on the bus for any other members wishing to join the days outing. The trip fare can be paid to Anthony at the next meeting.

Committee Nominations

At our April meeting we will be holding our A.G.M. Are there any members who would like to become part of the Maribyrnong Orchid Society Committee? The committee is always looking for new members willing to put in fresh ideas. Give it a good thought as this is your club and we would welcome any member, with new and positive ideas, wanting to join. We have enclosed Nomination forms with this newsletter, to be completed by any member interested in becoming part of our Society's committee.

Membership Fees

Membership fees are now due and Eric will be collecting renewal fees from members at the next meeting. The fees remain unchanged: Junior \$ 8.00 (under 16 yrs)
Single \$12.00
Family \$15.00

Correct money will be appreciated.

Please be advised that this bulletin is a complimentary copy and will be your last if you do not forward your fees to the Membership Secretary at P.O. Box 148 Highpoint City 3032. If you are running late, the fee can be sent to the Membership Secretary's home address on the front of the bulletin.

Get Well

Our club extends its Get well wishes to Bruce Butler and Shaw Hurwood. Hoping that you both make a speedy recovery and hope to see you back soon at club meetings.

Magazine Sale

The AOC is currently offering for sale all Pre-2005 magazines of 'Orchids Australia' at a discounted rate of \$2 per copy plus postage.

The AOC produces 6 copies of this magazine per year, and an annual subscription is \$50, so buying the old copies at \$2 each is a great investment, as they hold a wealth of information about orchids.

Other items offered for sale are: _

Australian Orchid Growing

Vol 3 Paphiopedilums - \$6 plus postage

Vol 1 Cymbidiums - \$6 plus postage

Nie-co rol ties for straight spikes

Quantity of 1-24 \$2.30 each

Quantity of 25-99 \$2.05 each

(Price includes postage for the ties)

Postage: 1 item \$1.45

2 items \$2.45

3 Items \$4.50

4-15 Items \$8.10

If members want to order any items in a bulk order please let Frances Wilde know at the next meeting as an order will be going in during that week.

Promenaea Growing Guide

Written by Neville Roper

Generally if you can grow Zygopetalums well, you should grow Promenaeas to perfection. The only cultural requirement that they seem to be fussy about, is their need for heavy shade. They are tolerant of a wide range of temperatures, but are stressed by extreme heat – withering rapidly if left dry, and get leaf dropping and spotting with extreme cold especially if not kept under cover. Keeping the foliage dry on winter nights, as you would for most other genera, seems to be more important than temperature.

Promenaeas will grow in almost any medium, provided that it is airy and retains some moisture. Some growers seem to use either pine bark, sphagnum moss and Styrofoam, pine bark and pebbles or a combination of these. I use fine treated pine bark (70%) and fine pebbles to which I add a small amount of chopped sphagnum and fine Styrofoam. Depending on your conditions and watering regime you could improve your culture by using a layer of medium grade bark in the bottom of your pot to speed the drainage for wet climates and heavy waterers. Alternately you can 'top-off' the last few centimeters of your pots with sphagnum to retain a little more moisture for those in dry areas or those who are miserly waterers.

Promenaeas respond well to fertilizer when they are in active growth. Most liquid fertilizers on the market give good results provided that they are applied as a weak solution. I do not pot in straight sphagnum but most of the growers that I know who do, seem to avoid organic fertilizers and prefer to use very weak chemical fertilizers.

Promenaeas prefer not to be allowed to dry out for long periods, so regular watering is the order of the day. I like to see the green bulbs begin to wrinkle a little before I apply more water. Like most other orchids too little water is far less harmful than too much. A well grown Prom Hybrid should flower in a 50mm tube in the second summer after leaving the flask. Some will flower even sooner while species could be expected to be a little slower. It would be prudent to keep water away from the new growths as they form, to discourage rot – as you would with any other orchid.

The Soft leaves and relatively large juicy buds and flowers are very attractive to grubs, slugs and snails but otherwise they are relatively pest and disease free.

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