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MONTHLY BULLETIN

VOLUME 44 NO 1

Meetings held at the Uniting Church Hall, cnr. Flora and Merton St., Sutherland on the Second Monday of the Month. All Visitors Welcomed. Visit our Website on www.ssos.org.au

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January 2008

Minutes from the December 07 Meeting.

When Murray opened the Xmas meeting, he extended the compliments and well being to all the members, visitors, and guests, and their families for the ensuring year, saying it was great to see such a good attendance. He then called for a motion accepting the minutes from the November meeting as a true and correct record. Moved by D.Wood. Murray then drew attention to the generous and fine collection of prizes donated for the Xmas Raffle wishing everybody success.

Correspondence.

Letter of resignation from Henry Mar.

OS of NSW Treasurer, enclosing cheque as our share from the recent "Sharkies" Show.

Show Schedule and information Orchids out West. 2nd - 4th. May 2008.

Information from NEUTROG Fertilizers.

Australian Orchid Review.

Various Bulletins from other Societies.

New Members.

A welcome was extended to May LUK, wishing her a happy and learning time amongst us.

Murray then went on to speak of the resignation of Henry Mar, thanking him for his willingness to help at any time, his happy disposition, and at times, some colourful jokes. On behalf of the Society we wish him all the best, and better health for the future. (We will miss the big grin and laugh, mate.)

Murray then reminded the Committee members that there would be NO COMMITTEE meeting for January 2008.

He then went on to announce the Point score winners for 2007 and proceeded to present the Certificates and Trophies, offering congratulations to all concerned. After the presentations, Murray thanked all the members of the committee for the efforts they put into the Society, making particular mention of See Ting Ho, our Auditor, and Kevin Wilson, our Editor.

Before closing the meeting, our Treasurer, George, reminded us that fees were now overdue, he would be only too glad to see you. And that the Committee would be advertising for the hire of a garage to house all our equipment, as nobody had been able to help with the storage. He also announced that Ho had printed and laminated calenders for 2008, having photos of some of the winning orchids on them. They are on sale to-night at the sales table at a cost of \$2.00 each, with all profits to the Society.

Murray closed the official side of the meeting, and we adjourned to the other hall to be greeted by the Xmas fare. What a wonderful sight to behold. A thank you to one and all who contributed to the evening in any way. A true Xmas Spirit.

Dates to Remember.

13th. January. -- SSOS ,Monthly meeting. Point Score.

11th. February -- SSOS Monthly Meeting. Orchid Tray Co. attending. With a range of products.

19th.-22nd. June. SSOS Winter Show. Swanes Nursery.

4th. – 7th. Sept. SSOS Spring Show Swanes Nursery.

Judges for January 2008.

	TEAM 1	TEAM 2	TEAM 3
LEAD JUDGE	K WILSON	E BEEHAG	I CHALMER
JUDGE	N ROPER	G HART	D BROOKS
JUDGE	S T HO	J HART	W CHAPMAN
ASSOC.		J MOSS	
WRITER	J ROBINSON	S CROSBY	M HITCHCOCK

Editors Corner.

The "Sharkies" Spectacular is on again, and booked for next year. Mike Hitchcock and Geo. Birss are once again on the Sharkies Committee for next year, and Mike is also the Volunteer Organiser.

Our Nev. Roper, is one of the contributing authors in a new book on Sarcophilus, titled. "An Introduction to the Wonderful World of Sarcophilus Orchids". This is a compilation of growing, hints, coloured photographs, aims and expectations of the many breeder/growers within the publication. at the special club price of \$20-00. See Neville Or Louise.

Picked up a couple of interesting websites from the Manly Warringah Bulletin, firstly if you are into Draculas, (www.draculaspecies.com), you will get cultural information as well as a species list with photos, and a description of most. Another site is for growing paphiopedilums is www.growinhydro.com which talks of the growing of orchids in expanded clay balls mixed with bark. I am not going to comment any further .You can check it out for yourself.

May I remind you, that in searching out any articles, or information for the Bulletin it is solely to present it for your information, to do what you will with it.

Annual Point Scores :

Open Division:

S. Crosby & T. Costa	719
G. Hart	437
N. Roper	413
T. Beehag	246
J. Hart	220
D. Wood	167
K. Wilson	147
A&E Marks	121
S.T. Ho	116
B. Moar	101
J&M Moss	98
W&J Chapman	95
T&J Hyde	77
M. Errington	71
R&J Ettrick	53
T. Thorburn	47
W. Hoogwerf	43
A&N Holsted	41
P. Wheeler	34
J. Costa	28
I. Chalmers	14
A&E Moulang	13
H. Mar	9
M& L Aldridge	5
C. Fraser	5
T. Balgos	2

Intermediate Division:

G. Birss	201
S. Vavayis	113
L. Gannon	93
D&M Hannah	71

Novice Division:

J. Robinson	127
T. Costa	70
M. Hitchcock	41
G. Dodd	24
R. Trevitt	12
B. Gillroy	10
B. Pethybridge	5
O. Howard	3

Junior Division:

D. Coulton	109
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MONTHLY JUDGING RESULTS

For : Dec-07

OPEN JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Phrag caudatum G. Hart

INTERMEDIATE JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Phal. Brother Sara Gold T. Costa

NOVICE & JUNIOR JUDGES CHOICE

Winner Onc. spacelatum D. Coulton

CLASS # 1 AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

1st Stilbo toressae R. Moar
 2nd Dend. prentecii D. Wood
 3rd Dend. wassellii D. Wood
 4th Dend. prentecii R. Moar

CLASS # 2 SPECIES PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Paph. haynaldianum G. Hart
 2nd Paph. haynaldianum G. Hart
 3rd Paph. primulinum S.T. Ho
 4th Paph. philippinense S.T. Ho
 5th Paph. callosum E. Beehag

CLASS # 4 NOVELTY PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Paph. Norman Booth W&J Chapman
 2nd Paph. Lebaudyanium G. Hart
 3rd Paph. Julius x philippinense G. Hart
 4th Paph. Christina Richards G. Hart
 5th Paph. St. Swithin S.T. Ho

CLASS # 8 CATTLEYA UP TO 80mm

1st Sc. Lana Coryell x Slc. Orchidglades T.Costa/S. Crosby
 2nd Slc. Dals Buddy J. Hart

CLASS # 10 SPECIES ASIAN

1st Dend. aggregatum K. Wilson
 2nd Bulb. wendlandianum D. Wood
 3rd Coel. fragrans G. Hart
 4th Coel. speciosa D. Wood
 5th Aer. multiflora W&J Chapman

CLASS # 11 PHALAEOPSIS

1st Phal. (Lippstadt x Koombana Rose)x Lippefalks T.Costa/S.Crosby
 2nd Phal. Everspring Pioneer 'Chaupier' T.Costa/S.Crosby
 3rd Phal. Gidden Joy Lower Stripe T.Costa/S.Crosby

CLASS # 12 SEEDLING

1st Paph. haynaldianum G. Hart
 2nd Prom. N. Gaunt x guttata N. Roper
 3rd Sarco. Velvet N. Roper
 4th Prom. Florafest Cheetah x Chameleon N. Roper
 5th Bl. Morning Glory 4N x L. purpurata 'Carmencita' J.W. Moss

CLASS # 13 ONCIDIUM

1st Onc. Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance' E&A Marks

CLASS # 14 NOVELTY PHALAEOPSIS UNDER 75mm

1st Phal. Dov-dii Rose x Chingher John T.Costa/S. Crosby

CLASS # 15 ONCIDIUM INTERGENERIC ALLIANCE

1st Rrm. Murramarang E. Beehag
 2nd Colm. Wildcat 'Bobcat' S.T. Ho
 3rd Brassidium 'Bill Switzer' T.Costa/S. Crosby
 4th Tol. Stoplight 'Cwy' T.Costa/S. Crosby

CLASS # 16 MISCELLANEOUS

1st Prom. Catarina 'Top Gold' N. Roper
 2nd Prom. Norman Gaunt 'Ice Green' N. Roper
 3rd Prom. Catarina N. Roper
 4th Prom. Catarina 'Yellow' N. Roper
 5th V. Kasems Delight x Chinduat x V Ponpimol T.Costa/S.Crosby

CLASS # 17 DENDROBIUM HYBRIDS

1st Dend. gongalanii 'Royale' x Dend. Victoria Regina T.Costa/S.Crosby

CLASS # 18 VANDACEOUS NOT VANDA

1st Ascda. Su-Fun Beauty 'Orange Belle' John Hart
 2nd Ascda. Su-Fun Beauty N. Roper
 3rd Vascostylus unknown N. Roper
 4th Ascda. unknown M. Errington

CLASS # 19 MASDEVALLIA & DRACULA SPECIES

1st Masd.picta R. Moar
 2nd Drac. erythroale G. Hart

CLASS # 21A PLEUROTHALLIDINAE HYBRIDS

1st Masd. Vin Rouge W&J Chapman
 2nd Masd. Marguerite 'Mardi Gras' W&J Chapman
 3rd Masd. Midnight Plum W&J Chapman
 4th Masd. Peach Fuzz G. Hart

CLASS # 21B LAELINAE SPECIES

1st Laelia purpurata var flameca P. Wheeler
 2nd C. walkeriana var alba John Hart
 3rd Enc. cochleata G. Hart
 4th C. purpurata Ian Chalmers

CLASS # 23 SPECIES OTHER THAN ASIAN OR PAPHIOPEDILUM

1st Phrag. caudatum G. Hart
 2nd Max. sanguinolenta D. Wood
 3rd Phrag. caudatum G. Hart
 4th Prom. guttata N. Roper
 5th Angrac. magdalena W&J Chapman

CLASS # 23A OTHER PLEUROTHALLIDINAE SPECIES

1st Pleurothallis sp. G. Hart
 2nd Platystele misera G. Hart

CLASS # 24A NATIVE SARCANTHINAE HYBRID

1st Sarco. Min Min N. Roper
 2nd Sarco. Bobby Dazzler N. Roper
 3rd Sarco. Fitzhart x hirticalcar N. Roper

CLASS # 26 NOVICE - CYMBIDIUM

1st Cym. Australian Midnight J. Robinson

CLASS # 27 - NOVICE - NATIVE & NATIVE HYBRID

1st Calanthe triplicata D. Coulton
 2nd Sarco. Kate D. Coulton

CLASS # 29 NOVICE - MISCELLANEOUS

1st Oncidium unknown May Luk
 2nd Prom. Crawshayana J. Robinson
 3rd Phal. unknown May Luk
 4th Phal. unknown May Luk

CLASS # 30 NOVICE -SPECIES

1st Onc. spacelatum D. Coulton
 2nd Coel. tomentosa D. Coulton
 3rd Brassia verrucosa M. Hitchcock
 4th Max. cucullata M. Hitchcock

CLASS # 33 INTERMEDIATE - NATIVE SPECIES & NATIVE HYBRID

1st Sarco. hirticalcar G. Birss

CLASS # 34 INTERMEDIATE - CATTLEYA

1st (Slc. Tangerine Jewel x Lc. Golden Sparkle) D&M Hannah

CLASS # 35 INTERMEDIATE - MISCELLANEOUS

1st Phal. Brother Sara Gold T. Costa
 2nd Wils. Hilda Proxon 'Purple Wings' T. Costa
 3rd Brassia starex T. Costa

CLASS # 36 INTERMEDIATE - SPECIES

1st Dryadella zebram G. Birss
 2nd Dryadella zebram G. Birss
 3rd Pleurothallis stricta G. Birss
 4th Max. tennifolia G. Birss

2007 Annual Point Score Results

Open Division:

Annual Point Score Trophy	S. Crosby & T. Costa
Cymbidium Trophy	S. Crosby & T. Costa
Oncidium Trophy	S. Crosby & T. Costa
Miscellaneous Trophy	S. Crosby & T. Costa
Paph Trophy	G. Hart
Pleuro Trophy	G. Hart
Species Trophy	G. Hart
Native & Native Hybrid Trophy	N. Roper
Cattleya Trophy	J. Hart

		1st	2nd	3rd
1	Aus' Natives	J&M Moss	W. Hoogwerf	Crosby/Costa: J. Hart; E&A Marks
2	Species Paphiopedilum	G. Hart	Crosby/Costa	S.T. Ho
3	Cattleya over 110 mm	J. Hart	Crosby/Costa	A&N Holsted
4	Novelty Paphiopedilum	G. Hart	Crosby/Costa	W&JChapman
5	Cattleya over 80 – 110 mm	J. Hart	T. Beehag	Crosby/Costa
6	Paphiopedilum	S.T. Ho	G. Hart	K. Wilson
7	Catt Intergeneric to 70 mm	Crosby/Costa	J. Hart	T. Beehag
8	Cattleya up to 80 mm	T. Beehag	Crosby/Costa	*
9	Aus' Native Hybrids	D. Wood	P. Wheeler	Crosby/Costa
10	Species Asian	G. Hart	Crosby/Costa	D. Wood
11	Phalaenopsis	Crosby/Costa	T&J Hyde	*
12	Seedling	N. Roper	Crosby/Costa	G. Hart
13	Oncidium	Crosby/Costa	K. Wilson	E&A Marks
14	Novelty Phal under 75 mm	Crosby/Costa	T&J Hyde	*
15	Oncidium Interg Alliance	Crosby/Costa	T. Beehag	*
16	Miscellaneous	N. Roper	D. Wood	R&J Ettrick
17	Dendrobium	Crosby/Costa	T. Thorburn	K. Wilson
18	Vandaceous (not Vanda)	M. Errington	J. Hart	K. Wilson
19	Masdev & Dracula Species	G. Hart	B. Moar	*
20	Intermed Cymb 60-90mm	Crosby/Costa	E&A Marks	*
21	Odontoglossum	T. Beehag	*	*
21A	Pleurothallidinae Hybrids	G. Hart	J. Hart	D. Wood
21B	Laelinae Species	G. Hart	Crosby/Costa	E&A Marks
22	Mini Cymb under 60 mm	E&A Marks	W&JChapman	*
23	Species Other	N. Roper	G. Hart	Crosby/Costa
23A	Pleuro Species	G. Hart	N. Roper	B. Moar
24	Standard Cymbidium	Crosby/Costa	*	*
24A	Native Sarcanthinae Hybrd	N. Roper	D. Wood	*

Intermediate Division:

Intermediate Trophy
Rona Goudie Trophy

G. Birss
G. Birss

		1st	2nd	3rd
31	Paphiopedilum	G. Birss	S. Vavayis	*
32	Cymbidium	L. Gannon	D&M Hannah	*
33	Native & Native Hybrid	G. Birss	D&M Hannah	*
34	Cattleya	S. Vavayis	G. Birss	D&M Hannah
35	Miscellaneous	G. Birss	S. Vavayis	D&M Hannah
36	Species	G. Birss	L. Gannon	S. Vavayis
37	Seedling	G. Birss	*	*

Novice Division:

Novice Trophy

J. Robinson

		1st	2nd	3rd
25	Paphiopedilum	T. Costa	*	*
26	Cymbidium	J. Robinson	T. Costa	*
27	Native & Native Hybrid	J. Robinson	T. Costa	*
28	Cattleya	*	*	*
29	Miscellaneous	T. Costa	J. Robinson	G. Dodd
30	Species	M. Hitchcock	J. Robinson	G. Dodd

“*” = required # of points not achieved by any member.

Junior Division:

Junior Trophy

D. Coulton

ALGINOX AS A DISINFECTANT

The article below appeared in the Ku-Ring-Gai Society bulletin and along with it is a paper on the use of Alginox that has been passed around among orchid growers for years and reproduced from The Illawarra District Orchid Society Newsletter.

Alginox is a liquid swimming pool algae control/sanitizer, for control of algae and bacteria in swimming pools. It has the same active ingredient as a popular, but much more expensive, orchid/plant disease control product called Physan. As far as I know, the guidelines tabled below were put together by a nurseryman on the North Coast of NSW about 20 years ago. The rates recommended are believed quite safe for all orchids and, in fact, the experience of a few local users, suggests you might even want to slightly increase the suggested rates.

However, as with the use of any other chemical, you should proceed with caution. Use gloves, don't drink it or get it in your eyes, keep out of reach of children etc. You also never know if some plants may be more sensitive than others or if effects in some circumstances may differ. Usage is at your own risk. Please read all directions.

ALGINOX - SUGGESTED RATES AND APPLICATIONS

USAGE	RATE	APPLICATION
Dividing Plants	15mls to 4 litres of water (ie 3.75mls per litre)	Remove old compost, soak plant for 5 minutes before dividing with sterilized cutters. Trim the division and its roots, soak again for 5 minutes before repotting
Seedlings from flask. Protect from damp off	7mls to 4 litres of water (ie 1.75mls per litre)	Soak plants including agar, in Alginox solution for 5 mins. Remove agar, soak compost in Alginox solution. Afterwards, spray once per month or anytime disease is evident
Adult plants	50mls to 20 litres of water	Spray once a month or anytime disease is evident. Soak compost when disease is evident
Maintenance dosage. (Dendrobium cut flower growers spray)	20mls to 20 litres of water (ie 1 ml per litre)	For specific problems such as rots or Botrytis, use the recommended dosage until under control. Then resume this maintenance dosage and spray once a month
Disinfectant - to kill virus, bacteria, fungus, algae on contact	5mls to 1 litre of water	Wipe plant sap from the cutting edge first. Submerge cutting tool in Alginox solution before using again
Rots such as black rot, brown rot, Erwinia etc.	15mls to 4 litres of water (3.75ml per litre)	Remove compost, soak entire plant 10 minutes or more. Trim all rot from plant using sterilized cutter. Soak plant wounds 10 minutes or more. Repot using compost soaked with Alginox solution.
Brown rots in Vandaceous orchids	25mls per 10 litres of water (ie 2.5ml per litre)	Spray weekly during rainy periods. Ensure the solution gets in and around the leaf bases. Do not omit spraying because it is raining
Spraying walkways and under benches	15mls to 4 litres of water (ie 3.75ml per litre)	Spray heavily under benches and on walkways

STRIKING BACK-BULBS

Advice for Novice Growers by Brian Mulligan

For the benefit of novice growers I should explain that a back-bulb is a bulb that has lost all of its leaves, hopefully because of age rather than disease. When a cymbidium is repotted, it is desirable to remove these leafless bulbs, preferable by severing the rhizome linking them to the rest of the plant. It is best to use a sterile knife or scissors, but some growers simply twist the connecting rhizome by hand until it breaks. Having removed the back-bulbs, how do you 'strike' them and why? 'Striking' is jargon for encouraging the back-bulb to produce new growth from incipient leaf nodes, which are mostly located near the base of the bulb.

To prepare a back-bulb for 'striking'. First remove any old leaf husks, as these may harbour scale and other insect pests. Then cut any residual roots back to their junction with the back-bulb and trim the break if the bulb was removed by twisting. To minimise infection by any of the organisms responsible for rot, seal the surface with either Steri-prune© (or similar sealing paste) or by leaving the bulb lying in the shade for a few days for the cut surface to form a scab or callus. Alternatively the cut surface can be dusted with a fungicide. Leaving the back-bulb to dry for a few days is the simplest option.

There are many different ways of striking back-bulbs, I've used several methods, each with a fair measure of success. The simplest method, involving least effort, is simply to bury the back-bulb to two thirds of its depth in the same potting medium that you use for the rest of your collection. If you use a 100 mm pot then no attention is needed for two years except regular watering and the addition of a little slow release fertiliser in spring.

Some back-bulbs strike more rapidly than others. If a leaf growth appears within 3 months you are doing well, while 6 months would be average. If there is no sign of a growth within 12 months all but a superoptimist should give up (there are always a few back-bulbs each year that fail to strike). Generally roots do not appear until the leaf growth is 80-100mm tall, and there is no point in applying slow-release fertiliser until this stage is reached. If you are keen, there may be some benefit in applying liquid fertiliser to the foliage at an earlier stage as liquid fertiliser is absorbed by leaves as well as by roots.

In recent years I've struck back-bulbs of my more valued cymbidiums using Sphagnum moss as the potting medium. This method seems to produce more rapid growth, but that is possibly because I place the pots in my heated glasshouse during winter. After about a year the moss is removed and replaced with conventional cymbidium mix. A modified version of this method has been used by some growers for many years. The back-bulb is placed in a plastic bag with a little wet Sphagnum moss and the bag is then sealed and hung in the shade-house. The struck back-bulbs are potted in cymbidium mix when the leaves and roots are about 25-50 mm long.

The old back-bulb eventually rots and it should be removed from the new plant as soon as rot is detected. While the bulb is in good condition it provides the plant with nutrients, so it's best to leave it attached as long as possible. However, some growers remove the old back-bulb as soon as the new plant appears able to support itself and then attempt to make it strike a second time. This often works, particularly with large back-bulbs, although the chances of the bulb rotting during its second year are much greater of course.

So, novice grower, now you know how to increase your cymbidium collection. But be warned it takes four years on average for the new plant to reach flowering size and if you strike all your back-bulbs you will soon have to move to larger premises!

Murray Corrigan's Culture Notes - Stanhopea Species

Background

Stanhopeas are frequently called the upside-down orchids because of their extraordinary habit of flowering downwards instead of upwards. The genus is widespread in origin in South America, from Mexico to Brazil. They are epiphytes and current research suggests some 56 species. They generally feature large egg-shaped pseudo bulbs with a single leaf. Their blooms whilst usually lasting only a few days are large, bizarre, colourful with an amazing lip structure and fragrant.

Cultivation

Stanhopeas, in the main, are easy to cultivate outdoors with easterly light. NOT sun, good ventilation, frequent light application of fertiliser and adequate watering.

Under these conditions these plants will grow and flower from November to March depending on the species.

These orchids are best grown in baskets; wire baskets are superior to other containers. Make sure that too larger container is not used. Frequently, most Stanhopeas seen for sale have been potted in a container that is too large for the plant.

Thin sheets of paper bark have been the popular choice of basket liner for many years. However, with the constraints imposed by the NPWS (National Parks & Wildlife Service), quality bark in large sheets is almost a thing of the past. Tiny rolls seeming to contain an outside perfect large sheet, on unrolling; all too often reveal smaller fragments, which are not entirely suitable. I have taken Barney Greer's advice and am successfully using a four (4) sheet layer of newspaper with success. The print weathers off quickly and the paper quickly achieves a patina as aesthetically acceptable as weathered paperbark.

My preferred compost is medium pine bark with perlite in the proportions 85% and 15%. Other growers use Cymbidium compost or sphagnum moss, the latter demands frequent watering for survival which with today's watering restrictions constant attention is required.

I suspend my baskets with wire hangers, under shade cloth, on barbed wire lines with quality fishing line swivels. The swivels allow constant rotation which produces superior plant growth. I have found that the brass plated swivels quickly corrode and will not allow rotation, so I use the Jarvis Walker black rolling swivels, about size 4, or larger depending on the wire gauge.

I fertilise every time I water and use a reduced concentration.

"The Astonishing Stanhopeas" by one of our members, Barney Greer, is a great reference.

May we wish you a Happy and Healthy, Safe & Good Growing New Year in 2008.