

WAITAKERE ORCHID CLUB BULLETIN

EDITOR: Mary Jones

1 Gunner Drive, Te Atatu Peninsula. Ph/Fax (09) 834 6989 Email jonzie@paradise.net.nz

VOLUME 26 No. 09

SEPTEMBER 2008

PRESIDENT Roy Neale

6 Rata Road, Whenuapai. Ph(09) 416 6737

SECRETARY: Pauline Weeks

50 Gloria Ave, Te Atatu Pen. Ph (09) 834 3459



This stunning photo of our Spring Show was taken by Dennis Chuah our Vice President

MESSAGE OF THE MONTH

I am hoping that the sunshine and warmer temperatures we are now experiencing in Auckland are a sign that spring has indeed 'sprung' and we can now look forward to enjoying longer hours in the shade house and garden.

My orchids are trying very hard to behave - considering that some are still housed in my garage and the others on the deck, on top of the fridge and anywhere else I can find space! I am surprised at how well they have adapted to their alien conditions. This goes to show that you don't necessarily need a glasshouse or even a shade house to grow orchids successfully. Once I am a bit more organised they will enjoy the comfort of a new shade house. It is certainly going to be exciting to see just how well orchids, myself and cats adjust to our new home. So far we are loving it!

ED

NEXT MEETING
Tuesday October 7th
7.30 pm Lions Whitehouse

Prize Giving.

I am sure you will all enjoy the evening program we have for you. Dennis has a Power Point presentation of the show which I am really looking forward to seeing.

We will be showing new members some of the more unusual orchids and discussing their culture. The library, trading table and plants on display will all be operating.

Please bring a small plate for supper which will be held during the evening.

Volunteers will be needed to help vacuum the hall after the meeting.



New members please bring along any flowering plants for 'plants on display'. If you have any culture questions we will do our best to help you out.

Happy October birthday to.... Glenys MacRae, Melvin Alexander, Ross Crabb and Bruce Hughes.



Raffle results....

Winners were Wolf Grausch, Peter Elfleet Snr, Glenys MacRae and Mike Mason.

Thanks to Jim and Margaret Shaw, Anjo McKernan and the club for donating prizes

The club made \$63 this month from the proceeds of the raffle.

Thank you members for supporting our raffle each month



FROM THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

President Roy welcomed 52 members and friends to our meeting.

Apologies: Patrick Stepancic, Miriam and Assid Corban, Beryl Calder and Bev Meredith.

Roy divided a very large specimen plant with Bruce and Wolf assisting in the 'physical separation mission' - what a job! He then gave all new members a division to take home and grow. Please label these plants as Cym Leroy's Mountain 'Mahe'

Roy explained that cymbidiums that are growing outdoors attract bumble bees which knock off the pollen caps and cause the flowers to die.

Osmocote (8-9 months plus) is a safe cymbidium fertiliser to use.

Lee and Dennis demonstrated their own preferred way of de flasking orchids.

Orchids growing in the wild have to rely on a certain fungus to help with germination as the seeds do not have any food storage to rely on.

We have to send our seed pods to a laboratory as most of us do not have the proper facilities at home to do the job.

Seeds are sown in a sterile solution of agar and sealed in glass containers.

When de flasking take the stopper off the container a few days before so as to acclimatize.

Wash off agar carefully.

Dennis soaks some long strand sphagnum moss and adds dolomite lime to sweeten it. No 3 bark • filling a community pot. He then squeezes the excess moisture from the moss and lays it on the bark. Plants are then set into the moss. Once planted just mist the plants with water daily.

It is very important to add a label with the plant name and date of planting.

Lee uses a medium of 2 parts palm brick, 2 parts No2 bark and 1 part pumice. (Dendrobiums like this mix).

She likes to dry off her little seedlings on clean newspaper after carefully washing off the agar which the plants have been growing in within the flask.

Take off any dead matter attached to the small plants and plant the larger ones into root trainer pots and the smaller ones into smaller seed trays.

Add plant name labels and water with weak fertiliser as required (never let them get dry)..

Anjo (Phalaenopsis).

Anjo gave us some very good advice on caring for phallies. She says you can kill them with over watering-we need to allow them to dry out between watering or we can kill the roots.

If each new leaf is not bigger than the previous one, pull the plant out of the pot and inspect the roots they could be dying! If this is the case, wrap the base of the plant in sphagnum moss or put it into chunky bark and don't water it-just mist it with water every few days until it shows signs of new leaves and roots. If you notice a white fungus growing on the bark re-pot into fresh bark. Plant phallies in the smallest pot as possible this means you can then water less and they dry out better. In the summer water your plants every 1-10 days depending on your growing conditions and in winter allow 3-5 weeks between watering.

Don't keep them too wet! Quick test-pull out the label, if it is wet, don't water! Keep the water out of the axils of the leaves, water in the morning.

Buds can abort with temperature changes. To get them to throw up another spike, cool them off with a difference of 8-10° C. Don't fertilise on dry roots. Phallies prefer a shady position. Feel the leaves-if they are hot move the plant to a cooler position. Never have them in the sun!

CULTURE QUESTIONS

Q. My *Vanda coerulea* is dropping it's leaves what has happened?

A. Probably had water in the leaf axils when the weather was too cold.

Q. Can I use a copper spray on my orchids?

A. Yes/No It is not really recommended. If you do, use a very weak mixture as excessive copper can close a plant down!

Q. Can I spray benches and plants with *Virkon*?

A. Wait until someone else has tried it first!!!!
(Dennis uses the fungicide *Phoschek*)

WAITAKERE ORCHID CLUB SPRING
SHOW RESULTS 2008

CORBAN CUP For Grand champion.

Cym Barbara Vance 'Catherine'
Villa Orchids

BILL van der LINDEN MEMORIAL

TROPHY....for reserve champion.

Paph Magic Dust
Villa Orchids

MALLANA CUP...for best standard cymbidium.

Cym Barbara Vance 'Catherine'
Villa Orchids

LARSEN TROPHY....for best export cymbidium.

Cym Leroy's Envy 'Envious'
Leroy Orchids

FINLAY TRAY....for best intermediate cymbidium.

Cym Dels Delight 'Lionel'
Leroy Orchids

LINWOOD JUG....for best first flowering miniature cymbidium .

Cym (Claudona x Valley Rajah) x Miss Muffet 'Agate'

Mick Hughes

GRONWELL and DAWE CUP...for best first flowering standard cymbidium.

Cym Leroy's Plat 'Irish One' x John Hughes 'Kim'

Leroy Orchids

FRANK GRONWALL TRAY....for best first flowering intermediate cymbidium.

Cym Globe Trader x Abacus
R Tucker

HARDY and FOUQUETTE TROPHY....for best species.

Den chrysopterum
Diana & Peter Elfleet

CATTLEYA CUP....for best large cattleya.

Blc Rachel Killoh
R Tucker

REHIA TROPHY....for best phalaenopsis.

Phal Kahurangi
B & F Johnson

GERRY HOLLOWAY MEMORIAL CUP.....
for best pink phalaenopsis

Phal Hilo Lip x Hilo Lip 'Sandra' AM/AOS
Brian Main

DEL CHANDLER CUP....for best odontoglossum alliance.

Odm Euroskineri 'King Alf'
Mike and Leigh Leaity

N & R ARMSTRONG CUP....for best mini cattleya.

Sc Lana Coryell
B & F Johnson

JOHN HUGHES CUP....for best commercial display.

Villa Orchids

ELFLEET VASE....for best cymbidium exhibited by a novice grower.

Not awarded

CALDER CUP....for best miniature or intermediate cymbidium exhibited by a novice grower.

Not awarded

AAK & BA CORBAN BOWL...for best any other genera exhibited by a novice grower.

Onc Midnight Miracles
Sam and Mandy Ng

MORRIN CUP....for best intermediate cymbidium.

Cym Dolly Featherhill 4N x Insigne 'Alba'
Ross Crabb

E & D CAMPBELL CUP.... For best culture and presentation of any plant of any other genera, excluding cymbidiums.

Phrag besseae 4w
R Tucker

JOYCE UNDERWOOD TROPHY....for best pleurothallid alliance

Masd Tuakau Goldstrike HCC/OCNZ
Ken Morse

BERYL BROWNLEES MEMORIAL CUP....for best specimen cymbidium.

Cym Leroy's Mountain 'Ginger Kisses'
Leroy Orchids

JOAN WOOD TROPHY....for best floral art points.

Evelyn Ong

STAN PYE TROPHY....for best miniature phalaenopsis.

Phal Little Mary
B & F Johnson

WOC TROPHY....for novice points prize..

Sam and Mandy Ng

Congratulations to all trophy winners and a big thank you to those who exhibited their plants.

A show cannot happen without your wonderful plants.

PLANTS ON DISPLAY

COELOGYNE

Coel *cristata*

- William and Man Lo

Coel *flaccida*

- Dennis Chuah

CYMBIDIUM

Cym Lunakira x Alumination

Cym (Girl Crazy 'Rozie' x Solana Rose 'Charm')

= Solana Girl #

Cym (Dutchmans Delight x Alegria) x Pure Choice = Five Stars x Pure Choice #

Cym (Putana x Globe Trotter) = Lady Joan x Last Tango #

- Ross Crabb

Cym Vibrant Bliss x Last Tango

Cym Pure Love x (Pure Love x James Toya)

- Leroy Orchids

Cym *lowianum* #

- Bernadette Edmiston

DENDROBIUM

Den Bardo Rose 'Kath'

- William and Man Lo

Den Ellewong x Vivid

Den Vivid x Bellinger River

Den Cheeky (2 plants)

Den Rutherford Sunspot x Aussie Quest

- Wolf Grausch

Den King Wong 'Bigfoot'

- Ken Morse

Den Hagoromo 'Spring Fuji' #

Den Pink Doll 'Magic'

- David Lam

Den *gracillimum* x (*speciosum* 'Hillii' x *gracili-caule* #

- Dennis Chuah

Den Tie-Dye

Den Gillieston's Royalty x Bardo Rose (3 years from flask)

- Leroy Orchids

ENCYCLIA

Enc Goldstern

- Dennis Chuah

LAELIOCATTLEYA

Lc Unknown

- Leroy Orchids

MASDEVALLIA

Masd *caloptera* #

Masd Copper Angel 'Big N' Bold'

- Ken Morse

PAPHIOPEDILUM

Paph Rossett Blush

- Anjo McKernan

Those members with a # beside their plant name, please correct your label.

Names written in *italics* depicts it is a *species*.

The plant commentary was conducted by Anjo McKernan and Roy Neale.

Plants on display from August was won by Dennis Chuah.

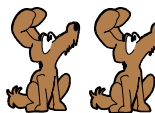
New members book draw was won by Kristin Henty. Thanks to Dennis for donating the book.



behind the shade house.....



'June was missing from the last meeting-she had gone to OZ to visit a new grandson! Congratulations!



Heather and Gary went to visit Betty and Joe at Bombay. As they were going to be out for some time they locked their 3 poodles in



the kitchen with food etc so that they would not get into mischief. Yeah right!

When they came home and entered the kitchen the dogs had got bored and ripped the newly hung wallpaper off

SHOW COMMITTEE ELECTIONS.....

Elections will be held during the evening for Show Committee.

Please give this some serious consideration as we are always short of officers for this committee.

The committee meets on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm.



Plant of the month *Coelogyne cristata* was won by William and Man Lo. Congratulations!

Thank you to.....

Joe & Betty Vance who had such a great show that they donated the club a flask of *Trichoceros farviflorus* or 'Bee Orchid'. These will be available to members later.