

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB

Affiliated with the Orchid Club of South Australia Inc. and with The Australian Orchid Council

Patron: Sir Francis Matters

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET

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OUR WINTER SHOW will be on at the next meeting, 13th July, 1971, at 8 p.m. at the R.S.L. Hall, Morphett Vale. The hall will be open from 5 p.m. onwards if any of you wish to arrange your plants early. Our Show Marshal, Keith Shaw, suggests we use ferns and greenery again this year to make at least as attractive a display as last year. You may remember that last year we displayed the plants across the back of the hall, in a semi circle, leading over to the left side of the hall, on seven or eight tables, interspersing the plants with ferns and covering the great big emptiness and concrete look under the tables with foliage plants and ferns. It should be interesting to see what our fellow members together with the new Show Marshal and his Assistant Ellie will come up with this year. (If you have any queries please telephone Keith or Ellie Shaw at 83 3056.) Also—we had no new members over the last few months. This would be a good time to introduce your friends to the Club and vice versa—you never know, they may decide to stay with us!

Prizes for the Winter Show will be as follows: The Grand Champion will be awarded 'The Orchid Club of South Australia Affiliated Society Bronze Medal'. The 'Best' of the Sections judged will be awarded with a gold on blue Certificate for both, Novice and Open Classes. The following main genera will be judged: Paphiopedilums, Cattleyas, Cymbidiums, Miscellaneous Genera and/or other classes deemed necessary by the judge(s).

Also on the agenda for this eventful Club Night will be a Book Review by Keith Shaw, which will be especially aimed to help the newer Orchid Growers, and, time permitting, Jack Hofner will demonstrate the repotting of a Cattleya.

Please have a little name tage on all your plants. It would be an impossible task on this night for the plant stewards to know 'whose is what' otherwise. The Opportunity Table will not be in operation on this night.

Last month's winners were: NOVICE SECTION: Miniature Cymbidium 'Dag' (Mrs Ellie Shaw), 3 points; Cymbidium San Miguel x Earlybird (Mr & Mrs Lang), 2 points; Paphiopedilum *insigne* (Mrs Ellie Shaw), 3 points.

OPEN SECTION: Brasso-Laelia-Cattleya Mem. Geo Butler (Mr W. Harris), 3 points; Laelia-Cattleya Rosa Kirsch 'Kuhina Nui' (Mr W. Harris), 2 points; Cattleya *guttata* x Elstead Gem (Mr B. Hansen), 1 point; Paphiopedilum Warrior 'Greens' (Mr W. Harris), 3 points; Paph. Crastia (Mr W. Harris), 2 points; Paph. Maudiae 'Magnificum' (Mr B. Hansen), 1 point. Dendrobium (Paleface x Schroederianum) (Mr W. Harris), 3 points; Dend. Phal. hybrid (Mr W. Harris), 2 points; Dend. Margaret Joan Fell (Mr W. Harris), 1 point. Cattleya *bowringeana* (Mr W. Harris) 3 points, Dendrobium *lichenastrum* (Mr W. Harris), 2 points; Diacattleya Chastity (Mr W. Harris), 1 point.

POPULAR VOTES for Orchids: Miniature Cymbidium Dag, grown by Mrs Ellie Shaw, and for Indoor Plants: Fern (Nephrolepsis), grown by Mrs Iris Nash.

CULTURAL NOTES FOR JULY – by Bernie Hansen

Well, everyone should be over their 'Bandicooters' Backs' by now as the weather has certainly pushed the spikes up, in fact a lot of September flowering Cymbidiums have their buds showing now. Whether this means an earlier flowering season remains to be seen. Watch the spikes and see that the ties are not too tight, as the possibility of the spike bulging out under the tie is always there—Remedy: (1) do not cut your twisty too short; (2) use the figure 8 method and tie loosely. Remember, try to keep your stakes reasonably upright, tie your first twisty, if needed, about 5" up from base of spike, 2nd twisty just below bottom flower. Pendulous spikes may need an extra stake at an angle to the first upright stakes with a loosely tied twisty holding it approximately at the middle flowers. This is only a growing and carting support and cannot be left there for competitions.

Slugs and snails are on the march as usual. Keep up the 'defender' to them. I do not know whether this kills them or whether they prefer the pellets to the buds. Anyway, they seem to leave the Cymbidiums alone when there is plenty of bait around.

The old faithfuls are now out in bloom such as Grand Monarch 'Exquisite', General Montgomery, Lutesans Yagoona, Collaroy x Lutescens, and some of the newer ones like Sirius 'Mona Vale', San Miguel 'Limelight', Lunagrad 'Elanora', Sirius 'Aminya' and Emmeline 'Evangel'. If anybody is looking for a good, easy to grow, easy to flower, early Cymbidium: I can not recommend too highly Cymbidium Lunagrad 'Elanora'. The flower itself is a 5" to 5½" massive green, heavy textured, with all the desirabilities one could want in an early flower. It grows well, which is a very good trait. It also flowers freely, something not all the top notchers can lay claim to. Qualitywise: it has won the last two Winter Shows at the Crchid Club of S.A. Inc.

I won't dwell on the Slippers, as Mr Nicky Zurcher well covered the grooming details at the June Meeting. Please bring in all your flowering plants, no matter how big or how small, and let us make our small Club's Winter Show a big colourful splash.