



South Coast Orchid Club of South Australia

L.R. ~~Geary~~ (Mayor of Marion)

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

MONTHLY NEWS SHEET
Issue No.2. Feb.1975.

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Written by Mr. B. Hansen. Printed and edited by Mrs. I. Nash.

Our next meeting will be held in the R.S.L. Hall, Morphett Vale on Tuesday 11th. February. This will be our ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and will start at 8.00 p.m. sharp.

All positions on the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE will be declared vacant, with the exception of one Committee member (Mr. Dick Styles), who will remain on Committee for a further twelve months. Owing to Mrs. Ellie Shaw's resignation her position of committeeman is one of the vacancies to be filled.

Vacancies occurring are:- President, Vice president, Treasurer, Secretary, and three Committee members.

All nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary, Mr. Lou. Carr, by 7.50 p.m. before the start of this meeting, and must be proposed and seconded by two financial members and accepted by the nominee. Nomination forms were included with our January Bulletin. If more forms are required, they may be obtained from the secretary.

Remember, this is your club. It is your decision who will represent you on Management Committee.

GET THOSE NOMINATIONS IN EARLY

The Balance sheet for 1974 is enclosed with this bulletin.

At the close of the Annual General Meeting, we will continue with our normal Monthly meeting for February, when our speaker will be Mr. John Maddern. His Subject, 'Growing Cattleya's and other Glass House plants'. John has been a successful grower for many years, and we can look forward to a very interesting and informative talk.

Mr. Syd. Monkhouse will be on hand again with his hints for the month. Your culture of Cymbidiums at this period of the year will reflect on the number of blooms you can expect later on, this is a must. DON'T MISS IT.

KEEP THIS DATE OPEN. - - - - FRIDAY 14th. FEBRUARY 1975.

On this evening at 8.00 p.m., a SPECIAL MEETING will be held at the R.S.L. Hall, Morphett Vale, to discuss all aspects of our Future Shows, with special reference to our Spring Show 1975.

We have been most successful with our past shows, but we cannot rest on our laurels. WE WANT NEW IDEAS. We want YOU to be happy with YOUR SHOW. We have an obligation to present the best possible show to the general public, to both interest and stimulate their interest in our hobby.

BRING YOUR IDEAS ALONG FOR OPEN DISCUSSION.

But PLEASE, DON'T BE DOGMATIC. We wish to please the MAJORITY of members.

BE THERE. - - - 8 p.m. FRIDAY 14th. FEBRUARY
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REMINDERS
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TRADING TABLE. Remember, a special effort is requested, over the next couple of months. Bring along your spare pieces of established plants, ANY SPECIES. They may help new and old members, and will certainly give your existing plants a bit more air space, so vital at this time of the year.

NOTICE BOARD. If you have any item of interest to members, or any WANTED or FOR SALE notices, pin them on the NOTICE BOARD, on the LIBRARY TABLE. If they appertain to the culture of orchids, we will print them in the following bulletin.

WINTER SHOW. This will be held in conjunction with our General meeting on Tuesday 8th. July 1975.

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The management committee recommends to members that Mrs. Ellie Shaw be made a life member of the Club. Voting by ballot will be taken at the Annual General Meeting. Ellie has been on Committee since the venue of the club meetings were shifted from Victor Harbour to Morphett Vale. A valued member of the club, she has organised the Ladies Saturday "Do's", with great success. On committee her help has been greatly appreciated by all committee members and the Presidents she has worked under. Her stirring efforts at our Spring Shows has been tireless and fruitful, being in charge of the Spray bar and Floral Art exhibits. This honor of bestowing upon Ellie a life membership, will be a reward she greatly deserves.

P.3.

Our January meeting was quite successful, although quite a number of members were away on holidays. The following are the judging results given by Mr. Syd. Monkhouse:-

OPEN SECTION

Phalaenopsis	MAKAHA SURF x SURFRIDER	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	3 pts.
	ZADA x ANN MARIE BEARD	Mr. & Mrs. L. Poole	2 pts.
	SPRING SHOWERS	Mr. & Mrs. L. Poole	1 pt.
AUS. NATIVES	Den. CUCUMERANUM	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	3 pts.
	Den. DISCOLOR	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	2 pts.
SPECIES	Paph. LIEMIANA	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	3 pts.
	Den. SARIE MARIJIS	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	2 pts.
	EPIPHRONITIS VIETCHII	Mr. & Mrs. J. Hoffner	1 pt.

NOVICE SECTION

Species.	BRASSIA BRACHIATA	Mr. & Mrs. H. Nash	3 pts.
	LYCASTE DEPPEI	Mrs. M. Lang	2 pts.

POPULAR VOTES

Orchids	Phal. SPRING SHOWERS	Mr. & Mrs. L. Poole
Indoor plants	Bromeliad ACHMEA FASCIATA	Mr. & Mrs. N. Packard

The Ladies section held their annual luncheon at the McLaren Vale Hotel on January 8th. A very enjoyable time was had by all.

At our January Saturday afternoon meeting we all had to read an article or piece of poetry connected with plants. The winning entry was composed by Mrs. Jean Carson, one sleepless night.

CYMBIDIUM'S LAMENT.

I don't like being grizzly but I think you will agree,
That woman down at Seaford will be the death of me.
She put me in a carion house, it's got no privacy
Stuck right out in her back yard for all the world to see.
She pokes her finger in my pot to see if I am damp
Blimy on a windy night she came down with a lamp.
She sprays when I don't need it, she feeds me when I'm full,
She gives me too much water, Oh what a load of 'bull'.
I wish she'd leave ^{me} sometimes to be my natural self
I used to grow in jungles, not on a blooming shelf.
If only she'd stop fussing and worried less, poor thing,
I'd show her just what I could do, I'd flower like mad come Spring.

We wish to acknowledge Mr. A.B. Porter, from the Orchid Society of N.S.W. for the reprinting of his article on 'Phalaenopsis' from the "First Australian Orchid Conference".

Phalaenopsis are tropical orchids whose natural habitat ranges from Burma through South East Asia, The Philippines and Indonesia to North Eastern Australia. The typical Phalaenopsis plant has large fleshy leaves alternately arranged on a rather short stem with fleshy roots and no pseudobulbs. Growth is monopodial, meaning that the same stem continues to lengthen year after year instead of making new growths annually from the base of the plant.

A few of the most spectacular species from the Phillipines and Indonesia are almost exclusively the parents of the modern large pink or white hybrids, even though it may be necessary to trace the breeding back through numerous generations to arrive at species in all the branches of their pedigree. P.Cast Iron Monarch, for example, is a fifth generation hybrid derived solely from P.amabilis, P.amabilis var.rimestodiana and P.aphrodite. This is also true, of course of its very well known parents P.Doris and P. Louise Georgianna. Were it not for the use of P.aphrodite, early in their parentage, all three of these famous Phalaenopsis would really be varieties of P.amabilis.

Until recent years almost all hybrid Phalaenopsis seen on the show bench or in collections were either pink or white, the best of the whites being large full flowers usually on unbranched racemes while the pinks were usually rather small but colourful and carried on much branched panicles with many flowers. The pink colour, the branching inflorescence and the mottled foliage of these pink hybrids were derived from the principal pink species P. Schilleriana and P. sanderiana, both of which lacked the substance of the good whites.

As in most orchid genera which are extensively grown commercially, polyploidy is fairly common in high quality hybrids. The naturally occurring P. amabilis var. rimestadiana is polyploid and its use as a parent had contributed polyploidy to the hybrid Phalaenopsis even before it was known that polyploid orchids existed. Now, as in Cymbidiums, Vandas, Cattleyas and other popular genera, many of the top parents are polyploid.

Considerable intercrossing has occurred between the pink and the white Phalaenopsis. As a result we now have good pinks with much greater size and substance than the pink species, although they are still not plentiful. At the same time some of the good whites have some pink in their parentage with the result that one sometimes sees signs of mottling in the foliage, and some show more branching in the inflorescence than the earlier white hybrids. If you look closely it is often possible to detect a tinge of pink in large white hybrids, particularly on the back of the flower. This is due to pink ancestors, perhaps several generations back in the breeding history of the particular cross.

PHALAEOPSIS cont.

In recent years a great deal of work has been done in attempts to produce Phalaenopsis of quality comparable with the pinks and whites but in other colours. To date this has not been entirely successful, but white flowers with pink lip have appeared, and there is a great deal of interest in the development of yellows. The main source of yellow colour is the small star shaped species P. manni which is yellow, strongly marked with brown. Crosses between this species and some of the good white hybrids have produced yellow flowers of much better shape than the species parent, and so also have hybrids from yellow forms of P. lueddmanniana. Selected clones of these yellow hybrids have been used as parents, and so the first few rungs in the ladder to fine yellow Phalaenopsis have been accomplished. Nobody has yet seen a clear yellow Phalaenopsis of the size, form and substance of a top quality P. Doris. Perhaps nobody ever will! But so many things have been achieved in the past by the persistence of hybridists that it is reasonable to hope that time will also bring this about.

Spotting and barring are contributed by species such as P. lueddmanniana and P. stuartiana and some hybrids of good size have been produced with attractive markings due to these species in their parentage.

The present position is, then, that really good Phalaenopsis of size, form and texture have only been produced in white and various shades of pink. In the future there is the promise of good yellows, of flowers of top quality with attractive markings of pleasing colour on a ground of white or pink and who can say what else?

Like any other orchid, the culture of Phalaenopsis depends on your locality. They are essentially tropical, and high minimum temperatures must be provided if they are to flourish. In the southern states of Australia, glasshouse culture is needed, a minimum temperature of 60°F being desirable. Being true epiphytes they like free root run with ample access of air to the roots. Popular methods of achieving this are wooden baskets, slotted pots, shallow pans of cultivations on slabs of tree fern fibre.

When grown in containers, popular culture media are chunks of fibre, with or without admixture of broken pieces of terracotta or charcoal, coarse fir bark alone or with chredded coarse fibre. Drainage must be perfect, but with the coarse open media generally used, this is not a problem unless old compost is allowed to rot down to mud.

Warm moist conditions with a movement of air would describe the kind of atmosphere required, and fans are commonly used in glasshouses to maintain air circulation. These orchids will respond to heavy feeding with the usual condition that feeding and watering must be balanced to prevent accumulation of salts in the growing medium. Phalaenopsis like more shade than most of the commonly grown orchids, but the usual rule applies that heavier feeding should be accompanied by more light to allow photosynthesis to keep pace with the intake of nutrients through the roots. Otherwise there is a risk of soft plants and poor flowering.

PHALAEOPSIS cont.

Stagnant air, low temperatures, and, especially, sharp falls in temperature will often cause buds to drop and leave flower spikes with gaps where there should be symmetry or in extreme cases, with no flowers at all.

A regular spraying programme should be followed to protect plants from insects and fungus diseases, and the customary requirements of cleanliness and good housekeeping will contribute to healthy plants and long lasting flowers.

Naturally the farther north one lives in Australia the more tropical the climate becomes and therefore the more suitable for Phalaenopsis. Requirements of heated glasshouses for growing them in southern states are not valid, of course, in North Queensland, and the more nearly your natural climate approaches that of their natural habitat, the more rules you can break without serious consequences.

The name Phalaenopsis means "moth-like" and these beautiful floral moths surely rank among the loveliest of all orchids.

The modern hybrids are grown all over the world, and as the range of colours widens, so surely will their popularity.

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DARWIN

We were pleased to hear of the safety of two of our members who moved to Darwin last year. Mr. & Mrs. Eric & Jean Tregenza were original club members when the club was first formed at Victor Harbour.

GUESS WHO

Who is the prominent Orchid grower aspiring to become a T.V. star? They all have to start with the 'Ads'

VALUE FOR MONEY

A married couple paid a visit to the big city and hubby tried desperately to get at least one night out without Mum. At last he succeeded in doing this and went to a big nightclub, where he started to try his luck with a gorgeous chick.

She offered to show him the "sights" for \$100, but he thought \$10 was enough, so they parted company.

The next night he decided with a little persuasion to take his wife to a nightclub, but was unlucky enough to run into the girl. She took one look at them and said, "Now you can see what you get for a lousy \$10."

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INC.

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for twelve months to 31 December 1974

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance in Bank 31/12/73	\$1590.12	Hall Hire	\$ 60.00
Transfer from Lotteries Account	300.00	Postages	85.51
Bank Interest	105.54	Printing & Stationery	206.28
Subscriptions	215.00	Supper	69.38
Donation	10.00	Honorariums	65.00
Supper Tickets	164.10	Insurance	52.05
Plant Sales - Trading Table	29.10	Christmas Expenses	60.41
Lottery 1974	465.00	Sundries	18.50
Club Badges	10.50	Badges & Spoons	21.99
Marion Show:		Library Expenses	80.30
Trophy Donation	1000.00	Plant Purchases	66.20
Plant Sales	901.70	Subscriptions	16.24
Flowers & Sprays	1111.52	Prizes	105.75
		Expenses of Incorporation	38.43
		Screen, Hessian etc	101.50
		Marion Show:	
		Prizes	955.00
		Expenses	314.55
		Plants	554.07
		Flowers	704.41
		Balance in Bank 31/12/74	1516.01
		Less Unpresented cheques	189.00
		Deposit Stock	1000.00
			\$ 5902.58

J. R. Lawrence
Hon. Treasurer

W. C. C. C. C.
Hon. Auditor

Records and Books of Account as presented audited and found correct. Income and Expenditure in connection with the Marion Show accepted as presented as records unable to be verified in detail. Marion Show Expenses of \$314.55 above includes \$100 advance to the Show Marshall some adjustment for which will reflect in year ending 31 December 1975 accounts.

THE SOUTH COAST ORCHID CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA INCORPORATED

LOTTERY ACCOUNT

<u>Receipts</u>		<u>Expenditure</u>	
Balance in Bank 31/12/73	\$498.52	Transfer to General A/C	\$300.00
		Lotteries Commission	125.00
Interest	11.77	Printing	138.00
		Audit Fees	25.00
Sale of Tickets	1070.80	Sundries	7.80
		Crippled Children's Assoc.	310.00
		General Account	465.00
		Balance in Bank 31/12/74	210.29
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	\$1581.09		\$1581.09
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Audited by P R Mills 18/11/74