

The Taranaki Orchid Society Inc.

P O Box 635, NEW PLYMOUTH



NEWSLETTER - MAY 2010

NEXT EVENING MEETING

Tuesday, 11th May 2010 – Make a note of it on your calendar now!

in the Central School Hall, Pendarves Street, New Plymouth, commencing at 7.30pm sharp.

At 7:30pm sharp, we will have Culture Notes, Hints, Questions and Answers.

Our evening programme will be a DVD on views of Switzerland,
including orchids, wild flowers and many other plants.

The photos were taken by a BBC photographer, so are of a high standard.

- * Bring along your plants for display, sometimes this may be the only way others get to see and enjoy them
- * Don't forget some gold coins to buy raffle tickets.
- * There may be members with plants for sale at the meeting.
- * Last but not least – please remember to wear your name label at the meeting!!
- * **Supper Duties: Doreen and Cyril Whittaker.**

NEXT DAY GROUP MEETING

Thursday, 20th May 2010 – Make a note of it on your calendar now!

The next Day Group meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th May 2010, at the home of Ruth Scheliin, 47a Endeavour Street, New Plymouth, Ph: 751-2663, gathering at 9:30am for a cuppa, meeting commences at 10:00am. If you have any questions about any orchids that you are growing, this is the time to ask them. There's sure to be someone at the meeting that can give you some advice. Don't forget to bring something for the raffle and of course, some gold coins to purchase some tickets!

And a big smile ☺

TOOTAPPS TOPIC

Hi all from the south.

First of all let me thank those who attended the last two night meetings, for their input into Beginners Corner. It is one thing I hope to keep going one way or another, as the new members need information which comes forward at such a time, they are normally a little bit shy to ask total strangers questions and I am sure they get some useful information which is relevant. It helps to break the ice a wee bit as well, and the long term members, (sounds better than old members), would also benefit from the discussion as there is always new ideas and tips coming forward.

At the moment it looks like a hurricane has gone through my tunnel house, the shelving is being rearranged and plants sorted, I cannot believe some of the things I am finding. Spikes, plants I had forgotten I had, and a few propagation problems. I think it pays to move each and every plant and check it for all sorts of things at least once a year!!

'Til next month.

Muz.

*President: Murray Fawcett
Ph: 06 - 765-6259
Email: tootapps@slingshot.co.nz*

*Patron: George Fuller
Ph: 06 - 753-2882*

Secretary: Position Vacant

Hi Orchid Growers.

We have a busy year ahead with two more shows this year. The 6th N.Z. International Orchid Extravaganza in Palmerston North and our own spring show.

Orchid Extravaganza - 6th to 12th September

Arena Manawatu, Palmerston North

Before the show:s

- If you have plants you would like to display, please let Cyril Whittaker (Ph. 759-4388) or Kath Bruce (Ph. 751-3158) know.
- The weekend of 21st and 22nd August, senior club members will come to your place and have a look at your show plants and see if you have any others they think are suitable, so we will have all show quality plants to work with for the display. Please make two lists of your show plants names, one for you so you know what plants you sent, and another one for us, so we can make all the plant name labels on the TOS display look the same.
- **All plants must be in black pots.** If you do not have black pots, put your plant and the pot into the next size up black pot and then put some bark on the top to cover your original pot. Put your name on a separate label in the pot.
- **All plants must be disease and pest free.** If they are not disease free, we will not take them to the show.
- Sunday, 5th September: all plant to be taken to a drop off point so they can be put into a van - all the plants will be taken down together. At this time your plants will be given the final "yes" or "no".

Show week:

- If you are in Palmerston North on the Monday afternoon, we need as many hands as possible to get the plants from the van to our display. Because Cyril, and Ernie Corbett, have made the display and know how it goes together, it will be easier and quicker for them to set it up by themselves, but thanks to those who offered to help them.
- **Runners** are required on judging day to aid the judges to get around more quickly. The runners are supplied with a list of plants in a class that the judges are looking at. The runners go ahead of the judges and point the plants out to the team leader. All plants are listed with numbers and the stand number is also supplied, so this makes them easier to find. When the team is finished judging the class, the runner takes the results to the scrutineers. There is more than one runner per group, if we can get plenty of runners, making the job a lot easier and also there is opportunity to listen in to the judges (though you are not permitted to give your views on the plants being judged) and perhaps understand the system better.
- Monday morning after the show we need all hands on deck as all displays are to be dismantled and cleared before noon.
- If you have not registered for the show, it is opened to the public from 10am to 5pm, Thursday to Sunday - \$9 entry fee. Registration though, allows you unlimited entry as well as attendance at any or all of the lecture sessions.

Taranaki Orchid Society Spring Show

1st, 2nd and 3rd October 2010.

Do you have any ideas on a theme for this year's spring show?

More details in future Newsletters.

Cyril Whittaker

Show Manager

As our Society is affiliated to the Orchid Council, your committee feels that the Council website should be included in our newsletter. We invite you to visit the site when you have a moment and check it out. Included in it are, OCNZ Awards, Society meeting dates and show dates, club news, introductions to the Orchid Council executive committee and several links to other interesting sites, including newsletters from other societies. Take a look next time you are on line at: www.orchidcouncil.co.nz

Found this little piece the other day on how to mix your bark and fertilizer.

Get your wife on the shovel, and as she shovels the bark into a heap, lightly sprinkle the fertilizer on each shovel full.. When she, the bark, or the fertilizer is exhausted-- hopefully all at the same time, turn the heap a second time and let stand for a few days before using. This allows your wife to recover and then get on with the job of repotting for you!!! (See what all you bachelors are missing out on!!!)

(Thanks Bay of Islands OS Newsletter)

Report from MARCH EVENING MEETING

President, Murray Fawcett, welcomed members.

Volunteers were called for help to organise the Orchid Council of NZ AGM weekend, which our Society is hosting in June 2011. The Committee are looking into suitable venues for this and the Queen's Birthday Weekend event will incorporate the OCNZ AGM and a National Judging Seminar, which is normally held annually. There will also be a social get-together and dinner on the Saturday evening. There is no Council AGM this year, due to the big show in Palmerston North in September.

'Culture Spot' concentrated on the types of medium that is recommended to use for various genera. Some people can grow their plants in pumice, but it requires a very different regime so be very wary when using this. Probably not recommended for the newer grower. If you use fresh bark, some soak it for a week with dolomite lime and fertiliser in, stirring occasionally, then drain and dry off, but not completely, just so it is damp but not wet! A few clay balls in the mix helps to keep plants moist in summer.

Grow your plants well and you will have less disease in them. If you buy new plants, keep separate for a while in case of any disease or infestation. Much easier to eradicate before integrating with your collection.

Award Certificates were presented to Paddy & Gerli Fox, who were awarded Cultural Award of the Year for 2009 with *Masdevallia* *Heathii* 'Bryan'. They also received a Cultural Certificate for their *Brassavola perrinii* 'Gerli'. Bev Thomas received a Cultural Certificate for her *Cattleya* *Culminant* 'La Tuilerie' which she displayed at the last Spring Show. Congratulations to these clever growers, well done.

The Society has a new supply of marker pens - \$8-00 each.

Our programme for the evening was a look at the Orchid Council of NZ awards that were given in 2009, lead by Kath Bruce, Chairperson for the local Taranaki Judging Group. We had a close look at all of the local growers' awards and were very proud of what our members have achieved through the year.

Popular Vote: 1st : *Miltonia spectabilis* var *moreliana* owned by Paddy and Gerli Fox.

2nd : *Cattleya* Seagull owned by Hazel Fawcett.

3rd : *Masdevallia* Otago Gold owned by Maureen Russ.

Lucky Door Prize: Clive Perry – Lucky thing got the 'Worm Wee' !!

Raffle Winners: I know I won one (yummy Italian flat beans), but I was busy sorting out the projector so didn't write down the names, sorry.

PLANT LISTS

George Fuller

Cymbidium Korintji

Cymbidium erythrostylum 'Magnificum'

Dracula vampira 'Alex'

Masdevallia velifera

Masdevallia veitchii 'Torbay'

Masdevallia Resplendent Giant 'Amethyst'

Zygopetalum Blue Eyes

Stenoglottis fimbriata

Disa Pukekura Park (Proposed name) 'Red Statement'

This is the same flower spike which earned this plant a provisional AM/OCNZ at the Summer Display.

Maureen Russ

Masdevallia Otago Gold

Stenoglottis Neptune

Murray & Hazel Fawcett

Paphiopedilum unnamed

Phalaenopsis Kahurangi

Cattleya harrisoniana

Cattleya Seagull

Paddy & Gerli Fox

Cattleya velutina x *L. fidelinsis*

Cattleya harrisoniana (TOS 15)

Cymbidium Zig Zag

Dendrobium Paradise Lyn

Laelia anceps 'Timbrall'

Miltonia Eljaha

Miltonia spectabilis var *moreliana*

Miltonia Sao Paulo x *bluntii*

Miltonia Pink – unnamed

Phalaenopsis fasciata

Phalaenopsis – unnamed

Zygopetalum Blue Eyes

Dawn Bowen

Cymbidium Fuzzy Kiwi

****Please update your label**

Report from MARCH DAY GROUP MEETING

A small turnout arrived at Flo Potter's place on Thursday 22nd April. to be met with a warming cuppa and some goodies. A discussion was held on what our society is doing for a stand at Palmerston North at the 6th NZ International Extravaganza in September. A lot of thought has gone into it already and the physical outline has already been built. Ernie explained what it would look like and said it would be set up one Saturday in July so that anybody who wants to can see it and get an idea of what is planned and hopefully give some ideas on how plants can be placed. This always changes at the last minute because we are never sure what plants will be available.

Plants on display: These were discussed fully.

Jennie Meads

Odm. Summit

Ruth Scheliin

Slc. Dendi's Ruby 'Flare'

C. Little Bit 'Splash' x

(*C. Helene Garcia x L. crispate*)

Lc. Mini Purple

Slc. Hazel Boyd 'Elizabeth'

Bard. Kitty 'Petite Fleur'

Wils. Hecker Pass

Neville Morris

Paph. Recovery

Paph. primulinum var. flavum

Paph. Larry Booth 'Ardmore Road'

Phrag. schlimii

Phrag. Patti MacHale

Dracuvallia Fleur 'Congratulations'

Ernie Corbett

Earina autumnalis

Kath Bruce brought in a cattleya seedling for the raffle table and this was used to demonstrate the growth habits, feeding, watering and temperature requirements for this genus. Now is the time when a large number of these plants (including intergenerics) are coming into flower. The difficulty of growing some of them in winter without heating can be alleviated by not watering them very much especially if there is a drop in temperature expected. They must be watered a little but early in the morning and by having them in a coarse mix they will dry out quickly.

Another problem with the cattleya alliance is that the botanists have been at work and a lot of them have been re-classified. This means that a purist will have changed their names, so an amateur grower will have trouble recognizing them. OrchidWiz shows in their programme, the updated name and below it the Sanders name. This is what the RHS has used when registering a plant originally. If it is a species orchid, OrchidWiz shows the Kew accepted name underneath the change.

George Fuller rushed in at the last meeting to show some of his plants in flower, including a fine plant of *Cymbidium Korintjii*.

Many thanks to Kath Bruce for providing this write-up.

COMMITTEE NEWS

The next committee meeting will be held (venue to be advised) on **Thursday, 13th May 2010**, commencing at 7:15pm. Please notify the president, Murray (Ph: (06) 765-6259) if there is anything you wish to add to the agenda. Also, please contact Nola Hill, Treasurer, (Ph: 759-1606) if there are any accounts to be passed for payment.

Please Note: Nola and Grahame Hill are now keeping some bags of bark available for anyone in the town area. Please phone order before calling in, Ph: 759-1606, 33c Carrington Street, New Plymouth.

If you would like the plants you take to the meetings written up in the newsletter, please ensure you place your list in the green box next to the plants on the night of the meeting. If you do not have it available at that time, please post or email to Joy Wray, PO Box 635, New Plymouth 4340, or email: joywray@xtra.co.nz

We encourage everyone to participate in the Popular Vote at the meetings, i.e. write on a piece of paper the number of the plant that you would most like to take home. Then put it in the box provided, on the display table. There are plenty of pieces of paper and pencils available to carry out this small task. There have been very few votes cast lately and it would be nice to have to count at least the number of votes for the number of people in attendance.