

PREVIOUS MEETING – 1st February, 09

APOLOGIES: Mike & Baby Victor

It was wonderful to catch up with everyone again after the holiday break!

The 11th AGM was very well attended by members.

We looked back on a very successful year which was summarised in the President's Report & Treasurer's Report. Highlights for 2008 included our weekend outing to Maclear, informative talks by guest speakers; Dan O'Connor, Pierre Hendricks, Else Hall and Ann Duckworth and the unprecedented success of our Show and Open Day.

The society also experienced a tremendous growth in membership of 62%.

Tracy extended a special thank you to all members and the committee for their participation, help and support over the past year.

ANNUAL GOS AWARDS FOR 2008:

PLANT TABLE WINNERS:

1st: Robert & Tracy Moss

2nd: Ray & Cynthia Hewson

3rd: Dot Norval & Mike & Yvonne Bond.

MOST IMPROVED GROWER: Maureen Wells

MOST ACTIVE MEMBER: Baby Victor

Congratulations to all!

THE NEW MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR 2009 was elected as follows:

PRESIDENT: Tracy Moss **VICE-PRESIDENT:** Gordon Sonemann

TREASURER: Errol de Villiers **SECRETARY:** Colleen de Villiers

SHOPKEEPER: Robert Moss **LIBRARIAN:** Mirle Atkinson

REFRESHMENTS & DUTY ORGANISER: Colleen Midlane

ADDITIONAL MEMBER: Leslie Els

Our annual auction and sale was held after the AGM and R1630 was raised for society funds.

A big thank you to all members who donated plants for the auction and sale and also to all members who participated by purchasing plants.

A big thank you also to members who arrived early and helped to set up for the meeting as well as to all members who remained afterwards to help clear away. This help is very much appreciated – please keep it up!

Just a reminder to all members that the committee really needs your continued support and involvement to ensure that 2009 is an even better year for the society and all its members.

PLANT TABLE RESULTS:

What a wonderful array of more than 40 flowering plants on display this month.

Species included: Cattleya bicolor var. braziliensis, Stelis argentata, Cyrtorchis arcuata and Liparis bowkeri.

Hybrids included: Many magnificent cattleyas and vandas.

Members votes resulted in the following:

Species:	1st	Diaphanathe millarii	Robert & Tracy Moss
	2nd	Prosthechea fragrans	Mike & Yvonne Bond
	3rd	Jumellea arachnantha	Robert & Tracy Moss
Hybrids:	1st	Miltassia Hybrid(?) Purple Leopard	Colleen Midlane
	2nd	Vanda coerulea x Manuvadee	Gordon Sonemann
	3rd	Brassia Rex	Des & Jenny Scherwitz
Cattleyas	1st	Blc Three Suns	Des & Jenny Scherwitz
	2nd	Cattleya Aloha Case	Mavis Downey
	3rd	Slc Tangerine Jewel x Lc Scarlet Imp	Mike & Yvonne Bond

Thank you to all members for bringing their flowering plants to share with us.

RAFFLE WINNERS:

a. Cattleya Species Trio: labiata, gaskelliana 'alba' and percivaliana was won by Dot Norval.

b. Angraecum Species Duo: scottianum & magdalenae was won by Mike Wigley.

c. Eplc Merry Green 'Green Pride' was won by Scott Gordon.

Congratulations to all and good luck with your plants.

GONUBIE GOSSIP:

New Members: We extend a warm welcome to Leon & Mary Naude, Rodney Ellis, Pauline Simmons and Phyllis Pitt who have joined us this month. May you enjoy many years of happy orchid growing with us.

SHOP NEWS:

The shop has moved and will now be operating from a room located at the rear of the St. Martin's-by-the Sea Church Hall.

The Shop will be open on 1st March 13h30 – 14h00.

Coco Husk, Sporekill & Nu Film P are all back in stock and we now also have 10cm, 12cm and 17,5cm square plastic pots in stock.

Please be advised that there have been a number of price increases. Please refer to the price list on the back page of your newsletter for details.

Each month we will attempt to feature one of the shop's products in our newsletter by providing general information and usage tips on the products.

NU-FILM P

Nu-Film P is a sticker-spreader which when added to insecticides, fungicides and foliar fertilizers will ensure maximum efficiency and absorption of the pesticide.

As a Spreader: Nu-Film P helps the pesticide spread out uniformly on waxy plant surfaces and also ensures that the pesticide gets into cracks and crevices eg. Cattleya leaves and Pseudobulbs.

As a sticker: Nu-Film P forms a sticky elastic film which encapsulates and holds the pesticide on the plants foliage thereby ensuring maximum absorption.

Nu-Film P prevents rainfall, overhead irrigation and wind erosion of pesticides from the plant's surfaces. The film can withstand 25mm of rain for a period of 7-10 days.

TIP: To ensure good emulsification of this product, pre-mix with a little water before adding to your sprayer. Always add as the last ingredient and stir vigorously.

LIBRARY:

The library has also moved and will also operate from the room located at the rear of the St. Martin-by-the-Sea Church Hall.

The library will be open on 1st March 13h30 – 14h00.

Have a browse! There is a wealth of information in the books and many journals – you are sure to find something of interest.

MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Enclosed please find your membership card for 2009. Please note that you are required to present this card when:

- a. Upon arrival at meetings to members on door duty.
- b. Purchasing from the society shop at monthly meetings.
- c. Loaning books from the society's library.
- d. Purchasing from the society during open days/shows to qualify for members discounted prices.

NAME BADGES:

Society Name Badges can be ordered from Yvonne Bond at a cost of R30.00.

GONUBIE ORCHID SOCIETY OPEN WEEKEND AT PIONEER NURSERY – 28 & 29TH MARCH 2009.

Our first Open Day held last year was such a success that we just have to do it again!

Our Goals:

- ❖ Promote orchid growing as a hobby.
- ❖ Assist the public with their orchids by providing an advisory service.
- ❖ Promote the society and encourage new members to join.
- ❖ Sell orchids and related products.

We will also have a mini orchid display. Please, we will need your flowering orchids for this purpose. Please take your flowering plants to the nursery on Thursday 26th March.

Enclosed is a duty roster for the weekend. I would like to thank all members for so readily volunteering to assist.

THE MAGIC AND MYSTERY OF ORCHIDS 2009

14TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND SHOW

The Natal Orchid Society will be hosting the National Show in Durban. The venue is the Old Mutual Sports hall, (gate 9) at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Rick Turner Road (used to be Francois Road) in Durban. It is close to the city centre as well as a number of B&Bs. Major shopping centres are within 5 minutes of the venue.

We look forward to a fantastic seminar with a host of local and international experts in various fields, Francisco Miranda, James Rose, Frank Smith, Claude Hamilton, Lourens & Jolisa Grobler to name a few. Registration fee of R950.00 payable by 31st July – (Please Note - there is also a cheaper Early Bird option: registration is available at R750.00 per person, and this amount is payable in full by 31st May 2009) and the registration after 31st July is R1200.00. Includes unlimited access to the show, pre-opening preview of the exhibits, an invitation to all functions, all conference events and a CD with the proceedings.

Functions include the opening cocktail party (Wednesday), a mayoral reception by invitation to registrants (Thursday) and the closing banquet (Saturday).

Should you wish to register for this event, contact Errol for a registration form.

TED SCHELPE COLOUR FUND:

The SAOC has asked us to encourage our members to please consider sponsoring a page in the 2009 Journal. The cost is R100.00 per page and the closing date is 18th April 2009. Payment details can be obtained from Errol should you be interested.

MONTHLY SWOP COLUMN:

We would like to include a monthly swop column in our newsletter. Should you have any plants to swop or have a 'wish list' please collect a form from Colleen de Villiers and we will print them as and when space permits.

Colleen Midlane is looking for:

Lc Longriver Compton 'Golden Star', Cat. Sapphire and Lc Canhamiana var. coerelea 'azure skies'

Please contact her on 083 231 4809.

NEXT MEETING 1st MARCH 2009 AT 14h15

Des Gillespie, a specialist cymbidium grower, from EPOS will be our guest speaker.

MEETING AGENDA:

❖ PART ONE: CYMBIDIUM MANIA

Des is guaranteed to inspire you to grow cymbidiums with his many photographs of stunning Cymbidiums. His presentation will highlight the latest in Australian Cymbidium breeding.

❖ Tea will be served.

❖ PART TWO: HOW I GROW CYMBIDIUMS

Des will share his unconventional methods of growing cymbidiums with us.

Remember to bring a note pad and pen with you as there will be loads of informative tips.

- ❖ **QUESTION AND ANSWER TIME.**
- ❖ **DISCUSSION OF PLANT TABLE**
- ❖ **PLANT SALES**

Des will have a limited number of his Australian imported Cymbidium seedlings for sale.

PLANT TABLE:

There will be a plant table so please remember to bring your flowering plants.

Please take note of the following:

- ❖ **In future all plants displayed on our monthly plant table must be accompanied by an entry form. Forms are obtainable from the members on plant table duty. Only plants with completed entry forms will be considered for voting.**
- ❖ **Please attempt to place your plants in the relevant categories eg. Species, hybrids, cattleyas, cymbidiums, phalaenopsis etc.**
- ❖ **All plants displayed must have been in your possession for a minimum of 6 months.**
- ❖ **All plants must be displayed by 14h30. However, for the March meeting, plants must be displayed by 14h00.**
- ❖ **Voting only takes place between 14h30 and 14h40, except for the March meeting when voting must be done between 14h00 – 14h10.**

RAFFLES FOR MARCH:

- a. A Trio of Cattleya Alliance Species: warneri, mendelii and Rhyncholaelia digbyana.
- b. An Intergeneric Hybrid Trio: Beallara Tahoma Glacier, Wilsonara Golden Afternoon, Odontocidium Mayfair.
- c. A New Intergeneric Hybrid: Ascocenda Aroonsri Beauty x Doritis pulcherrima.

All tickets will be R10.00 each.

GOS QUIZ:

FEBRUARY'S ANSWER:

Venezuela: The first correct entry drawn and winner of a Colmanara Wildcat was Ann Mackay. Congratulations and good luck with your plant.

MARCH'S QUESTION:

What was Rhyncholaelia digbyana previously known as?

To enter simply write your name and answer on a piece of paper and pop it into the box provided at the door.

MONTHLY DUTY ROSTER FOR 2009

Enclosed please find the monthly duty roster for 2009. Your assistance is vital to ensure that our meetings run smoothly.

Thank you to all members who have volunteered to assist.

Remember, you can be a great help at any time and not only when your name is down. Please check which duty you are on and then what you are required to do for that particular duty. All members on duty are required to please be at the meeting venue at 13h30.

Should you be unable to attend a meeting and your name is down for duty, please contact Colleen Midlane well in advance so that alternative arrangements can be made. Her tel. number appears on the back of the newsletter.

TEA DUTY

Members will be required to:

- ❖ Supply 2-3 plates of eats.
- ❖ Put out tea cups, plates etc
- ❖ Place water in urn and switch it on
- ❖ Serve the tea
- ❖ Wash dishes, clean up and pack away after the meeting.
- ❖ Ensure the urn is switched off.
- ❖ Direct any queries to Colleen Midlane.

DOOR DUTY

Members will be required to:

- ❖ Assist with setting up for the meeting e.g. putting out chairs, tables etc
- ❖ Welcome members on arrival
- ❖ Collect tea monies and quiz answers
- ❖ Sell raffle & lotto tickets. All money to be handed to Errol de Villiers
- ❖ Assist with clearing up after the meeting
- ❖ Direct any queries to Errol de Villiers.

PLANT TABLE DUTY

Members will be required to:

- ❖ Set up tables and relevant stands to display plants.
- ❖ Display the plants in Species and Hybrid categories. If there are 6 or more orchids of a particular genus then you must create a special category for them e.g. Cats, Cymbids etc. Ensure all plants have an entry form.
- ❖ More than one of a Species/Hybrid must be marked A,B,C.
- ❖ Ensure voting slips are available at relevant categories.
- ❖ Make a list of all plants on display, in plant table book.
- ❖ Direct any queries to Leslie Els.

GENERAL ASSISTANTS DUTY:

Members will be required to:

- ❖ Assist with setting up for the meeting by: putting out chairs, assisting with setting up table and stands for plant table, placing table and 2 chairs for Door Duty and helping wherever needed.
- ❖ Assist with clearing up and packing away after the meeting.
- ❖ Direct any queries to Colleen Midlane.