

## Upcoming Events

### 2017

22-25 Sep – Plantae Orchid Club PMB

23-24 Sep - GOS, Gonubie

29-30 Sep – WBOS, Hermanus

**29 Sep - 1 Oct - WOS, JHB**

29 Sep - 1 Oct – EPOS, PE

26-29 Oct – TOG, Tygervalley

8-12 November - 22<sup>nd</sup> World Orchid Conference, Guayaquil, Ecuador



# WITWATERSRAND ORCHID SOCIETY

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*Fun & Friendship Through Orchids*

## SEPTEMBER 2017

Meeting: 24<sup>TH</sup> September 2017

TOPIC:	Local Keiki Paste applications	
SPEAKER:	Adri Truter	
TIME:	13h00	Tea, coffee and eats
	14H00	Main Meeting
VENUE:	The Floreum, Johannesburg Botanical Gardens, Oliphants Road, Emmerentia Dam	

### TEA DUTY

The members on Tea Duty in September are:

#### **Mel & Robert Lewis**

Please volunteer for Tea Duty (2 members per month). It is very social and no skill is needed for this duty.

### RAFFLE

The winner of the *Dendrobium delicatum*, donated by Bill Mincher, was **Kaitlin McNally**, a new member. Congratulations Kaitlin.

## SPRING SHOW

29<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October

The Spring Show is literally around the corner and you should be busy with the final preparation of your plants.

These include, amongst others,

- **Final staking to ensure the best display of the blooms**
- **Cleaning all leaves**
- **Removal of all dead and damaged leaves and sheaths**
- **Ensure that there are no insects, such as aphids, scale and thrip. Remove them and use an insecticide.**
- **Make sure the plant labels are legible**
- **Cleaning pots and containers.**
- **Give them a good watering the day before plant acceptance day.**

## THE PLANT TABLE – AUGUST 2017

By Allan Abel

### Rules of the Plant Table

Every member is encouraged to bring and share their flowering orchids with other members.

However, for plants to be entered in the prize selection process, they must comply with the following rules

- All plants must have been grown by the owners for at least 6 months.
- Novice section is for those members who are new to growing orchids. A Novice will cease to be a Novice when they;
  - o win a Red Ribbon at a WOS Show or
  - o win the Plant Table Annual Novice Prize.

This month, the plant table consisted of 43 orchids belonging to 12 members, a sign that the Spring flowering season is well underway.

There were 8 plants in the African/Mascarene section. Chris Steckner brought 2 epiphytes, a delicate **Angraecum germinyanum** and **Cyrtorchis chailluana**. Karsten Wodrich had a mass display of several Satyrium hybrids which included **Satyrium Johanna Augustyn** (*coriifolium* x *carneum*), **Satyrium Phobos** (*bicorne* x *coriifolium*) and **Satyrium Cape Amber** (*acuminatum* x *coriifolium*). Allan Abel brought an **Ansellia africana**. Karsten also showed **Eulophia tuberculata** 'Red Baron' and Erhard Schmid tabled a **Eulophia (streptopetala x parviflora) (?)**. This last Eulophia is undergoing tests to determine if it a natural hybrid or even a separate species

There were also 8 Laeliinae Alliance plants this month. Dave Eastman showed his **Ctt (C Canzac x Ctt Trick or Treat)**, **Epidendrum centrapetalum**, **Ctt Gold Digger** and **Rth. Shinfong Little Sun** (Ctt. Golden Girl x Rth. Taida Love Star). Erhard tabled a **Gct. Why Not Walk** (Grt. Why Not X C. *walkeriana*). Ancebeth & Jan Grobler brought their **Rth. Young-Min Gold** (Rth. Young-Min Orange x Rth. Shinfong Little Sun), whilst Bill exhibited the only species **Guarianthe skimmers**.

The Dendrobium sub-family contained 6 plants this month. The 2 **Dendrobium kingianums** belonged to Mandy & Marinus Kort and Julian Balcomb. Erhard tabled a **Dendrobium jenkinsii** and Dave displayed his **Dendrobium aphyllum**. The two hybrids were **Den. Stardust** (*Den. unicum* x *Den. Ukon*) owned by Bill and Karsten's well-flowered **Den. Himezakura** (*Den. Oberon* x *Den. Cassiope*).

The Slipper Orchids comprised 6 plants this month. Chris exhibited a **Phrag Les Dirouilles** (Sorcerer's Apprentice x Grande) and **Paph hirsutissimum**. Mandy & Marinus showed a **Paph Hsinying Carlos** (*callosum* x Hsinying Web) and **Paph insigne**. Ancabeth & Jan brought along a **Paph. Hsinying Alien** (Raisin Pie x Supersuk) and Erhard also tabled his **Paph hirsutissimum**.

The Oncidiinae group only had 3 plants. Mandy & Marinus brought an **Zelenkocidium Kukoo** (*Zel. onusta* x *Onc. cheirophorum*), Bill showed his **Onc. Dianne Feinstein 'Red Ruby' AM/AOS** (*Onc. Remembrance* x *Onc. Crowborough*), and Chris had the only species, **Aspasia lunata**.

Surprisingly there were only 2 Cymbidiums, despite the fact it is the height of the flowering season. The first, a **Cym unknown** belonging to Mandy & Marinus Kort, and the other **Cym (Edith Piaf x Khairpour)**, **belonging** to Allan Abel.

The 2 Other Hybrids were **Gastrophaius Micro Burst 'Orchtober Fest' AM/AOS** and a **Phal unknown** belonging to Kaitlin McNally, a new member and welcome.

The Other Species group contained 5 plants. Erhard brought *Masdevallia sanctae-inesae* and *Vanda miniate*. The other plants comprised *Coelogyne flaccida* from both Chris Hammond and Julian Balcomb, and *Pleione formosana* owned by Chris Steckner

The favourite orchids, as selected by the members, were

**BEST AFRICAN / MASCARENE**



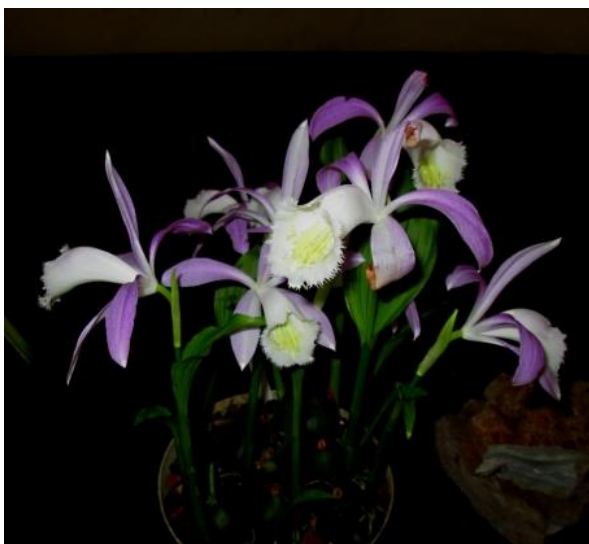
*Eul Unknown* owned by Erhard Schmid

**BEST HYBRID**



*Catt Gold Digger* owned David Eastman

**BEST SPECIES**



*Pleione formosana* owned by Chris Steckner

**BEST NOVICE**



*Paph Hsinying Alien* owned by Ancebeth & Jan Grobler (The flower was much darker in person)

## New *Paphiopedilum* species

It is amazing that new orchid species are regularly being discovered every year, especially when it is a spectacularly flowered species.

A case in point is *Paphiopedilum rungsiryanum* which was described as recently as 2014. The first one was discovered when a batch of newly acquired *Paph canhii* bloomed in the collection of a Mr Niwat Rungruang in Thailand. The plants originated in northern Laos. A new section, *Laosianum*, has been create for it because it's so unique.



This is a miniature species with small, tessellated leaves and the underneath of the leaves are grey-green with wide purple veins. The flowers are large in relation to the plant and are produced on very short stems. They grow terrestrially or lithophytically.

## An Orchid by any other colour can be just as Beautiful

Allan Abel

I often feel that people place too much emphasis on colour when attempting to identify an orchid. Colour can be quite variable even on the same clone. Just as important are other factors such as plant & spike habit, shape, size and lip markings.

A case in point is my plant of *Cymbidium* (Edith Piaf 'Bananarama' x Khairpour 'Perfection') On the left is the 2015 flowering and on the right, is the 2017 flowering. The difference in colour is because, in 2017, it was grown in much more light



## Committee Members

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