

## Upcoming Events

2018:

28 - 29 Jul - Orchid Lovers' Fair, Walter Sisulu Botanic Gardens,

1 - 2 Sep – QOC Spring Show,

7 - 9 Sep - Plantae Orchid Club Spring Show

21 - 23 Sept – EPOS Spring Show,

28 - 30 Sept – COS Spring Show,

28 - 30 Sept – WOS Spring Show,

13 - 14 Oct – NOS Spring Show,



# WITWATERSRAND ORCHID SOCIETY

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*Fun & Friendship Through Orchids*

**JUNE 2018**

**Meeting: SUNDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2018**

TOPIC: **Orchidology Nursery**  
HOST: **Paul Roos**  
TIME: **13h00 – Tea and snacks**  
**14h00 – General Meeting**  
VENUE: **The Floreum, Joburg Botanical Gardens, Oliphants Rd, Emmerentia**

## TEA DUTY

### **The Groblers and Mishi Reickhof**

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

## RAFFLE

The **Cym Tracey Reddeway** (donated by Bill Mincher) was won by **Teresa Pretorius**

## HIGHVELD JUDGING REGION

(In association with the S.A.O.C)

Dear Fellow Orchid Growers,

The Chairman of the Highveld Judging Region has approached us to run a **learners' group for prospective judges.**

This group will meet at the **home of Mike and Tessa Rakow once a month. We plan to have this meeting on a Saturday afternoon** but this could change depending on the needs of the members.

If anyone is interested, please **contact Mike at 011-452-0600 or Tessa at 082-555-1743 before the end of the month.**

The sooner we start, the better!

## THE PLANT TABLE – MAY 2018

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 Prize.

This month, the plant table consisted of 26 orchids belonging to 10 members.

There were 3 African/Mascarene orchids this month. Erhard Schmid brought a *Mystacidium venosum* and a *Polystachya Frieda's Favourite*, whilst Chris Steckner tabled an *Oeoniella polystachys 'ASHA'*.

The Laeliinae group comprised 6 plants. Bill Mincher showed **Rlc Joyce Tuggy ( Fort Holmes x Mac Holmes)** and Erhard his **Epicat Rene Marques 'Flame Thrower'**, Kaitlin McNally her **C Moreson 'Ella'** and David Eastman a **C Plantinum Sun**. Margret and Mark Peters exhibited **Rlc. Chunyeah #10** and Bill tabled the only species *C loddigesii*

The 3 orchids in the Oncidiinae were **Brassada. Memoria Bert Field** belonging to Keith Palmer and **Aliceara Peggy Ruth Carpenter** from the Korts. Erhard tabled the only species, *Zelenkoa onusta*.

The Pleurothallidinae group only had 3 plants this month. Erhard tabled a *Porroglossum lycinum* and a *Restrepia contorta*, and there was a *Masdevallia towarensis* belonging to David.

There were 3 different plants from the Lycaste alliance. Allan showed a plant of *Lycaste virginialis* and Erhard displayed a *Sudamerlycaste fimbriata*. Chris brought along a nicely flowered example of *Lycaste Abou First Spring*, a fine example of modern Japanese breeding.

The Cymbidium flowering season is starting as evidenced by then 3 plants on the table. Keith showed his **Cym Dorothy Stocksill 'Forgotten Fruit,'** Then there was a **Cym unknown hybrid** from the Korts and **Cym Praying Angel (?)** from Sheila Davis.

There were 2 Other Species on the table and both belonged to Chris. They were *Coelogyne lentiginosa* and *Dendrochilum arachnites*.

The Slipper Orchids were very few, considering that this is the main flowering season, with 2 plants. Allan Abel showed his **Phrag Memoria Dick Clements** and Erhard brought his *Paph fairrie anum..*

The favourite orchids, as selected by the members, were

**BEST HYBRID**



***Lycaste Abou First Spring***  
owned by Chris Steckner

**BEST AFRICAN / MASCARENE**



***Oeoniella polystachys***  
owned by Chris Steckner

**BEST NOVICE**



***Rlc Chunyeah '#10'***  
owned by Margaret & Mark Peters

**BEST SPECIES**



***Sudamerlycaste fimbriata***  
owned by Erhard Schmid

**FROM A TO Z – Part 1**  
(An alphabetical selection of natural Orchid Genera)

**Aa**

A genus of 28 high Andean, grassland terrestrials that grow cold and are not normally found in cultivation. Original described in 1816 as an *Ophrys* by Kunth but separated into a new genus in 1854 by Reichenbach. It is thought that the name is a botanical “joke” to ensure this genus is always first on a list of orchid genera.



*Aa maderoii*



*Bartholina burmanniana*

**Bartholina**

There are two species in this terrestrial genus endemic to the Western Cape Province of South Africa and grows in perfectly drained, sandy compost and moist, cool temperatures. Described by Linnaeus in 1760 as an *Orchis* but moved to a new genus in 1818 by Thunberg.

**Catasetum**

There are 176 species and 21 natural hybrids, spread from Mexico to Argentina and the West Indies, of this deciduous leaved genus, that has two forms of flowers, both male and female. The genus was established in 1822 by Richard. This genus has developed amazing pollination strategies which separate and different males and female flowers, and the male flower has the ability to eject the pollinia up to 2m from the plant. The photo shows a male and a female flower



*Catasetum callosum*



*Dracula bangeri*



### **Dracula**

The genus is made up of 141 or so species that spread through through-out Andean America including the cordillera in Central America. They are epiphytes and are found at higher elevations, so most are cool or cold growers. Most produce pendent flower spikes and the lip imitates fungus both by appearance and smell.

### **Elythranthera**

This terrestrial genus comprises 3 species and is found in the south-eastern parts of West Australia. They are cool growing and are referred to as Enamel Orchids, due to the glossy appearance of the flowers.



*Elythranthera emarginata*



*Galearis rotundifolia*

### **Galearis**

This terrestrial genus is found in eastern North and America, and in Asia from the Himalayas to Japan. There are 8 species in the genus and the scientific name refers to the dorsal sepal and petals forming a hood over the column.

### **Committee Members**

| Position held         | Name                              | Email Address  | Contact Details             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------|
| President             | Marinus Kort                      | <a href="mailto:mail@thekorts.co.za">mail@thekorts.co.za</a>                     | 082 447 5081 / 011 794 1041 |
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| <b>Treasurer</b>      | <b>Vacant – contact President</b> |  |                             |
| Meetings<br>Organiser | Bill Mincher                      | <a href="mailto:billmincher@yahoo.com">billmincher@yahoo.com</a>                 | 082 871 3152                |
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