

November 2006

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Society Web Site:

www.PlatinumCoast

Platinum Coast Orchid Society



The Rhyzome

Rhi-zome: n., a creeping stem lying, usually horizontally, at or under the surface of the soil...

Bob the Orchid Addict

Bob Libbey

There will be no more Cocoa Beach Back to Basics Meetings this year due to the Holidays. See you back at Cocoa Beach **January 24**. The meeting of this month, November 8, will be at the Rockledge Garden Club on Fiske Blvd. We hope to have a speaker with plants to sell. This will be the last meeting of the year.

This is a great time of year for Show and Tell. Soooo... bring your flowers!

BOB

Who's Your

Have you wondered how your favorite orchid hybrid was created? The International Orchid Register database can help. Visit the web site of the Royal Horticultural Society www.rhs.org.uk/plants/registration_orchids.asp to find out not only 'Who's your Daddy', but 'Who's your Mommy' as well. At the site, scroll down and click the link GreX Name Search. On the next page, enter the grex, or hybrid name on your plant's label. For Blc. Ruth Davis, put Bras-solaeliocattleya in the Genus box and Ruth Davis in the Grex box. Note that the common genus abbreviations will not work. You cannot enter Blc., but you can get by with entering only the first letter, B with no period. Then click search. The next page shows the "Daddy" and the "Mommy"! Blc. Ruth Davis was created by taking pollen from Blc. Oconee and crossing it with the seed from Lc. Bethune. The name Ruth Davis was registered for this cross by Carter & Holmes in 1992. Now you know.

This can be very helpful if you want to enter an orchid for AOS judging. The registration form requires that the parents be listed. Use the database to find out. Knowing the parents can also help uncover clues as to how to care for your hybrid. You can keep tracing the parents back to the species that are the Original Parents of every hybrid. Besides being able to trace your orchid's "family tree" this way, the identity of the species may help you understand what kind of cultural conditions could benefit your orchid. Beyond all that practical stuff, it's just fun!

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What About Cultivars?

Craig Helping

The web site of the Royal Horticultural Society provides a great deal of information about registered orchids in The International Orchid Register. At an orchid show, you will find established crosses that have been given a grex, or hybrid name. You will also find the latest and greatest crosses, some of which are destined to become popular, but have yet to be registered, even if their parent are. You may even find older hybrid crosses listed that have not been updated with the newer grex. (In a future article, we'll also see that some names may never be registered, a decision of the hybridizer.) But what about awarded cultivar names?



When an orchid receives an award from the American Orchid Society, for example, the owner of the plant can add a cultivar name. Remember the Blc. Toshie Aoki used as an example on how to search the RHS web site? The actual Blc. Hawaiian Features I own was made with Blc. Ruth Davis crossed with Blc. Toshie Aoki 'Pizzaz'. The 'Pizzaz' variety, cultivar, of Blc. Toshie Aoki is very popular, but it is not distinguished from any other cultivars in the RHS database. Omit the cultivar name when searching.

So, even though an awarded status of the parent plants is not reflected in the RHS web site, it is still interesting to see what is registered. I have learned that my Asc. Jiraprapa crossed with V. Rasri Gold is registered as Asc. Jakkit Gold. The Mokara Sayan x V. Rasri

Sunshine

Betty Adamson



Our deepest sympathy is extended to Penny Clements on the loss of her mother and to Alan Gettleman on the loss of his mother, who frequently accompanied Alan to the Society functions.

Continuing get well wishes are sent to Craig Helping and Alan Gettleman, also David and Judy Carmelli, our "Sew Special" members. We were happy to have Ruth Larson back with us at the Cocoa Beach meeting .

Rosa Blair, way up in Alabama, is active in the Society there. Rosa says they are not as busy as we are! She sends her best wishes to the members, and hopes to keep her orchids warm since the cold is approaching. We welcome her back as a paid-up member.

Lost and Found: Flossie Staton is looking for a stainless steel serving spoon, "lost" at the picnic in October. If found, please return!

Belated Thanks : Thank you to Charlie Bishop & Don Kelly and for the wonderful "Masquerade of Orchids" photos. Be sure and check



“Falling For Orchids:” The Fort Pierce Show

The Society’s exhibit at Ft Pierce was beautiful and won second place—almost the first, based upon overheard discussions!!

The nine blue ribbons, nine red ribbons and three yellow ribbons were won by the following members who entered their plants: Betty & Jim Adamson, Charlie Bishop, Penny Cements, Judy Driver, Don Kelly, Bob Libbey, and Glenda Titler. Those members helping with set-up were: Jim, Penny, Judy, Bob & Glenda & Antonina Hajdaj. Penny and Betty accomplished the registration and name tags. Elizabeth Libbey and granddaughter were the “go-getters.”

“Back into Town” for our lunch, since we were way out at the fairgrounds!! The Show was extremely well attended, in spite of the location. (The Fort Pierce Civic Center was destroyed by hurricanes, so they had to cancel the past two years shows.) Helping with tear down were: Jim and Betty Adamson, Penny Clements, Judy Driver, Glenda and Junior Member, Justan James with sister, Brittani. Thanks, many thanks to all who helped in any way and a special thanks to Jim for transporting all the paraphernalia on his truck. Remember it is the Societies who sponsor the Shows, there are only a few of us who still have their AOS Show clout, so hopefully as many as possible will support the show exhibits when they have the opportunity.

Congratulations Winners!

November



Wednesday, November

8: Regular business meeting. Rockledge Garden Club 1493 Fiske Blvd

6:15pm Board Members

7pm Regular Meeting

Welcome Members!

- Joe Permuy
- Karen Snee
- Rosa Blair
- Lyle and Dolores Schultz
- Wendy Benison

Penny Clements received an AOS award, an Award of Merit worth 80 points, on her plant: (Den. Burana Green x compactum) ‘Striped’.

Betty & Jim Adamson received an AOS award, an Award of Merit worth 80 points, on their plant: Lc Ann Follis x aclandiae.

Since both plants are crosses, they will get to name their plants and Betty Adamson has already given hers a varietal... Betty Anne!

In addition to the AOS awards, Jim Adamson received the following:

Best Cattleya Alliance: Blc Goldenzelle ‘Lemon Chiffon’

Best Cymbidium Alliance: Cym Ivy Fung

Best All Other Genera: Cycd Taiwan Gold

We all enjoy our orchids and especially the fantastic blooms but one must be reminded if you ever expect to get an award of any kind, you MUST take them to judging. The judging team will not be visiting your backyard or greenhouse!! Even if they do not win, it is rewarding to have others, “Ooh,” and, “Aaah,” over something they especially appreciate.



