

ORCHID SHOW

PART 1: INDIVIDUAL ORCHID COMPETITION

By KH Wong

Objectives

Just like any society, be it koi, bonsai, cats and dogs, orchid shows are organized, firstly to promote new and superior forms of orchid species. Secondly, to show improved forms of orchid hybrids and plants of superior culture. Thirdly, to create a competitive environment to spur mankind to stretch the limit on orchid growing. Last but not least, it is a platform to promote interest in orchids to the general public and at the same time answering the call of the government to create a green society.



Pic 1- Bulbophyllum lobbii



Pic 2- Bulbophyllum plumatum



Pic 3 – Vanda KLIA



Pic 4 – Vanda Masao Yamada

Types of Show

Orchid shows are divided into show judging and award judging. In show judging plants are entered by classes based on the type of plant. They are then judged against each other for a prize.

In award judging the standard of the plant expected is much higher. Plants are judged against a set of standard criteria and for the plant to win an award it has to be as good as or better than what is already available.

The winning plant will be given a varietal name and will carry it after its name the letters denoting the award. For example: Aranda Broga Giant AM. AM represent Award of Merit.

About OSSFT Orchid Show

The aims or mission statement of OSSFT is to promote orchid growing and the sustenance of orchidaceae plants.

With that in mind orchid shows organized by OSSFT is rather different from any other orchid shows in Malaysia. We believe it is not just about competing for prizes or awards. It is also about how to care and grow a healthy plant.

Therefore in most shows organized we have an Orchid Clinic. It is run by orchid 'doctors' who have the knowledge and experience in growing and caring of orchid plants. They will provide information on how to prevent and eradicate diseases and how to grow and maintain healthy plants through the proper culture. The beauty is that the public can bring their sick plant to the show to be diagnosed and all this is for free.

On top of all this we have orchid talks and workshops on A-Z of orchid growing.

Conclusion

The orchid shows organized by orchid societies in Malaysia and around the world is to create awareness and sustaining of orchid plants through proper growing and propagation. Thus creating a green world.

For more information email to ossft1961@gmail.com

ORCHID SOCIETY OF SELANGOR AND FEDERAL TERRITORY

PART 2: FLORAL ART

By SUZIE CHAN

It was maybe 20 years ago that our Orchid Society got the idea that we should promote the use of orchid flowers for floral arrangements as a way to help our cut flower orchid growers to increase the sales of orchids in Malaysia. A humble start was made to start a floral section in our society by organizing floral arts competition together with our orchid show. Any of our members who feel that they can create a floral arrangement using orchids as their focal flowers can participate.

This went on for many years, but was subsequently changed 5 years ago as more of our members and sponsors (DBKL included) wanted to see professional floral arrangement rather than the simple floral design created for the competition. So, the floral section of our society started to expand with more professional floral designers joining our society as participants in the floral displays during our orchid shows.

This was very well received by the public, members and our sponsors as our professionalism and capability to create and design not only table top floral arrangements but also very large centre pieces like the "Twin Towers" display at Sunway Pyramid in 1999, and also a centre piece floral scape at Mid Valley MegaMall in the year 2000 etc.

Any members who are qualified floral artists from western to ikebana schools can participate in our floral display section during orchid shows. They must meet certain standards of professionalism and floral design criteria and are constantly scrutinized by our floral section committee personnel. Our floral designers have participate in floral demonstration for foreign VVIPs dignitaries to the Orchid Garden in Kuala Lumpur (NAM and OIC delegates/spouses etc) and most recently, the opening of the newly revamp KL Orchid Garden by the Mayor of Kuala Lumpur in June 2007.

Our desire is to continue to expand the floral section of our society so that the beauty of orchids can be arranged into beautiful floral display for every home in Malaysia. We are planning to organize "workshop" and will be happy to introduce our members to "study" floral design from qualified teachers for the "homemakers" courses or for professional certificate levels.

