



TOS Newsletter

Old Business

Old business was discussed as follows: An update was provided on the Spring Show. The Show Committee met prior to the meeting tonight. Duties were divided among the Committee members and plans are moving along nicely. Members were reminded that as the dates for the Show come closer that we will need volunteers to help with set up and work in various ways during the show and requests will be forthcoming for everyone's help.

Membership Application/Renewal/Update Forms were handed out to the members for completion and payment of 2008 dues. Members were informed that we are currently working on a Members Directory and all members were asked to indicate on the form whether or not they wished to be included in this directory and which information they wished to be included.

Discussion was resumed regarding a motion that was tabled at the January meeting involving the purchase of a digital portable projector.



Brassia arcuigera

Brassia species and its popular hybrids are common in cultivation, and are notable for the characteristic long and spreading tepals (in some clones longer than 50 cm), which lend them the common name "spider orchid".

This epiphytic genus occurs in South Florida, the West-Indies and tropical America, in wet forests from sea level to altitudes under 1500 m, with the Peruvian Andes as its center. Occurrence is mostly restricted to a certain area, but *Brassia caudata* can be found over the whole geographic area.

They have large elliptic-oblong pseudobulbs with one or two leaves at the apex, lateral, unbranched many-flowered inflorescences with small floral bracts. The lip is not attached to the column. The

David and Chris had researched various brands and features and presented their findings at the meeting. There was discussion and a motion made and seconded to purchase a DLP that has all the features we require. Price on that model was approximately \$549 plus tax. There was further discussion regarding the need for the projector and whether or not the Board had discussed this. David explained the need for it for creating and presenting our programs, for the Club meetings in particular. It was noted that the BOD was in favor of it and had decided to put it to a member vote. A vote was taken and the motion passed without dissension.

The Tallahassee Orchid Society Meets the First Thursday of every month. Meetings are held in the Leon County Agricultural Extension Center, 615 Paul Russell Road, starting at 7pm.

Visitors are always welcome at the meetings.

New Business

New business included a request by Nancy Schildt that we observe a moment of silence to remember and honor Bill Brown, a long time member who recently passed away. This was done. Glen Sponholtz advised that he had spoken with Bill shortly before he died, and that it was Bill's wish that all of his plants be disposed of and the proceeds benefit TOS. There was discussion as to the best way to handle this. Zulema had indicated to Glenn that it would be possible to use the meeting facility on a weekend to move these plants. The general consensus was to do this as soon as possible, advertising in the local paper and notifying local groups who may be interested in obtaining orchids and setting them up in the Ag Center for a specific period of 2 hours on a set day, during which time individual may come in and view the plant and place bids on the plants they are interested in.

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(New Business cont.)

Individuals will come in, sign up for a number and using this number/name place their bids. Sheets will be provided for each plant. Individuals wishing to place a higher bid would line through the bid and write their name/number below. At the end of the specified time, the highest bids would purchase the plants. A number of members volunteered to work on a Saturday setting this venue up and working with it. Martha is to check with Zulema for the specific dates available and Mary Ann will check on the cost of advertising.

Auction:

Bill Brown donated his orchid collection to the TOS. It was decided to have a silent auction on Saturday, March 1st, at the Leon County Extension Office (where we meet), from 1:00—3:00. Members willing to help should arrive at noon.

Program for March:

Preparing your plants for show. David McCoy will show us how to make our plants look beautiful .

(Brasias cont.)

pollinarium shows a narrow stipe. There are two distichous, foliaceous sheaths around the base, from which the inflorescence emerges.

Brassia has a very specific method for pollination : it uses entomophily : pollination by insects and in this case specifically by female spider-hunter wasps of the genera Pepsis and Campsomeris. Mistaken by the mimicry of *Brassia*, the wasp stings the lip, while trying to grasp its prey without any success. By these movements the wasp comes into contact with the pollinarium, that then sticks to its head. By flying to another *Brassia* flower, this flower gets pollinated. Retrieved from Wikipedia on 2/12/2008 for more information follow this link.
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brassia>

2008 Officers

- ♦ *Mary Ann Skalany, President and show chairperson E-mail: hauck@embarqmail.com*
- ♦ *David McCoy, Vice President robertda@bellsouth.net*
- ♦ *Walt Wager, Secretary & Newsletter wwager@fsu.edu*
- ♦ *Pam Stevens, Treasurer - Advertising*
- ♦ *Robbie McCoy, Program chair robertda@bellsouth.net*
- ♦ *Chris Sellacek, Webmaster sellacek@ocean.fsu.edu*
- ♦ *Linda Sellacek, AOS representative*

Tallahassee Orchid Society Newsletter
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