



International
AROID
Society, Inc.

the IAS Newsletter

Vol. 25 - 4 December 2003

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Aroideana Volume 27

By Derek Burch

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"Now is the time for all good men ..." This is a first request for manuscripts for Volume 27 of *Aroideana*. I am shooting for a publication by the time of the annual meeting, which means a deadline at the end of February for manuscripts to give time for review and all the things that go into this. I am particularly interested in cultural or horticultural or ethnobotanical topics to round out the interest of the journal - very short pieces can be forwarded to the newsletter if you prefer, and I am happy to assist with preparation in any way that you wish. Your notes to me indicating willingness would do my old heart good. ✿

Shingle Plants

By Michael Mattlage
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Most of us who collect tropical plants have at least one shingle plant. Whether it is the ubiquitous *Scindapsus pictus*, or the less common yet cultivated *Rhaphidophora korthalsii*, shinglers are an important part of our collections.

Shinglers are less overwhelming than the gigantic leaved Philodendrons and Anthuriums that grace out greenhouse benches. Most are diminutive creepers that clasp their leaves tightly to whatever surface is available. Exquisite species are often those with bright markings on otherwise dull green leaves. Many of us who have visited Fairchild Tropical Gardens in Miami have seen the delicate *Rhaphidophora cryptantha* growing on the walls of the Rare Plant House. The flattened leaves with white markings look as if they have been painted onto the concrete.

Many species display heteroblastic development - leaves that dramatically change shape and size as the plant passes through juvenility to adulthood. The juvenile leaves are appressed or flattened to the surface on which they are growing. Upon adulthood, the leaves change. Some become larger and form perforations and slits. Petioles become longer so that the leaf blade is no longer pressed onto the climbing surface and leaf texture and color may change as well. Different species display different degrees of heteroblasty, some being much more pronounced than others. A few species live their entire lives as shinglers, completely retaining the behavior even after flowering and fruiting. Retention of

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Shingle Plants ... Continued from page 1

the juvenile form throughout adulthood is termed "neoteny;" *Rhaphidophora cryptantha* and *Rhaphidophora pachyphylla*, both seen in cultivation, maintain this neotenuous lifestyle.

Shingling species can be found throughout the tropics, from Asia and Oceania including Australia, to West Africa and the NeoTropics. In Asia and Oceania, *Pedicellarum* and *Pothos* have the greatest percentage of shingling aroids with nearly a third of the ca. 70 species of *Pothos* being shinglers.

Pedicellarum, a monospecific genus from Borneo that is closely related to *Pothos* is also shingling. *Rhaphidophora*, of which *Rhaphidophora korthalsii* is one of the more commonly cultivated representatives, has around seven species as shingling and furthermore also has a spectacular neotonic species, *R. latevaginata*, a more mature individual of which is a shingle climber with individual leaves up to 48 x 20 cm. *Scindapsus lucens*, which is cultivated at Jardin Botanique du Montet in France, and *Scindapsus pictus*, are the only two true shinglers from that genus. From the rest of the tropics, *Culcasia* in Africa and *Monstera* from the New World have species that display this habit. In *Monstera*, members of the section *Marcaviopsis* are shinglers. Some of the species, including *Monstera tuberculata*, are neotonic and retain their small sized leaves while others, like *Monstera dubia*, change their leaves from softly appressed gems of white and green only centimeters wide, to humongous blades slit and nearly the size of a man. The rare Brazilian genus *Alloschemone* is also a heteroblastic shingler.

While the leaves of these plants look so odd and purposeful, not much has been done experimentally to suggest the advantages of this habit. It is thought the appressed juvenile blades help retain moisture. It is also thought that by clasping the leaves tightly to the trunks of trees, the young plants may be less susceptible to wind damage or damage from falling branches. Protection thereby is probably the key to the shingle plants behavior.



Rhaphidophora cryptantha

Interestingly, other families with shingling habit have been noticed to have various relationships with some insect species. Ants, for example, have been found nesting under the clasped leaves of *Dischidia* and *Hoya* (Asclepiadaceae) species. Perhaps several of our beloved aroid shinglers have similar relationships.

Further studies in the wild, however, should shed more light on this fascinating subject.



Rhaphidophora hayii

Acknowledgements: Thanks to Peter Boyce and Thomas Croat for commenting on earlier drafts of this article. 🐾

Philodendron Look-Alikes

By Michael Pascall

After seeing the real *P. spiritus-sancti* AKA "Santa-leopoldiana" in the recent *Aroideana*, and the wonderful photos from the IAS Show 2001, I was determined to find out what the true identity of the superb Philodendron that David Burnett introduced to Australia. After many years of cultivation, several inflorescences occurred on a few of the mature plants here. The most accessible specimen, growing on a Cuban Royal Palm *Roystonea regia*, has flowered at only approx. 1.3m high. Only a single inflorescence on this plant, and I missed it! However, got a few images of a senescent inflorescence.

Another taller plant was found with the flower perfect, but at 3m high and no step ladder handy, it's lucky that I am very tall. So relying on autofocus and the large viewfinder on my trusty digicam, many images turned out okay. I sent a few pictures to Tom Croat, but he was unfamiliar with it, so he suggested I contact Eduardo Goncalves. I sent an e-mail to him asking if he would help identify my mystery plant. He kindly agreed. So several images were sent to Eduardo. I had taken many pictures, so I chose only a few that would give him an idea of what the plant looked like. The habit of the plant, showing many leaves. The reverse of the leaf, showing the petiole attachment. Also, a few close ups of the flowers.

Eduardo suggested a name, but wanted to know what the petiole looked like. Luckily, I had just taken a picture of the cross section of the distinctive D shaped finely grooved petiole.

Confirmation came quickly; it's a species that Eduardo is still in the process of describing. He is having trouble finding the habitat of this spectacular species and is hesitant to publish on cultivated material alone.

Another similar species that also is sold as *P. "Santa-Leopoldiana"* in America, and David Burnett brought into Australia as



(Above) *Philodendron*
species nova

(Right) *Philodendron*
atobapoense



P. "Roberto," Eduardo was able to identify as *Philodendron atobapoense*. As a juvenile, this plant has very attractive blue-gray foliage with an intense red reverse. As it matures it becomes greener. I think this is what Dewey Fisk calls *P. "Santa-Leopoldiana"* No. 4. It is a rampant grower here in the tropics; once it runs out of support it vines rapidly. A plant I put into the bromeliad house at Whyanbeel has grown several stems many meters long. Plants put at the base of trees in very bright light seem to do the best, growing slowly and displaying many leaves. 🌿

Report from the IAS Show and Sale

By Albert Huntington • balberth@yahoo.com

The annual IAS Show and Sale, held as usual in Miami, Florida on September 20th and 21st, was an astounding success. For those members who might not have been able to attend, we present a rundown of the events.

Show setup began on Friday, with members arranging display plants, helping vendors truck in their wares, and generally marveling at the transformation of the empty room into an Aroid jungle. Of course, the real preparation had been ongoing for months – this year the society is deeply indebted to Reggie Whitehead and Juan Espinosa-Almodovar, as well as Patricia Frank and many others for behind the scenes work. At the end of the day, vendors were in place, show plants had been judged, and visiting researchers Dr. Tom Croat and Wilbert Hetterscheid had made a full circuit of the room, helping to identify some of the more unusual plants brought in for sale.

By 9:30 on Saturday morning, the sales tables were full of plants, including some quite rare and unusual specimens such as *Amorphophallus titanum*, various *Anthurium* species, oddities like the all green form of *Gonotopus*, myriad and mysterious aroid tubers from Thailand, and a few undescribed species. Plants were piled under the tables and on the floor in front of the tables, plants spilled out the doors and onto the walkways. *Amorphophallus* and *Anthurium* towered nearly to the ceiling in the center of the room. And the doors opened.

Crowd size is notoriously difficult to estimate, but in the first two hours of the sale, it appeared that the entire population of Dade County must have passed through the building, some of them coming back for a second trip. They came with wagons and carts, with baby strollers and on foot, and they did proceed to shop.

By lunchtime, the sales tables were more sparsely stocked, the multitudes had receded, and there was time to listen to some interest-

ing aroid information. First up was Wilbert Hetterscheid with a talk on *Arisaema*, and the difficulties involved with the taxonomy thereof. Knowing Wilbert's excellent reputation as a speaker, the room was packed with people hoping for some information on what they figured was probably a shorter version of *Amorphophallus*. Wilbert quickly informed those assembled that it was not possible to grow most of the beautiful plants he would be showing in South Florida, but apparently the slides did convince a couple of members to move further north.

With the unenviable task of following Wilbert on the speakers roster, Monica Carlsen, recipient of this year's Monroe Birdsey Award, did an excellent job explaining some of her research. She had intriguing information on ant gardens, the use of cranes to study forest canopy, and more than you ever wanted to know about the DNA sequencing of *Anthurium*. She also has some fascinating theories about species diversity and where the best places to collect might be.

Finally, Dr. Tom Croat presented a travelogue of his recent trip to Ecuador. For those of you who are familiar with Dr. Croat's propensity toward disaster, we are happy to report that no important appendages were hacked or sawn off during this particular expedition. There were, however, many marvelous slides of aroids in habitat, especially anthuriums and philodendrons.

On Saturday evening, the annual members meeting and banquet commenced. The usual excellent Cuban fare was served. Dr. Frank Brown announced during the dinner that Charlie McDaniel had been voted "Best Dressed" member, seeing as how he was wearing an actual suit. After dealing with some society matters like the election of the new board members, the young and easily shocked were cleared from the room, and

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Show and Sale ... Continued from page 4

Wilbert began his keynote talk on *Amorphophallus*. It was all there – the secret origin, the history, the expeditions into the Sumatran jungle, the annoying BBC camera crews, the amazing late Jim Symon. Some pictures surely worth thousands for their blackmail potential alone were presented.

Those who were still able to stand after Wilbert's talk remained for the much awaited auction. Julius Boos in his perennial position as Auctioneer dispatched the plants in style, with plentiful assistance from Dr. Tom "Spiritus Sanctus" Croat. Notable plants included a magnificent *Anthurium eminens* from Murline Lydon, a huge specimen of *Amorphophallus tinekeae* donated by Fairchild, and the famed and rare *Philodendron leopoldiana* "Spiritus Sanctus."

Sunday morning, as tradition dictates, various bleary-eyed contributors to Aroid-L, our online mailing list, met for breakfast. In attendance, and remarkably awake, were such personalities as Dr. Tom Croat, Ms. Monica Carlsen, Lynn Hannon, Murline Lydon, and Julius Boos.

In the end, Sunday was a quieter time, with ample opportunity to tour the beautiful Fairchild Tropical Gardens, to browse the vendors' wares at leisure, and to pick up a few more plants. Out of town attendees packed up, displays came down, the floor was swept, the lights turned off and the doors closed.

The show this year was a success, not just as an event, but also as a fundraiser for the society, as an opportunity to enjoy the plants, as a chance to see new talent in the field, and as an opportunity to catch up with notable researchers and growers. Those members who have not attended in recent years would be well advised to mark the dates on their calendar for next year. As our members from across the United States and around the world who made the trip to Miami this year will attest, it is very well worth it.

There are pictures of the show and sale online at http://www.aroid.org/show/show_images/index.html.

International Aroid Symposium

By Peter Boyce

I am seriously investigating the possibility of organizing an International Aroid Symposium, in November 2004 here in Kuching. The rough outline is for the symposium to be spread over one week (Sunday evening – Friday inclusive) with 3-1/2 days of presentations and poster sessions and one day spent in the field at a nearby National Park.

This is an initial notice to gauge interest in such a symposium. If you think there is a chance that you will attend, and you wish to receive the first circular, please e-mail me at the following address, or contact me at the address below: peterboyce@myjaring.net. In the e-mail, please indicate:

1. Your mailing/postal address in order that I can mail you the first circular.
2. Your most often used e-mail address (if different to that which you use to e-mail me this information).
3. Willingness to make an oral presentation or present a poster on:
 - a. Scientific
 - b. Horticultural
 - c. Travelogue
 - d. Other subject
4. Whether you will need an official invitation from the organizers.

Very many thanks. — Peter

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**Aroid Botanical Art
Chosen for
RHS Exhibition**

By John Pastoriza Pinol
Secretary to the Botanical Illustrators
Royal Botanic Gardens,
Melbourne, Australia

I have been accepted to exhibit some of my artwork at the forthcoming Royal Horticultural Society Winter Exhibition at the RHS Hall, Westminster, January 20 to 21, 2004. I have prepared 8 to 9 paintings of Arisaemas and other unusual aroids which have come from the private collection of Rob McClure. I am sure that the Aroid Society is familiar with Rob and his amazing collection of Arisaemas and other rare aroids. I would like to extend an invitation to those members of the IAS residing in the UK to come and view these works. It would be a great honour to meet other IAS members and I am sure that they will inspire me to continue to paint these amazing plants. The works which I will be presenting are of the following species:

- *Arisaema frachetianum*
purpureogaleatum
- *Arisaema lichangense*
- *Arisaema candidissimum*
- *Arisaema taiwanense*
- *Arisaema kiushianum*
- *Arisaema ciliatum liubaense*
- *Amorphophallus bulbifer*
- *Sauromatum venosum*
- *Arum purpureospathum*

Should you require more information, please feel free to contact me at this e-mail address or alternatively at cumquat@bigpond.com.au. ☺

**Minutes of IAS General Meeting
Saturday Evening, September 20, 2003
Fairchild Tropical Gardens**

Meeting was called to order; room was filled with 80 members of IAS and various other attendees. A legal quorum of members was declared.

A paper ballot for proposed new members of the IAS Board of Directors was passed out to members present at the meeting. The nominees were: **Albert Huntington, Paul Ressler, Lester Kallus, Wilbert Hetterscheid, and Michael Pascal.** Julius Boos was nominated at the meeting and was inserted as a write-in candidate. A tally of the ballots showed that all six proposed new board members were accepted as there were more than five openings due to three resignations.

The board now consists of:

Term 2004 to 2006

1. Julius Boos, West Palm Beach, Florida
2. Wilbert Hetterscheid, the Netherlands
3. Lester Kallus, Long Island, New York
4. Paul Ressler, Norfolk, Virginia
5. Albert Huntington, California

Term 2002 to 2004 extended to 2005

1. Patricia Frank, Treasurer, Miami, Florida,
2. Dale Magrew, Resigned, replaced by Steve Marak at Board meeting 09-21-03
3. Scott E. Hyndman, Vero Beach, Florida
4. Petra Schmidt, Raleigh, North Carolina
5. Amy Donovan, Miami, Florida

Term 2001 to 2003 extended to 2004

1. Don Burns, Deceased, replaced by Susan (Cooper) Bryant
2. Donna Rich, Miami Florida
3. Tim Anderson, Resigned, replaced by Michael Pascal, Australia.
4. Alan Galloway, Resigned, replaced by Marc Gibernau, France
5. Lynn Hannon, Odessa, Florida

This concluded the business portion of the meeting.

Denis W. Rotolante,
Recording Secretary IAS ☺

Minutes of IAS Board Meeting

September 21, 2003

Members in attendance: Wilbert Hettterscheid, Lester Kallus, Juan Espinosa Almodovar, Donna Rich, Julius Boos, Lynn Hannon, Scott Hyndman, Tom Croat, Albert Huntington, Tricia Frank, and Denis Rotolante.

Also present: Murline Lyden, Dr. Derek Burch and several other interested guests.

Meeting was called to order in the Meeting Room / Classroom at Fairchild Tropical Garden at approximately 10 AM by Scott Hyndman, President.

There was no written agenda for the meeting so we just sort of muddled through...

1. Minutes of past two board meetings were passed out on by recording secretary... Minutes were highlighted by Recording Secretary. Motion was made to accept the minutes as written and motion was passed by board.
2. Tricia Frank presented a Treasurer's Report as summarized below. Please see the more detailed financial statement on page 9.

Account Activity

August 30, 2002 to August 30, 2003

Starting balance bank\$38,770.00
Funds received into bank	...\$24,235.00
Disbursements from bank	...(\$33,826.00)
Current bank balance\$29,179.00
Starting balance Pay Pal	
credit card account online	...\$ 7,088.03
Cash inflow for credit card	
Pay Pal online account\$ 4,101.86
Cash outflow for credit card	
Pay Pal online account\$ 2,667.36
Current balance Pay Pal	
credit card account online	...\$ 8,522.53
Current balance all accounts	..\$37,701.53

Tricia also noted that past problems with unauthorized access to the Pay Pal account had been resolved by going to a system of voice authorizations by treasurer before any transfers can be made. Motion was made to accept treasurer's report as presented and board approved motion by voice vote.

3. An impromptu discussion ensued as to whether the Monroe Birdsey Memorial Aroid Research Award should be called an "award" or a "grant." Julius Boos, Juan Espinosa-Almodovar, Lester Kallus and Tom Croat were assigned to work out a plan and submit it to the full board for later approval.
4. Scott Hyndman announced the appointment of Paul Ressler as Membership Chairman.
5. Several vacant positions on the board were created when several board members resigned.
 - The position vacated by Tim Anderson was filled with Michael Pascal, who was elected to the board at general membership meeting the previous evening.
 - A motion was made to fill the open position vacated by Dale Magrew with Steve Marak. Motion was seconded and passed by the board by voice count.
 - This left one open position vacated by Alan Galaway on the board unfilled. It was discussed and three possible candidates were put forth in order of preference: Mark Gibernau, David Scherebricht and Geoffery Kibby. Motion was made to ask Mark Gibernau

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to fill the vacant Director spot with one year remaining on the term.

6. In order to correct a problem in the Bylaws of the International Aroid Society, it was proposed that the board change Section 3 of Article VI, to allow for re-election of an officer to more than two consecutive terms of office.

Lester Kallus made a motion to change the wording of Section 3 of Article VI to read "The term of office shall be for one year or until successors are elected, and the terms of office shall begin at the December Meeting following their installation. No member shall hold more than one office at one time, and no officer shall ordinarily be eligible to serve more than two consecutive years in the same office."

This would allow the board of directors the flexibility to keep on an officer for more than two consecutive terms who the board felt were necessary for the proper functioning and continuity of the IAS.

The motion was seconded and passed by the board on voice count.

7. Election of Officers was the next order of business.

The proposed slate of officers was put forth for the coming year:

- President:
Albert Huntington
- Vice President:
Steve Marak
- Recording Secretary:
Lester Kallus
- Treasurer:
Patricia Frank

All new officer candidates were elected on a voice vote.

8. Scott Hyndman presented a report on the Schott Prints project. The IAS has sent the payment for the cost of making the transparencies, the desired drawings have been selected, and the project appears to be on track to produce 600 unbound sets of 60 of Schott's beautiful botanical illustrations for distribution and sale by the IAS and the Vienna Natural History Museum. Scott with the help of others would work on getting this project to fruition.

9. Wilbert Hetterscheid reported on another project, *Flora Malaysiana*, two volumes of which would be about Aroids. Work is still needed on the revision of two Aroid genera, *Homalomena* and *Anadendrum*, before the work can be published. It is thought that Peter Boyce, who is currently at Kuching in Sarawak, East Malaysia, might be the man for the job. The project also needs funding, \$18,000.

10. Derek Burch reported that the upcoming issue of *Aroideana* has been sent to the publisher.

11. It was once again brought to the board's attention that the scientific community and university libraries would think more highly of our publication if it were published more than once a year. A discussion ensued on publishing two issues per year, one general issue and another devoted to a single genera or Aroid plant group such as *Alocasia* or *Amorphophallus*.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting, as everyone was hungry, tired, or anxious to leave town, or all of the above. Motion was seconded and passed.

Submitted pending approval of board.

Denis W. Rotolante,
Recording Secretary

Financial Statement of the International Aroid Society

August 30, 2002 to August 30, 2003

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD: \$38,770.00

FUNDS RECEIVED:

MEMBERSHIP	\$ 6898.00
BOOKS	
"Aroids"	\$ 175.00
"Gardens of RBM"	\$ 350.00
"Aroids of P.N."	\$ 108.00
"Pachyneurium"	\$ 55.00
"Tale of the Titans"	\$ 25.00
Index	\$ 16.00
Back Issues	\$ 1255.00
AUCTIONS: Miami	\$ 885.00
North Carolina	\$ 839.00
INTEREST	\$ 179.00
BANQUET	\$ 380.00
PLANT SALES	\$10,320.00
(Payouts \$5317) Net: \$5004	
Sponsor Fund	\$ 75.00
Vendors	\$ 2577.00
Donation	\$ 97.00
TOTAL:	\$24,235.00

\$63,005.00

DISBURSEMENTS:

PRINTING	
AROIDEANA	\$ 7,342.00
NEWSLETTER WITH POSTAGE	\$ 2874.00
OTHER	\$ 772.00
POSTAGE, P.O. Box, Phone	\$ 2411.00
PLANT SALES (PAY-OUTS)	\$ 5318.00
SHOW: Awards	\$ 1548.00
Food and Supplies	\$ 1604.00
5% to FTG	\$ 529.00
Cash for Bank	\$ 500.00
WEB SITE	\$ 1063.00
FTG ROOM RENT & MEMBERSHIP	\$ 330.00
FTG Contribution for Brick	\$ 250.00
Back Issue Storage	\$ 1578.00
David Light - Use of His Illustrations	\$ 50.00
Christe Rield - Dorn Schott Slides	\$ 60.00
Refund of Donation	\$ 800.00
CORPORATION FEE	\$ 61.00
PAYPAL Transfer of Funds (1.89)	\$ 5,000.00
MISC.	\$ 1136.00
Deposit for Prints for the Show	\$ 500.00
TOTAL:	\$33,826.00

CURRENT BALANCE: \$29,179.00

Solicitations for Award Nominations

The International Aroid Society
P.O. Box 43-1853, So. Miami, FL 33143 USA

Dr. Monroe Birdsey Memorial Award

The International Aroid Society is soliciting from aroid researchers, institutions of higher learning, museums, universities, botanists and aroid enthusiasts worldwide the names and qualifications of suitable student candidates who may be eligible to receive the Dr. Monroe Birdsey Memorial Award.

This prestigious annual award shall be presented for a third time at the IAS show and sale usually held in Miami, Florida at The Fairchild Tropical Garden in September. It consists of a cash award of U.S. \$500.00, plus an engraved crystal token. Travel expenses to and from Miami, board and lodging will be provided by the IAS. If, in the opinion of the IAS governing board, a suitable candidate is not found, the award may be postponed until the following year. In future years, the award may be presented at an international aroid conference rather than the show and sale in Miami.

To be eligible to receive this award, a student should be actively engaged in some form of research into plants belonging to the family *Araceae*, and must provide documentation of this in the form of papers on aroids that are already published, or that are in the process of being written. All nominations will be considered by the full board of the IAS, and the most suitable nominee shall be chosen and then notified.

The recipient, to be announced in June, will be required to be present at the show and sale in Miami in September to receive the award. While in Miami, the recipient shall give a presentation on any aspect of

their research on *Araceae*, typically a 20-minute talk with slides. Alternatively, the recipient may present to the editor of *Aroideana* the draft of a paper on *Araceae* to be published in that journal. If the nominee intends that a paper will be presented to the Editor of *Aroideana* INSTEAD of giving a presentation at the Miami IAS Show and Sale in September, a draft of this paper shall accompany his or her nomination so that it may be reviewed BEFORE an awardee is been chosen.

All nominations should be clearly labeled "Nominations for the Dr. Monroe Birdsey Memorial Award" and posted by February 28th, 2004 to the IAS address above.

The H.W. Schott Award and the Bette Waterbury Award

The International Aroid Society would like to remind its members that two additional awards are occasionally bestowed upon deserving researchers and horticulturists.

The H.W. Schott Award was most recently presented to Dr. Dan Nicolson from the Smithsonian. It is to be awarded to persons showing excellence in aroid research.

The Bette Waterbury Award was most recently presented to Josef Bogner. It is to be awarded to persons making major contributions in the field of aroid horticulture.

Nominations for these awards should be addressed to the President of the IAS and sent to the IAS address above. These nominations are accepted on an ongoing basis, awards being issued as the board of the IAS sees fit. ♀

Breeders' Banter ... By Michael Pascall

Just repotted the *Alocasia heterophylla* seedlings that came from Chanrit of Thailand. Very pleased with the growth rate, only ten months and some had formed small corms. Two had striped petioles and the rest had green. The largest had leaves of 25 cm [10"]. I was lucky to get the seeds just at the start of the warm weather, and with the mild winter, growth continued all year.


Also received two infructescences of *Alocasia sanderiana*. This species seems to set seed readily. I now have a much better area for looking after small seedlings. They should feel at home with the many community pots and trays of all sorts of exotic orchids here at Cape Oasis.

The *Anthurium "Percy's Pride"* seedlings are looking good. Some showing a lovely dark crystalline finish.

Some reports from fellow breeders:


- Other experimental hybrids doing well, and have almost finished picking over the *A. papillilaminum* x *A. warocqueanum* infructescence. The *A. balaoanum* crosses are much slower, but at least two are getting there. The wild-collected *A. forgetii* seed will also be ripe this week.

- I think that there are actually at least three distinct types of *A. warocqueanum* – check out Ecuagenera's website at <http://www.ecuagenera.com/anthurios/anthuriums.htm> for a photo of form that I haven't seen up close yet. One thing I've noticed is that these plants do show some ontogenetic variation, and that my biggest plant (new leaf blade >90 cm) does show some additional veining that was definitely not apparent when it was a seedling. I finally expect to be able to cross two of my plants later this week. The window of opportunity with these things is incredibly short, since the receptive period of the pistillate phase appears to be 24–48 hrs. and the spadix sheds pollen for an equally brief period. Find that they grow great when you keep wrapping NZ sphagnum around the stems as they climb. This is the only way that I've been able to keep a good number of leaves on the stem as they progress upwards.

- None of my crosses using *A. balaoanum* as a seed parent have stuck (yet). This is somewhat perplexing, since the plant is so vigorous, and the pistillate phase is very marked, with the spadix literally dripping goo when receptive. Maybe, large, velvety leaves and inflorescence architecture notwithstanding, it is not in *Section Cardiolonchium*. 

What's New on the IAS Website? ... By Scott Hyndman

Dr. Paul Ressler, Professor of Biology at Virginia Wesleyan College, Norfolk, has made significant contributions to the IAS website and IAS membership in recent months. His first accomplishment was in creating a database of all the Aroideanas, where you can search for them by volume, year, author, genus, subject, and location. He plans to include image information in the near future. This database is accessible at <http://aroideana.vwc.edu/>.

Paul's most recent accomplishment is to provide an online database of the IAS members. This information is the same as that which would be published in printed membership directory, although a printed directory is planned for the near future. With this database you can search the members' directory by name, by alphabetical listing of the names, by country, by state for US members, and by institutional and business members. This online directory is only available to IAS members who are registered to access the Members' Page of the IAS website at <http://www.aroid.org>. Please contact Scott Hyndman at hyndman@aroid.org if you do not yet have access to the Members' Page. 

IAS Officers

President:
Albert Huntington

Vice President:
Steve Marak

Treasurer:
Tricia Frank

Recording Secretary:
Lester Kallus

Corresponding Secretary:
Vacant

Membership:
Paul Ressler

IAS Publications

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