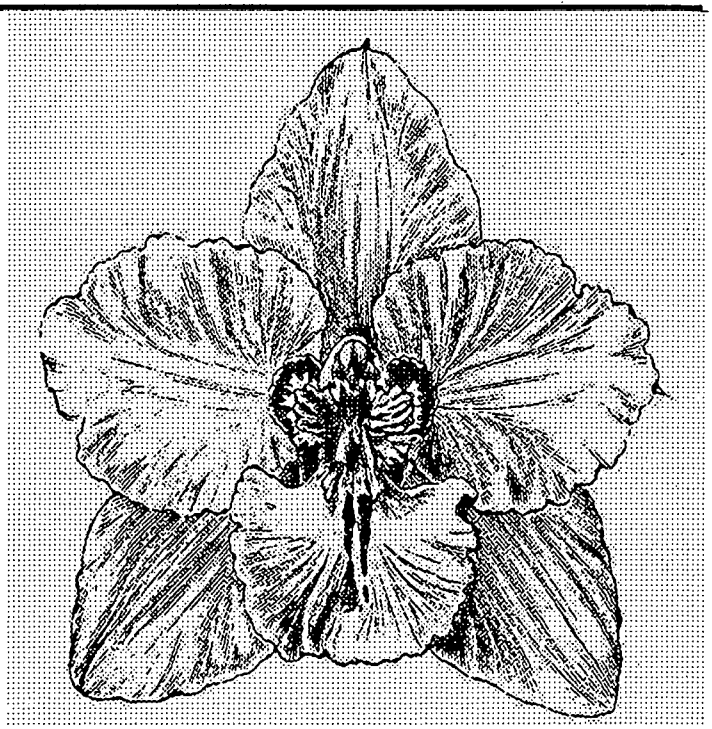
❖Odontoglossum Alliance❖

Newsletter August 1999



World Orchid Conference Report Odontoglossum Alliance Day

by John E. Miller

The World Orchid Conference (WOC) in Vancouver, BC Canada, opened on Tuesday evening, 27 April 1999 with a preview party and closed on Sunday, 2 May 1999.

I arrived in Vancouver on 24 April to attend an AOS Committee meeting the following day. Show set-up had begun a day or so before in the lovely Vancouver Convention Center. The center has a striking exterior design with six cloth sails hung double to give a different look from each of the cardinal directions. The interior was architected to provide ideal conditions and arrangements for a world class orchid meeting. The show hall was spacious with high ceilings. The sales area was filled with over 90 booths of orchids and orchid materials. In the same building were conference rooms with more than adequate seating capacity. The Vancouver Orchid Society under the leadership of Wally Thomas did a terrific job to have all ready and it worked smoothly throughout the entire show. The organizers were seemingly tireless, always available and forever cheerful and prepared to solve any problem or answer any question. The Odontoglossum Alliance is especially indebted to Wally Thomas, a founder of the Odontoglossum Alliance, for his allowing the Odontoglossum Alliance great freedom in organizing the program for "Our Day". The stalwart person with whom all program activities flowed was Joan Walton. She made all the social arrangements. She answered every query and action item using e-mail most of the time. Only infrequently was it necessary to resort to a phone conversation. The major action of printing the 'Odontoglossum Alliance Compendium' and seeing that it was available for sale on 'Odont' day was James Biro. Not only was it beautifully done, but done at a most reasonable price.

The preview party was fully attended and was the first time the general registrants could view the show and survey the sales area. The odont displays were numerous. Strawberry Creek, Golden Gate Orchids, Sunset Orchids, Colombiorchides, Rio Verde Orchids, Charles Island Orchids,

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Rod McClellan Orchids, Equigenera, all had beautiful displays containing Odonts and odont alliance plants. Golden Gate had some terrific yellow in Odcdm. Mayfair, one of which had previously received an FCC/AOS. Strawberry Creek had a number of beautiful plants with my favorite were two clones of Oda. Derek Cotton. (A Derek Cotton was in the auction material)

Thursday, 29 April, was 'Odont Day with 5 lectures in the morning and 2 in the afternoon. Each of these speakers will have their talk reproduced in whole or part in subsequent newsletters. The exact program had been published in the two previous newsletters so I will not go into great detail on these talks. The room was filled with over 200 attendees. The first session in the morning was chaired by Terry and Doug Kennedy, who provided insight into each speakers background. Juan Felipe Posada opened the session with a gloomy report on the state of wild Odonts in Colombia. The devastation of the forest areas both for farming and drug production is continuing at a great rate. Sandro Cusi described some similar conditions for Mexico, but with some hope for retaining areas protected to be in their natural state. Alex Hirtz gave a most interesting discussing of the evolution of the Odonts as a result of the glacial age and its receding along with geological structural changes. Roberto Vasquez, Bolivia, reported that they have very little natural habitat destruction and as a result many orchid species, with discoveries of undescribed species occurring at a rapid rate. Roberto showed a number of Odontoglossums that are native to Bolivia, but not seen in collections. There was one particularly beautiful red odontoglossum. The reason these plants are not seen is collections is that it is impossible to obtain CITIES from Bolivia. Roberto along with his colleagues are completing a laboratory and growing area. They plan to self these species and then be able to ship flasks from Bolivia. This is an interesting event and one that will perhaps further involve the Odontoglossum Alliance.

Bob Hamilton described some of his results of following the suggestions of Don Wimber to obtain 4n species through the use of colchine and then using those tetraploids to obtain hybrids. He showed a number of examples of his work. He also pointed out the need to retain the original gene pool for future usage. Stig Dalström displayed his insightful observations as to the taxonomic relations among the odontoglossum group. He was followed by Mark Chase, who along with colleagues at Kew and The University of Florida have been using DNA analysis to determine the relations among plants. As Dr. Chase pointed out, for the first time they have some very solid genetic measures to use in taxonomic determination. He showed that the odontoglossums (as they are presently named) divide into two groups. One group in closely related and perhaps part of the cyrtochilum group while the other is related or part of the oncidium group. He did however caution that more time is needed to collect more data and to analyze it carefully before any definitive changes, if any, are recommended or to be done.

All speakers received a loud show of appreciation for the material delivered. Milton Carpenter, President AOS, ably chaired the afternoon session.

As had been reported in previous newsletters, a compendium of material was assembled from the newsletters. This material was organized into 12 chapters. Unfortunately the color material had to be left out to keep the cost within reason. The covers were designed by John Leathers and Bob Hamilton and supplied for the printing. James Biro, Vancouver Orchid Society, handled the printing of the books which turned out to be about 200 pages. He was able to obtain a most reasonable printing cost and with the objective of making the compendium widely available it was sold at a price of $12 US or $15 CAN. One hundred copies were printed. It was planned to sell some before and during the breaks in the lecture program, with the bulk of them being offered for sale during the lunch and dinner. However, before the lectures began, Mario Ferrusi who handled the sale, was down to less than 50 copies. They kept going during the break. He was asked to save 10 copies for the lunch. All copies were sold except for one which was misplaced and later found. A list was also made of those who wanted copies should there be a future printing. It is planned to ask our members to indicate their desire to have a copy. Details of this are in another article in the newsletter. Needless to say all were pleased with the results of that activity. I caution our readers that we may not be able to obtain copies at the same low price.

The Odont lunch was well attended by over 85 people. About 1/3 of the donated auction material was offered during this time. Spirited bidding encouraged by the auctioneers, Howard Liebman and Steve Beck-

endorf, resulted in quick disposal of some most interesting plant material. A number of flasks as well as seedlings and mature plants were available.

The evening festivities were capped by a dinner at the Chinese Imperial Restaurant. In 1996 the Odont Alliance held a dinner in the same location and it sold out to the 50 spaces we had available. Joan Walton, the WOC director of social functions secured for us the same restaurant, this time using the entire downstairs which held 140 people. Long before the WOC opened this dinner was sold out. We were filled to capacity. One of the features at the dinner was a commemorative wine glass. This glass had the WOC emblem on one side and the Odontoglossum Alliance logo on the opposite side. Each person was to take their glass with them when the dinner was over and it happened. There were no left over glasses at the dinner tables. We did end up with about 30 glasses due to deliberate over buying. These are being reserved by The Odontoglossum Alliance for a future use. Beginning the dinner was some remarks by Odontoglossum President, Dr. Howard Liebman. Howard presented along with the thanks of the Alliance a set of six of the commemorative glasses to each of the speakers. Following Howard was Milton Carpenter, President of the American Orchid Society. He presented the AOS Educational award to Rebecca Northern who was attending the dinner. This award had been given only one time previously. Milton extolled the work of Rebecca, whose book "Home Orchid Growing' is in its fourth printing. The first printing being in 1951. She is a great lady and her work made possible the home growing of orchids possible for thousands of people. She graciously received the award. Howard presented certificates of appreciation to Wally Thomas for his organizing and operating leadership of the WOC. HE also presented one to your author.

Dinner was an array of 8 courses each individually served with speed and dexterity. The dinner moved quickly so that when one course was finished, it was immediately removed and replaced with the next offering. For those interested in the menu, it is in the February newsletter. Following dinner the silver tongues of Steve Beckendorf and Howard Liebman moved to auctioning the remainder of the donated material. I thank all those who donated some of the most interesting and hard to obtain material I have seen when compared to the previous six or eight auctions. I addition to the plant material, Stig Dalström contributed one of his watercolors of Odontoglossum crispum in a jungle scene that was handsomely framed. Roberto Vasquez had discovered a Rodriguez and naming the new species was auctioned. Numerous awarded plants were on the table. Notable among them were two Eric Young Orchid Foundation plants that were known excellent breeders. Both of these fetched brisk bidding and good contributions to the alliance. When it was all completed the results of the auction and the book sales covered the expenses the alliance incurred in putting together the day. We are still left with cash in the checking account, while not large, it adequately covers our cash flow needs. The financial results are in this newsletter.

I believe people enjoyed the day, both the lectures and the social events. It could not have been accomplished with out the support of Wally Thomas, Joan Walton and James Biro.

The organization of bringing plants out of Canada and into the United States was superb. All sales were located in one large area with security to see that no plants were taken into or out of the show area which was adjacent to the sales area. Within the sales area was a facility to check purchases. This permitted one to visit the sales area a multiple number of times, and yet retain each of their purchases. Also within the sales area were the facilities for obtaining export and import permits. One had only to purchase a single document that was filled out to list the purchases and from whom they were purchased. Each of the sales booths had a number which corresponded to their import permit into Canada. This also was a record of their CITIES. Thus when you completed your export form, when you listed a plant or plant along with the sales booth number it automatically brought up the necessary CITIES and health certificate information. A member of the Canadian export control group was always on hand to review and help each person with the paper work. Then when you proceeded to export control, the process proceeded quickly to obtain the necessary paper work for the Canadian authorities. Next you proceeded to the US Department of Agriculture representative who quickly checked over your paper work and plants. Without a hitch you had the necessary documentation to bring plants through customs into the US. The lines were never long and all personnel were cheery and helpful. When I left Canada with my purchases

exit out of Canada took one piece of paper and US customs and the Department of Agriculture took another piece and my process was complete.

Wally Thomas and his team deserve great credit for such fine organization.

Patterns of Diversity of the Equatorial Odontoglossums

By Alexander Hirtz

In previous lectures I have discussed why the biodiversity in the Equatorial forests is the highest by surface in the world. I also presented, from my experience in geology, archeology and anthropology that after the end of the last glaciation, only 12,000 years ago, the climate worldwide has changed dramatically since. Large cold deserts and savannas in the Amazon Basin and along the Pacific coast, are now covered by warm dense tropical forests and the Andean highlands, a great portion then under ice, are now the home of rain and cloud forests. These new forests are populated by a very high speciation of trees, of which many have only evolved recently and have invaded these territories in less then 100 tree generations. In such a short period of time thousands of species of plants, insects and apparently mammals and birds have radiated into new species. I have suggested that Darwinian mechanisms for evolution are not adequate to explain this explosion in evolution for certain orchid genera as well as for other plant families like *gesneriads* and *heliconias*. As an alternative I have proposed orthogenetic punctuated macromutations, where a given mature species suddenly mutates into 4, 8 or 16 new species, a phenomenon observed in the paleontological record for animals. This is easily observed with certain orchid genera of the *Pleurothallidinae* Lindl., the *Telipogons* H.B.K., the *Dichae* Lindley, etc. The patterns of diversity of the *Odontoglossum* H.B.K., as in some other genera of the *Oncidinae*, show that this evolutionary proposed phenomena has not been triggered for them yet, or that the mechanism of evolution is a different one.

The major differences in these patterns are, that the newly evolved ones are found in clusters of species which are restricted to very small geographic areas, while mature species, like the *Odontoglossums*, are found in reduced numbers of species or as isolated species, but with a very large geographic distribution, often-crossing major natural barriers, like the Inter-Andean depression or the main north-south Andean cordilleras.

Most if not all the *Odontoglossum* species, appear to be the selection of the fittest species, survivors in refugias during the last ice-age, species which have during the present inter-glacial period again invaded extensive geographic areas. I would like to explain this idea a little more in detail. Lets assume that during the last inter-glacial period the *Odontoglossums* underwent orthogenetic punctuated macromutations. The forests were then filled with a large number of *Odontoglossum* species restricted to small habitats. As all species, to assure survival of their gene-pool, each newly evolved species would try to stabilize its population by expanding its geographic distribution. But the neighboring niches are already saturated by other species of *Odontoglossums*, who have already occupied the same prime localities. The clash among species to gain access to new homes had started and the survival of the fittest is king. The more successful a given species is over others, more individuals of that species will be around, incrementing the number of seeds and, hence, the chance of its survival and expansion into new territories. After several thousand generations, the weak species have gone extinct, while the strong ones populated vast geographic areas. About 100,000 years ago, when the last ice-age set in, the average temperature dropped at least be 6 degrees Celsius of 12 degrees Fahrenheit. The glaciers pushed the cloud forests down, while the desertification in the Pacific coast and in the Amazon basin got most of the wet tropical forests extinct, where only a few survived along rivers and secluded In the intermediate cloud forests along the slopes of the Andean Cordillera, only a few orchid species survived, where these had to migrate down to the accustomed warmer climates along with the surviving host trees and pollinators. Most of the refugia were probably separated from each other, also isolating the various populations of the same surviving species. 12,000

years ago the glaciation started to retreat, allowing the populations in the refugias to re-conquer the lost territories. (Figure 1). Most *Odontoglossums* are found in the foothills of volcanoes, where each volcano is isolated from the others. At least a third of the orchid species are endemic to each volcano and in many instances localized to only one slope or canyon of that volcano. But *Odontoglossums* are among the exceptions, where one finds the same species spread over many mountains and even whole cordilleras. Enough time has elapsed since the end of the last inter-glacial period, about 130,000 years ago, where the populations of the same species that survived in different refugia have acquired variations in color and shape. Sometimes the variation are notorious enough for a taxonomist to classify them as varieties, subspecies and for the splitters as new species. Isolation could be another evolutionary mechanism, where morphological differences may be substantial enough for a taxonomist to give certain different population a valid new name at the level of species. The taxonomical problem arises when certain populations are not isolated enough and they might still have the same pollinator producing a hybrid swarm, where no distinct lines can be drawn between one species and the next. This problem has allowed for angered discussions among taxonomists and hobbyists to the point of declaring war among themselves.

The most know examples in variability are the Colombian species *Odontoglossum crispum* Lindl., *Odontoglossum nobile* Rchb. f., and *Odontoglossum luteo-purpureum* Lidl. Examples in Ecuador with a very wide distribution are, for instance, *Odontoglossum hallii* Lindl. where the dark variations are found in northwest Ecuador, the light yellow variety with a large white lip more to the south and the ones with a yellow lip, known as var. *xanthoglossum* Rchb. f. in the south-east of Ecuador.

A very good example of great variability are forms of *Odontoglossum ramosissimum* Lindl. to be found from Venezuela through Colombia and Ecuador. East of Quito, growing on lava flows we find one form of the yellow var. *xanthinum* Rchb. f. (Figure 2). To the west we find a white form known as var. *albo-maculatum* Bockem. (Figure 3) and to the south-east another white form with a pink base named var. *liliiflorum* Veitch (Figure 4).

Another example of a species of extreme variability is *Odontoglossum angustatum* Lindl. to be found throughout Ecuador, populations varying in flower size anywhere from 3 cm to 12 cm in diameter, the colors varying from light yellow green with rather weak cinnamon-colored spotting to strong lime green with rather dense red brown bands. *Odontoglossum cliviceps* Rchb. f. is only slightly different from its closest relative, *Odm. angustatum* Lindl., in plant habit and flower aspect, an example where one of the endemic forms of *Odm. angustatum* Lindl. has been elevated to the rank of species, while the other forms have not received similar attention by a taxonomist splitter. Other closely related species in the *Angustatum* group are the very variable and widespread species *Odontoglossum pardinum* Lindl. (Figure 5) and the newly described species *Odontoglossum matangense* Bockem (Figure 6) and *Odontoglossum alborrosseum* Dalström (Figure 7).

Other variable Ecuadorian species are *Odontoglossum cristatellum* Rchb., with major variations in size and color, *Odontoglossum cirrhosum* Lindl., again with major variations in size of inflorescence, flower size and color-spotting (Figure 8), *Odontoglossum cruentum* Rchb. f., with a variability where certain populations might be considered a new species (Figure 9), and *Odontoglossum spectatissimum* Lidl.

There are other cases of variability, where the geographic extremes or certain isolated populations have been given more than one species name, like the *Odontoglossum harrianum* Rchb. f. and *Odontoglossum wyattianum* Wilson or *Odontoglossum crinitum* Rchb. f. and *Odontoglossum tenue* Cogn., examples where one clearly can see a common ancestry and often one can find the intermediary forms, which, on the other hand, might be natural hybrids.

As discussed at the beginning, there is no evidence for orthogenetic punctuated macromutations among *Odontoglossums.* There are certain species labeled as Odontoglossums, where radiation of species is very dramatic, like *Odontoglossum edwardii* Rchb. f., but this species is about the only colorful one of the *Cimiciferum* group and should not be classified with the *Odontoglossum.* Species of the *Cimiciferum* group are a good example of recent punctuated macromutations to be found everywhere in the Andean cordillera, where each popu-

lation has substantial differences with others in the habitat of the plant, the branching of the inflorescence and the structure of the flower. Unfortunately for the *Cimiciferums,* plants are so large and flowers rather small and inconspicuous that no one likes to classify them, even less grow them, other than by mistake while confusing the plant without flower with the rarer ones of the *Cyrtochilum* Rchb. f. There are probably 50 species in the *Cimiciferum* group where only 12 have been named.

Why have the *Odontoglossums* not radiated into new species? Either, this genus does not evolve in this fashion or the triggering factor for the mutations has not occurred yet. For the survival of the species, *Odontoglossums* might as well not have radiated into new ones yet, because the new-comers, like new-born babies, have little chance to survive the destruction of delicate and localized habitats. As discussed *Odontoglossums* are mature species with a large geographic distribution which have already survived dramatic climate cycles for thousands of generations and are prepared to survive once more the future climatic changes. *Odontoglossums* have adapted to live on most areas of no competition, preferring the canopy of any size of trees (Figure 10) and, of course, on the fresh surfaces formed by the current volcanic activity, like extensive lava flows (Figure 11), ash and mud-slides, areas which meet excellent quasi hydroponic conditions.

Ecuador is the most densely populated country in South America and, hence, the pressure of population-growth has forced people literally into all primary rain and cloud-forests along the Andean Cordillera. Only small patches with primary trees are left. During the more extended summers, a few weeks of draught will kill the weak and delicate species, while only the strong ones will survive. It might take only one exceptional extended hot and dry summer for an orchid species to go extinct in isolated forest patches, where only the evolutionary mature ones, like the *Odontoglossums,* will survive without much effort. *Odontoglossums* can also adapt to grow on fences, isolated trees in pastures (Figure 12) and on road-cuts. That does not mean, one does not have to worry about the survival of *Odontoglossums* in nature. As discussed, *Odontoglossums* are fairly safe from extinction in comparison to many other genera. But orchid growers prefer the unusual and showy varieties and forms of each species. And of course there is the strong endemism for certain populations, which become as threatened as any other endemic species if the restricted habitat is deforested in its totality. Even *Odontoglossums* do not grow on pasture. The only way to preserve life examples of the rare varieties is to collect and multiply them in *ex-situm* programs, like in botanic gardens or by hobbyists and commercial growers. Many species of *Odontoglossum* are not encountered in collections, because there is great difficulty in growing them. For some, like *Odontoglosssum compactum* Rchb. f., it is understandable, because of its stoloniferous growth and being native to the highest cloud forests up to 4000 meters above sea level, but elevation alone is no excuse, because even this species grew only 10,000 years ago at least 1,000 meters lower. Research is required to find out why species like *Odontoglossum ramosissimum*, *Odontoglossum pardinum* or *Odontoglossum angustatum* have a difficult growing in cultivation, and if they do grow and eventually flower, the inflorescence and the size of flowers are completely stunted, while there is little or no problem to grow many other genuses of that same elevation. This is even the case by growing these *Odontoglossums* in Quito, which is located at the same elevation and apparent similar climatic conditions then their natural habitat.

The Botanic Foundation of the Andes, in coordination with the Orchid Society of Quito, has now finished the construction of the new orchid conservatory in the center of Quito, where we pretend to grow all Andean species of *Odontoglossum*. In a nearby facility they will be multiplied along with as many other species as possible. We welcome you to participate with our endeavor and as of now you are invited to visit us by the end of the year 2000 to the public opening of the conservatory. It will be a great experience and lots of fun.

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The Odontoglossum Alliance Compendium

In celebration of the Odontoglossum Day at the 16th World Orchid Conference a compendium of material was taken from the 30 newsletters that have been issued since the founding of our organization. The material was organized into twelve chapters including History, Species, Hybrids, Culture, etc. Attempts were made keep the costs of the Compendium within reasonable bounds, In keeping with this, NO color material was included, however all relevant black and white photos and like drawings were included.

The manuscript was sent to Canada where under the careful direction and supervision of James Biro 100 copies were produced. The covers were designed and supplied by John Leathers and Robert Hamilton. The Compendium was wire-O bound. The plan was to sell it before the lectures and during the lecture breaks, but retaining the bulk of the supply for the lunch and dinner events. Due to Jim Biro's efforts production was done at a most reasonable cost. The decision was made to sell them as close to our cost as possible, but keeping the Alliance in the black. The result was the 200 page document was sold for $12.00 US or $15.00 Canadian. Mario Ferrusi ably handled sales such that before lunch arrived he had only 10 copies remaining, which quickly were sold. Mario did make a 'want list' which is being retained.

The plan is to re-print the Compendium and offer it first to our members. We are investigating re-printing it in Canada, then sending it to the Us for distribution to our members desiring a copy. We do not know those costs as of this newsletter. To help gage the printing size we are asking each member to indicate if they have an intention to purchase a copy. WE will then gage our printing size. When we do re-print and make distribution to our members we will then transfer all remaining copies to The American Orchid Society book store for further sales. As this will result in further costs, purchase through the book store can be expected to be substantially over the direct to members price.

This is the time we ask for dues renewal and vote on election of directors. Included with that will an op-

portunity to indicate your interest in obtaining a Compendium.

Dues, Election of Directors, New by-laws

May is the time we ask members to pay their dues for the coming year (s). Last year we made provision to pay dues for multiple years. Some members have paid through May 99, some through May 2000, and a few beyond. I have enclosed a dues form that states through which period your dues have been paid. To be retained as members dues for the coming year (99-00) must be received by August 99. If not one reminder will be sent. Those not paid prior to the November newsletter will be dropped from the mailing.

Each dues form will also contain your vote for directors, adoption of the new By-laws and indication of interest in the Compendium. Thus I ask each member, paid up or paying up to send in their dues form with their vote.

The Directors recommend the following slate for election:

Helmut Rohrl	Current Chairman of the Board CA
Mario Ferrusi	Canada
Tom Perlite	California
James Rassmann	Oregon
Robert Hamilton	California
Roger Williams	New York
Juan Felipe Posada	Colombia, SA

You are asked to vote for seven directors and their is a place to write in candidates. The ballots will be counted and the results announced in the August 1999 newsletter. The directors will then elect the officers - President, Vice-President, Secretary/Treasurer.

We have a revised set of by-laws proposed for adoption. The original by-laws were taken from another organization in 1988 and contained many provisions not applicable to our alliance. Helmut Rohrl has carefully re-drawn the by-laws, had them reviewed by the directors and officers as well as legal review. These by laws are much simplified over the existing set. The Directors recommend a vote to approve.

You are urged to PROMPTLY return your ballot and dues if required. nws297

Schedule of AOS Trustees Meetings

It has been the practice of the past several years for the Odontoglossum Alliance to schedule its annual meeting in conjunction with the spring AOS Trustees meeting. This has been done for several reasons. The trustees meeting is held in conjunction with an orchid show. Our alliance has a day in the period of the meetings and show. This has the advantage of the show organization providing all the administrative details needed to have a meeting. It schedules the location, the meeting rooms, the hotel, collects money if needed, and numerous other details. Our Alliance is just not set up to run a meeting independent of the larger administrative operation, at least not the kind that involves lectures, registration, lunches and dinners. We tried that once when we held a meeting in Santa Barbara and it was lightly attended and very difficult and time consuming to arrange.

The Odontoglossum Alliance meeting held with a Trustees meeting attracts a number of people to our function, people that would not normally attend, while we enhance the attendance at the overall meeting. For us to attract our Odont people to a meeting we not only need an interesting and informative program, but also odont sellers and Odonts in the show. We do not consider having a meeting at the fall trustees meeting because that is the season with a dearth of flowers. SO we are back to considering only the Spring meeting and that in conjunction with a show and AOS trustees meeting.

The schedule for the next few years of AOS trustees meetings are as follows:

Year	Spring Location
2000	Tampa, Florida
2001	Columbus, Ohio
2002	Chicago, Illinois

These are locations, especially Tampa where there are almost no growers of the plants of our alliance. This posses a problem. If we are not to have a meeting in conjunction with the AOS trustees meeting and instead select a time and location where there would be lots of Odonts in the show and a good number of odont sellers, then the best location would be San Francisco, held at the time of the San Francisco Orchid Show at the Fort Mason location in March. This might be a good alternative. We could also hold less of a formal meeting that would do away with so much formal activity and the attendant planning.

I would like to hear from our members on this matter. Please put your comments and suggestions on your ballot. I will collect those and get them to our Board of Directors for a decision.
John E. Miller
Secretary

Auction and Compendium Results

The generosity of those that donated material to the auction and hose who purchased auction material was tremendous. The auction produced $4225.00 Canadian. From this was donated $150.00 US to Roberto Chavez as his share of the contribution of the naming of the new Rodriguez recently found in Bolivia.

The sale of the Compendium produced a small positive contribution to our treasurer of $165.00 US. The net result of the costs our Odontoglossum Alliance incurred for the 'Odont Day' at the WOC were covered with a small surplus that has gone into our account. We pretty much broke even.

Obituary
John Hainsworth
Requiescat in Pacem

John Hainsworth, notable orchidist, died May 14, 1999 in a hospital in McKinleyville, California. The cause of death was pneumonia complicated by leukemia.

John Hainsworth was born Arthur John Hainsworth III in Manchester, England in 1953. When discussing his youth, John described his upbringing as "strange". John raced stock cars in his teenage years. s a young man, he entered the car and body trade setting up his own business, specializing in restoring classic cars. Noted for his craftsmanship and respect for detail, John was awarded contract work for one of England's prestigious television production studios, Granada Television in Manchester.

John Hainsworth's interest in orchids began in 1978. He focused on the oncidinae and specifically on odontoglossums. John witnessed the great leap forward in the quality of Odontiodas accomplished during the late 1970's and 1980's by breeders such as Keith Andrew, George Black, Robert Dugger and Mansell & Hatcher who achieved great success in improving color, form, size and pattern. In addition to raising orchids, John was interested in orchid history. He had great concern for the preservation of the orchid hybrid as well as the orchid hobbyist and ventured into what can be properly be called the politics of orchids. John was the Hon. Secretary of the British Orchid Council for the allowed 5 year period, served as the Hon. Secretary to the British Odontoglossum Alliance and to the North of England Orchid Society. John served as a Director of the Eric Young Orchid Foundation and was instrumental in instigating conservation of the Eric Young foundation Library, one of the outstanding orchid libraries. John was an accredited judge for the British Orchid Council

John Hainsworth's great ambition was to immigrate to California and be a player in the breeding and raising of odontoglossums. He accomplished this in 1995. John had great faith that odontoglossums and Odontiodas could be further improved and he took on this task, collaborating with Pat Hill, proprietor of Strawberry Creek Orchids. McKinleyville, California. growers who have visited Strawberry Creek or seen their recent exhibits can attest to the quality and success of this collaboration. In addition to his work at the nursery, John joined the American Orchid Society Judging System serving as a student judge. He was a director of the Odontoglossum Alliance.

John Hainsworth was a complex, gothic character. An avid reader and exceptionally literate, John could recite prose from his virtually photographic memory. He was anyone's equal with humor and wit. John loved driving; anyone riding with him was in for a "white knuckle" experience. John recently took up playing the dobro guitar satisfying a passionate interest in blues and blues based music. Blues was really his favorite and most anything derived from this music he enjoyed. The dobro is more like the human voice than almost any other instrument which makes it ideal for the sliding blues melodies.. It is sad that after achieving his ambition of becoming a Californian, John should have his life cut short. John's Green Card application was still in the works which means he legally remains now and forever an Alien of Extraordinary Ability. John was aware of the gravity of his health problems and faced them stoically. John Hainsworth leaves behind a legacy of hybrids most of which are yet to bloom. John Hainsworth was a great and wonderful friend. He will be missed. Orchid growing will be less fun without him.

Robert Hamilton

Friends

John Hainsworth of Strawberry Creek Orchids died on 14 May 1999. The cause of death was complications arising from pneumonia. Many of us have known John and have become his friend. John was an enthusiastic Odontoglossum person, an excellent grower, and a well informed hybridizer.

It was a pleasure to be together with him and to enjoy his wit and his love of life. John and I have been friends for many years and it saddens me that he left us at a relatively young age.

We will remember him and deeply miss him.

Helmut Rohrl - Chairman of the Board - Odontoglossum Alliance

1998 Robert B. Dugger Award

The 1998 Robert B. Dugger Odontoglossum award went to Charles E. Wingate, Jr. MD for his Odontioda Bombay 'Wingate' AM/AOS with 80 points. Oda. Bombay is Oda. Harry Baldwin x Oda. Lynx. The cross was made by Keith Andrews and registered in 1994. The award description follows. Nine strikingly colored, full, well-proportioned flowers on one slightly crowded inflorescence; sepals and petals predominantly dark red-orange with serrated lavender margins, paling to orange basally; lip large and flat, red-orange with white picotee, overlaid lavender on lower one-third, highlighted by small yellow radial stripes on basal keels; substance very hard; texture lustrous. Nat. spr. 9.0 cm, 7.8 cm vert; ds 2.9 cm w, 4.0 cm l; pet 3.8 cm w, 4.0 cm l; ls 2.8 cm w, 4.6 cm l; lip 3.3 cm w, 3.4 cm l.

Congratulations to Chuck Wingate

Notice of Show

The Associacion Vallecaucana de Orquideologia and the people of Valle del Cauca are presenting a WORLD SHOWCASE OF ORCHIDS from 17 November through 21 November 1999, at the ORQUIDEORAMA and the newly built PARQUE DE LAS ORQUIDEAS EXPOSITION CENTER in Cali, Colombia.

The intent is to present to the orchid growers of the world the beauty and diversity of Colombian orchids, as well as the city of Cali and the Department of the Valle. The area and people are friendly, vibrant, civic and overall ecologic.

For information on this meeting please correspond to:

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Figure 1 12,000 years ago the glaciation started to retreat and today most of the Odontoglossums are found in the foothills of volcanoes, where each volcano is isolated from the others.

Figure 2 Odm. pardinum is found throughout the Andean mountains at high elevations from Venezuela to Bolivia.

Figure 3. Odm. cirrhosum is very variable in size of its inflorescence and color-spotting.

Figure 4. Odm. cirrhosum

Figure 5 Odm. angustatum

Figure 6 Odm. harraynum

Figure 7 Odm. hallii

Figure 8 Odm. kaegelianii

Figure 9 Odm. compressum

Figure 10 1998 Dugger Award- Oda. Bombay 'Wingate', AM/AOS

Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 8

Figure 7

Robert B. Dugger Odontoglossum Award: Most outstanding example of the *Odontoglossum* Alliance
Odontioda Bombay 'Wingate', AM/AOS

Figure 10

Figure 9