



Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.diabloviewos.org>

January 2002

Program: “What’s in a Name?” Sue Fordyce

Meeting Date, Time and Location

When: Thursday, Jan. 10, 2002

Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM

**7:00 PM Culture Session - Dennis Olivas “Dividing and Transplanting
Paphiopedilums”**

**Where: Contra Costa Water Dept. Auditorium
1331 Concord Ave., Concord**

Upcoming Events: (topics in parenthesis)

January, 2002

- 10 General meeting
Speaker: Sue Fordyce
(What’s in a Name?)
- 17 Board meeting - Barbara Tague’s

February, 2002

- 14 General meeting
Speaker: Rob Terry
(Phragmipedium Culture)

April, 2002

- 11 General meeting
DVOS Auction w/Dennis Olivas

October, 2002

- 10 General meeting
Speaker: Dr. Joanne Whitney
(How did it get that name?)

December, 2002

- 12 DVOS holiday party

Message from the President

I would like to thank the outgoing DVOS officers, board of directors and everyone who participated at meetings & events in 2001. Job well done! Special thanks to Dan Chiappone, past President. Also, thank you to John Chamberlain for the many years of service as Treasurer.

As your new president, I hope to follow the past Presidents in serving you the best I can. DVOS is a special society. I've been a board member for the past two years and a member for about 6 years. I have met a lot of people and made a lot of friends along the way. Having been in the interior plant industry for 33 years, I was getting tired of doing the same thing over and over. Shortly after purchasing one of my first orchids at an auction, I met Frank Fordyce. He encouraged me to join DVOS to learn more about raising orchids. Collecting and also using orchids in my business has brought new interest in doing my job. I owe this to Frank and orchids. "Thank you, Frank."

Special thanks to everyone who helped with our Holiday Party. Brenda Aday ended her year as 'Refreshment Queen' by organizing the set-up and clean up with her helper-elves. And Juan & Tonky Bofill added a special treat with the barbecued pork.

And last but not least ~ the entertainment was provided by Sue Fordyce, who recited a DVOS holiday poem she wrote and led everyone in a sing-along. She really made the evening special and put everyone in the Holiday spirit. Sue was dressed as Santa, substituting for her Dad since he was hospitalized at the time. I'm happy to report that Frank was released on Christmas Day and is at home doing well.

Hope we see all of you at upcoming meetings in 2002. We miss some of you 'old time' members we haven't seen for awhile.

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
FEB. NEWSLETTER
IS FRIDAY, JAN. 25**

DVOS STAFF

President - David Tomassini

Vice-President - Charlotte Leong

Secretary - Alice Tomassini

Treasurer - Barbara Tague

AOS Rep. - Barbara Tague

BBQ - Kathy Barret, Sue Fordyce

Culture Sessions - Charlotte Leong

Greenhouse Tours - Linda Daraskavich

Historian - Nathalie Smith

Indoor/Outdoor Group - Open

Librarian - Phyllis Arthur

Lights&Equipment - Juan Bofill, Parky Parkinson

Membership - Ulrike Ahlborn

Newspaper Ads - Karen Moonitz

Raffle/Other sales - Nancy Pak

Refreshments - Linda Castleton, Tonky Bofill

S.F. Show - Ron Bettencourt

Sound System - Dave Tomassini

Webmaster - Nick Doe

Welcome Hostess - Madge Fordyce

Board Members - Kathy Barrett, Juan Bofill, Linda Daraskavich, Parky Parkinson, Mark Rotter

Newsletter Editor

Mark Rotter (925) 833-3787

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AOS Judging Results

AOS Awards
Pacific Central Supplemental Center
San Francisco, CA
12/4/01

Name of plant: Stenoglottis Venus 'Myung Sook'
(Sngl. longifolia x Sngl. fimbriata)
Awards: HCC 78 and CCM 84
Owner: Anna S. Chai

Name of plant: Pot. Jack Halpern 'First Choice'
Parentage: Blc Horizon Flight x Sc Beaufort
Award: HCC 76
Owner: Jack Halpern

- Kathy Barrett

Refreshment Corner

It was great to see the large number of members that turned out for the Holiday Dinner. All the dishes were delicious, thanks to our talented chefs. Particular mention must be given to the pork roast prepared by Antonieta and Juan Bofill. A special thanks also to Kathy Barrett, Antonieta and Juan, and Charlotte Leong for their help in setting up the tables, and to David and Alice Tomassini for the poinsettias used for decorating the tables.

We would like to thank those who brought refreshments for November, as well as the following people for the January meeting: **Bea & Noble Emery, Sherley Kerr, Madge Fordyce, Phillis Arthur, Alice Tomassini, Renate Johnson, Charlene Avarbock** and **Esther Yee**. Drinks will be provided by **James Clements** and **Karen Moonitz**.

Brenda Aday
Linda Castleton
Antonieta Bofill

Culture Corner

DVOS is fortunate to have some of our more experienced members take the time to share their knowledge in our culture sessions. We all know there is more than one way to successfully grow orchids. Through the culture session format, [more often than not I hope :o)], fellow orchid growers will demonstrate their techniques and share tips that have worked well for them. Test the methods for yourself and learn which work well for you too.

In January our favorite auctioneer, Dennis Olivas, will demonstrate how to divide and transplant paphiopedilums. In February our favorite dynamo, Kathy Barrett, has graciously agreed to demonstrate how to prepare your orchids for show. This should help you prepare your plants for display at the annual San Francisco show held later in the month.

We will keep you posted on the culture sessions as other members decide what they would like to present. I can't thank these people enough for their willingness to support the clubs' endeavors. Please let them know how much you appreciate their efforts.

Remember, culture sessions start at 7 PM. See you there!

- Charlotte Leong

The S.F. Orchid Show

As most all of you know, we have entered a display at the San Francisco Orchid Show every year for more than twelve years. DVOS has always put together a beautiful display and has won many awards for both plants and displays. We have a reputation to uphold and we need your help. Many of you can ask yourselves how can I help? Well, I can tell you right now you don't need any experience. We need help in many areas: ideas for the display, construction (wood, metal, electrical), painting, plant name tags, plant cleanup, muscles, and most importantly your humor

Please see Show, p. 5

Membership News

Yes, it is membership renewal time again!

Please have a look at the address label. If you see 2002 next to your name, your membership fee for 2002 has already been paid and you do not need to do anything. If you see 2001 next to your name on the address label, your membership for 2002 is due.

The membership fee is still \$ 15 for one or \$ 25 for two years. If you are an out of state member who would like to renew and receive the monthly newsletter, we ask you for \$ 10. Please fill out the attached renewal form and send it together with your check to:

Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Court
San Ramon. CA 94583

Or give it to me at the December meeting. Please let me know of any changes in address, phone,, fax number or e-mail address so I can keep the data current. You can contact me by e-mail. ulrikea@usa.net <<mailto:ulrikea@usa.net>> or call me during the day at (510) 741-6762 or at (925) 830-8830 in the evening.

Ulrike Ahlborn

Saving Orchids

I attended the AOS Conservation Committee meeting, mostly because I'd shot my mouth off a lot online on the Orchid Guide Digest, and I figured I'd better go and see what really went on at one of these things. I came away impressed.

What I wanted to talk about was a rather simple idea the committee was working on to help save orchids: a sticker for the greenhouse/growroom/windowsill with instructions on who to contact in case of emergency. This is a peel and stick plastic (indelible in wet conditions) sticker similar to other warning labels. On it you can list phone numbers of neighbors or other

friends who a) know you have a collection and b) know how to care for your collection should you be unable to care for it yourself. The stickers would be given to AOS members inside the plastic wrapper of 'Orchids' magazine for members to use, copy, or modify as they see fit. Similar stickers are produced to inform rescue workers as to the presence of pets who might become trapped inside a burning building or apartment.

The AOS is also creating a packet of information on how to donate your collection to various organizations should it become necessary. They are doing the groundwork so you (or your heirs) can simply turn to the AOS for this information. This info packet will appear in 'Orchids' either as an article or as a separate brochure, or as something you can send away for. It's important to note that many orchids are lost because collections aren't conserved.

Springboarding off that idea is to catalog your collection. Not that you'd necessarily *share* this information with anyone, but just so you'd have a list of which plants were choice or potentially one of a kind. The idea again is to save genetic material. Imagine how you'd spin in your grave knowing your heirs let that last-of-a-kind pleurothallid species go for \$1 on an auction table...

I know it's kind of a weird way of looking at conservation, but that genetic material could be living in our greenhouses, and could continue to be saved as long as *someone* knows its there. This applies to hybrids too. Oops!! I heard a collective gasp from all the species nuts out there. But there are or were several influential hybrids which one simply can't find anymore.

Lastly, the AOS is compiling a list of other organizations which they might one day work together with to advance mutual conservation efforts. Right now they are in the compiling stage: collecting web pages to eventually to link onto the AOS page, or just to act as a clearing house for information should someone want it.

Please see *Saving*, pg. 5

Show, continued from pg. 3

and fun. We can win \$1,000 for first, \$500 for second place. This year's theme is "A Night in the Tropics". If you'd like to help, join us at our next meeting on January 7. The meeting time is 7:00pm at the Tomassini's house. If you want to help but can't make this meeting please call Ron Bettencourt at 925-829-2608

The AOS 2003 Show

The AOS Trustees meeting for 2003 will be held in Sacramento. This marks the first time the AOS will meet in Northern California. Why this is important is that it's another opportunity for the DVOS to show off by putting in a display! Let's show the Trustees that South Florida ain't the orchid capital of the world. (I tried and tried to think of another way to phrase that, but couldn't.)

I'm giving you this heads up for one reason only. I figure it'll take a solid year of good growing in order to get my plants into some sort of decent shape to make them presentable to show. So don't say I didn't warn you!! (What am I saying?? I know you all only have to wipe off a few leaves in order to show presentable plants!! You don't grow like me!)

While I'm thinking about it, the San Francisco show is at the end of February. If you are like the rest of us, you won't know till set-up day what is ready to show and what isn't. So watch the newsletter for instructions about drop off collection points for your plants. Don't be shy. Come out and have some fun!

Kathy Barrett

Letter from the Editor

How would you like to save the club money, save the environment, and see color photos in the newsletter? How would you like to do all three things at once?? Now you can through the magic of e-mail! If you would like to receive the newsetter via e-mail as opposed to snail mail, please send your e-mail address to me at dvosnews@attbi.com. Thanks!

Saving, continued from pg. 4

OK, I'll shut up now. I just wanted to give you ideas about other ways of looking at your orchids. And don't wait for the AOS to create some of this stuff for you! Go out and make a sticker of your own and put it in your grow area! Who knows, maybe yours will be better than the AOS's and we can send it up the line to them for their consideration!

- Kathy Barrett

This Month's Speaker

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A journey through the often confusing and-at it's best-puzzling maze of orchidology. Come and get your questions answered as Sue goes step-by-step through a topsy-turvy subject. With a touch of Fordyce humor (and some motion sickness medication) she promises to tip toe through orchid names, abbreviations, awards, etc., until we see the light at the end of the tunnel (or that light bulb goes off over our head). To top off the evening for those who are well-educated in orchid language, Sue will treat you to a slide presentation of the newest in Cattleya trends and where Fordyce Orchids is focused as they forge ahead with future generations of Catts.

Sue Fordyce began her career in orchids literally at her Father's knee (pulling weeds under the benches). Frank Fordyce has a career in orchids spanning 56 years and is known worldwide for his award winning hybrids and informative lectures on Cattleyas. He is passing on this knowledge and easy style of communication to Sue. After a few years as a Psychiatric Nurse (which prepared her for the orchid world) she went on to become manager of Fordyce Orchids, a post she has held for the past 15 years. Sue also has traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada speaking on Orchid Culture and Cattleya Breeding. Sue is a past President of DVOS and has been published in many orchid publications and is known for her humorous orchid poetry.

Livermore

The Orchid Ranch;
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiodeilums

Oakland

Orchids Fiori D'Amore
Paolo & Nina DiCandia
510-530-4884 (by appt. only)

Hawaii

Yamada's Orchid Nursery
Allen Yamada
5087-A Kawaihau Rd.
Kapaa, HI 96746

Yuba City

Orchid Obsession
Brent & Toni Cushenbery
1477 Oswald Rd., Yuba City, CA 95993
916-673-6763

Walnut Creek

Orchid Gallery
Jing Ho
1501 N. California Blvd.

Martinez

MGM Orchids
Mariano G Morales
718 Main Street
Martinez, CA. 94553

San Leandro

The Paph House
Francisco Baptista & Fred Jernigan
375 Warwick Avenue, San Leandro, CA
510/ 635-2845, (by appt. only)

Concord

San Miguel Greenhouses
Pamela Leaver
936 San Miguel Rd.
925-798-0476 (by appt. only)

Concord

Nathalie Smith
1507 Lavetta Way; 925-685-8904
(by appt. only); orchid supplies

Danville

Commercial Plant Services
David & Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.; 925-736-7630

Half Moon Bay

D & D Flowers
Dennis Olivas; 62 Oceanside Dr.
650-994-7465 (call in advance)

Australia

Adelaide Orchids
Stephen and Robin Monkhouse
16 Pine Road
Woodcroft, South Australia 5162



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