

Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org>

a 501c3 corp.

October 2007



NEXT MEETING

Thur Oct 11

5:30 Speaker's Dinner

7:30 Meeting Starts

8:00 Presentation

Contra Costa
Water District
1331 Concord Ave
Concord

President:

Brian Wraxall

Vice-President:

Eileen Jackson

Secretary:

Renate Johnson

Treasurer:

Barbara Tague

Board Members:

Jamie Wasson

Nancy Pak

Brad Piini

Dave Tomassini

Diana Vavrek

Alice Tomassini

At Our Next Meeting October 11

Draculas * Joe Parker

Dr. Joe Parker has a BS from Stanford and a PhD from Caltech in Mathematics, an education which left him totally unprepared to grow orchids. As a result, Joe was forced to earn a living in academia and the high tech world. He is currently Chief Technical Officer at Glimmerglass, an optical networking company. Joe started growing orchids about 9 years ago, on a challenge from his wife, Kathy. Refusing to settle for less than the best, Joe grows Draculas, and only Draculas. He started growing in Los Gatos, and then expanded in Pacifica. His collection is now over 300 Draculas, representing at least 100 species. Joe is also Vice President of the Pleurothallid Alliance, a worldwide organization devoted to not only Draculas, but also the lesser Pleurothallids (Masdevallias, Restrepias, etc.).

Joe's talk will start by showing the great breadth of species within the genus Dracula. Once you have become convinced these beauties are worth any amount of trouble to grow, he will convince you that Draculas are not as difficult to grow as most believe.

Speaker's dinner will be at the Pasta Pomodoro in the Pleasant Hill downtown at 5:45. Please notify Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 or email [jackson.eileen @att.net](mailto:jackson.eileen@att.net) to join us.

Plant table will be provided by Dr. Parker

Diablo View Orchid Society

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Our September DVOS speaker was Eric Hunt

Membership:

Ulrike Ahlborn

membership@dvos.org

Greenhouse Tours:

Joe Grillo

Refreshments:

Brenda Aday

Greeters:

Sharon Duffy

Jill Chambers

Bernice Lindner

Raffles and Sales:

Rita Tischler

Equipment and Lights:

Dave Tomassini

Librarian:

Phyllis Arthur

AOS Representative:

Jill Chambers

SFOS Show Chairman:

Brad Piini

Newsletter:

Liz Charlton

Jamie Wasson

dvosnews@gmail.com

Webmaster:

Nick Doe

Ulrike Ahlborn

webmaster@dvos.org



Thanks Eric

During September's DVOS meeting we stepped out into the tropical jungle of Borneo to view the native orchids, courtesy of Eric Hunt.

Borneo is an island shared by three countries, Malaysia, Brunei, and Indonesia. It lies on the equator and has a climate that ranges from hot and humid in the lowland tropical rain forests to alpine conditions in the cloud forests at 5,000-6,000 feet. Due to this varied climate, the orchids found in this region of the world are numerous and of many different species.

Eric took all of us on a visual tour of these orchids through the hot steamy lowlands. Here in this dark damp environment leeches cling to the under brush and only 5% of the light hits the jungle floor. Eric navigated the audience through this country via longboats, which are the most reliable form of transportation due to the constant rain. Almost all the orchids that were shown by Eric were up in the trees where the rain and light are plentiful. Very few orchids survive on the jungle floor. Any thing on the ground is very quickly decomposed or eaten by various creatures. Eric went on to show us over twenty different species of orchids that are indigenous to the lush jungle of Borneo.

Brad Piini

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DVOS Commercial Members

Danville Commercial Plant Services

David and Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.
(925) 736-7630
atomassini@aol.com

Half Moon Bay

D & D Flowers
Dennis Olivas
62 Oceanside Dr.
(925) 696 -1246
dolivas@comcast.com
(By appointment only)

Livermore

Fordyce Orchids
Frank and Sue Fordyce
(925) 600 - 8406

Pacifica

White Oak Orchids, Inc.
Sales and Boarding
1204 Linda Mar Blvd.
(650) 355 - 8767
www.whiteoakorchids.com

Oakland

Orchids Fiori D'Amore
Paolo & Nina Di Candia
4526 Fair Ave.
(510) 530-4884
(By appointment only)

DVOS World of Orchids Annual Show and Sale in October *It's Show Time!*

Set up: Friday 10/12, 3-8PM, Show dates: Saturday 10/13 10AM-5PM Sunday 10/14, 10AM – 4PM

Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill.

How to prepare your plants:

- Clean your plant's leaves with milk for a subtle shine. Trim brown tips.
- Tape your name on the bottom of the plant's pot.
- Make a list of the plants you are sending to the show so you remember what to pick up on Sunday. You have to pick your plants up yourself or make arrangements.
- Make a copy of that list so the members can write your entry tags for you. (Sometimes tags are hard to read.)
- If you picked up a copy of the show schedule entry tags will be available at the 10/11 meeting.
- If you do not want your plants considered for an AOS award just write 'Not for AOS Judging' on your list, plant or entry tags.

Dave Tomassini will transport your plants from the Thursday 10/11 meeting to the show for you. If its your first time entering plants our members will write up entry tags for you. How easy is that? You have no excuse! Bring your plants to the party! They WANT to be seen!

DVOS will have its own plant sales table at the Show. This is an opportunity for club members to sell their back divisions or get rid of plants that aren't to their taste anymore. Every month Dennis and I comment that someone got a plant from one of us either through a raffle or a sale. This is an example of a 'good' unintended consequence. If a plant subsequently dies in one collection there's still a piece floating around out there in someone else's collection. Selling or sharing preserves a plant that otherwise would have wound up lost forever. That is orchid conservation in the truest sense of the word. So please! Feel free to sell your own back divisions or other plants in the member's sale area at the show. Barbara Tague will have the paperwork for you at the October meeting. Remember: the club takes 25% of the sales price, so price accordingly. Also, members can sell their orchid related arts & crafts on the member's sale table.

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Awarded Plants in September

1st ***Cattleya maxima***

Barbara Tague

2nd ***Vanda Pakchong Blue***

Mei Chen

3rd ***Blc. Shanghai Jade 'Treasure'***

Barbara Tague



Blc. Charlene Bleifer 'Stunning'

Financial statement
available upon written
request to the Board:
DVOS c/o Barbara Tague
716 Skyline Dr.
Martinez, Ca. 94553



Look What I Bloomed for the First Time:

Blc. Charlene Bleifer 'Stunning'

Steven Horspool

Lancer Smith:

Trichoceros sp.

Parky Parkison

Late arriving plants are disruptive to the meeting. Beginning at the September meeting, plants to be judged must be on the plant table by 7:30. Once the meeting is called to order, the judging table is closed. An alternate table will be provided at the back of the room, for late arrivals. These will not be judged, but may be viewed.

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Naming Your Plants for the October Show

Understanding orchid names enhances the pleasure of this hobby. Initially, it is easy to talk with friends using common names like moth orchids and lady's-slipper orchids. But eventually one needs to come to grips with botanical names. Though perhaps intimidating at first, mastering the simple Latin of scientific names will eliminate the twist from the tongue and enable everyone to talk about orchids with confidence.

For example: *Odontioda* Star Trek 'Harlequin', HCC/AOS, tells four things about this plant:

- It is a member of the genus *Odontioda*
- It is a hybrid (or grex) named Star Trek
- 'Harlequin' is its clonal name
- And it has received a Highly Commended Certificate (HCC) from the American Orchid Society for its flowers,
which scored from 75 to 79 points on a 100-point scale.

Parts of a Name

To elucidate an orchid's name, pick up a catalog or plant label from one of your plants. Most likely, the name will consist of at least two words. The first word is the name of the genus (plural: genera). It is usually printed in italics because, as Latin, it is a foreign language, and begins with a capital letter (*Cattleya*, *Epidendrum*, *Zygopetalum*). Botanists abbreviate generic names with the first letter (such as *C.* for *Cattleya* and *E.* for *Epidendrum*), while horticulturists often use short abbreviations, such as *Epi.* for *Epidendrum* and *Phal.* for *Phalaenopsis*.

Within each genus there may be dozens, if not hundreds, of variations on a theme. Taxonomists recognize these species by giving them individual names called specific epithets (these usually begin with a lower-case letter and are also in italics). A specific epithet may indicate place of origin (*costaricensis*, from Costa Rica), the person who found the orchid (*besseae*, for Libby Besse), a characteristic of the orchid (*glabra*, for smooth) or honor an individual (*garayi*, for Leslie Garay). Together, the genus name and specific epithet comprise the species name, and often impart a bit of information. Hence *Masdevallia coccinea* is a species with red flowers (*coccinea* means red) and *Paphiopedilum philippinense* was discovered in the Philippines.

Some species may exhibit certain characteristics with additional variation which a taxonomist may recognize by assigning a subspecies, varietal or form name. These begin with a lower-case letter, are in italics and are the third name in sequence. The flowers of *Phragmipedium besseae* are typically red, but a variant with yellow flowers has been named *Phragmipedium besseae forma* (usually abbreviated simply as *f.*) *flavum*.



Kathy Barrett held a pre program discussion on how to clean and stake your plants for our upcoming show 'World of Orchids'.

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The Names of Hybrids

A major attraction of orchids is the diversity of hybrids available to growers. Hybrids have names, too. When a hybrid is made, the breeder, or his or her representative, assigns a grex or group name that applies to all of the hybrid progeny. A grex name begins with a capital letter and is in Roman type. When *Paphiopedilum niveum* was crossed with *Paphiopedilum tonsum*, all progeny were given the name *Paphiopedilum* Olivia.

Since this cross was registered in 1898, some plants with exceptionally fine flowers have been observed and assigned cultivar names to distinguish them. When researching *Paph.* Olivia in the literature, one might see the cultivar names ‘Lorelei’, HCC/AOS, or ‘Casa Luna’, AM/AOS, following the grex name.

Cultivar names may be applied to hybrids (*Paph.* Olivia ‘Lorelei’, HCC/AOS) as well as species (*Paphiopedilum appletonianum* ‘Seascape’, HCC/AOS). A cultivar name begins with a capital letter, is in Roman type and set within single quotation marks. When vegetatively propagated — through divisions, keikis (offshoots) or mericlones — all derivatives of a cultivar will be genetically identical and possess the same cultivar name. This permits hobbyists to know exactly what to expect from a plant they purchase bearing this name.

Glancing at the clonal names above reveals some extra letters — such as AM/AOS and HCC/AOS — following the plants’ names. These indicate an award, in this case granted by the American Orchid Society (AOS). These awards may be given to both species and hybrids. The letters before the slash are an abbreviation for the award; AM is an Award of Merit, HCC a Highly Commended Certificate. The letters following the slash indicate the association that bestowed the award. Awards are given by several organizations, including the American Orchid Society (AOS), [The Royal Horticultural Society](#), the [South Florida Orchid Society](#) and the Honolulu Orchid Society (HOS). An award imparts prestige, and, generally, a higher price.

A thorough discussion of orchid nomenclature is presented in [The Handbook on Orchid Nomenclature and Registration](#) (4th edition, 1993), prepared by The Handbook Committee of the International Orchid Commission with the cooperation of The Royal Horticultural Society.

Pronunciation

Arguing the correct pronunciation of potato and tomato is nothing compared to some of the heated debates surrounding the proper way to pronounce botanical Latin. Fortunately, many basic orchid names are agreed upon. With a modicum of effort, they become a part of the enthusiastic orchidist’s vocabulary. The key to success: talk with fellow orchidists at meetings, shows, nurseries and regional judging sessions. Listen to others. Take the time to practice yourself. Invest in one of several guides that offer invaluable advice for pronouncing names, and, frequently, their meaning too. Some of these are *An Orchidist’s Glossary*, published by the American Orchid Society, and *Alex Hawkes’ Encyclopedia of Cultivated Orchids*.

The AOS thanks James Watson for this essay

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Upcoming DVOS Speakers and Events

Oct 11: Joe Parker - Draculas
Oct 12-14: Annual DVOS Show & Sale - Kathy Barrett, Chair
Nov 8: Bob Hamilton - *Propagation*
Dec: Christmas Party

The next Board Meeting

October 19th:
The next Board Meeting will be at
Liz and Jamie's home at 7:30 pm.

Events

Oct 26: Peninsula Orchid Society Auction
5 PM Plant Entry & Registration
7 PM Auction
San Mateo Garden Ctr, 605 Parkside Way
San Mateo, Ca.



Cattleya maxima



Vanda Pakchong Blue

Refreshments for the October Meeting

Refreshments : Liz Charlton, Nancy McClennan, Dixie Horspool, Kathi Ames, Ken Cook, Jinnie Tom, Bill/Margaret Ketzenberg.

Beverages: Eileen Jackson, Ken Dowdell, Melinda Moreno.

Thanks to everyone who helped put up our greenhouse, Liz & Jamie

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AOS Awards September 2007

9/4/07 - Pacific Central, San Francisco No Awards

9/5/07 - California Sierra Nevada - Sacramento

Paphiopedilum Armeni White 'Gold Country', FCC 91 (Paph. armeniacum x Paph. delenatii), Exhibited by Candace Landerman

Paphiopedilum Nimit 'Monster', HCC 79 (Paph. Greyi x Paph. primulinum), Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

Paphiopedilum S. Gratrix 'Nova', AM 80 (Paph. bellatulum x Paph. godefroyae), Exhibited by Richard F. Buchter

9/15/07 Sacramento Orchid Forum Show - Sacramento Aerides lawrenceana 'D's Delight', AM 81 species, Exhibited by Dick and Donna Murrill

Bishopara* Peggy San 'Gold Country', HCC 78 (Sc.* Peggy Huffman x Bro. sanguinea), Exhibited by Vivian Sellers

(*reflects name change from L tenebrosa to Soph. tenebrosa)

Cattleya Becky Culver 'Lim's Beauty', HCC 76 (C. Loddiglossa x C. bicolor), Exhibited by Ken Lim

9/17/07 Pacific Central - Oakland

Polystachya clareae 'Scott & Gwen's Burmese', CBR (prov) Exhibited by
Chen-Hao Hsu

Pictures can be seen at:

Pacific Central - <http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

California Sierra Nevada - <http://www.csnjc.org>

Kathy Barrett

Remember, the Diablo View Orchid Society is having AOS judging at its show on 10/13, which falls between SF and Oakland. <http://www.dvos.org>



Trichoceros sp.

Blc. Shanghai Jade 'Treasure'

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Diablo View Orchid Society Show & Sale Volunteer List

Set Up - Friday 10/12/07 3PM – 8PM

David & Alice Tomassini	Liz Charlton	Rodney Kline	Jamie Wasson	Kathie Ames	Jeanette Bean
Eileen Jackson	Noble C. Emery	Phyllis Arthur	Brian & Joan Wraxall (Joan's in charge of pizza)		

Saturday 10/13/07

Ribbon Judging - 9AM – 10AM - **Judging Clerks** - (I need 2) – duties: help judges find plants in the show display. Keep plant entries confidential. Please come to set up so you can orient yourselves to the display and so I can train you. (This is a good job for the new VP.)

Ribbon Judging - 9AM – 10AM – DVOS members to participate and/or watch ribbon judging our show. (No limit, other than however many will fit in the room)

Show: 10AM – 5PM

- Cashiers – Alice Tomassini, Nancy McLellan, Jeanette Bean
- Plant Sales (Member) – Barbara Tague (she'll need help)
- Security – Rodney Kline (either day or time), Ted McLellan
- Plant Hotel – Noble C. Emery, Lori Maher – (pm), Cal & Charis Anderson, Grace Chan
- Plant Presentation/Plant Doctor – Diana Vavrek, Dennis Olivas, need one more
- Coffee/donuts/lunch – Joan Wraxall (she'll need help setting up – I was hoping Brenda would help, but if she can't then I'll need volunteers.)

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Diablo View Orchid Society Show & Sale Volunteer List cont.

Sunday 10/14/07

Show: 10AM – 4PM

- Cashiers - Jeanette Bean, Jennifer English, Bernice Lindner
- Plant Sales (Member) – Barbara Tague (she'll need help)
- Welcome/Docents – Eileen Jackson, Judith Parsells
- Security – Rodney Kline (am)
- Plant Hotel - Jinnie Tom (pm), Melinda & Joe Moreno, Noble C. Emery, Renee & Ken Dowdell
- Coffee/donuts/lunch – Joan Wraxall (she'll need help setting up – I was hoping Brenda would help, but if she can't then I'll need volunteers.)
- Plant Presentation/Plant Doctor – Diana Vavrek, Dennis Olivas (only 2 presentations on Sunday, if any late comers have questions refer them to me. - KB)

Sunday: Tear Down: 4PM- 8PM

Rodney Kline, Dave & Alice Tomassini – and anyone who brought in a plant! Come pick them up!

I'm assuming the 'regulars' will also show up: Renate Johnson, Sharon McDuffy (& Frank?), Phyllis Arthur, Jennifer English, Akiko Ogawa, Brad Piini to pitch in where needed. And of course I'll be there too.

Looking Forward To It !!