

# Diablo View Orchid Society

a 501c3 corporation

[www.dvos.org](http://www.dvos.org)

Aug 2010



## Saturday August 28th (another drumroll, please) The Circus is coming to Town

featuring the World-Renowned  
Annual DVOS Picnic and Auction  
in a Single Performance to be held  
at the home of Bob and Mary Lou Van Galder.

**All attendees should bring an orchid or orchid-related item to donate to the auction.**

Food will be plenteous and tasty. The Club will supply chicken, ribs, and beverages. Members to bring side dishes according to the following schedule:

**J - Q Dessert, R - Z Side Dish,  
A - E Salad, F - I Hor D'oeuvres.  
Bring enough for 10 servings.**

Set-up 10:30-12:00, Lunch 12:30-1:30

Auction 2:00-3:30, Clean-up 4:00-5:00

Every member should be available to help with set-up or clean-up.

**Come dressed as your favorite  
circus character.**

**\$50 prize to the best costume.**

(This event is open to all DVOS members and guests)

**NEXT MEETING**  
Sat. Aug 28

No general meeting

Annual Picnic:  
10:30 - Set-up  
12:00 - Lunch  
4:00 - Clean-up

President:  
Liz Charlton

Immediate Past  
President:  
Eileen Jackson

Vice-President:  
Ken Cook

Secretary:  
Rodney Kline

Treasurer:  
Brian Wraxall



# Diablo View Orchid Society

Aug 2010

## DVOS Board Members:

Elizabeth Marquez

Parky Parkison

Brad Piini

Dave Tomassini

Jamie Wasson

## Membership:

Ulrike Ahlborn

[membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

## Newsletter:

Liz Charlton

Jamie Wasson

[dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)

## Webmaster:

Nick Doe

Ulrike Ahlborn

[webmaster@dvos.org](mailto:webmaster@dvos.org)

## Our program in July:

**Alan Koch - Orchids 101** - Brad Piini with help from Alice Tomassini



July's speaker was the fabulous Alan Koch (note: the "h" in Koch is not silent). Alan's presentation was on how to be a better grower based on his personal experience.

Alan demonstrated his methods without the use of slides. Instead, he used a hands-on approach with plants, pots, and different media.

When it comes to nutrition, Alan recommends feeding the roots of your orchids once a month with a balanced fertilizer such as 20-20-20. You need to drench the roots when watering with this solution. Once a month you

should also use a seaweed extract as a foliar fertilizer. MaxSea is one example of a seaweed extract. These extracts provide a full complement of micro-nutrients that will help improve the flowering potential of your orchids.

Orchids rely heavily on calcium to flower. If there is a calcium deficiency, the plants will not flower and the new shoots will show black rot. To prevent this calcium deficiency, Alan uses CAL-MAG. This is a concentrated product of calcium and magnesium. Once a month he also recommends that you leach all the salts out of your orchids with plain water then re-saturate with CAL-MAG afterwards.

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Aug 2010

## DVOS

### Commercial Members

#### Danville

##### Commercial Plant Services

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

#### Half Moon Bay

##### D & D Flowers

Dennis Olivas  
62 Oceanside Dr.  
(925) 696 -1246  
[dolivas@comcast.net](mailto:dolivas@comcast.net)  
(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](http://www.whiteoakorchids.com)

#### Pleasant Hill

##### Diablo Orchids

Huei-Mei Chen &  
Gregory Mayfield  
(925) 946-9740  
[www.diabloorchids.com](http://www.diabloorchids.com)

Alan Koch cont. from P.2:

Pest control is very important in maintaining a healthy orchid collection. Mites are particularly hard to detect and can ravage an orchid. Keeping the humidity between 40-80 percent will help control mites. Two particularly harmful mites are Cyclamen mites and Broad mites. Both of these pests can be controlled with Alan's home cure mixture of 1/3 rubbing alcohol, 1/3 409 or Murphy's Oil Soap and 1/3 distilled water. As for snail control, Alan uses Deadline pellets. (Not good around pets - Co-Eds.)

When it comes to choosing media for your orchids, Alan's only recommendation is that it contain 25% or more organic material and that it matches your watering practice. If you decide to buy a pre-made mix, make sure that it is clean and not dusty. For Cattleyas, use 1/3 charcoal and 2/3 big bark. If you are going to reuse your clay pots, soak them for 24 hours in a solution of Pool Shock, then rinse them thoroughly.

Thank you Alan and thank you Alice Tomassini for the great notes from our meeting.

- Brad Piini

## Membership News

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn,  
Membership Chair  
[membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

We have 79 members.

See what is available in our library:  
[www.diabloviewos.org/Library/library.htm](http://www.diabloviewos.org/Library/library.htm)  
To check-out an item, contact  
Phyllis Arthur

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Aug 2010

DVOS  
Commercial Members

## Bolinas

### California Orchids

Mary Nisbet  
515 Aspen Rd. Bolinas, Ca  
(415) 868-0203

[www.californiaorchids.com](http://www.californiaorchids.com)

## *Upcoming Speakers and Events*

- Aug 7: CSNJC Speakers Day (see P. 6)  
Aug 28: DVOS Picnic and Auction (P.1)  
Sept 12: Dennis Olivas "*Dennis Grows Hot & Cold*"  
Oct 15-17: DVOS Show and Sale  
Nov 11: Cindy Hill "*How to Win a Cultural Award*"  
Dec 9: Christmas Party

## *The next Board Meeting*

Will be at the home of Eileen Jackson on  
Aug 19th at 7:30 pm



## *Refreshments for the Sept Meeting*

**Food:**  
MaKayla Shields  
Barbara Ungersma  
George McRae

**Drinks:**  
Rita Tischler



*Promenea stapeloides*

# Diablo View Orchid Society

Aug 2010

Greenhouse Tours:  
**Parky Parkison**

Refreshments:  
**Linda Castleton**  
**Melissa Sadler**

Raffles and Sales:  
**Rita Tischler**

Equipment and Lights:  
**Dave Tomassini**

Librarian:  
**Phyllis Arthur**

AOS Representative:  
**Dennis Olivas**

Orchid Digest  
Representative:  
**Brian Wraxall**

SFOS Show Chairman:  
**Brad Piini**

DVOS Show Chairman:  
**Dennis Olivas**

## *Awarded Plants in July*

1<sup>st</sup> **B/c. Everything Nice 'Showtime'**

**Ray Newbury**

2<sup>nd</sup> **V. Joseph van Blevo x Hilo Queen**

**Ken Cook**

3<sup>rd</sup> ***Lockhartia oerstedii***

**Ken Cook**



*Lockhartia oerstedii*



**Lancer Smith:**  
(species or miniature orchids)  
***Promenea stapeloides***

**George McRae**

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Aug 2010

## Speaker's Day!

Saturday August 7, 2010 9AM to 5PM  
Oddfellow's Building

1831 Howe Ave at Alta Arden Sacramento, Ca. 95838

General admission - \$15.00 Sponsoring Societies or AOS members - \$5.00 advance, \$10 door.

## Featuring

**Glen Decker** - Piping Rock Orchids - *Phragmipedium kovachii* and its hybrids

**Ron McHatton** - Director of Education for the American Orchid Society *Orchid Biology for the General Grower - part 2*

**Marguerite Webb** - J&L Orchids - *Good Things Come in Small Packages, miniature orchids, especially for warmer climes*

Break out sessions with culture talks - schedule can be viewed at <http://www.csnjc.org>

Silent Auction divisions of awarded plants - even FCC's!

Vendors are [Piping Rock Orchids](#) - legal Phrag kovachiis & hybrids!

[J&L Orchids](#) - species and orchids for home, lights & greenhouses

[Gold Country Orchids](#) minicatts that bloom 2-3 times a year

[D&D Flowers](#) - Dennis Olivas - Dennis will have whatever the others don't.

If you haven't gotten your \$5 advance ticket please contact Susan Wedegaertner and she'll put one in 'will call' for you as long as she's received your payment.

[suewede@clearwire.net](mailto:suewede@clearwire.net) Otherwise it's \$10 at the door (\$15 for non-AOS) - considering you don't have to drive to Los Angeles or go through airport security to see these speakers this amounts to quite a savings of both time and money, \*G\*. The vendors will take pre-orders, and there \*may\* be 10% off. Verify this with the vendor before you pre-order. Box lunches will be available for \$8 and there are local restaurants.



Glen Decker of Piping Rock and Marguerite Webb of J&L will accept pre-orders for plants. This will save you shipping costs.

Glen Decker:

<http://www.pipingrockorchids.com>

Marguerite Webb:

<http://jlorchids.com>

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Aug 2010

## AOS Corner: A message from our new president, Chris Rehmann

Lynn Fuller, the new Affiliated Society Chairperson has given me this opportunity to introduce myself to each of the Affiliated Society members through the AOS Corner. I am your new AOS President and have the pleasure to serve each of you for a one year term.

Who am I? Well, I am an orchid hobbyist like most of you. I grow mainly Cattleya species with some multi-flora Paphiopedilums to take up the darker spaces in my greenhouses. In order to support my "orchid habit," I own a Civil-Environmental Engineering firm located in southern New Jersey.

The Affiliated Societies are the backbone of the American Orchid Society. We all probably started as a member of a local society to find more information about these beautiful flowers called, orchids. My local society is the Sandpiper Orchid Society, located near Atlantic City, New Jersey. This great group of orchid lovers has assisted me in many ways to cultivate better orchids.

Walter Off, the co-owner of a local commercial orchid business helps to organize the Sandpiper Orchid Society and has been a tremendous assistance to new and long time growers. Walt provides information on local conditions that improve culture and eliminates the trial and error methods to find the right fertilizer for our local conditions.

I am sure each Affiliated Society has a local commercial grower that is involved with their group. Support them so that they are there to provide the best cultural information for your area.

Many commercial growers provide discounts to AOS members. Ask them to see if they participate in this program. If you are like me, I pay for my AOS membership with discounts from orchid purchases.

**Orchid Digest** - the current issue - July, Aug, Sept.  
has a very nice article on DVOS. ( last page ).



V. Joseph van Blevo  
x V. Hilo Queen

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Aug 2010



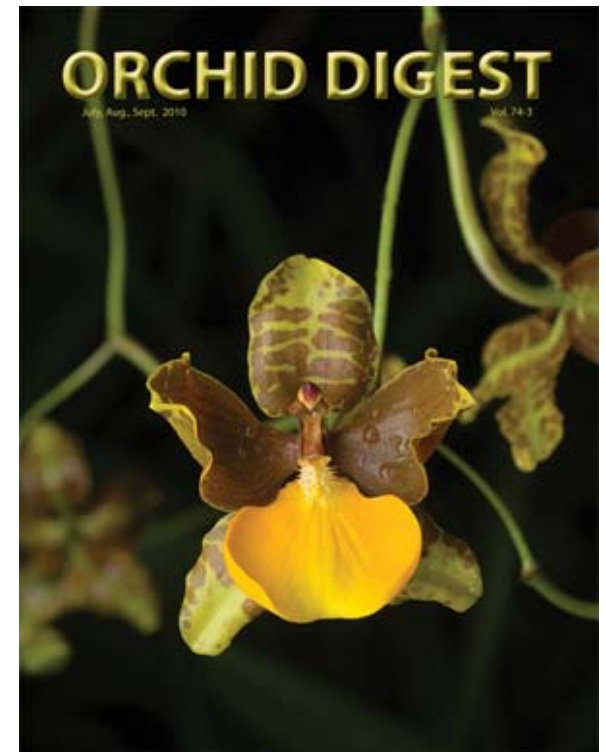
On Saturday July 17, the Club visited California Orchids and owner Mary Nisbet for a tour of her 5 greenhouses, and to view her amazing mounted logs. Located in coastal Marin, Mary has been growing orchids professionally for over 20 years, and operating an orchid boarding business since 1985.

Watch for a story about Mary and her mounted logs in the AOS magazine.



**Bc. Erotion 'Persistence'**  
(See p. 10)

Orchid Digest, July-Sept 2010, has a nice article about DVOS and our web site on page 186.





# Diablo View Orchid Society

Aug 2010

**Would you like to have your own DVOS Apron ?**

**Wear it as a volunteer at one our fundraisers or use it at home**

**caring for your orchids.**

**This is a 3 pocket apron, 65% Polyester –35% cotton twill. It has an adjustable neck strap and waist ties. 24" length. – 1 size. You can order it in our DVOS Spruce Green with Gold embroidery or choose your own color apron and / or name.**

**Apron colors available are:**

Spruce Green, Black, Burgundy,  
Green, Navy, Red, Royal, Tan, and  
White (Spruce Green is shown )

The cost per Apron will vary depending on  
how many **total aprons are ordered** due to  
the shipping rates: 2 Aprons – 22.00 each  
3 Aprons – 20.00 each  
4 or more – 19.00 each

**Please indicate Apron color &  
embroidery thread color –  
and if you want DVOS or  
another name on the apron.**



**Embroidery color** above is in Gold.

Other thread colors available are: Black,  
Brown, Lt. Blue, Dk. Green, Fuschia, Green,  
Grey, Maroon, Navy, Orange, Plum, Purple,  
Red, Royal Blue, Sage Green, Tan, Teal, and  
White. Lettering can be BLOCK, Script, Upper/  
Lower

**Place your order with Alice Tomassini by August 15<sup>th</sup> and it will be delivered to you at the BBQ/Picnic on August 28<sup>th</sup>. Email: [atomassini@aol.com](mailto:atomassini@aol.com) - or phone: 925-648-7667**

**When we have the total number of aprons ordered – will let you know the cost.**

**Mail check to: 3 Woodside Ct. – Danville, CA. 94506**

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Aug 2010

## *AOS Awards August 2010*

7/6/10 - Pacific Central JC - San Francisco

*Paphiopedilum Julius 'Austin Creek', AM 82 and CCE 90 (Paph. lowii x Paph. rothschildianum)* Exhibited by Dale Martin

7/7/10 - California Sierra Nevada JC - Sacramento

*Bc. Erotion 'Persistence', HCC 75 (B. glauca x C. walkeriana)*  
Exhibited by Kathleen F. Barrett

*Dendrobium Lemon Ice 'Erk', AM 80 (De. crumentum x Den. trigonopus)*  
Exhibited by Ted C. Foin

*Lc. Amethyst Star 'Neon'? 'Purple Flame'?, HCC 77 (Lc Mini Purple x L. longipes)*  
Exhibited by Japheth Ko

*Plectorrhiza brevilabris 'Julie Anne', CHM 85 species* Exhibited by James Morris  
*Rodrumnia Orchidom Lovely Lady 'Skippy Red', HCC 78 (Tolu. pulchella x Rrm. Orchidom Red Love)* Exhibited by Bob Conaty

*Vascostylis Salaya Blue 'D's Delight', AM 83 (Vasco. Blue Haze x Ascda. Meda Arnold)* Exhibited by Dick and Donna Murrill

7/19/10 - Pacific Central JC - Oakland

no awards

7/19/10 - Pacific Central JC - Peninsula

3 awards - no info available at this time

Courtesy of Kathy Barrett



*B/c. Everything Nice 'Showtime'*

Awards can be seen at:

Pacific Central Judging Center:

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center:

<http://www.csnjc.org>

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Aug 2010

## Diablo View Orchid Society Membership

**Membership \$20 ( ), Business \$25 ( ), Life \$300 ( ) Add \$10 ( ) if you wish to receive the monthly newsletter by mail.**

(All memberships are valid January 1 to December 31 of the current year. If you do not renew your membership dues by March 1 the following year, your privileges will cease. Monthly newsletter will be by e-mail unless you do not have an e-mail address.)

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

New ( ) Renewal ( ) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**For General Membership:** Principal Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse or Significant Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**For Business Membership:** Name of Business \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Business Contact:/Owner: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mailing Address (Must fill in)** Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work or Cell Phone (Opt.): ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail address: \_\_\_\_\_ WebSite: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a member of the American Orchid Society (AOS): Y/N ( ); Orchid Digest Corporation (ODC): Y/N ( )

**Cultivation (Check all that applicable):** Indoor ( ), Outdoor ( ), Greenhouse ( ), Hobbyist ( ), Commercial ( ) What is you favorite genus to grow?  
Phalaenopsis ( ), Cattleya ( ), Cymbidium ( ), Dendrobium ( ), Vanda ( ), Masdevallia ( ), Paphiopedilum ( ), Phragmipedium ( ), Pleurothallids ( ), Zygopetalum ( ), List others:

**DVOS perpetuates with the fun and diligent work performed by our membership. We would like to know if you would be interested in participating in the various functions in order to keep this fun, educational, and friendly environment.**

**I would like to participate in present or future: (Check all that is applicable)**

Elected Officer/Board of Director ( ) Committees: Equipment ( ) Library ( ) BBQ/Auction ( ) Advertising ( ) Refreshments ( ) Newsletter ( ) Xmas Party ( ) San Francisco Show ( )  
Raffle/Sales ( ) Book Meeting Room ( ) Greenhouse Tours ( ) DVOS Show & Sale ( ) Welcome Hostess ( ) Assist when needed ( )

Endorse check payable to: **Diablo View Orchid Society, Inc.**

Please send application and check to: **Diablo View Orchid Society c/o Ulrike Ahlborn, 202 Gaucho Ct, San Ramon, CA 94583-2113**