

A decorative background image on the left side of the page shows several pink orchids in clear glass vases. The orchids are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The vases are tall and slender, and the background is a soft, light pink color.

Diablo View Orchid Society

www.DVOS.org 501(c)(3) corporation
at Our next meeting **Thursday, July 12th**

Unsung Heroes of the AOS

We sometimes think of the American Orchid Society solely in terms of judging and awarding orchids. Maybe because we usually see the local AOS judges when they come to judge our show or give talks which feature pictures of awarded orchids. Awards, awards, awards. Is that all the AOS does is awards? In a word: no. The American Orchid Society has a very long history of being so much more than just judging orchids. Indeed, it was in a recent issue of *Orchids* that I noticed how many non-judging oriented committees there are in the AOS. And by happy circumstance how many of these 'other' committees are either headed by or staffed by local Bay Area growers. We are more influential than I'd thought.

Next Meeting:

Thur. July 12th

7:30- 10:00 p.m.

Contra Costa Waster District
Board Room
1331 Concord Ave.
Concord Ca.

Map: www.diabloviewos.org/About/map.htm

Diablo View Orchid Society

Therefore in July we will talk with some of our local 'movers and shakers' of the AOS *. Many of them we know already (all members of DVOS! - Co-Eds.):

Steve Beckendorf is a member of the Conservation committee and a member of the Species Identification Task Force.

Cindy Hill is a member of the Publication committee of which I am an unofficial member, too.

Carol Klonowski is a member of the Education committee and will also be presenting information about the Research committee which Carol Zoltowski heads. Unfortunately Carol Z had to bow out at the last minute due to work, but Carol K will gamely present a few tidbits about the scientific side of the AOS.

I can hear you asking questions already about just what all these committees are, what they do and why should you care. So come to the July meeting and find out. This will be a panel discussion and open Q&A session.

Dennis Olivas will provide the plant table and I've asked him to bring tasty, weirdo orchids, so expect the unexpected.

Dinner with the Speakers will be at the Sichuan Fortune House in Pleasant Hill. This will be the only remuneration the speakers get. They have graciously donated the speaker's fee to the AOS for mailing the beginner's book 'Your First Orchid' which one receives as a benefit when one joins the AOS. I'll have AOS applications on hand, *G*.



Den. sanderae v. luzonicum



Phal. Noname

July 2012

Diablo View Orchid Society

Dave Sorokowsky was our speaker in June

Dave Sorokowsky was our DVOS June speaker and he lectured on the topic of alba Paphiopedilums (i.e. white slipper orchids). Albas are defined as having a lack of pigment. A true alba plant has no chlorophyll and cannot survive in nature. When we talk about alba orchids we are talking about the color of the flowers only. As a general rule alba orchid plants will produce smaller flowers and be of weaker stock.

How do we get alba Paphiopedilums? Some occur in nature due to inbreeding, but most of today's white Paphs are a result of commercial cross breeding. At this point in the lecture, Dave went into a Mendelian inheritance lecture which took all the classic elements of hybridization and applied them to the breeding of alba Paphs. Gene alleles (TT, Tt,tT,tt), transcription factors, phenotype (what the offspring look like), genotype (what the genes look like) were all included with the slides that showed what the results would be from crossing Paph A with Paph B. As a personal commentary, I always find this very interesting. It's fascinating to see visually what offspring is produced from two parents.



Dave Sorokowsky cont.

Culturally Paphs need a quality water source. This seems to be the single most important factor in raising Paphiopedilums. Quality water means rain water or R.O. (reverse osmosis) water. With every watering Dave uses a shot of fertilizer at a dosage of 100ppm nitrogen. When you are watering Paphs try to keep the water out of the crown of the plant or else it may rot. When can you re-pot your Paphs? Dave says you can re-pot Paphs any time of the year. The media that Dave prefers is Orchiata and perlite. Orchiata is a hard pine bark that does not break down as fast as other bark products.

Finally, Dave reviewed the technique of “sphag in a bag” to try and rescue a rootless Phaphiopedilum. The first thing to do is remove the lower leaves of the dying Phaph. Then place some moist sphagnum moss in a plastic bag with the sick Paph. Seal the bag and wait. About 50% of these plants will survive and produce new roots.

Thanks again Dave.
- Brad Piini



S/c. Sierra Doll

Diablo View Orchid Society

President's Message -George McRae

July! The peak of the growing season. And a tricky one at that. Here in glamorous El Cerrito, it's a flip flop between the foggy doldrums and scorching heat waves. Not many of those yet, but in a place where 65°F is considered warm, an 80°F day can be tough on a plant. Let alone 100°F. The orchids I grow the best are the mountain cloud-forest pleurothallids. I grow them outdoors. They seem to adore the cool damps we have. YET, I have to water almost everyday. The winds have a tremendous desiccating effect, and just wick away the moisture. It becomes a juggling act of matching plant to medium to pot. In my mini greenhouse I have to water to cool down the plants. And managing the ventilation like a DC-3 pilot working the pedals and yoke in an endless dance. Even with the cloud cover, the infrared burns right through.

The long days and evenings are precious to me. The extra light cheers everything, plants and grower alike even though the endless wind drives me from my back yard. At the end of a long or particularly tiresome day, to be greeted at my front porch by the laughing Masdevalias and Draculas is my equivalent of a gin and tonic.

Most of the California natives have gone dormant. Epipactis gigantea however is found in full bloom in damps and seeps and stream sides. Mt Tamalpais State Park is a great place to see

President's Message cont.

them. Another wonder are Piperias. Long after the leaves have gone brown and shriveled up, the stalks are pushed up now, to flower . Some so tiny as to be almost overlooked completely. Just what a gnat or mosquito is looking for!

The days, as I write this, are already five minutes shorter. A Judy Collins song about painted ponys just ear-wormed me . The year is like a hill. Cresting in June and gradually coasting into the holi-daze. But, between then and now there is our ice cream social this month and our Bar-B-que/auction on August 18.



Schoenorchis fragrans

It's time for our annual Ice Cream Social

At our July meeting, we will be serving ice cream and root beer

(those who wish may combine them)

Refreshments will be provided by the Board

Diablo View Orchid Society

President's Message cont.



As you know, we lost our DVOS Treasurer, Brian Wraxall, to prostate cancer in May.

His orchid collection was sold on Saturday, June 30 from his home. The sale raised over \$1000 for the Cancer Research Center at UCSF.

(Eileen Jackson and George McRae put in countless hours prepping the collection and holding the sale. Joan Wraxall welcomed us to her home and hospitality. Thank you all.)

- the Co-Eds

In Memoriam:

The Napa Valley Orchid Society and Bay Area orchid hobbyists have lost one of their most loyal adherents with the passing of Fredia Lloyd, Sunday, June 24th. A member of NVOS for 25 years; their Vice President on numerous occasions and President in 1994 and 1998, she subsequently served for many years as Chairperson of the Society's annual March Exhibit and Sale. She had attended the June 2012 NVOS general meeting in a jovial mood and appeared in good health. It is fitting that she was the winner of the Membership Plant at that meeting. Needless to say, Frieda's active participation in all phases of the society's functions will be missed. The Society will honor her memory with a contribution to the American Orchid Society. - NVOS

AOS Corner

Lynn Fuller, Chair, AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

This month I thought I would give a sampling of some of the information one can obtain from the AOS website. More in depth information is available to AOS members by logging into the webpage with your own name and password. Below, however, is an excerpt from the monthly checklist section – probably one of the more widely visited areas of the website.



Den. trigonopus

Cattleya - Cattleyas this month require careful attention to their watering and fertilizing needs owing to characteristically high temperatures. Evaporative cooling is a must in areas of the country where it is effective. Where it is not (the more humid regions), care needs to be paid to proper venting to keep temperatures within reason. Bottom vents in conjunction with top vents provide enough rising airflow to help keep plants cool. Increased air flow lessens humidity and dries plants out more quickly, necessitating more frequent damping down and watering, in areas where high humidity is not a problem. Higher light and heat indicate more fertilizer. The growths your plants are making now are the source of this autumn, winter and spring's blooms, so applying adequate fertilizer

Higher temperatures and humidity may also lead to fungal or bacterial rot problems, so it is important to closely observe your plants for any early indication of problems. Pests are also at a high point this month for the same reason.

Diablo View Orchid Society

Paphiopedilum - Cooling and air circulation are especially critical in these two months to prevent stress and avoid disease problems. Watering needs to be closely monitored to ensure that plants do not dry out. Warmer-growing hybrids will be at the peak of their blooming, with attention needing to be paid to staking of spikes. Look for water lodging in growths, which can rot emerging spikes and lead to the loss of the entire growth.

Cymbidium - Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

*Taken from the American Orchid Society Website
"All About Orchids"*



Phal. cornu-cervi

Membership News

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn,
Membership Chair

membership@dvos.org

As of April we have 119 members

General Members \$20

Commercial Members \$25

Lifetime Members \$300

If you are unable to receive the newsletter by email and need a B&W copy mailed to you, there is an additional \$10 charge for copying and postage.

New Member/ Renewal application:

www.dvos.org/About/membersh.htm

Upcoming Speakers and Events



Lc. Hawaiian Ice

Speaker's Dinner

is on Thur. July 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the Sichuan Fortune House, 41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill.

Everyone is welcome to attend and meet our speaker before the meeting. If you can join us, please call George McRae at (510) 233-7374 to be included in the reservation.

July 12: **DVOS meeting and Annual Ice Cream Social**

July 13-15: **Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Fair and Open House**
www.sborchid.com

August 4: **CSNJ Speaker's Day (see P. 13)**

August 18: **DVOS Annual Picnic & Auction**
'Caribbean Holiday'



C. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'

Diablo View Orchid Society

July 2012

Awards DVOS May

Novice

- | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st | <i>Phal. cornu-cervi</i> | Miki Ichiyanagi |
| 2nd | <i>Lc. Hawaiian Ice</i> | Melissa Sadler |
| 3rd | <i>Phal. Noname</i> | Mary Ann Gschwend |

Intermediate

- | | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 1st | <i>Lc. Canhamiana 'Azure Skies'</i> | Yunor Peralta |
| 2nd | <i>C. loddigesii coerulea</i> | Yunor Peralta |
| 3rd | <i>Paph. Robinianum</i> | Linda Castleton |

Advanced

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1st | <i>Slc. Sierra Doll</i> | Ted & Nancy McClellan |
| 2nd | <i>Den. trigonopus</i> | Carol Klonowski |
| 3rd | <i>Den. sanderae v. luzonicum</i> | Carol Klonowski |

Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

- | | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| <i>Schoenorchis fragrans</i> | Liz Charlton |
|------------------------------|--------------|



Friend DVOS on

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at

Diablo View Orchid Society

AOS Awards Kathy Barrett

June 2012
Sacramento CSNJC

6/6/2012 - Sacramento

Euchile citrina 'Mem. Thalia Hsiung' species AM 82
Exhibited by Chen-Hao Hsu

Prosthechea vitellina 'Bill Janetos' species AM 81
Exhibited by Chen-Hao Hsu

Prosthechea vitellina 'Kerry Richards' species AM 82
Exhibited by Chen-Hao Hsu

Images can be seen at <http://www.csnjc.org>



C. loddigeseii

Diablo View Orchid Society

July 2012

CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA JUDGING CENTER

presents Speaker's Day

Saturday, August 4, 2012

9 am - 5 pm

Odd Fellows Building
1937 Howe Ave. at Alta Arden Sacramento

Featuring

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery *Simplified Orchid Genetics and Breeding* (How to improve your collection)

Ron McHatton Operating Officer, Director of Education for AOS
Growing Miniature Orchids in Your Home

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery, **Dennis Olivas**, D & D Flowers and
Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids
All You Wanted to Know About Cattleyas (panel discussion)

\$10 Advance / \$20 Door for AOS members & Sponsoring Societies / \$25 General Admission

Vendors

Golden Gate Orchids

Odontoglossums and their intergenerics, plus other fantastic plants.

H & R Nursery

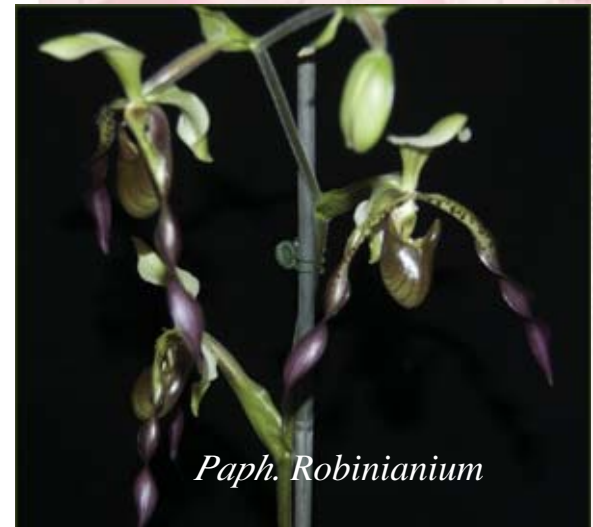
A great selections of various type of orchids.

Gold Country Orchids

Mini-cattleyas that bloom 2-3 times a year.

D & D Flowers

Dennis will have whatever the others don't.



Paph. Robinianum

9:00 AOS judging, see how we judge

11:00 Simplified Orchid Genetics and Breeding
(How to improve your collection)

Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nursery

12:00 Lunch Break

12:45 Auction

1:45 Growing Miniature Orchids in Your Home
Ron McHatton, Operating Officer, Director of Education for AOS

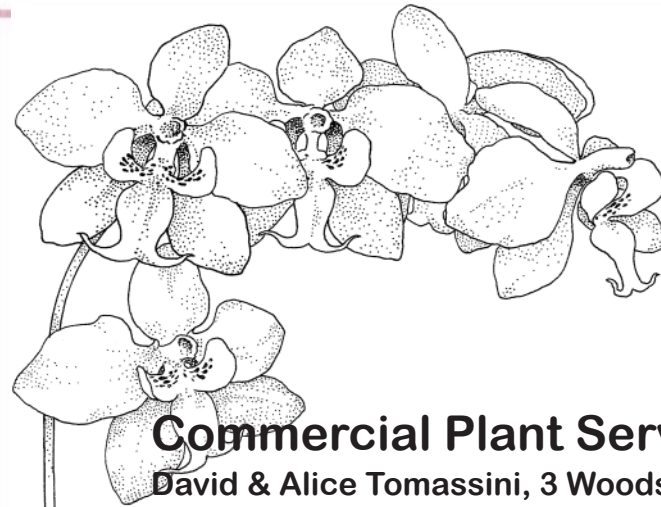
2:45 All You Wanted to Know About Cattleyas (panel discussion)
Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nursery
Dennis Olivas, D&D Flowers
Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids

3:45 Break-out Sessions
Dave Sorokowsky on Paphiopedilums
Tom Perlite on Odontoglossum Alliance
Ron McHatton on American Orchid Society updates

DVOS Officers 2012

President: George McRae
Immediate Past President: Liz Charlton
Vice-President: Kathy Barrett
Treasurer: Kathy Barrett
Secretary: Rodney Kline
Board Members: Meg Crosby, Parky Parkison,
Brad Piini, Eileen Jackson, Jamie Wasson
Membership: Ulrike Ahlborn membership@dvos.org
Newsletter: Jamie Wasson, Liz Charlton
dvosnews@gmail.com
Webmaster: Nick Doe, Ulrike Ahlborn
webmaster@dvos.org
Committee Chairs:
Greenhouse Tours: Parky Parkison
Refreshments: Miki Ichyanagi
Raffle and Sales: Carol and Casey Campell
Judging: Nancy and Ted McClellan
Equipment and Lights: Dave Tomassini
Librarian: Phyllis Arthur
AOS Representative: Dennis Olivas
Orchid Digest Representative:
SFOS Show Chairman: Brad Piini
DVOS Show Chairs Liz Charlton and Kathy Barrett

Commercial Members



Commercial Plant Services

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

California Orchids

Mary Nisbet, 515 Aspen Rd.
Bolinas, (415) 868-0203
www.californiaorchids.com

