April Meeting:

Thursday, April 13 at 7:15 pm
at the Contra Costa Water District

Refreshments will be supplied by:


Drinks: Ute Kilian, Daniel Neighbors

Ice: Someone please bring a bag of ice!

Visit our website for the latest news about the club!

DVOS.ORG

The April Meeting's Program:

Our guest speaker is Ron Parsons and his lecture will be on "Botanizing in Southern Ecuador"

Ron loves to photograph orchids and other flowers and has published almost 3500 photos in magazines, etc.

His bio is on page 4 of this newsletter

Yunor will be providing the plant table for the meeting, and ...

Yes, the pre-meeting dinner is still at the Sichuan Fortune House (41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill). The time is, as usual, 5:30.
President’s Message

Dear Orchid Friends,

Spring has arrived!  I though I would mention it, just in case your allergies have not conveyed the idea.

The additional sunshine has had a positive effect on my orchid collection: I can see growth, I can see and smell the blooms, and I hope you can say the same about your plants.

If not, bring your question to our meeting!!  We are here to help you grow better plants and enjoy growing orchids.

* Diablo View Orchid Society Refreshments
   It is true, we have some amazing contributions on our refreshment table.  Thank you to All who have treated us.
   We may already have the first contribution to a DVOS Bake/Cook/Desert Book!!  Stay tuned!

* DVOS Refreshment Chair Person Position - Vacant
   Based on my plea for a volunteer to step forward, we have been besieged by applications for this position!  I wish that were true!!
   I will take care of this until someone else does.
   Job qualifications:
   Bring paper plates and cups to the meeting.
   No purchasing of supplies required.
   Arrange food on the table and clean table up.

*Tip of the Day:
Feed your orchids weakly weekly.
(You have no idea how many plants I have killed by dumping on the fertilizer!)

See you Thursday.

Renate

Here is a picture of the club at the Mar. 4th Potluck in Bolinas.  More pictures after the bio.
April Speaker's Bio

Our guest speaker for April is Ron Parsons and his lecture will be on "Botanizing in Southern Ecuador".

Ron Parsons has been growing orchids for more than 40 years, and has been interested in species orchids for most of that time. Ron loves to photograph orchids and most other flowers whenever he can, whether it be on trips to see them in nature or in collections. He loves to travel to see orchids in the wild, and does so as often as possible. Ron has close to 60,000 digital images, most of which are of orchids, and still retains a slide library that exceeds 100,000 botanical images. He has almost 3500 published photos that have appeared in magazines, periodicals, journals and books. Ron has co-authored three botanical books, all with Mary E. Gerritsen. The first two, published by Timber Press, are *Masdevallias, Gems of the Orchid World* and *Calochortus, Mariposa Lilies and their Relatives*. Most recently, the third book, a large, luxurious, two-volume set, *A Compendium of Miniature Orchid Species* was published by Redfern Natural History Productions in January of 2014. The latter has nearly 1200 pages, 1800 photographs, and features more than 500 species.

Botanizing in Southern Ecuador

Ron Parsons loves to travel, photograph orchids and other wildflowers *in situ*, visit botanical gardens and personal collections almost more than anything else. His talk for April is on his first trip to South America, an Ecuadorean orchid adventure with *Ecuagenera*, consisting of the guide Gilberto Merino, Mary Gerritsen, Laurent Minet (from Belgium), Peter Hottewitzch (from Germany) and Ron. They traveled through quite a bit of southern Ecuador to such beautiful and orchid-rich areas as the Cordillera del Condor, Cajas National Park, Podocarpus National Park, etc. where approximately 125 species of orchids were seen in bloom. This talk features the highlights of this wonderful trip.

This picture is from the California Orchid Pot Luck
Our March 4th Pot Luck was wonderful!
We met at California Orchids, in Bolinas. Here is some of what we saw (and bought)!
(Zoom your Adobe Reader to 200 or 400% if you want to see some great details)
Speaker's Day

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center Speaker's Day
Saturday, July 29, 2017, 9 am - 5 pm

Odd Fellows Hall, 1831 Howe Ave., Sacramento, CA

James Rose: Orchids of Madagascar
Roy Tokunaga: La touria Dendrobiums Lessons from Phil Spence, the Master
George Hatfield: Modern Cymbidiums

also a break out session to ask the president of the AOS questions

$10 in advance, $30 at the door for sponsoring societies or AOS members
$30 General Admission

Tickets available from Susan Wedegaertner sgwede@gmail.com

http://www.csnjc.org/
Several of the members of our club requested these two recipes (which were enjoyed at our pot luck)

Francine Tchan gave us this recipe for her delicious...

Gluten Free Lemon Crinkle Cookies

Ingredients:

2 cups Blanched Almond Flour, 200 grams
1 cup Granulated Sugar, 200 grams
2 tablespoons Lemon Zest
pinch of Salt
2 Egg Whites, Room temperature
1 teaspoon Lemon Extract
1/4 cup Powdered Sugar, For rolling, 29 grams

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°F and line a baking sheet with a piece of parchment paper.
In a medium mixing bowl, stir together the almond flour, granulated sugar, lemon zest and salt. Set aside.
In a large mixing bowl, beat the egg whites at medium speed using an electric hand mixer or stand mixer until soft peaks form. Stir in the lemon extract and then stir in the flour mixture. It'll be a thick dough.
Roll into balls, about 1 1/2 tablespoons in size, and roll in the powdered sugar. Place the cookies 2” apart on the prepared baking sheet.
Bake for 15-17 minutes or until the tops have crackled and the bottoms of the cookies have lightly browned. Let cool completely on the baking sheet. Store in an airtight container for up to 3 days.
Betty Chinn gave us the recipe for her great cheese cake:

The only thing different that I did was to use a 9" pan since I didn't have an 8" one. I also added a parchment paper collar to the pan before I poured in the batter because it puffs up ~3" while it bakes.

I'm glad you liked the cheesecake.

Betty Chinn

PS: Please excuse the "dirty" recipe... I scanned it in. You can see that I use it a lot!

**Promenade Cheesecake**

1. tablespoon softened butter
2. ounces graham crackers (4 crackers)
1. lemon
2. pounds softened cream cheese
4. eggs
3/4. cups sugar
1. teaspoon vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Boil four cups of water. Coat an 8-inch round cake pan with the butter. Coat the sides and bottom of the pan evenly with a half-cup of finely processed graham cracker crumbs. Shake out excess.

Grate 1 tablespoon lemon zest and squeeze 3 tablespoons lemon juice into a large bowl. Add remaining ingredients and beat until light and fluffy, about 3 minutes. Pour batter into the prepared cake pan, shake the pan gently to level the mixture.

Place pan in a dish just large enough to contain it (a roasting pan will do). Add enough boiling water to come halfway up the outside of the cake pan. Bake until set and the top is golden, 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

For more great recipes, just send in your reply card by August 15, 1989, and I will rush you the special backyard grilling issue (July 1989) of COOK'S, absolutely free.

Christopher Kimball
Publisher & Editorial Director
Information on some Webinars:

Affiliated Societies Committee
Although this year’s weather patterns have challenged many growers, the current Orchid Show season continues to present us with spectacular plants and awards. Remind your society members that along with a subscription to the Bulletin of the American Orchid Society, ORCHIDS, membership also provides full access to the AOS website where they can see all of the latest orchid awards and learn who the exhibitors are. In addition to being inspirational to the orchid hobbyist, viewing award photos and descriptions can teach them what to look for when evaluating orchids and to make better purchasing decisions to optimize greenhouses and improve the quality of orchid collections.

We now have access to 350+ past issues of Orchids magazine online and I often find myself on the AOS website looking for info on an orchid that I have just seen at a society meeting or show that I have been wowed by. It’s the place I can always find accurate and complete information. It gives me a great appreciation for the individuals who have established, maintained and so generously contributed to the AOS to provide a wealth of what, for me, always brings joy into my life.

Encourage first time subscribers to use pre-printed membership forms with your society’s name included. The program for new membership which allows you to get a one-month society membership extension is described below in this newsletter.

Remember, event registration is still open for the AOS Spring 2017 Members’ Meeting. We want everyone to join us. Event and hotel reservation link: American Orchid Society Spring 2017 Members Meeting is on the AOS website. It’s being held at the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden, home of the AOS, in Coral Gables, Florida, on May 17-21, 2017. Also, note that it’s being held in conjunction with Redland International Orchid Festival in Homestead, Florida, which is an event beloved by many orchid enthusiasts. Special hotel rates are being made available and quantities are limited, so book now before it’s too late. Please put it in your calendar and let your members know that all AOS members are welcome to join us. Space is limited and filling quickly so we encourage you to make reservations.

If you have an upcoming show, remember to check out the “Guide to a Successful Orchid Show” which can aid even the most experienced to stay organized and on-track while planning a show. Also, remember we have an updated List of Speakers to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the “About Us” heading.

Here’s the link: AOS.org

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Virus Testing Your Orchids with Janet Lamborn of Agdia
Wednesday, April 5, 2017 @ 8:30 EDT:
Join Janet Lamborn of Agdia as she discusses the various types of viruses that can affect your orchids and how to test for them.
Register now using this link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8526986830281591555. Members only

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton
Tuesday, April 18, 2017 @ 8:30 PM - 9:30 PM EST  Everyone invited
Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on question submitted by attendees. Please send your questions to stilllisch@cox.net by April 16th.
Register now using this link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3650501029842583043.

Judging Webinar: Nomenclature
Thursday, April 20, 2017 @ 11:00 AM EDT  Everyone invited
Join Jean Ikeson in discussing orchid nomenclature: The basics and some changes in nomenclature and taxonomy. We might not always be happy with the changes, but we need to know what they are. Jean will help us learn!
Register now using this link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2486195182313121027

Judging Webinar: Research Sources for Orchid Judges with Jean Ikeson
Thursday, April 20, 2017 @ 1:00 PM EDT  Everyone invited
Join Jean Ikeson, Accredited AOS Judge, and review the resources that are important to the task of researching awards and information on orchids.
Register now using this link: https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/6119566540671396098

**Note:** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

**WHAT ARE WEBINARS?** Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

**WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN’T MAKE THE DATE?** The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

**YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS:**
Encourage **new** membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each **new** AOS member that they refer (**note: membership renewals don’t count**). For now, the only way to take advantage of this program is to download and print the **AOS Membership Application Form**, check the box “yes” to indicate that you are a member of a local orchid society, most importantly fill in the NAME of your orchid society, and mail the completed application and payment to: AOS, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida 33156.

*With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership!* Be sure to have membership applications with your society’s name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they respond immediately, they'll also receive the following:

- Digital Access To Over 29+ Years Back Issues of ORCHIDS Magazine

**THE APRIL ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE** will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- Genus of the Month - Ten Awesome Maxillarias
- Orchids Illustrated - Giovanni Battista Morandi
- The New Refugium Botanicum - Guarianthe skinneri
- For the Novice - Top Dressings
- The 2016 FCCs - Cream of the Crop
  - The 2015 Year-End Special Awards

**ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!**
16-page award gallery of breathtaking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

**RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:**
See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new “**Latest Orchid Awards**” page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. *Free to members and nonmembers.*

This was sent to us by Denise Lucero
Other orchid related activities (some close, others not so close):

*4/5/2017
California Sierra Nevada Judging Center
Odd Fellow Hall, 1831 Howe Ave., Sacramento, CA
A lot of people here are successfully growing orchids under challenging conditions.

*4/13 - 4/15/2017
Maui Orchid Society Easter Show
Maui Mall, 70 East Kaahumanu Ave., Kahului, Maui, HI
( good excuse to get on a plane, not exactly next door, but you don’t need a passport!)

* 4/17/2017
Pacific Central Judging Center - Oakland
Lakeside Park Garden Center, 666 Bellview Ave., Oakland, CA
You will find a good selection of Cymbidiums as well as other plants here.

*4/24/2017
Pacific South Judging Center - Long Beach
Whaley Park Community Center, 5629 Atherton, Long Beach, CA
( there are orchid growers along the way)

* The events mentioned above are only a few of those mentioned on the AOS website. There are many other opportunities to indulge.

* American Orchid Society (AOS) Website: aos.org
All About Orchids: education, events, conservation, research etc... at your fingertips!

In addition: The AOS offers webinars - a convenient and cost effective way to communicate. Our opportunity to learn from industry leaders.
(You can groom your orchids while you listen to the presentation)
If you are not a member, you should consider to signing up.
The monthly magazine has good information and orchid photos.