

# Diablo View Orchid Society

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

a 501c3 corporation

April 2010



## *At Our next meeting April 8th* **Charles Sims - Stanhopeas**

Charles Sims will talk on the genus Stanhopea, which in his considered opinion contains some of the most spectacular flowers in the orchid kingdom.

His talk will cover descriptions of the plants found within the genus Stanhopea and a great deal of cultural information. Charles has been growing orchids for 12 years. He gives presentations on Stanhopeas and other orchid-related subjects, including his recent trip to Peru. He is a Probationary Judge with the American Orchid Society and has served as President and Vice President of the Sacramento Orchid Society. He has a masters degree in Social Psychology with an emphasis in research methodology and statistics. While he also lectures on research-related topics to eager classes of undergraduate students, he promises not to do so at Diablo View.

**Speaker's Dinner will be at Melo's Pizza & Pasta (1660 Contra Costa Blvd., Pleasant Hill) at 5:30 pm. Everyone is welcome to attend and meet our speaker. If you plan to attend, please notify Liz Charlton at (925) 280-1671 or email [dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)**

### NEXT MEETING

Thur. April 8

5:30 - Speaker's Dinner

7:30 - 10:00 pm Meeting

Contra Costa Water  
District Board Room

1331 Concord Ave.

Concord map:  
[www.diabloviewos.org](http://www.diabloviewos.org)

President:

**Liz Charlton**

Immediate Past

President:

**Eileen Jackson**

Vice-President:

**Ken Cook**

Secretary:

**Rodney Kline**

Treasurer:

**Brian Wraxall**

# Diablo View Orchid Society

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## 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 March

### Mary Gerritsen: *Orchids of Borneo*

**H**ave you ever wondered what it would have been like if you could turn back time to the 18th century and go foraging through pristine forests of foreign lands, searching for rare undiscovered orchids that would be sent back to the conservatory with your name on it for the rest of time? Then Mary Gerritsen gave the perfect travel log for you. The travel log also reminds you of all the hardships you have to consider if you ever think about going on one of these discovery trips.

At the last D.V.O.S. meeting Mary Gerritsen took us on a slide show trek to the island of Borneo. Borneo is located in Southeast Asia and is the third largest island in the world.

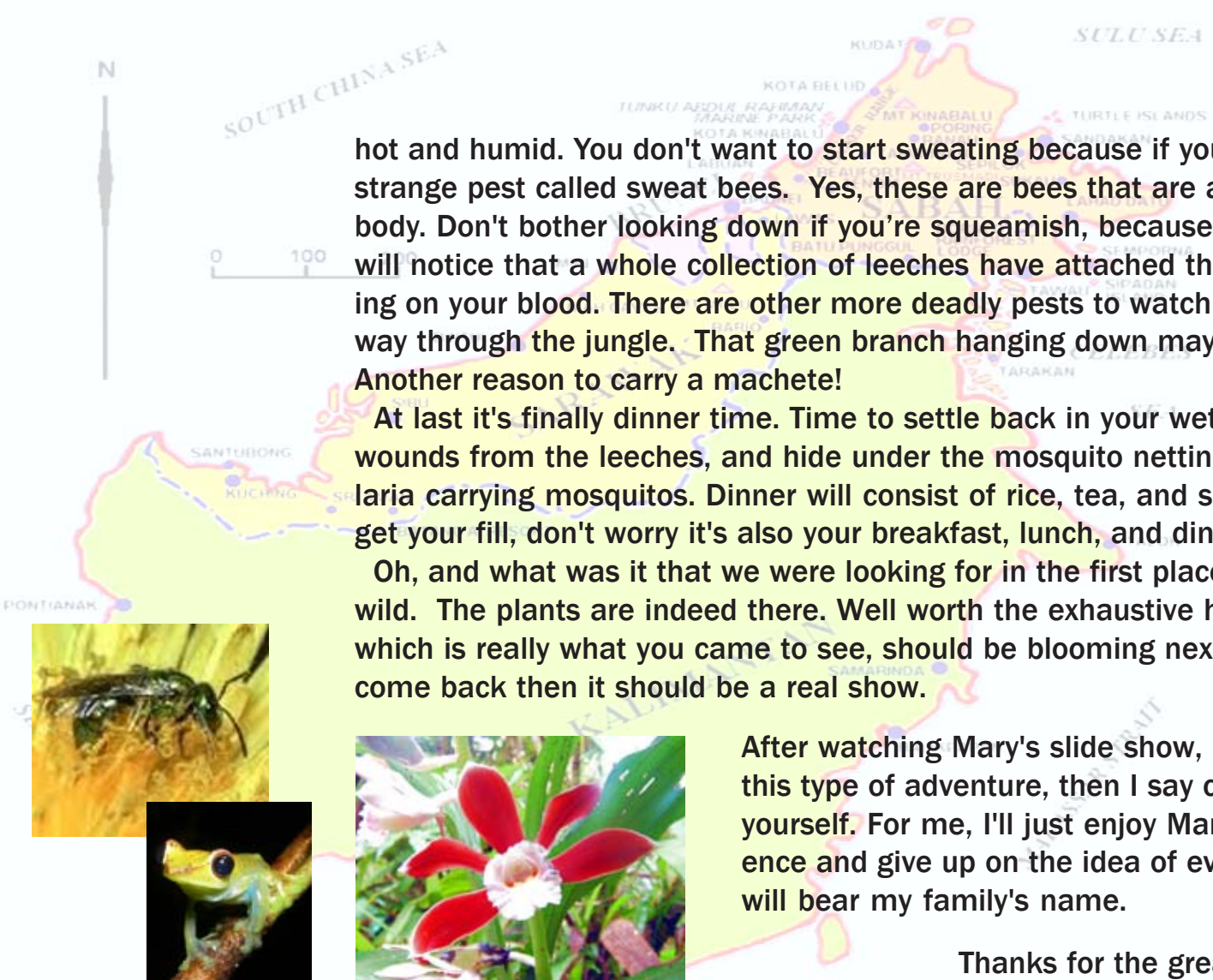
The weather in Borneo was dripping wet, as Mary's slides showed while she trudged through the dense jungles of Borneo. Most of the hiking was in ankle deep mud. This constant rain makes the thick forest vegetation quickly overgrow the trails, so you need to constantly clear the trails with a machete. When the rain stops, the climate



To see the pictures of Mary's Orchids of Borneo: <http://picasaweb.google.com/navbo123>

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hot and humid. You don't want to start sweating because if you do, you will be covered in a strange pest called sweat bees. Yes, these are bees that are attracted to the sweat on your body. Don't bother looking down if you're squeamish, because just above your sock line you will notice that a whole collection of leeches have attached themselves to you and are feasting on your blood. There are other more deadly pests to watch out for as you're cutting your way through the jungle. That green branch hanging down may actually be a deadly pit viper. Another reason to carry a machete!

At last it's finally dinner time. Time to settle back in your wet clothes, stare at the open wounds from the leeches, and hide under the mosquito netting to avoid the swarms of malaria carrying mosquitos. Dinner will consist of rice, tea, and sardines - delicious. If you didn't get your fill, don't worry it's also your breakfast, lunch, and dinner for the entire trip.

Oh, and what was it that we were looking for in the first place ? That's right, orchids gone wild. The plants are indeed there. Well worth the exhaustive hike to find them. The blossom , which is really what you came to see, should be blooming next week or so if you could just come back then it should be a real show.

After watching Mary's slide show, if you still want to experience this type of adventure, then I say congratulations and enjoy yourself. For me, I'll just enjoy Mary's slide show on the experience and give up on the idea of ever discovering an orchid that will bear my family's name.

Thanks for the great information. - Brad Piini



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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**

## *Rules for Ribbon Judging*

Everyone is encouraged to bring and enter plants for ribbon judging at our monthly meetings.

- 1) Plants must be on the judging table by 7:30 P.M. when the meeting starts
- 2) Plant must have been owned by the person showing it for a minimum of 6 months
- 3) Plant must free of bugs and disease
- 4) Owner of the plant must be present at the meeting
- 5) Persons showing plants must be members of DVOS



## *Raffle Table for April*

Plant table will be provided by Dennis Olivas and will also include plants from the estate of Dick Emory. Regular raffle: six tickets for \$5



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## 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)

## *Awarded Plants in March*

1<sup>st</sup> *C. skinneri* x *C. Ruth Gee*

Kathy Barrett

2<sup>nd</sup> *L. Santa Barbara Sunset*

Sharon Duffy

3<sup>rd</sup> *Paph. St Swithin*

Eileen Jackson



*L. Santa Barbara Sunset*



Lancer Smith:  
(species or miniature orchids)  
*Ddc. latifolium*

Liz Charlton

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*C. skinneri* x *C. Ruth Gee*

## *Membership News*

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn, Membership Chair

We have 77 members.

Membership dues for 2010 are past due!

Please welcome new members:  
Louisa Luce-Horton and Kevin Horton  
from Concord.

## *Speaker's Day*

*August 7, 2010*

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center will host another Speaker's Day in Sacramento at the Oddfellow's Hall. This years speakers include Ron McHatton, Glen Decker and Marguerite Webb. Tickets in advance are \$5, at the door \$10 (for members of supporting societies.) CSNJC c/o Kathy Barrett (see your DVOS directory for her address)

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AOS Corner

## *Why Do You Grow Orchids?*

A few weeks ago I received a phone call from a new orchid grower who is blind. The caller was looking for audio information on growing orchids and so they contacted the American Orchid Society. I had a couple of cd's handy so I sent them to her. Guess what – there was no audio on them –oops! So then I found a VHS tape on EBay about growing orchids under lights. That worked better but there is still a lot of information that is shown and not described. So I am looking for someone who will tape (micro cassette) orchid education programs given at their society and send them to her. If you would consider helping please let me know at [affiliated\\_societies@aos.org](mailto:affiliated_societies@aos.org) She, her name is LaVonne, lives in Bismarck, ND and she grows hibiscus as well as succulents. LaVonne also has a few orchids, a phalaenopsis and a dendrobium.



*Paph. St Swithin*

As I was looking for audio material people kept asking me, “why would a blind person want to grow orchids?” So I asked LaVonne – can you guess the answer? For the challenge! She enjoys the plants she currently grows but now wants something more challenging. LaVonne and I have had some great telephone conversations about orchids, she described how she feels a plant to determine if something is a keiki or a new growth. I told her about fragrant orchids, miniature orchids and orchids with fuzzy stems she might want to consider. LaVonne had no idea there were so many types of orchids out there. Now she really wants a *Brassavola nodosa* and a *Paphiopedilum Pinocchio* but she has to wait for warmer weather. To me this is what orchid societies are all about – orchid people helping other orchid people become better orchid growers. I am constantly amazed at the pleasure our orchids give us in one way or another.

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn

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## *Upcoming Speakers and Events*

- April 10: California Orchids, Mary Nisbet, Spring Sale 9-4  
directions: [http://www.californiaorchids.com/events\\_directions.html](http://www.californiaorchids.com/events_directions.html)
- April 24: DVOS Greenhouse Bus Tour
- May 1,2: Carmel Valley Garden Show <http://www.cvgardenshow.com>
- May 7,8,9: Orchid Society of Calf. Sale & Show FREE  
Lake Merritt Oakland <http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com/aboutshow>
- May 13: Fred Clarke - Venezuelan Cattleyas
- Aug 7: Speakers Day

### *The next Board Meeting*

Will be at the home of Eileen Jackson on  
April 15th at 7:30 pm

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



### *Refreshments for the April Meeting*

COOKIES & BROWNIES



**Cookies:** Diana Vaverek, Makayla Shields, Cheryl Phillipson, Judith Johnson, Eileen Jackson

**Beverages/Ice:** Brad Piini, Alice Tomassini, Liz Charlton



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## *Spring Greenhouse Tour April 24*

**There are still some seats left.** We are planning a greenhouse tour with stops at three orchid growers and one regular nursery. All greenhouses are located in Pacifica. Mark your calendar for April 24<sup>th</sup>. The tour will be by bus so no need to look for a ride. Reserve your seat.

### **What you need to know if you are going:**

There will be two pick-up locations. Time and a location map will be sent to those who have signed up a week before the tour.

There will be a fee of \$30 per person to help pay for the bus. Your deposit will hold your seat as this first come first serve as we are limited to 30 people. The bus fee can be paid to Clarence 'Parky' Parkison, 1023 Camelia Drive, Livermore, CA 94550. Please email Parky at [parky4@comcast.net](mailto:parky4@comcast.net) if you are interested in going and include how many people will be going with you.

The tour includes the following greenhouses:

- ❧ White Oak Orchids with as many as 300 thousand plants to choose from
- ❧ Hanging Gardens Orchids
- ❧ Hawk Hill Orchids
- ❧ Sheldance Nursery with a lot of different plants to choose from



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## *AOS Awards March 2010*

Courtesy of Kathy Barrett

### **3/2/10 - Pacific Central - San Francisco**

*Paphiopedilum Stone Crazy 'Lisle B.'*, HCC 78 (Paph. Crazy Jolly x Paph. Stone Lovely), Exhibited by Margaret and Terry Boomer

### **3/3/10 - Sacramento - CSNJC**

*Aerangis Winter Snow 'Sierra Nevada'*, HCC 79 (Aergs. Winter Dove x Aergs. fastuosa), Exhibited by Gold Country Orchids

*Cattleya Tatsuka Kiyoko 'Jocelyn'*, AM 81 (C. sincorana x C. wittigiana) [formerly Laelia and Sophronitis respectively]

Exhibited by James Morris

*Dendrobium Intense 'Intense'*, AM 81 (Den. Lorikeet x Den. Zip), Exhibited by James Morris

*Masdevallia Annette Hall 'Winston'*, AM 85 (Masd. Copper Angel x Masd. Manco Inca), Exhibited by Ken and Amy Jacobsen

*Sarcochilus spathulatus 'Jocelyn'*, CHM 80 (prov) species, exhibited by James Morris

*Sarcochilus weinthalii 'Jocelyn'*, CHM 80 (prov) species, Exhibited by James Morris

### **3/13/10 - Central California Orchid Society Show CSNJC**

*Paphiopedilum Toni Semple 'Dianne'*, HCC 75 (Paph. haynaldianum x Paph. lowii), Exhibited by Carl Kassabian

*Trichopilia suavis 'Kristine'*, HCC 76 species, Exhibited by Robert Sun

### **3/15/10 - Pac Central - Oakland**

*Paphiopedilum delenatii 'Moqui'*; HCC 76 species, Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

*Phalaenopsis schilleriana var. purpurea 'Monster'*, AM 80 species, Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

### **3/19/10 - San Joaquin Orchid Society and Show - CSNJC**

no awards

Awards can be seen at:

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## 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**