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
Our program in March

Mary Gerritsen: Orchids of Borneo

Have 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
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 mosquitoes. 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
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
Awarded Plants in March

1st C. skinneri x C. Ruth Gee
Kathy Barrett

2nd L. Santa Barbara Sunset
Sharon Duffy

3rd Paph. St Swithin
Eileen Jackson

Lancer Smith:
(species or miniature orchids)
Ddc. latifolium
Liz Charlton
Diablo View Orchid Society

April 2010

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.

C. skinneri x C. Ruth Gee

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 year’s 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)
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. 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.

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.
Diablo View Orchid Society
April 2010

Upcoming Speakers and Events

April 10: California Orchids, Mary Nisbet, Spring Sale 9-4
directions: 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 Calif. 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
To check-out an item, contact
Phyllis Arthur

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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

Ddc. latifolium
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 24th. 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 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
- Shelldance Nursery with a lot of different plants to choose from
Diablo View Orchid Society

**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. Iowii), 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:

Pacific Central Judging Center: [http://www.aospacificcentral.org](http://www.aospacificcentral.org)
California Sierra Nevada Judging Center: [http://www.csnjc.org](http://www.csnjc.org)
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 your 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

Membership@DVOS.org

Revised: January 26, 2007