DVOS meets the second Thursday of each month at the Contra Costa Water District boardroom 7:30-10:00 pm
1331 Concord Ave. Concord, CA.
At Our Next Meeting:
Chris Mende (see P. 3)

Plant Table provided by:
Chris Mende

Speaker’s Dinner
Before our next meeting
At 5:30 pm:
Sichuan Fortune House,
41 Woodsworth Lane,
Pleasant Hill

Board Meeting:
April 17th at 7:30 pm
at the home of Jamie & Liz

Arpo. gigantuem
At Our Next Meeting April 10

Chris Mende
will talk to us about paphiopedilums

Bring your paphs which refuse to bloom, those which will not grow bigger. Bring your dry brittle plants and those with mushy yellow leaves: The Paph Doctor is In

Chris Mende is an orchid grower who owns The Tiny Jungle a small nursery specializing in species Paphiopedilum. She has wrested herself from dogged Paph-centrism during the past two or three years and now admits to loving Dendrobium, Coelogyne, Masdevallia, and many other orchids.

She does pride herself in having seedlings of the majority of Paph species as well as several Phrag species. Workshops with her are usually fun, if she does say so herself!
If the devil is in the details, then the *Neofinetia falcata* orchid is the Lucifer of the orchid world. The Japanese have taken this one orchid, out of all the orchids in the orchid world, and analyzed and judged it to a level unheard of in the orchid kingdom. Ricky Wong was our March DVOS speaker and he reviewed the criteria by which *Neofinetia falcata* is judged and how different it is from the way Westerners look at and judge an orchid. In the Far East, Japan, China, and Korea look at an orchid plant as a whole, flowers, roots, leaves, pot, etc., focusing on the whole as represented by the parts. In the West, we focus on the flower and occasionally on the foliage but mostly the quality of the flowers.

The Japanese look at *Neofinetia falcata* and break it down into individual characteristics to judge its merit. The orchid is judged and valued for the following merits: flowers, the flower color, the form of the flower, the foliage forms, the leaf shape, the connection between the leaf and the stem, the root tip color, and the pot that the orchid is potted in.
If you have a plant with outstanding features in each of these characteristics, then you can enter it for competition in Japan. The entry fee in 2010 was a mere $200,000 with a grand prize of two million dollars.

The following will give you an example of the detail that the Japanese observe in just three of the above characteristics when judging *Neofinetia falcata*. One is the connection between the leaf and the stem of *Neofinetia falcata*. This is called the Tsuke. There are 5 different descriptions of the way the leaf meets the stem. They are as follows: Tsukigata - crescent moon, Ichimonji - straight line, Yumigata - bow shaped, Yamagata - mountain shaped, and Namigata - ocean wave. The next is root tip color. It is also described by five different characteristics. They are as follows: Dorone - mud colored (dark green or brown), Shirone - white colored (pale green), Aone - solid green color, Akane - red colored, and Rubine- ruby colored. The next property, leaf shape, is also broken down into five characteristics:
Namba - regular form, Wankyokuba - distinct curve, Mameba - bean leaf, Haniba- needle leaf, and Rashaba - rasp leaf. This detail continues for all of the characteristics of the Neofinetia Falcata orchid.

Ricky Wong went on to emphasize that many of the characteristics of Neofinetia falcata orchid are due to cultural excellence. Great culture will lead to outstanding characteristics in the orchid. Bad culture causes the orchid to resort back to its natural form. The key to great culture with Neofinetia falcata include medium light, balanced fertilizer in the spring and summer, a temperature range between 20°- 97° Fahrenheit, watering well from March to September, humidity between 70% and 80%, and repotting each year in new sphagnum moss.

Thank you Ricky for your expert knowledge and passion of the Neofinetia falcata orchid.
Congratulations!
to the SNJC Student Judges (and Accredited Judges)
for their winning Display at the
Sacramento Orchid Show
winner of the
AOS Show Trophy
for Best Display in Show
and
Orchid Digest Show Trophy
for Best Display in Show

Sue Davis, Joanne Gerow, Eileen Jackson, Nancy McClellan, Tom Pickford ably assisted by Kathy Barrett and Liz Charlton. Thanks to everyone who contributed their plants for the display.
Orchis morjo

NVOS Orchid Fiesta
at the Napa Senior Center
1500 Jefferson St., Napa
April 5-6 10 am - 4 pm
Membership News
courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn,
Membership Chair
membership@dvos.org

General Members $30
Commercial Members $40
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

Cym. Noname

Lept. bicolor
UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

April 5-6: Napa Valley Orchid Society
21st Annual Show and Sale (see P. 8)

April: DVOS Meeting with Chris Mende
Paphiopedilum: The Doctor is In

May: DVOS Meeting with Damon Collingsworth from California Carnivores

Aug 16: DVOS Picnic Sedierea japonica
Awards DVOS March

Novice
1st *Arpo. giganteum* Paivi Klausing
2nd *Cym Noname* Jeanette Bean
3rd *L. anceps* Marcia Hart

Intermediate
1st *Den. Frank Thrall* Barbara Ungersma
2nd *Sedirea japonica* Barbara Ungersma
3rd *Orchis morjo* George Cooper

Advanced
1st *Max. arbuscula* Yunor Peralta
2nd *V. brunea* Mark Dillard
3rd *Ctt. Blazing Treat* Tom Pickford

Lancer Smith (species/under 6”)
*Lpt. bicolor* Tom Pickford

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center Awards for January can be viewed at: http://www.csnjc.org
REFRESHMENTS FOR THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

FOOD:
(Food must be cut into servings)

Marcia Hart
George McRae
Paivi Klausing
Barbara Ungersma
Renate Johnson
Inge Brooks
Marsha Fickas

DRINKS:

Eileen Jackson
Miki Ichiyanagi

ICE: Liz Charlton

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP:

Brenda Aday

http://www.orchidconservationcoalition.org

Ctt. Blazing Treat
Commercial Members

Commercial Plant Services
David & Alice Tomassini, 3 Woodside Ct.,
Danville, (925) 736-7630
www.commercialplantservices.com