



Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.diablowiewos.org>

August 2002

Program:

“An Orchid Round-Robin” Sue Fordyce, Bernice Lindner, and Barbara Tague

Meeting Date, Time and Location

When: Thursday, Aug 8, 2002

Meeting Starts at 7:30 PM

Where: Contra Costa Water Dept. Auditorium
1331 Concord Ave., Concord

Dinner with the speakers: 5:30 PM @ Spring Garden Restaurant
785 Oakgrove Rd., Concord

RSVP (925) 833-0840 or e-mail DVOSNEWS@ATTBI.COM by 8/6/02

Upcoming Events: (topics in parenthesis)

August

- 8 General Meeting
Orchid round-robin with Sue Fordyce,
Bernice Lindner, and Barbara Tague
- 24 DVOS BBQ

September

- 12 General meeting
Speaker: Leonard Gines (TBA)

October

- 10 General meeting
Speaker: Dr. Joanne Whitney
(How did it get that name?)

December

- 12 General meeting
DVOS Holiday Party

Message from the President

Surf's Up! All you beachcombers ~ catch the wave to the 'Lancer P. Smith BBQ' on Saturday, August 24th. This is the annual summer social event for those of you who have not attended before.

You'll enjoy the beautiful setting at the Van Galder estate, a great BBQ, and the chance to take home some treasures from the tropics. The presentation of individual Lifetime Membership Awards will be a special feature.

If you have not already signed up, be sure to do so at the next general meeting on August 8th. There are more details in the Newsletter about your participation.

So come in your clam diggers or last year's Hawaiian shirts and be prepared to have a great time.

"Hang Ten"
Dave T.



At the Tomassini greenhouse -
Greenhouse Tour '02

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
SEPT. NEWSLETTER
IS FRIDAY, AUG. 30**

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DVOS STAFF

President - David Tomassini
Vice-President - Charlotte Leong
Secretary - Alice Tomassini
Treasurer - Barbara Tague

AOS Rep. - Barbara Tague

BBQ - Sue Fordyce

Culture Sessions - Charlotte
Leong

Greenhouse Tours - Linda
Daraskavich

Historian - Nathalie Smith

Indoor/Outdoor Group - Open

Librarian - Phyllis Arthur

Lights&Equipment - Juan Bofill,
Parky Parkison

Membership - Ulrike Ahlborn

Newspaper Ads - Karen Moonitz

Raffle/Other sales - Nancy
Pak

Refreshments - Linda Castleton,
Tonky Bofill

S.F. Show - Ron Bettencourt

Sound System - Dave Tomassini

Webmaster - Nick Doe

Welcome Hostess - Madge Fordyce

Board Members - Juan Bofill, Linda
Daraskavich, Nancy Pak, Parky Parkison,
Mark Rotter

Newsletter Editor

Mark Rotter (925) 833-0840

DVOSnews@attbi.com

This Month's Speakers

This month we will have three speakers participating in a Round Robin. Below are brief biographies on each of our speakers:

Sue Fordyce

Sue Fordyce began her career in orchids literally at her father's knee (pulling weeds under the benches). Frank Fordyce has a career in orchids spanning 56 years and is known worldwide for his award winning hybrids and informative lectures on Cattleyas. He is passing on this knowledge and easy style of communication to Sue. After a few years as a Psychiatric Nurse (which prepared her for the orchid world) she went on to become manager of Fordyce Orchids, a post she has held for the past 15 years. Sue also has traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada speaking on Orchid Culture and Cattleya Breeding. Sue is a past President of DVOS and has been published in many orchid publications and is known for her humorous orchid poetry.

Bernice Lindner

While working in a lab at UC Berkeley, I was intrigued by a flower that seemed to stay in bloom forever. The owner of the plant (Phal. aphrodite), realizing that I was interested, offered to sell me the

orchid for \$2.00. That was 1975, and as they say "the rest is history". It's been a great hobby-tons of fun, some neat collecting trips to Costa Rica, Ecuador, Peru and Panama, many good friends and much satisfaction. I no longer bore my friends to death with stories and pictures of our grandkids-now it is orchids that have stolen their place.

Barbara Tague

I started growing orchids in 1987 when a dear friend gave me a pot of red Cymbidiums as a gift. When it re-bloomed the next spring, I was hooked.

Soon, my husband Dean discovered the Orchid Ranch where he started to buy different Phals. and Paphs. for my birthdays and holidays. It didn't take long for me to kill them all. When he informed me that he would start putting a black stripe on my sleeve for every orchid I killed, I knew if I wanted to continue growing orchids, I had to do something.

Lucky for us, we visited Fordyce's Orchids one day, where a very nice gentleman named Frank came to talk to us. When he learned of my problems, he told me about a newly-started orchid club, where I could really learn lots of things on how to grow orchids and meet some nice friends. Once I started that, the rest is just history.

DVOS Member Profile

Bernice Lindner

Name: *Bernice A. Lindner*

Birthplace: *Springfield, Ill.*

Childhood (where I grew up): *Springfield, Ill.*

Family Members and/or Pets: *Parents, brother, 1 dog*

Occupation: *Medical Technician, then research tech*

How I became Interested in Orchids:

Thru another orchid-type at U.C. Berkeley in 1975

Favorite Orchid: *Vandas, Miltoniopsis, miniatures*

Other Hobbies and Special Interests: *Bridge*

Favorite way to Mellow out: *Trips to San Francisco*

Favorite or Unusual Memories: *Snorkeling in the Red Sea and off Kauai.*

Your Plans in Five Years: *Same as today, I hope.*

Membership News

DVOS still is 97 members strong. And I am still searching for the one unidentified person who gave me her dues, but did not return the completed application form to me. She did not come to the meeting in June nor July. I still hope she will identify herself, so we can welcome her and send her the newsletter.

We could welcome several new guests at the July meeting: Rita Tischler from Concord, Jim Kohl from Walnut Creek, Roslyn Spruit from Hercules and Buck and Pam Newton from Berkeley.

If you have not received a roster yet and would like to have one, please send me a message or see me at the next meeting. I also will have the Addendum to the roster available at the meeting again.

For new members who have not received a nametag yet, please let me know and I will make one for you and bring it to the next meeting. These nametags are especially useful for the August BBQ and Auction, when there will be more time to socialize.

A note to our guests who attended our general meeting prior to June 2002: Please be aware that this will be your last newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving it and enjoy the meetings and participate in the club's benefits, send in your application and dues or just bring them to the next meeting.

You can contact me using the **new e-mail address for the membership chair** membership@DVOS.org Please make a note of it.

Or you can contact me by phone during the day at (510) 741-6762 and in the evening at (925) 830-8830.

Ulrike Ahlborn
Membership Chair

Culture Corner

Last month, Michael Gallagher presented an overview of 'Growing Disas in the East Bay'. This session dealt with primarily *Disa Uniflora*, and the following recommendations were made with this species in mind. Disas are heavy water drinkers and need damp good quality water conditions. Although you can grow Disas by hand watering, he recommends an automated set-up. Because 'life happens' and someday you just won't have the time to water your Disas and they will die. Due to limited space I'll refer you to his web site www.disas.com <<http://www.disas.com>> for details on constructing a flow table. You can grow some species of Disas in full sun, but you will need to protect them from the extreme heat conditions that can occur. You can do this with misters or, for this reason, he recommends growing them outdoors under a shade structure and using misters. Disas can be found surviving in snow, so they will do fine in our temperate winter conditions. But they need protection from hard freezes. Generally giving them some protection during a hard freeze (~20°F) such as covering them or moving them close to the house will be sufficient.

Because water quality is essential for Disas it is important to watch the dissolved salts content in the water, referred to as 'parts per million' or ppm. Adding fertilizer will increase the salt levels of your water. Monitoring can be done with a 'Total Dissolved Salts' (TDS) meter or similar measuring device. You should not exceed 250 ppm in dissolved salt content, and staying under 200 is even better. Those of us that have EBMUD for our water supplier are fairly lucky in that the water out of the tap rarely exceeds 40 ppm. Those of you who have Contra Costa Water are not as fortunate and may need to resort to reverse osmosis water filtration systems or bottled water to grow disas.

From seed to bloom, it takes only 2 years for Disas. To whet your appetite, below is a picture of Michael's greenhouse in July. For more details on growing Disas see Michael's web site www.disas.com

Results from the DVOS Competition

1st Place

Barbara Tague

blc Balinese Dancer 'Sable': blc Fortune x L. tenebrosa

2nd Place

Mike Gallagher

Disa Uniflora

3rd Place

Karen Moonitz

Paphiopedilum glaucophyllum

Look What I Bloomed For the First Time

Katie Pleasance

phrag. Hybrid

Lancer Smith Award

Bernice Lindner

macroclinium species

Many thanks to our judges **Naomi Chamberlain and**

Rita Tischler

“Culture Corner,” cont. from pg. 4

Next month we will not have a culture session in deference to our Round Robin Session.



Mike Gallagher and Cordelia Head

Have Dinner with the Speaker!

Come join us for dinner prior to the August meeting. Hear inside tips and stories from our speakers. Dinner reservations are for 5:30 PM at Gary's Spring Garden Restaurant, 785 Oak Grove Rd. at the corner of Oak Grove and Treat Blvd. in Concord. Gary puts on a nice family style dinner for all who attend. If you get lost, the phone number for the restaurant is 925-827-1900. Cost is \$15/person with tax and tip, drinks are an additional cost. Please RSVP with Charlotte at dvosnews@attbi.com <<mailto:dvosnews@attbi.com>> or leave a message at 925-833-0840 by 8/6/02. If you don't RSVP, but find you can come to dinner at the last minute, please join us. We can always accommodate a few extra people. Hope to see you there.

Charlotte



blc Balinese Dancer 'Sable': blc Fortune x L. tenebrosa owned by Barbara Tague. First place in DVOS competition

DVOS Member Profile

Marlene & Floyd Lundquist

Name: *Marlene Lundquist* *Floyd Lundquist*

Birthplace: *London England* *Minnesota*

Childhood: *Wembley, London England* *Minnesota*

Family Members and/or Pets:

Mother, Father, Brother, dog

Occupation: *Army, Secretary, Kaiser, Housewife, Bus Driver* *Management, Auditor Collections, Accounting, now retired.*

How I became interested in Orchids:

Bought my first orchid from Atkatsuka, Bay Isle Hawaii

Favorite Orchid(s): *Love them all. (Cymbidiums cannot bloom here)*

Paphiopedilum and Cattleya

Other Hobbies and Special Interests:

Gardening

Bowling, Fishing

Favorite way to Mellow Out:

Watch court cases on TV, garden

Favorite or Unusual Memories:

Met Nat Smith driving bus. She liked orchids too.

Special Accomplishments:

President of Hilo Orchid Society

*President of Hilo O. S.
Treasurer of Hilo O.S.
Show Chair - 3 years*

Your Plan in Five Years:

I only plan for 1 year.

Spend more time on Mainland.

Favorite Quote: *"One Day at a Time"*



Disa uniflora owned by Mike Gallagher. Second place in DVOS competition



Macroclinium species owned by Bernice Lindner. Lancer Smith award in DVOS competition



Paphiopedilum glaucophyllum owned by Karen Moonitz. Third place in DVOS competition



Phrag. hybrid owned by Katie Pleasance. Look What I Bloomed for the First Time Award in DVOS competition.

Last Month's Presentation

Last month Cordelia Head of J & L Orchids shared culture tips on a myriad of miniature orchids. A good choice for those of us with limited space, you can feed your orchid addiction as you can fit many miniature orchids in the same space as a few standard-sized orchids. Cordelia described plants for each of the growing conditions: from cool to warm and everything in between.

Next month, we are fortunate to have three DVOS members, Sue Fordyce, Bernice Lindner, and Barbara Tague participating in a Round Robin session. The audience will be split into 3 groups and each will rotate through each speaker's presentation.

Sue will discuss tips for decorating with orchids, Bernice will teach everyone how to mount an orchid, Barbara will give a culture session on growing *Den. cuthbertsonii*; a lovely little orchid that can be a profuse bloomer. Be sure to join us, as participants will get something to take home.

The raffle table will be supplied by David Tomassini of 'Commercial Plant Services'. David always provides a great selection of plants, so you'll want to be sure to get raffle tickets.

Information Wanted!

What do you do in a Power Failure?

As the summer temperatures soar and the threat of power outages loom over us, many of us face the dilemma of how to protect our orchid collections in the face of a power outage. Installing a power generator may be the answer, but what if you work or for some reason you are not home to turn on the generator when it is needed? What do you do to

keep your orchids from becoming an instant orchid BBQ? Likewise, what if there is a power outage during a winter freeze, how do you keep your babies from becoming frozen specimens?

If you've found a solution, let me know and we will include it in a future installment of the 'Culture Corner'. Send your submissions to dvosnews@attbi.com leave a message at 925-833-0840 or contact me at a meeting.

Charlotte

News from Afar

This was sent by way of DVOS member Pauline Brault in Hawaii. "Ron Phillips of the Hilo Orchid Society holds a beautiful *Laelia purpurata* (see photo below). The owner of the plant is Mr. Greuel, who is an ex-Peninsula resident. He brought a number of plants with him from the Bay Area when he moved to Hawaii."



Photos from the Greenhouse Tour - June 2002



At Mercedes Bell's house



Inside Karen Moonitz' greenhouse



Lunch at the Tomassini's

**The Diablo View Orchid Society announces
The Lancer P. Smith Memorial BBQ, Potluck and Auction**

At the Van Galder Estate, Lafayette Ca.

Saturday August 24th, 2002

Auction preview begins 11:00 AM.

We feature a **Surfari theme** for this year's BBQ, featuring catered meats.

Dues currently paid gives you entrance for the BBQ. If you wish to bring a guest who is not a member we'll make him/her a member for the usual \$15 application fee, or charge them \$20 for the meal. Your choice!

The only other requirement is donation of ONE ORCHID PLANT per person for the auction. If you don't have a plant to donate, use your imagination and donate some item akin to orchids: pots, scissors jewelry, art, etc. Our Astute Auctioneers **Dennis Olivas and Sue Fordyce** will auction off all items for benefit the DVOS.

POTLUCK assignments are by alphabet:

A-F: Salads, G-L: Casseroles, M-R: Desserts, S-Z: Appetizers. Please bring enough for 8.

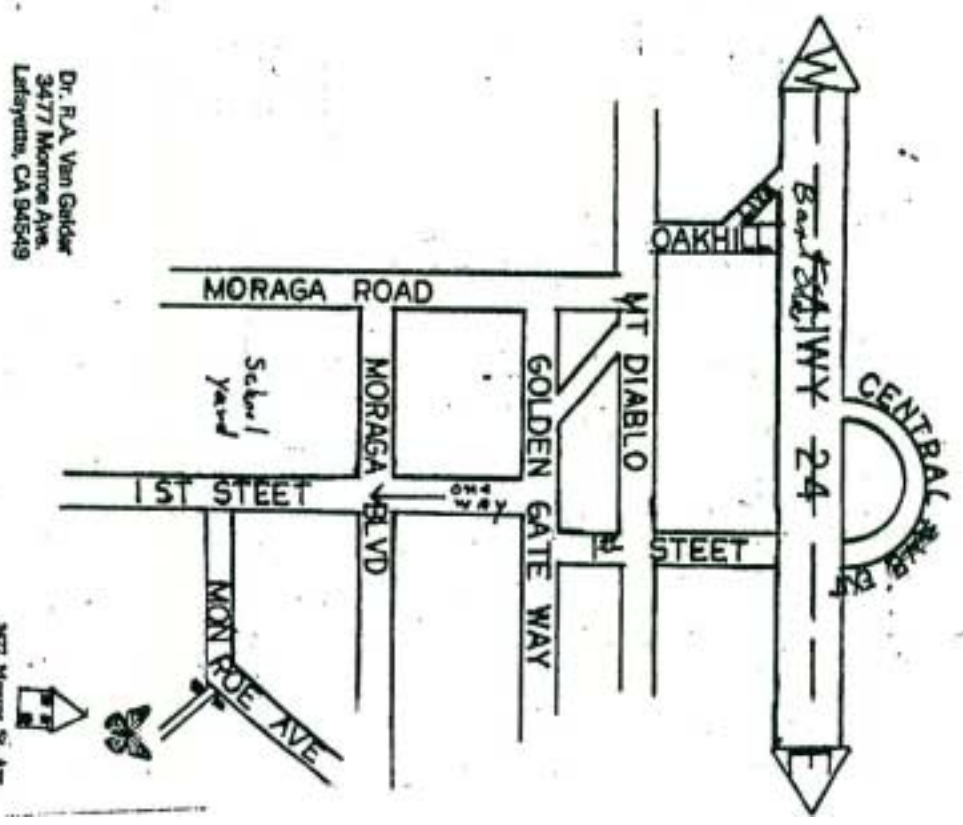
The DVOS boasts some of THE BEST COOKS in the orchid kingdom and the POTLUCK is the their chance to shine! If you bring your recipes on cards and we'll collect them and distribute them at the Christmas Party as party gifts! If you don't want to bring according to your alphabet assignment let Alice Tomassini know, just so we don't end up awash in desserts! Alice's phone #: (925) 648-7667.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING: Your POTLUCK Item plus serving utensils. Your AUCTION donation. Your own plates, knives, forks, spoons, & napkins for eating. Your own wine or beer, but the CLUB PROVIDES soft drinks and cups. (Please don't bring breakable glassware). Also, if you are planning to buy any plants at the auction, please bring your own box for the plants.

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO: Sign up at the August meeting or tell Alice how many people will be coming by Aug. 13. And please!! Because this is catered event please don't 'no-show'! (If you signed up at the July meeting I already have your choices)

WHAT YOU NEED TO WEAR: Hawaiian shirts, sandals and beach wear. Those not attired in beach wear will be forced to dance the hula for the club's entertainment.

- FROM SAN FRANCISCO - Take Highway 24 East
1. Take Central Lafayette/Oakhill Road Exit. Take right at bottom of off-ramp onto Oakhill Road.
 2. At stop light take left onto Mt Diablo Blvd
 3. 1 block to next stop light turn right onto Moraga Road (World Savings Bank on corner).
 4. 1 long block turn left onto Moraga Blvd (Marshall's cleaners on the left)-if you pass Lafayette Elementary School you've gone too far.
 5. 1 block to stop sign-take a right at First Street.
 6. 1/2 block turn left onto Monroe Ave.
 7. As Monroe begins to turn you will see a telephone post with two reflector strips on the right. Immediately after the telephone post are two brick gates-that's us the drive way is about 400 ft.
- FROM WALNUT CREEK - Take Highway 24 West
1. Take Central Lafayette Exit. As you exit the freeway continue to bear to the right until you go under the freeway, you're now on First Street.
 2. Continue straight through stop light. (Taco Bell will be on right hand corner.)
 3. At the bottom of the hill take a right onto Golden Gate Way and an immediate left onto First Street.
 4. 1/2 block beyond stop sign turn left onto Monroe Ave.
 5. As Monroe begins to curve on the right hand side you will see a telephone pole with two reflector strips on it, just beyond this pole is our driveway, turn between the brick posts the house is about 400 feet down the drive



Livermore

The Orchid Ranch
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiodeilums

Oakland

Orchids Fiori D'Amore
Paolo & Nina DiCandia
510-530-4884 (by appt. only)

Yuba City

Orchid Obsession
Brent & Toni Cushenbery
1477 Oswald Rd., Yuba City, CA 95993
916-673-6763

Walnut Creek

Orchid Gallery
Jing Ho
1501 N. California Blvd.

Vallejo

MGM Orchids
Mariano G Morales
(707) 557-2716 (by appt. only)

San Leandro

The Paph House
Francisco Baptista & Fred Jernigan
375 Warwick Avenue, San Leandro, CA
510/ 635-2845, (by appt. only)

Lafayette

Diablo Disas
Michael Gallagher
3 Maloyan Lane
925-283-8450 (by appt. only)

Concord

Nathalie Smith
1507 Lavetta Way; 925-685-8904
(by appt. only); orchid supplies

Danville

Commercial Plant Services
David & Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.; 925-736-7630

Half Moon Bay

D & D Flowers
Greenhouse located in Half Moon Bay
(925) 969-1246 (by appt. only)

Australia

Adelaide Orchids
Stephen and Robin Monkhouse
16 Pine Road
Woodcroft, South Australia 5162



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