Our annual BBQ and Auction will be at the home of Bob and Mary Lou Van Galder (look in your Membership Roster for the address in Lafayette) Sat, Aug 20th.

This year’s theme is “We’re having a BBQ”. That’s right, you don’t have to come in costume. (Suggested attire: “comfortable”)

The Society will provide the Barbeque and drinks. Members bring a side dish and an orchid, or orchid-related donation for the auction. And don’t forget your checkbook!

If your Last Name begins with:

- J - Q       Side Dish
- R - Z       Salad
- A - E       Hor D’oeuvres
- F - I       Dessert

Bring enough to serve 10

Everyone should plan to help with either Set-up or Clean-up
David Wasserman spoke at the July D.V.O.S. meeting on the topic of photographing orchids. He spent the first part of the lecture surveying the audience, getting information about what type of cameras people are using, and what general problems they are encountering with their photographs. 60% of the audience are using point-and-shoot cameras. 30% of the audience use a single lens reflex camera (SLR). 10% are not sure what they are using as a camera.

The most common problem that people face are lighting problems. Their photographs are too light or too dark and, hence, the color is not exact. The problem common to all three of these issues is the computer chip inside the camera. When you put your SLR or point-and-shoot on automatic, the computer chip will determine the strength of the flash to try and achieve the correct exposure. The computer chip doesn’t interpret things the way the human eye/brain does, resulting in an image that is different from what we see.

Most people in the audience are shooting orchids indoors. Dave says that this should allow for sharp, color accurate photos with a good depth of field and no shadows. It will NOT compensate for movement by the photographer. Dave recommends that everyone use a tripod and place the camera on self-timer to remove all shakiness.

There is a general problem with shadows when shooting with a flash or in bright light. Dave says never turn off your flash. If the orchid is flat and smooth, you will not have any shadow problems. If the orchid is very three dimensional, you will have lots of shadows.
To eliminate or soften the shadows you need to use a reflector of some type. The reflector will redirect the light and fill in the shadows when the flash goes off. The reflector can be foam core or Gator board or almost anything white that can reflect light will work. If you are going to photograph outside, you will need to work in soft light. Do not shoot at high noon due to strong light and harsh shadows. The best is to shoot under foggy conditions or in the morning or late in the day when it’s not as bright.

When a digital camera captures an image there are two formats that it can be stored in your camera’s memory; raw or jpeg. Raw takes a lot of memory and collects the maximum amount of visible information when a photo is taken. A computer program is then needed to complete the photograph for you. If the color is not correct, you can adjust it on the computer. JPEG takes much less memory and gives you a finished photograph without a computer. The sensor in the camera completes the image for you and adjusts the white balance. The problem with this is that it gives everything more contrast. The camera sensor determines the color of the photo and interprets some of the details of the shot. This results in deterioration of the edge sharpness.

These last two tips are for outdoor photographs. If you are experiencing hot spots or glare when shooting outdoors, then you need a polarizing filter. If you are trying to capture a motion shot in bright, daylight conditions, then use a neutral density filter. Note that all filters take away light from your photograph.

Dave’s final comment was, if you really want better photographs, you need to put the camera on manual and get out the manual. Spend about a month playing with the manual settings and this will improve your photos. 

Thanks Dave.
Ken plants all of his Masdevallias and Draculas in Sphagnum moss. The plants love this media. 80% of his Masdevallia collection is planted in 3 inch clay pots with two styrofoam peanuts in the bottom and the rest sphagnum moss. The sphagnum moss will require repotting every year to keep the media fresh.

Masdevallias and Draculas are not heavy feeders. Ken uses 1 tsp. Dynagrow growth formula mixed with 1 tsp. Maxi-sea for the micronutrients along with 2 drops of Super Thrive diluted in 2 gallons of water. Once a week he will foliar feed his orchids (sprays the fertilizer on the leaves only). If it is very hot or very cold, Ken suspends the feeding for another week.

Ken then listed some suppliers of Masdevallias and Draculas that he has used.

For plants: Hawk Hill in Pacifica, Columbia Co. in Pacifica, JLOrchids in Connecticut, and Hill Gardens in Oregon. For supplies he uses Kelly’s Corner in Maine and Orcheata owned by Tom Perlite.

Ken concluded his lecture with slides of his home growing conditions. Ken’s orchids extend from his front porch to the backyard and into the greenhouse. He showed numerous ways to increase the amount of orchids you can put into a limited amount of space. Using bars, poles, chains, and shelves, Ken is able to squeeze more orchids into every available space. Only a Black Hole, in outer space, is packed more densely than Ken’s orchid collection.

The night was full of good ideas, which I’m sure Ken will be happy to share with you. Thanks again Ken for sharing some of your secrets of success.

Aug 2011

Diablo View Orchid Society

The Razzle Dazzle Orchid Raffle
a special raffle offered by the San Francisco Orchid Society, a 501(c)3 organization

Actually, 3 separate raffles, each featuring a fabulous, rare, and highly collectible orchid, and an assortment of orchid related supplies (e.g. books, pots, baskets, potting media). Each prize has a value of well over $200. Tickets $5 each or 5 for $20. Only 300 tickets will be sold for each prize, and tickets only available at San Francisco Orchid Society meetings (Tuesday Aug 2, and Tuesday Sept 6, OR at Orchids in the Park (Sept 17-18, Hall of Flowers San Francisco) OR through the Razzle Dazzle Raffle committee representative (razzledazzle@orchidsanfrancisco.org). Drawing is Sept 18, noon at Orchids in the Park. Winner need not be present.

Phrag. kovachii

Cym. elegans

Drac. Raven
Refreshments for the September Meeting will be provided by:

**FOOD:**  
Food must be cut into servings  
Anne Nounou  
Bayan Culhane  
Evelyn Powell  
Greg Scown  
Dennis Olivas

**DRINKS:**  
Lori Maher  
Dave Altman

**ICE:**  
Irmchen Matull

**SET-UP/CLEAN-UP:**
### Upcoming Speakers and Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aug 6</td>
<td>AOS Speaker’s Day (P.10)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 18</td>
<td>DVOS Board meeting at the home of Eileen Jackson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aug 20</td>
<td>DVOS Annual BBQ at the home of Bob &amp; Mary Lou Van Galder (P.1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 9</td>
<td>DVOS meeting - Carol Klonowski - White Complex Paphiopedilums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept 24</td>
<td>CA Orchids Fall Sale (P.7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 13</td>
<td>DVOS meeting - Jason Fisher - Neofinetia falcata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 10</td>
<td>DVOS meeting - Kathy Barrett &amp; .... - Orchids 101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dec 14</td>
<td>DVOS Christmas Party Note this is a Wednesday</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
California Orchids Fall Sale!

Saturday, September 24
9am-4pm

515 Aspen Rd Bolinas, CA 94924
(415) 868-0203
www.californiaorchids.com
info@californiaorchids.com

Great variety of species & hybrids for indoor or outdoor growing.
Supplies and sound advice.
Email to request our presale order discount list.
**Awards DVOS June**

### Advanced

1st  *Cyrto. villenaorum*  Ken Cook

2nd  *L. tenebrosa*  ‘Rainforest’  
     Jim & Grace Chan

3rd  *L. speciosa*  Ken Cook

### Intermediate

1st  *Masd. (Marguerite ‘Highland’ x veitchiana ‘Prince de Gaul’)*  
     Brian Wraxall

2nd  *Bl. Morning Glory*  Tom Pickford

3rd  *E. adenocaula*  Yunor Peralta

### Novice

1st  *Bulb.*  Jan Ragan  
     Miki Ichiyanari

2nd  *Phal. Sogo Yukidian*  Bayane Culhane

3rd  *Epl. Little Nugget*  Lori Maher

**Lancer Smith (species/under 6”)**

*Schoenorchis manipurensis*  Ken Cook
Barbara Ungersma sent information about snail bait based on iron phosphate: The brand I use is Sluggo. That is an old name, so I don’t know if they have changed their formulation or if I just didn’t realize what they were using as the basis for their product. Anyway, it prevents the critters from feeding, once they have ingested the bait, and they just crawl away and die. It is effective after sprinkling, and their literature says it can be used in pots for greenhouse use.

Habenaria medusae, now fully in bloom.
- B. Ungersma

Phal. Sogo Yukidian

Epl. Little Nuggets
Diablo View Orchid Society

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - Saturday, August 6, 2011

9:00  AOS judging, see how we judge

11:00 Unusual Orchid Species of Madagascar
     Erich Michel, Michel Orchid Nursery

12:00 Lunch Break

12:45 Auction

1:45 My Fifty Favorite Unique & Unusual Orchid Species
     Marc Hatchadourian, Curator, New York Botanical Gardens

2:45 12 Most Important Phalaenopsis Species Influencing Today’s Hybrids
     Tom Harper, Stones River Orchids

3:45 Break out Sessions:
     Erich Michel on Angraecum Alliance
     Marc Hatchadourian on Stanopeas
     Dennis Olivas on Cymbidiums
     Tom Harper on Phalaenopsis

Each presentation is 45 minutes long with a 15 minute break between

Bulb. Jan Ragan
Diablo View Orchid Society

Featuring
Tom Harper
Twelve Most Important Phalaenopsis Species
Influencing Today's Hybrids

Erich Michel
Unusual Orchid Species of Madagascar

March Hatahadourin
Curator of the New York Botanical Gardens
My Fifty Favorite Unique and Unusual Orchid Species

Stones River Orchid - Phal, Phals & More Phals
Michel Orchids Nursery - A selection of very nice orchids
Gold Country Orchids - mini-cattleyas that bloom 2-3 times a year
&
D&D Flowers - Dennis will have whatever the others don't

$10 advance
$15 at the door for Sponsoring Societies & AOS members
$25 general admission

CSNJc is a 501 c3 organization. Visit our website at csnjc.org
DVOS Officers 2011

President: Liz Charlton
Immediate Past President: Eileen Jackson
Vice-President: George McRae
Treasurer: Brian Wraxall
Secretary: Rodney Kline
Board Members: Brad Piini, Karen Piini, Ken Cook, Jamie Wasson, Parky Parkison

Membership: Ulrike Ahlborn membership@dvos.org
Newsletter: Jamie Wasson, Liz Charlton
dvosnews@gmail.com
Webmaster: Nick Doe, Ulrike Ahlborn
webmaster@dvos.org
Greenhouse Tours: Parky Parkison
Refreshments: vacant
Raffles and Sales: Rita Tischler, Judith Johnson
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: Liz Charlton

Thanks! to Rodney Kline for this month’s photos of winning plants