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 18th.

This year’s theme is

Caribbean Holiday

The Society will provide the Barbeque and drinks. Members should 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: You bring:
A - E       Salad
F - I         Hors d’oeuvvre
J - Q       Dessert
R - Z       Side Dish

Bring enough to serve 10

ATTENTION We will not have our regular August meeting
These representatives of the AOS are all volunteers. For most of us the only tangible sign of the American Orchid Society (AOS) is the monthly publication, Orchids magazine. Orchids magazine is the official publication of the AOS, but as our panel pointed out, the magazine represents just one of aspect of the AOS. Other volunteers at the AOS are responsible for a variety of purposes as we soon found out.

Kathy Barrett introduced the panel of AOS representatives and noted that this outreach by the AOS to individual orchid societies has never been done before. They hope to show
DVOS members the value of becoming members of the American Orchid Society. Kathy mentioned that she also serves as a member of the publishing committee for Orchids magazine, but in the interest of conserving time, she allowed the other representative to describe their roles with the AOS.

Cynthia Hill started the discussion by describing her function at the AOS as a member of the Publishing Committee for Orchids magazine. These duties include finding articles and photographs for publication in Orchids magazine and getting feedback from AOS members as to what they would like to see in the magazine. Cynthia has to find authors of articles and also write her own articles for the magazine. She selects themes for the calendar section of Orchids. This section describes monthly chores that need to be addressed by the orchid hobbyist to fulfill the cultural demands your orchids require each month.

The main focus of Orchids magazine is how to culture different orchids. It was pointed out that this cultural information is a valuable resource to both new and experienced members of the DVOS to improve their growing abilities with orchids. Cynthia’s passion and love of orchids was very apparent in her discussion of her role at the AOS and her dedication toward publishing Orchids magazine.
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.
Message from our President:

August is not a toss away month at all orchid-wise. It’s a time for tasks like getting your dormant pterostylus bulbs squared away and perhaps getting some moisture to them. Cymbs are going to need to be placed so that sleeping flower eyes can get the warm autumnal sun they need to trigger spring flowering. Neglect is not an option, unless you are me where I continue to under-feed my plants. C’est la vie. So, ok, my plants may be neglected, but I’m not. I’m looking forward to BBQ at the Auction on August 18th! As noted below, it’s our big fundraiser!

News from your Board: The manager of the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) building where we have our monthly meeting has asked us to be out of the building by 10 pm sharp. Our meetings usually start on time at 7:30 pm, but the meetings themselves are jam-packed with action, and some of that is going to have to be trimmed. We have a 15 minute period at the beginning for announcements and “table talk” cultural stuff. Then our speaker(s) from 7:45-?. And that’s a kicker. We ask our speakers to give a 45 minute presentation including questions, but we have had longer presentations which cut into the rest of the meeting. We pay our speakers a healthy fee, and in the case where we bring someone in from out of town, a healthier fee, with plane fare and possibly accommodations. For maybe a 30-45 minute presentation. That takes us to 8:30.

Our refreshment period is where we judge the “show and tell” plants and photograph the winners. Is 15 minutes enough for this? The folks cleaning up the refreshment room don’t want to miss “show and tell” especially if they have brought plants. We have a substantial group of orchids most months. We don’t have a cultural session like many clubs, so we combine culture with “show and tell”. We could limit the number of plants a person brings in, or just talk about the winners. Of course, when you bring in a plant, it’s nice to not be overlooked. Which gives around an hour for show and tell and the raffle. And take down and clean-up which should start at 9:45 at the latest to be completely out by 10pm.
As you can see it’s a toughie. We could start the meeting earlier, but many of us have already rushed through a speakers dinner and left early to get projectors and items for the meeting. We could eliminate the speaker dinner…… I’ll get scalped just for mentioning that.

Abiding by the CCWD rules is paramount. We are rent free, currently…… but as of 2014 we will be in another location (to be determined), because the building needs a seismic upgrade. This means RENT! OSC in Oakland pays $275 a meeting. Many Bay Area cities are jacking up fees to cover operational costs and this may in fact, be a reasonable number. So, $275+$150+$250 = $700 per month for our meeting (rent+speaker fee+plant table). This is only partially offset by raffle tickets. Meetings cost us. And we only have the BBQ auction to really raise money to cover us for the following twelve months.

So, good members, you can see some of the issues we on the Board are facing. We’re always here to listen to you and hear your ideas. Bring ‘em to us, please. What I’m seeing starting at our September meeting is:

7:30 pm START;
7:30-7:45 pm Announcements;
7:45-8:30 pm Speaker;
8:30-8:45 pm Refreshments and Judging/Photography;
8:45-9:30 pm Show and Tell;
9:30-9:45 Raffle
9:45-10pm Clean Up
10 pm sharp Members are exiting the building.

We will adjust as needed, but please understand that CCWD has reminded us that the agreement with them can be revoked at any time. I will unfortunately be a hard guy about this and those who know me KNOW I’m not a hard guy by definition, but what must be must be!    - George McRae
Awards DVOS June

**Advanced**
1st *Euc. citrina*. Akiko Ogawa
2nd *Rlc. Laura Bush* ‘Carmela’
   Bernice Lindner
3rd *Lc. Canhamiana fma coerulea*.
   Lorraine Behravish

**Intermediate**
1st *L. purpurata* v. flamea ‘Neal’
   Tom Pickford
2nd *Onc. papilio* ‘Kahili’ Parky Parkison
3rd *Den. Noname* Linda Castleton

**Novice**
1st *Psh. Green Hornet* Cindy Datangel
2nd *V. Pachara Delight* Cindy Datangel
3rd *E. aromatica* Jeannette Bean

**Lancer Smith (species/under 6”)**
*E. bractescens* Akiko Ogawa
Upcoming Speakers and Events

Aug 4: CSNJC Speaker’s Day (p.9)
Aug 18: DVOS Annual BBQ at the home of Bob & MaryLou Van Galder (p.1)
Sept 13: Sergio Garcia will speak on new hybrids.
October 11: Ramon de los Santos will speak on Philippine orchids

*Rlc. Laura Bush ‘Carmela’*

*Lc. Canhamiana f. coerulea*
CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA
JUDGING CENTER
presents Speaker’s Day

Saturday, August 4, 2012
9 am - 5 pm
Odd Fellows Building
1937 Howe Ave. at Alta Arden Sacramento

Featuring

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery Simplified Orchid Genetics and Breeding (How to improve your collection)
Ron McHatton Operating Officer, Director of Education for AOS
Growing Miniature Orchids in Your Home

Roy Tokunaga, H & R Nursery, Dennis Olivas, D & D Flowers and
Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids
All You Wanted to Know About Cattleyas (panel discussion)

$10 Advance / $20 Door for AOS members & Sponsoring Societies / $25 General Admission
Diablo View Orchid Society

Speaker’s Day cont.  CSNJC.org

Vendors

Golden Gate Orchids
Odontoglossums and their intergenerics, plus other fantastic plants.

H & R Nursery
A great selection of various type of orchids.

Gold Country Orchids
Mini-cattleyas that bloom 2-3 times a year.

D & D Flowers
Dennis will have whatever the others don’t.

SPEAKERS DAY SCHEDULE
9:00   AOS Judging - see how we judge
11:00  Simplified Orchid Genetics and Breeding
      (How to improve your collection)
      Roy Tokunaga, H&R Nursery
12:00 Lunch Break
12:45 Auction
1:45   Growing Miniature Orchids in Your Home
      Ron McHatton, Operating Officer and
      Director of Education for AOS

Prosthechea Green Hornet
AOS Awards  Kathy Barrett

July 2012 - CSNJC - Sacramento

C. Amethyst Star ‘Purple Flare’
(Lc. Mini Purple x L. longipes)
AM 81
Exhibited by James G Morris

L. purpurata v. flamea ‘Neal’
species
HCC 77 & CCM 81
Exhibited by (DVOS member) Tom Pickford

We invite the members of all orchid societies to Sacramento on Saturday, August 4th for the CSNJC Annual Speaker’s Day (see p. 9-10). AOS judging will be Saturday Aug 4th at 9AM. Plants should be entered by 8:30 am.

Pictures of all awarded orchids can be seen at http://www.csnjc.org
DVOS Officers 2012

President: George McRae
Immediate Past President: Liz Charlton
Vice-President: Kathy Barrett
Treasurer: Kathy Barrett
Secretary: Rodney Kline
Board Members: Meg Crosby, Parky Parkison, Brad Piini, Eileen Jackson, Jamie Wasson
Membership: Ulrike Ahlborn membership@dvos.org
Newsletter: Jamie Wasson, Liz Charlton dvosnews@gmail.com
Webmaster: Nick Doe, Ulrike Ahlborn webmaster@dvos.org
Committee Chairs:
Greenhouse Tours: Parky Parkison
Refreshments: Miki Ichiyanagi
Raffle and Sales: Carol and Casey Campell
Judging: Nancy and Ted McClellan
Equipment and Lights: Dave Tomassini
Librarian: Phyllis Arthur
AOS Representative: Dennis Olivas
Orchid Digest Representative:
SFOS Show Chairman: Brad Piini
DVOS Show Chairs Liz Charlton and Kathy Barrett

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

California Orchids