



- [Contents](#)
- [About DVOS](#)
- [Join DVOS](#)
- [Maps](#)
- [DVOS Awards](#)
- [Newsletters](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Orchid Gallery](#)
- [DVOS Library](#)
- [Links](#)
- [Past Months](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Next Meeting: Thursday 9th October 7:30pm "Catasetinae Species and their Cultivation" by Fred Clarke

"The Species of *Catasetum*, *Cycnoches* and *Mormodes*"

Catasetum, *Cycnoches* and *Mormodes* are three related genera from the Tribe Cymbidieae. Individually, each has been considered an orchid oddity, or "botanical", of interest mainly to the seriously addicted enthusiast. These plants have a brief deciduous period in winter, when the plants need a definite dry rest period bordering on neglect. These robust orchids are native to lowland tropical forests in Central and South America and are usually grown in warm or intermediate conditions.

Commercially, *Catasetum*, *Cycnoches* (or 'Swan' orchids) and *Mormodes* (or 'Goblin' orchids) have occupied a small market niche on the edge of a sea of Cymbidiums, Cattleyas, Phalaenopsis, Dendrobiums, Epidendrums, and so on.

This talk will feature a widescreen computer slide show on some of some excellent species of *Catasetum*, *Cycnoches* and *Mormodes*. The presenter will be Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista. Fred Clarke has been growing orchids for 30 years and has been hybridizing for 22 of those years. With over 24 years as a professional grower and manager in the horticultural industry, Fred applies these skills at his orchid nursery; Sunset Valley Orchids, located in San Diego, California.



He is a passionate orchid grower whose curiosity in orchids is broad and varied. Although developing Cattleya hybrids has been his sustaining interest, he is also actively creating new Bulbophyllum and Paphiopedilum hybrids plus some others to be named if they work out!

His pioneering work in *Catasetum* intergeneric hybrids led to the development of several notable hybrids, most recently the grex, Fredclarkeara After Dark, which produced "the blackest flower ever witnessed". This grex has received five FCC's and three AM's on the first flowers shown for judging!

Fred is an Accredited Judge in the Pacific South Judging Region. His plants have received hundreds of quality awards from the American Orchid Society.

October Raffle Table will be provided by Fred Clarke

Speaker's Dinner will be at Pasta Pomodoro located in Pleasant Hill at 45 Crescent Dr. Everyone is welcome. If you plan to attend, please call Liz Charlton at 925-280-1671 or email dvosnews@gmail.com

Frank Fordyce: A Lifetime in Orchids

Frank Fordyce is a founding member of the Diablo View Orchid Society. He is at that point in his career when he's receiving numerous accolades for a lifetime spent in orchids. There's no more fitting a "Thank you" than for the society he helped to create making his collected writing available to that society. Much of what Frank wrote about 20 years ago is still applicable to the hobby today, such as the rise of the 'pot plant' industry and the pervasiveness of mericlone. His articles on hybridizing and lines of breeding are not to be missed by those with the curiosity that makes someone pick up a tooth pick and wonder 'what if?'

Mr. Fordyce has given verbal permission to post these articles here. We hope our members will enjoy reading them. [Fordyce articles](#)

Thank you, Frank, for everything you've done for us!

World of Orchids
DVOS Orchid Show & Sale
coming up soon!!
Sat. October 18, 9 AM - 5 PM
Sun. October 19, 10 AM - 4 PM

Pleasant Hill Community Center



Get a flyer - tell your friends!!

Website of the Month

Sunset Valley Orchids, Vista, California
www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com

