Diablo View Orchid Society

June 2007

At Our Next Meeting June 14

Summering your Orchids Outside
Deborah Atwood, Napa Valley Orchids

After 30 years in Napa’s hospitality industry, Deborah wanted to make a lifestyle change, so at close to 50 years old, she decided to follow her heart and pursue her passion for orchids.

Deborah thinks of herself more as a farmer than a florist as things like water, weather, fertilizing and taking her beauties to market are always on her mind.

She teaches Orchid classes and leads workshops, speaks to Orchid Societies, and sells her plants at orchid shows and farmer’s markets. She is available for greenhouse maintenance and for consultation.

Deborah will speak on how to keep orchids alive and blooming outdoors.

Speaker’s dinner will be at Pasta Pomodora, 45 Crescent Dr., Downtown Pleasant Hill
Please notify Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 or email jackson.eileen@att.net to join us.

The plant table will be provided by Deborah Atwood
Our May DVOS speaker was Emma Connery

Emma Connery was our featured speaker for May. The subject was bugs. The lights were dimmed and as the phase contrast microscope was focused a small unseen world came into view. The cosmos unveiled is only afforded to those with a 300X optical advantage. As the wavelengths of light came up through the microscope and on to the projector screen, it became clear that this was a very special night. The black and white images were nothing short of a stag film for bugs.

We will now drop a 300X microphone down into the petri dish to vividly describe the scene as told by one of the bugs there that night.

Dear Playboy, What I'm about to describe to you may seem like a fantasy, but I swear it's true. I'm an average looking bug from a small mid-western college. I've never had a lot of luck with female wasps until one night at the DVOS meeting. That particular night, there was a big party at the Petri Dish, a local hang out. The Dish was crowded with other parasitic wasps (PW's). For decoration there were hundreds of Aphid eggs. The night grew late and the music was intoxicating. The female PW's all started to look like absolute 10's. As the lights got brighter it suddenly got very hot at the Dish...........

Alright, back to the review. Everyone who was there that night knows what happened next. The parasitic wasps were shown mating in every position imaginable then the females went on to lay their eggs into those aphid eggs. The wasp larvae will use the aphid eggs as nourishment and eventually grow up and hatch into new parasitic wasps. Such is the circle of life. In the process, the aphid eggs will die. That's good. The best part is that the wasps don't bother humans, only aphids. These are not the same wasps as the ones at the DVOS picnic.

Thanks again Emma.

-Brad Piini
Diablo View Orchid Society

June 2007

DVOS
Commercial Members

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

Half Moon Bay
D & D Flowers
Dennis Olivas
62 Oceanside Dr.
(925) 696 -1246
dolivas@comcast.com
(By appointment only)

Livermore
Fordyce Orchids
Frank and Sue Fordyce
(925) 600 - 8406

Pacifica
White Oak Orchids, Inc.
Sales and Boarding
1204 Linda Mar Blvd.
(650) 355 - 8767
www.whiteoakorchids.com

Oakland
Orchids Fiori D’Amore
Paolo & Nina Di Candia
4526 Fair Ave.
(510) 530-4884
(By appointment only)

Awarded Plants in May

1st  Phal. Baldan’s Kaleidoscope ‘Golden Treasure’
AM/AOS
Linda Castleton

2nd  Cym. Sweet Devon ‘Sweet’
Diana Ecoffey

3rd  Slc. Hazel Boyd ‘Orinda’ AM/AOS
Jim Chan

Look What I Bloomed for the First Time:

Brassia Rex
Renate Johnson

Lancer Smith:

Chiloschista parishii Seidenf. 1988
Ulrike Ahlborn

Brassia Rex (above)
Phal. Baldan’s Kaleidoscope ‘Golden Treasure’ (below)
Membership News:

Let’s give a warm welcome to the new members who joined in May 2007

Esperanza Hoffmann from Pleasant Hill
Rodney Kline and Judith Parsells both from Concord

This brings DVOS up to 98 members.

The 2007 DVOS membership roster is available. Please see me at the next meeting if you would like to have one and have not received one yet.

Your membership has expired if you have not renewed your dues for 2007 (General Membership $15, business $25)

You can bring your check made out to DVOS with the renewal form to the next meeting on May 10 or mail it to

Diablo View Orchid Society
Att.: Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Ct
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116
membership@DVOS.org

Slc Hazel Boyd ‘Orinda’ AM/AOS

Chiloschista parishii Seidenf. 1988
Please call Alden Lane to sign up for the workshops, (925) 447-0280) which have limited registration. Classes will be held in the Alden Lane Event Center. The cost is $10.00 per class, or sign up for all 3 for $25.00. Prepayment is suggested to hold your space.

http://www.aldenlane.com/event.html

This is your opportunity to learn the basics and beyond about the intricate world of ORCHIDS. Sue Fordyce will de-mystify the mystical and teach you what you need to know to grow-and BLOOM fabulous orchids. Many types of orchids will be discussed, both indoor and outdoor. You may choose one class, or sign up for all three. The workshops will be repeated in July- so if you missed one, it will be repeated.

Workshop I
Your plants are talking to you- how to interpret the sign language of orchids and understand their basic needs. How to tell underwatering, overwatering, root problems, light issues and lots more. You may bring a plant to be diagnosed.

Workshop II
Potting Party! Issues of repotting, dividing and root health will be addressed by hands on demonstration. Care after repotting will also be covered. You may bring a plant to be repotted. You may purchase a pot from us, or bring your own. We will provide the mix and instruction.

Workshop III
Pests and diseases, water quality, greenhouse culture, mounting orchids, and exploring the needs of more unusual but attainable orchids are addressed in this highly informative session.

DATES AND TIMES
Wednesdays
Workshop I  JUNE 6  7pm to 8:30 pm
Workshop II  JUNE 13  7pm to 8:30 pm
Workshop III  JUNE 20  7pm to 8:30 pm
(repeated sessions below)

Wednesdays
Workshop I  JULY 18  7pm to 8:30
Workshop II  JULY 25  7pm to 8:30
Workshop III  AUGUST 1  7pm to 8:30
Would you like to have your own DVOS Apron?
Wear it as a volunteer at one of our fundraisers or use it at home caring for your orchids.

This is a 3 pocket apron, 65% Polyester –35% cotton twill. It has an adjustable neck strap and waist ties. 24” length. – 1 size. You can order it in our DVOS Spruce Green with Gold embroidery or choose your own color apron and / or name.

Total Cost is $16.50 including tax & shipping

Apron colors available are:
Spruce Green, Black, Burgundy, Green, Navy, Red, Royal, Tan, Teal, and White

Embroidery color above is in Gold. There are many thread colors available including: Yellow, Iris, Lt/Dk Purple, Red, Blue, Green, Teal, Brown, Taupe, Lt/Dk. Green, Pink, Plum, Lavender & Florescents: Gold, Green, Pink, Yellow Metallic Gold.

Place your order with Alice Tomassini
Email: atomassini@aol.com - or phone: 925-648-7667
Mail check to: 3 Woodside Ct. – Danville, CA. 94506 or pay at the June 14th meeting.

Please indicate Apron color / embroidery thread color and if DVOS or name on apron.

Must be paid by the June 14th meeting……you will receive it at the July 12th meeting.
Upcoming Speakers and Events

July 12: Amy Jacobsen - *Rupicolous laelias*
Ice Cream Social
Aug 9: *40 Species Everyone Should have in their Greenhouse*
Aug 18: DVOS annual picnic at the Van Galder’s home
This year’s theme “The 60s”
Sept 13: Eric Hunt - *Orchids of Borneo*
Oct 11: Joe Parker - *Draculas*
Oct 12-14: Annual DVOS Sale - Kathy Barrett, Chair
Nov 8: Bob Hamilton - *Propagation*

The next Board Meeting

June 21st: The next Board Meeting will be at the home of Brad Piini at 7:30 pm.

Reminder: Please have your plants on the table by 7:30. Don’t forget to allow time to fill out identification cards.

Refreshments for the June Meeting

**Food:** Liz Charlton, Giovanna Deem, Renee Dowdell, Ken Dowdell, Diana Vavrek, Phyllis Arthur, Nancy Roberts, Jinnie Tom.
**Beverages:** Eileen Jackson, Dave Altman, Melinda Moreno
DVOS Library

Thanks to the generosity of our members, DVOS has a large library of books, periodicals, videos, CDs, DVDs and pamphlets. Any member of DVOS can check out items for one month at a time. Go on line to see the available selection:

http://www.diabloviewos.org/Library/library.html

The available books at each meeting are limited to what can be schlepped. If you see an item you would like to borrow, email Phyllis Arthur, and she will bring it to the next meeting. Library@DVOS.org

One Sunday in May several DVOS members got together for a trek north to Bolinas visit Mary Nisbet at California Orchids.
May 1, 2007 Pacific Central - San Francisco

Cymbidium Tania Porter 'Cinnabar', HCC 77
(Cym. Phar Lap x Cym. Yowie Flame), Exhibited by Weegie Caughlan

Dendrobium victoria-reginae 'Blues Brothers', HCC 79
species, Exhibited by Golden Gate Orchids

Masdevallia Shuttryana 'Keunok', HCC 76
(Masd. caudata x Masd. coccinea), Exhibited by Anna S. Chai

May 2, 2007 - California Sierra Nevada - Sacramento

Paph. sukhakulii var. album 'Rheingau', AM 84
species, Exhibited by Dave Sorokowsky

Promenaea Colmaniana 'Mameha', HCC 77
(Prom. xanthina x Prom. crawshayana), Exhibited by Jeff Tyler

Renanthera Twin Bill 'D's Delight', CCM 84
(Ren. Twin Star x Ren. Bill Crocker), Exhibited by Dick and
Donna Murrill

May 21, 2007 - Pacific Central - Oakland

Paph. Macabre 'Kum Nam', HCC 77
(Paph. sukhakulii x Paph. Voodoo Magic), Exhibited by Anna S. Chai

Sedirea japonica 'Goon Ja', HCC 78
species, Exhibited by Anna S. Chai

Pictures can be seen at:
Pacific Central - http://www.aospacificcentral.org
California Sierra Nevada - http://www.csnjc.org

Congratulations!

to Frank Fordyce (he’s the one on the right) who was given the first ever award for 'Excellence in Hybridizing.' by the American Orchid Society at their annual meeting in Dallas this May. This is a new award that the AOS just introduced.