May 13th, 2004

Growing Specimen Orchids

By

Bill Thoms

Renowned orchid grower, world traveler and speaker Bill Thoms of Placida, Florida will be presenting a talk on Growing Specimen Plants. Be prepared to learn more about fine tuning your orchid culture than you ever dreamed. Bill Thoms and his wife, Doris Dukes, have been growing orchids around Tampa, Florida for 30 years and to date have won 52 CCMs from the AOS for excellence in orchid culture. So far, they have won more Awards for Culture than just about anyone in the world. They were the first to receive the new award Certificate of Cultural Excellence (CCE) for a score above 90 points and that was for a Miltioniopsis which is very difficult to grow in Tampa. They just received their 52nd CCM award for a Cirrhophyllum Emly Siegerist. They have received three First Class Certificates in the past two years as well as almost every other award given by the AOS.

Bill Thoms' talks are spiced with funny stories, funny associations and funny accents. Whether you grow thousands of orchids, only a few or none at all, you will have a wonderfully entertaining time and will able to grow anything better. Many of the requirements for growing world-class plants are made easy to understand and remember. He will also share secrets to producing more award winning plants faster.

Don't miss this great opportunity to hear one of the most knowledgeable, interesting and funny speakers in the orchid world.

The raffle table is through the courtesy of Bill.

Dinner with the speaker: Dinner with the speaker is at 5:00 PM. We'll be having a good bye dinner for Juan and Tonky Bofill at Three Brothers from China Chinese Restaurant. Members MUST call 3 days in advance so Barbara Tague can reserve the space. (925) 229-0512. Three Brothers, 2001 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill, 671-6888.

Next Board Meeting is May 20 at Alice Tomassini’s.
In Memorium

Longtime Diablo View OS member **Bea Emery** passed away peacefully on April 16, 2004. She and her husband Noble lived in many places both in the US and abroad during their 62 year marriage, mostly due to Noble's career with the Air Force. They became interested in growing orchids in 1961, and at various times were members of orchid societies in Florida, Texas and California. They attended seven World Orchid Congresses; New Zealand, Japan, Malaysia, South Africa, China, Scotland, Brazil and Canada and traveled extensively, worldwide. Because of her orchid activities Oncidium Beatrice Emery was named in her honor and appeared on the cover of the Auckland, New Zealand's 1987 WOC brochure. Bea spent her entire adult life dedicated to her home, family and love of her myriad of artistic endeavors. When she and Noble retired they moved to Napa and became mainstays of the Napa Orchid Society, as well as virtually every other Bay Area Orchid Society. Bea loved a number of other arts and crafts and was a member of the Napa Rock and Gem Club. Survivors include her husband Noble, three daughters, several grandchildren and great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews and a sister residing in New Hampshire. Bea requested no memorial service, however donations can be made to the American Orchid Society in her name, 16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446-4351. Personally, I'd say Bea had a great time in here on this planet. I'm sorry to see her go. - Kathy Barrett

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**Refreshment Corner**

*These People Signed up to Bring Refreshments*

Bernice Lindner, Jill Chambers, Dixie Lee Post, Carolyn Miyashita, Diana Vavrek, Esther Yee, Nancy Pak

*These People Signed Up to Bring Beverages*

Jean and Tonky Bofill, Bob Akbarian and Brad Piini

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**June**: Nick Burnett

**July**: Bad Plants & Ice Cream Social

**August**: Martin Motes, Vandaceous Orchids

**September**: TBA

**October**: TBA (pre-meeting: getting plants ready for Show display)

**November**: Glenn Decker

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**Show & Tell Table Ribbons**

1st Place. Sea Swirl 'Whirlpool' - Joe Grillo

2nd Place Unknown (grown on petrified wood) - Frank Fordyce

3rd Place Iwangaara Apple Blossom - Joe Grillo

**Lancer Smith medallion** Dendrobium Kingianum - Jennifer English


**Judges** Rita Tischler, Sande Robert, Roy Florey

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*Phragmipedium Bessae*
This Month’s AOS Winner

April Recap, Orchids of Ecuador

Last month we had the pleasure of viewing slides of Eric Hunt and his trapping around the jungles of Ecuador. He has chosen to specialize in photographing species orchids since there are “fewer” of them than the many crosses and hybrids. He did what I have always dreamed, viewing the homes of wild orchids. He spoke of walking in places where he had to actually step on wild orchids to be able to get a view of something else. There are, according to Eric, more orchids in Ecuador than any other country and the politics are such that he is relatively safe to wander around.

He described himself as being “overwhelmed by the poetic beauty of the rainforest.” That alone would make such a trip worthwhile for me.

On a separate note, I have been told that I am member number 90 for DVOS, so I will have to try very hard. I look forward to creating this newsletter for you each month. If you have any questions or gentle complaints, please write me at roy_florey@yahoo.com.

Roy

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AOS Awards for April:

San Francisco: April 6, 2004
Cymbidium Music Box Dancer ‘TJ’ HCC 77
(Cymbidium Olymilum x Cymbidium Egret) Exhibited by: Gary Jones
Slc. Sierra Doll ‘Andromeda’ HCC 77
(C. walkeriana x Slc. Pink Doll) Exhibited by: Frank Drake (DVOS Member)

Oakland April 19, 2004
Pterostylis baptistii ‘Green Point’ HCC 75
Species, Exhibited by: Anna S. Chai
Masd. unnamed hybrid ‘Red Heart’ AM 81
(Masd. welschii x Masd. Heathii), Exhibited by: Golden Gate Orchids
Cym. unnamed hybrid ‘Laura’s Theme’ CCM 81 and HCC 76
(Cym. Mad Doctor x Cym. devonianum) Exhibited by: Gloria Bygdes
Masd. Golden Sunrise ‘Zebra’ HCC 76
(Masd. Dean Haas x Masd. Falcon Sunrise) Exhibited by: Golden Gate Orchids

Awarded at the Sacramento Show April 17, 2004
Encyclia vitellina ‘no clonal yet’ HCC 78
species, Exhibited by: Douglas Alder
Doritenopsis Sunny Day ‘Nugget’ HCC 76
(Dtps. George Moler x Phal. Golden Pride), Exhibited by: Phyllis Dobbs
Paph. Toni Semple ‘no clonal yet’ HCC 76
(Paph. haynaldianum x Paph. lowii), Exhibited by: Pearl Cresler
**Membership News**

Let’s give a warm welcome to our new members who joined since February:

**Neil Fruman** from Lafayette, **Dennis Nelson** from Oakley, and **Roy Florey** from Walnut Creek.

With these new members and 2004 dues still trickling in, DVOS has 88 members.

Please see me at the April general meeting if you have not yet received the 2004 membership roster.

A note to our guests who attended our general meetings prior to February 2003: 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 bring them to the next general meeting.

Diablo View Orchid Society  
Att. Ulrike Ablhorn  
117 Laredo Court  
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116  
Membership@DVOS.org

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| **Jose J. Rodriguez** is trying to form a new cymbidium club in the valley, Sacramento and is inviting people to join. For further information, please contact: | **D & D Flowers**  
May 22 and 23 – from 9 am to 3 pm  
The greenhouse is located in Half Moon Bay, 1/3 miles east of Main Street off Hwy 92. Just east of Spanish Village on Hwy 92 is a house and wood pile yard. Turn onto the street between the house and the wood pile yard and go over the bridge. D & D Flowers is the first greenhouse on the right. If you have questions about the directions, please call Dennis Olivas at 925-969-1246. |
| --- | --- |
| >Jose J. Rodriguez  
>Project Engineer  
>Operations Technical Section  
>(916) 557-5283 Voice Mail  
>(916) 557-6877 Fax  
>>Email Jose.J.Rodriguez@USACE.Army.mil |  

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**May 1-2, Carmel Orchid Society Mayfair Orchid Show and Sale**, Crossroads Shopping Center, Hwy 1 at Rio Road, Carmel. Sat: 9AM-6PM; Sun: 9AM-4PM. For information, contact Ida Hale, 831-646-8724, or imaryhale@aol.com.

**May 7-9, Orchid Society of California Mother’s Day Show and Sale**, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Dr., Lake Merritt, Oakland. Friday, 9AM-7PM, Saturday and Sunday: 9AM-5PM. Visit the website: www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com.

**May 8-9, OrchidMania 15th Annual Mother’s Day Sale**, Fort Mason Conference Center, San Francisco, CA. Saturday, 10AM-5PM; Sunday, 10AM-4PM. For more information, check the OrchidMania website www.orchids.org.
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<td><strong>Danville</strong></td>
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<td>“Commercial Plant Services”</td>
<td>“The Orchid Ranch”</td>
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<td>David &amp; Alice Tomassini</td>
<td>“Fordyce Orchids” – Catleyas</td>
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<tr>
<td>586 El Capitan Drive</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fordyceorchids.com">www.fordyceorchids.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>(925) 648-7667</td>
<td>“Orchids Orinda” – Phalaenopsis</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:atomassini@aol.com">atomassini@aol.com</a></td>
<td>“Tonkins Orchids” – Paphs</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1330 Isabel Ave.</td>
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<td>(925) 447-1659</td>
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<td><strong>Half Moon Bay</strong></td>
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<td>“D &amp; D Flowers”</td>
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<td>Dennis Olivas</td>
<td>Paolo &amp; Nina Di Candia</td>
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<tr>
<td>62 Oceanside Dr.</td>
<td>4526 Fair Ave.</td>
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<td>(925) 969-1246</td>
<td>(510) 530-4884</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:dolivas@comcast.net">dolivas@comcast.net</a></td>
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<td><strong>San Leandro</strong></td>
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<td>“The Paph House”</td>
<td>“White Oak Orchids, Inc.”</td>
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<td>Francisco Baptista &amp; Fred Jernigan</td>
<td>Sales and Boarding</td>
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<tr>
<td>375 Warwick Ave.</td>
<td>(650) 655-8767</td>
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<td>(510) 635-2845</td>
<td><a href="http://www.whiteoakorchids.com">www.whiteoakorchids.com</a></td>
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Diablo View Orchid Society
Roy Florey, editor
Newsletter@dvos.org