DVOS meets on the third Thursday of the month in the McHale Room at the Pleasant Hill Community Center. 320 Civic Dr. in Pleasant Hill, CA. 7:30-10:00 pm
AT OUR NEXT MEETING:

**Thursday May 21 at 7:30 P.M. in the McHale Room at the Pleasant Hill Community Center**

Janet Lamborn will share her knowledge on orchid viruses and testing for them using Agdia test kits.

PLANT TABLE:

Plant table will be provided by Dennis Olivas

SPEAKER’S DINNER

before our next meeting at 5:30:

Sichuan Fortune House,
41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill

BOARD MEETING:

**Thursday, May 28th at 7:00 P.M. at the home of Yunor Peralta and Greg Scown.**

RSVP to mmmper@yahoo.com
At Our Next Meeting May 15

Janet Lamborn

Don’t Put On The Virus Blinders
(your collection is depending on you.)

We are going to look closely at each viral pathogen, what it looks like and how it’s transmitted. We will also talk about sanitation practices, testing options and what to do with those results.

Janet Lamborn has been involved in the plant diagnostic industry for over fourteen years at Agdia, Inc. Starting in Agdia’s Testing Services Laboratory, she gained considerable knowledge of the crops received in the lab, including orchids. After several years in Testing Services, Janet moved into the Sales and Marketing Department. She works closely with Agdia’s customers, including specialty crop groups such as orchid societies, making sure members and hobbyists understand what they should be testing for and the options that are available.

Janet is the Account Manager at Agdia Testing Services, specializing in ornamental and field crop diagnostics.
Pierre Pujol was our chemistry instructor for the April DVOS meeting. Pierre’s talk revolved around the science of raising orchids. This was a fairly technical talk, but was also very informative.

Photosynthesis is the process of a plant taking in light, water, and carbon dioxide and producing sugars and oxygen. The CO2, or carbon dioxide, is an essential factor for the plants to grow and produce sugars. The CO2 for your plants can come from a variety of sources. When it rains carbon dioxide is dissolved in the rainwater. The Dutch growers create CO2 by burning natural gas in their greenhouses. All forms of CO2 will benefit the plant.

The essential minerals for your plants to grow are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, and magnesium. When orchids grow they require different quantities of these minerals for optimum growth. Some minerals are used in much greater quantity than others. In descending order of use, the orchid uses nitrogen the most, then calcium, magnesium, potassium, phosphorus, and, finally, the micronutrients. Obviously next to nitrogen, calcium and magnesium are the next most essential minerals in growing orchids. Calcium and magnesium can be found in oyster shells, dolomite lime, and gypsum.
Unfortunately, the calcium and magnesium are not very soluble when found in these forms and are not easily absorbed by your plants. The better way to supply these minerals is to use Epsom salts dissolved in water to deliver the magnesium to your plants. Then dissolve calcium nitrate in water to get the calcium and nitrogen supplied to the plant. The problem arises when the Epsom salts and the calcium nitrate are used together. When calcium and magnesium are added into the water at the same time, they form a solid known as a precipitate, and this leaves a solution with no calcium or magnesium in a form that the plants can absorb. The calcium nitrate solution must be sprayed on separately, and then the Epsom salts solution should be sprayed on separately. This way the plant gets the calcium and nitrogen in one dose and then it receives the magnesium separately. The ratio to use during your watering is six parts fertilizer, three parts calcium nitrate and one part magnesium sulfate.

For these solutions of nutrients to be absorbed by the plant the pH, or acidity, of these solutions must be between 5.5 and 6.0, otherwise the roots and leaves cannot absorb the nutrients. Always test your water for its acidity with a pH meter. Most public water systems transport the water in an alkaline or basic form through your pipes. This is so that your water pipes don’t corrode from the acidity in the water. Most of you will need a pH meter and some form of acid to get these nutrient solutions in your water to a pH of between 5.5 and 6.0.

Thank you Pierre for the very informative talk.

Pot. Island Peach ‘Valley Isle’

Brad Piini
In Memory of Fred Shull

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Fred Shull on April 27, 2015

Fred was an enthusiastic orchid grower for nearly 50 years. He loved to travel in order to view orchids in their native habitat. He frequented Mexico and Brazil to see laelias and other species from the cattleya alliance.

Fred was a member and judge for the AOS for 25 years. He supported many of the local orchid clubs, including DVOS, as a member and frequent speaker. He was always generous with his time and considerable knowledge.

There will be no funeral or memorial services.

*C. jongheana f. alba*
Awards DVOS April 2015

Novice
1st  *Phal.* Noname  Dave Trebotich
2nd  *Cym.* Noname  Raul Garcia de Leon
3rd  *Blc.* Zul  Marcia Hart

Intermediate
1st  *Pot.* Island Peach ‘Valley Isle’  Phyllis Arthur
2nd  *C. skinneri* ‘Casa Luna’  Linda Castleton
3rd  *Sarcochilus hartmannii*  Judith Johnston

Advanced
1st  *Paraphalaenopsis* Kimmy  Mark Dillard
     ‘Little Shop of Horrors’
2nd  *Bulb. falcatum v. velutinum*  Mark Dillard
3rd  *B. Jimminey Cricket*  Sung Lee

Lancer Smith (species/under 6”)
  *C. jongheana f. alba*  Yunor Peralta

California Sierra Nevada
Judging Center Awards for March can be viewed at:
http://www.csnjc.org
REFRESHMENTS FOR THE MAY MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

FOOD:
(Please cut into servings)
Betty Chinn, Jackie Krstulovich, Lisa Chow, Barbara Ungersma, Irma Desmond, Noble Emery, Jeanette Bean, Judith Johnson

DRINKS:
Heidi Crespin, Dave Trebotich, Judith Johnson

ICE:
NONE

Marcia Hart is our New Member Mentor.
Contact her at MarHart2@aol.com if you have questions or a problem, or need advice on an orchid topic. (Her phone number is in your roster). Marcia will answer your question or find someone who can.
The May issue of Orchids has many great articles, which you may have already seen if you are a current AOS member, but for those of you who are not, here is what you can find inside this months magazine, which will entice you into becoming a member.

**Embreea- a monster orchid in 3D, by Thomas Mirenda**, gives a great overview of this fascinating genus of enormous, yet short-lived flowers.

**Disas by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins**, is a beautifully illustrated look at many variations in color of this African genus.

There is a new series of articles called **Growers Profile**, highlighting a different grower each month. This month we get to peak into Paph Paradise and proprietor **David Sorokowsky** with a Q&A that gives up some insight into how you can start with a “box store” purchase and end up in a full-blown addiction into growing, hybridizing and selling award-winning orchids, as explained in the questions that **Kathy Barrett** asks.

**Selecting a Pot by Sue and Terry Bottom**, is a great tutorial on how to select the perfect pot for your plant, for your growing conditions.

**Sarcochilus- Modern Breeding Lines and Plant Culture, by Scott Barrie and Fred Clarke**, gives an in depth look at the new and excitingly colorful hybrid in this Australian genus.

**In Brazil with Francisco Miranda**, by Stig Dalstrom, is a wonderful article that showcases Brazilian orchids in their

**The Webinars for this month:**
We will again have two webinars this month, one of which will be another Greenhouse Chat that will be available to all. At the time of this sending, the topics, dates and times have not been announced. Please check the webinar tab on www.aos.org for updated information.
Gold Country Orchids

**Inventory Reduction Sale & Open House**

May 8-9
9am - 5pm

May 10
10am - 4pm

10% - 80% off all plants

Free Plant with any purchase of $15 or 30% Off all purchases over $100

All Mothers Receive a Free Gift Sunday!
CLASSES:

Friday & Saturday - 1:30pm
Controlling Disease and Pesky Pests for the Home Grower

Sunday - All Day
Bring your problems in a bag for diagnosis and treatment.

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Gold Country Orchids
390 Big Ben Road
Lincoln, California 95648
916-645-8600
goldcountryorchids.com

B. Jimminey Cricket

Blc. Zul
UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

May 8, 9, 10: Gold Country Inventory reduction Sale and classes (see p.10-11 )

May 9 - 10: Mother’s Day Weekend Show and Sale in Oakland (see p. 13)

May 15: DVOS meeting with Janet Lamborn (see p. 3)

Aug 1: CSNJJC Speaker’s Day Odd Fellows Hall, Sacramento

Aug 8: BBQ and Auction

Dec 17: Holiday Party
Mother’s Day Weekend
Saturday and Sunday
May 9th and 10th
10AM – 5PM

Orchid Show & Sale 2015

Lakeside Park Garden Center
666 Bellevue Avenue Oakland CA 94610
Next to the Gardens at Lake Merritt Botanical Garden in Lakeside Park

FREE ADMISSION • Orchid displays • Orchids for sale • Culture sessions • Raffles

Presented by orchidsocietyofca.org • This card good for one FREE raffle ticket!
DVOS Grower Divisions 2015

**Advanced**
- Kathy Barrett
- Cindy Battershall
- Steve Beckendorf
- Jim Chan
- Liz Charlton
- Ken Cook
- Sue Davis
- Mark Dillard
- Cynthia Hill
- Carol Klonowski
- Sung Lee
- Bernice Lindner
- Ted and Nancy McClellan
- Yunor Peralta
- Cheryl Phillipson
- Tom Pickford
- Paul Reeve
- Dave Tomassini
- Jim Wert

**Intermediate**
- Phyllis Arthur
- Linda Castleton
- George Cooper
- Irene Desmond
- Sharon Duffy
- Noble Emery
- Miki Ichiyanagi
- Eileen Jackson
- Renate Johnson
- Judith Johnston
- George McRae
- Madoleen Montgomery
- Akiko Ogawa
- Parky Parkison
- Brad Piini
- Barbara Ungersma
- Diana Vavrek

**Novice**
- Everyone else
The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center’s web page has been updated with our region’s awards including the San Joaquin, Modesto and Sacramento shows, as well as CSNJJC monthly awards. Also! Save the date for the 2015 CSNJJC Speaker’s Day on Saturday, Aug 1st. Although admission fee and speaker & vendor line ups are still being arranged, this year there will be a conservation theme. We’ve never held a themed day before, so this should be fun.

Awards, images and descriptions can be seen at http://www.csnjc.org

Kathy Barrett
DVOS OFFICERS 2015

President: Sung Lee
Vice President: Yunor Peralta
Immediate Past President: Eileen Jackson
Secretary: Miki Ichiyanagi
Treasurer: Nancy McClellan
Board Members: Judith Johnston
Jim Wert
Marcia Hart
Ulrike Ahlborn
Renate Johnson
David Trebotich

Membership: Ulrike Ahlborn membership@dvos.org
Newsletter: Jamie Wasson, Liz Charlton dvosnews@gmail.com
Webmaster: Ulrike Ahlborn webmaster@dvos.org
Committee Chairs:
Greenhouse Tours: Eileen Jackson
Refreshments: Brenda Aday & Miki Ichiyangi
Raffle and Sales: Susan Fetter
Judging: Liz Charlton
Equipment and Lights: Sung Lee
Librarian: Phyllis Arthur

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

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

D & D Flowers
Dennis Olivas & David Dunn
169 1st Avenue Daly City, CA 94014
By Appointment Only