

# Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org>

a 501 (c) (3) corp.

November 2009



*At Our next meeting  
November 12th  
Maxillarias and Encyclias  
by Deborah Atwood of Napa Valley Orchids*

**NEXT MEETING**  
Thur. Nov 12th  
5:30 Speaker's Dinner  
7:30 Meeting Begins  
8:00 Presentation

Contra Costa Water  
District Board Room  
1331 Concord Ave.  
Concord  
[www.diablowos.org](http://www.diablowos.org)

President:  
**Eileen Jackson**

Immediate Past  
President:  
**Brian Wraxall**

Vice-President:  
**Liz Charlton**

Secretary:  
**Rodney Kline**

Treasurer:  
**Brian Wraxall**



Deborah Atwood returns to DVOS this month to discuss the care and culture of maxillarias and encyclias.

Deborah began her career as an “orchid farmer” after 30 years in the hospitality industry. She is the owner of Napa Valley Orchids. In addition to speaking to orchid societies, she sells her plants at orchid shows and farmer’s markets. She is also available as a consultant on greenhouse maintenance.

Speaker’s Dinner will be at Melo’s Pizza - 1660 Contra Costa Blvd. at 5:30. Everyone is welcome to attend and meet our speaker. If you plan to attend, please notify Liz Charlton at (925) 280-1671 or email [dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)

Plant table will be provided by Deborah Atwood.

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DVOS Board Members:

**Ken Cook**

**Parky Parkison**

**Brad Piini**

**Dave Tomassini**

**Alice Tomassini**

**Jamie Wasson**

*Our speaker in October was  
David Neal of Dyna-Gro*

Do not be fooled. What at first may have appeared as nothing more than an advertisement for his products Dave Neal of Dyna Gro supplied an in depth yet abbreviated synopsis of orchid biology and feeding. I'll attempt to provide an even more abbreviated report here. Liebig's Law states that nutrition is absorbed in relation to the "least available" food item. Most fertilizers are formulated to provide tons of Nitrogen (N-P-K), however the plant will only absorb the "N" in relation to the (minimally provided) "P" or "K" in the formula. If the plant actually needs potassium or phosphorus to bloom, it won't grow or bloom. Hobbyists have known for years that orchids do not metabolize the same sorts of nitrogen that other plants do. They do better with easily absorbed nitrogen from ammonia, not urea. Dave's talk let us know that - in study after study - the limiting factor in the plant's ability to grow and bloom ISN'T available nitrogen, its Calcium, Potassium and Phosphorus (the P and K in the formula). Even worse, a plant's ability to grow and bloom depends on a variety of trace minerals like Iron, Boron, Magnesium and Silicon. [sigh] Yes, this does make your head hurt, \*G\*!



Luckily, calcium and many of these trace minerals are present in tap water and come back into solution when you acidify tap water with fertilizer as you water and feed. However the question

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Membership:

**Ulrike Ahlborn**

[membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

Greenhouse Tours:

**Parky Parkison**

Refreshments:

**Linda Castleton**

**Bernice Lindner**

**Madge Fordyce**

**Melissa Sadler**

Greeters:

**Sharon Duffy**

**Jill Chambers**

**Bernice Lindner**

Raffles and Sales:

**Rita Tischler**

Equipment and Lights:

**Dave Tomassini**

Librarian:

**Phyllis Arthur**

AOS Representative:

**Dennis Olivas**

Orchid Digest

Representative:

**Brian Wrxall**

SFOS Show Chairman:

**Brad Piini**

DVOS Show Chairman:

**Dennis Olivas**

remains are these levels enough? If you only use r/o water are you unintentionally starving your plants if your fertilizer doesn't provide these minerals or if you don't blend tap water and r/o water to provide them? The answers to these questions are myriad and many faceted and are the reason why you join a society so that you can ask people in your climatological community and find an answer that works for you. You've heard us say over and over, whatever works for you works for you and don't change it. But if you are having trouble Dave's talk was - er - food for thought and should act as a springboard for conversations amongst club members.



For example here are a couple of pictures of orchids I was too ashamed to bring in. These cattleya inflorescences are not growing out of the sheath such that blooms open inside the sheath. They grew and bloomed wonderfully when I bought them, but now, pfft! So I'm trying silicon to see if it'll strengthen the cell wall and allow them to extend. See? We all have trouble.

- Kathy Barrett



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**DVOS**  
Commercial Members

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

**Half Moon Bay**  
D & D Flowers  
Dennis Olivas  
62 Oceanside Dr.  
(925) 696 -1246  
[dolivas@comcast.com](mailto: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](http://www.whiteoakorchids.com)

**Pleasant Hill**  
Diablo Orchids  
Huei-Mei Chen &  
Gregory Mayfield  
(925) 946-9740  
[www.diabloorchids.com](http://www.diabloorchids.com)



*Diablo View Orchid Society*  
*Show and Sale*  
*"World Of Orchids"*



## *Awarded Plants at World of Orchids*

### Perpetual Trophies - 2009

The Stan and Dale Dinsmore Trophy  
Best Orchid Flower in the Novice Category  
Lc. Tiny Treasure  
Exhibited by Ted McLellan

The Frank and Madge Fordyce Trophy  
Best Orchid Flower in the Open Category  
(V. Meg Laughlin x V. Alma Motes) "Maui Spots"  
Exhibited by Ken Cook

The Dick and Jean Emory Trophy  
Best Species Orchid Flower  
Phalaenopsis stuartiana  
Exhibited by Ken Cook

The Bernice Lindner Trophy  
Best Botanical Species Orchid Flower  
(Plant no taller than 6" and flower under 1 1/2 inches)  
Maxillaria schunkeana  
Exhibited by Liz Charlton

The Noble and Bea Emery Trophy  
Best Orchid Art  
Photo, painting of Phragmipedium  
Exhibited by Heidi Rand

The Don and Shirley Baker Trophy  
Judges Choice of non trophy winner  
Ascda Viboon 'Velvet Perfection'  
Exhibited by Bernice Lindner

The Founder's Trophy  
Best Orchid In Show  
Lc. Tiny Treasure  
Exhibited by Ted McLellan

### Best In Class - 2009

Best Cattleya Alliance  
Lc. Tiny Treasure  
Exhibited by Ted McLellan

Best Paphiopedilum Alliance  
Paph. Alma Geveart  
Exhibited by Diana Vavrek

Best Cymbidium Alliance  
Cym. Little Black Sambo  
Exhibited by Akiko Ogawa

Best Phalaenopsis Alliance  
Phal. stuartiana  
Exhibited by Ken Cook

Best Vandaceous Alliance  
(V. Meg Laughlin x V. Alma Motes) "Maui Spots"  
Exhibited by Ken Cook

Best Vandaceous Relative  
Aerangis luteo-alba var. rhodosticta  
Exhibited by Liz Charlton

Best Dendrobium Alliance  
Den. langaia  
Exhibited by Brian Wraxall

Best Odontoglossum Alliance  
Bllra. Peggy Ruth Carpenter  
Exhibited by Bernice Lindner

Best of Other Genera  
Drac amaliae 'Hestiae'  
Exhibited by George McRae

### AOS Awards

Dracula amaliae 'Hestiae',  
HCC 78 species,  
Exhibited by George McRae

Dracula dalstroemii  
'Elena Maria'  
HCC 79 species,  
Exhibited by Ken Cook

Masdevallia angulata  
'Heather Nicole'  
HCC 77\* species,  
Exhibited by Ken Cook  
(see below)

\*The points on the Masd. angulata may change. It wasn't on the score sheet whether it was a 77 or 76, or 78, so I split the difference. \*G\*



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## *Upcoming Speakers and Events*

- Nov 12: **Maxillarias and Encyclias** by Debra Atwood of Napa Valley Orchids  
Dec 10: **Christmas Party**  Shadelands, Walnut Creek  
Jan 14: **Good Plant, Bad Plant**, by Kathy Barrett and Dennis Olivas  
Feb 26-28: **POE**

## *The next Board Meeting*

will be on Nov. 19th at 7:30 p.m.  
at the home of Liz Charlton and  
Jamie Wasson

See what is available in our library:  
[www.diablowios.org/Library/library.htm](http://www.diablowios.org/Library/library.htm)  
To check-out an item, contact  
Phyllis Arthur



*Brs. (Rex x Starry Knight 'Migration')  
x Spider's Gold 'Jordan'*



## *Refreshments November is Pie Month*

**Pies:** Cheryl Phillipson, Raul Garcia de Leon, Madge Fordyce,  
Makayla Shields, Bernice Lindner, Dave Shaw, Ashley Bean, Lauren  
Sadler

**Please bring baked goods CUT into serving size pieces.**

**Beverages:** Jill Chambers, Liz Charlton, Rita Tischler

DVOS  
Commercial Members

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

Pleasant Hill  
**Orchid Gulch**  
Liz Charlton &  
Jamie Wasson  
104 Brandon Rd.  
(925) 818-3600  
by appointment

**Orchid Wiz**  
software for orchid growers  
[www.orchidwiz.com](http://www.orchidwiz.com)



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## *Awarded Plants in October*

Newsletter:

Liz Charlton  
Jamie Wasson

[dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)

Webmaster:

Nick Doe  
Ulrike Ahlborn

[webmaster@dvos.org](mailto:webmaster@dvos.org)

1<sup>st</sup> *Alcra.* Hilo Ablaze 'Hilo Gold'

Ken Cook

2<sup>nd</sup> *Lc.* Tiny Treasure 'Hot Pepper'

Ted McClellan

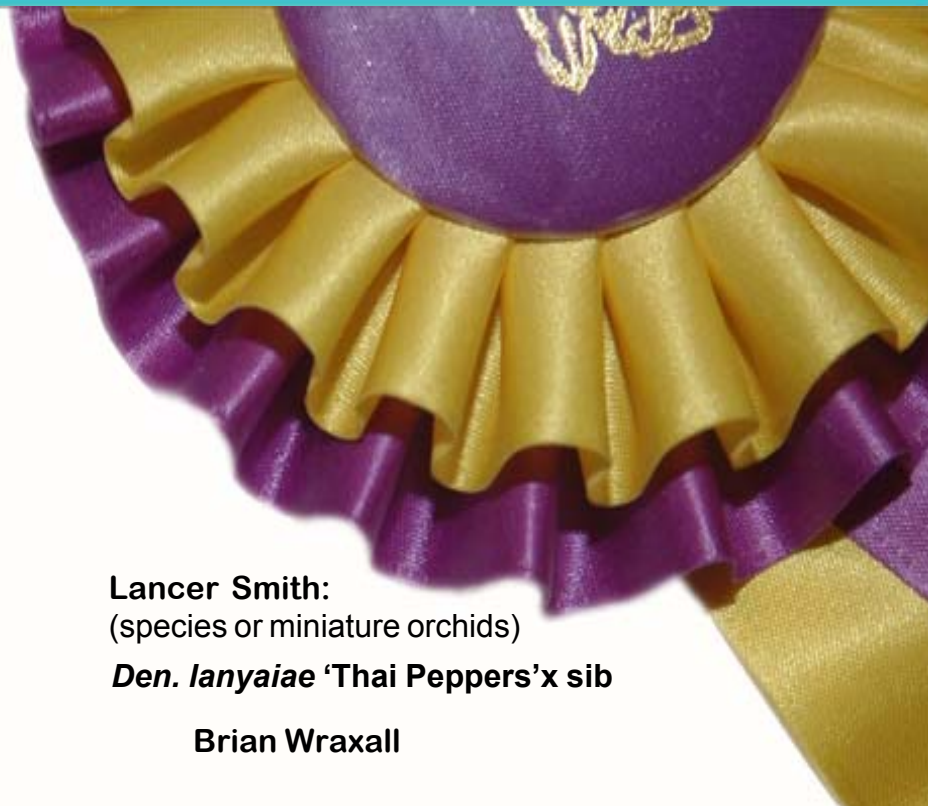
3<sup>rd</sup> *Brs.* (Rex x Starry Knight  
'Migration') x Spider's Gold  
'Jordan'

Judith Johnson



*Den. lanyaiiae* 'Thai Peppers'

*Lc.* Tiny Treasure 'Hot Pepper'



Lancer Smith:

(species or miniature orchids)

*Den. lanyaiiae* 'Thai Peppers' x sib

Brian Wraxall



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American Orchid Society  
Education. Conservation. Research.

## Achievement Award



Congratulations to Frank Fordyce who along with Ernest Hetherington were recognized by Carlos Fighetti with the President's Awards for their lifetime achievements in the world of orchids. Frank is a founder and long time member of DVOS.



*Aliceara Hilo Ablaze*  
'Hilo Gold'





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## Proposed Officers and Board of Directors DVOS 2010

President: Liz Charlton  
Vice President: Ken Cook  
Secretary: Rodney Kline  
Treasurer: Brian Wraxall  
Immediate Past President: Eileen Jackson  
Members at Large: Brad Piini  
Dave Tomassini  
Jamie Wasson  
Parky Parkison  
Elizabeth Marquez



## *Membership News*

We have 90 members as of November 1, 2009.

Diablo View Orchid Society Attn. Ulrike Ahlborn,  
membership Chair 202 Gaucho Ct \* San Ramon \* CA  
94583 [www.membership@DVOS.org](mailto:www.membership@DVOS.org)



## Orchid Society of California Show and Sale

### *“Orchid Treasures”*

Free Admission

Saturday & Sunday, November 7th & 8th 10am to 5pm

Lakeside Park Garden Center (Lake Merritt) 666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA

Exotic and Unusual Orchids for Sale, Orchid Raffles

Seven Vendors, Orchid Doctors and Demonstrations

Plant Showroom, Displays, Information

Additional information on our website: <http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com/nov09show.html>



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## *AOS Awards October 2009*

Courtesy of Kathy Barrett

### **10/3/09 - Sacramento Orchid Forum Show**

*Bulbophyllum virescens* 'Joan' HCC 78 [syn. *Bulb. ridleyanum*] species,  
Exhibited by Howard Gunn

*Dendrobium dearei* 'Jocelyn' AM 83 species, Exhibited by James Morris

*Odontoglossum nobile* 'Sheila', AM 80 species, Exhibited by Golden Gate Orchids

*Paphiopedilum Dire Wolf* 'Semillion', AM83 9Paph. Hsinying Dragon x Paph. Pat Rowland)  
Exhibited by Dave Sorokowsky

### **10/6/09 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco Center**

No Awards

### **10/7/09 - CSNJC Sacramento**

*Aerangis luteo-alba* var. *rhodosticta* 'Sierra Snow', AM81 species  
Exhibited by Gold Country Orchids

### **10/11/09 - Big Fresno Fair Show**

*Aerangis cryptodon* 'Capgunn', HCC 76 species, Exhibited by Pat and Chuck Gunn

### **10/17/09 - Diablo View Orchid Society Show**

*Dracula dalstroemii* 'Elena Maria', HCC 79 s[eco. Exhibited by Ken Cook

*Masdevallia angulata* 'Heather Nicole' HCC 77 species Exhibited by Ken Cook

*Paphiopedilum curtisii* 'Sandwolf', HCC 76 species, Exhibited by Bill Sanders

### **10/19/09 - Pacific Central - Oakland**

*Cattleya labiata* fma. *rubra* 'Dark Beauty', HCC 77, Exhibited by Fred Shull

Pictures can be seen at Pacific Central <http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

California Sierra Nevada <http://www.csnjc.org>

