

## DVOS DOERS

President:

**Dennis Olivas**

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**Kathy Barrett**

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**Dave Tomassini**

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**Brad Piini**

**Jill Chambers**

Membership:

**Ulrike Ahlborn**

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

Greenhouse Tours:

**Joe Grillo**

Refreshments:

**David Dunn**

Hostesses:

**Sharon Duffy &**

**Jill Chambers**

Raffles and Sales:

**Esther Yee**

Equipment/Lights:

**HELP WANTED**

Librarian:

**Phyllis Arthur**

AOS Rep:

**Jill Chambers**

DVOS Show

Chairman: **HELP!!**

SFOS Show

Chairman:

**Ron Bettancourt**

Newsletter:

**Roy Florey**

Webmaster:

**Nick Doe**

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

Financial statement  
available upon written  
request to the Board.

DVOS

PO Box 273021

Concord, Ca. 94520

# Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org> a 501c3 corp.

Contra Costa Water District 1331 Concord Blvd, Concord

Dinner with the speaker 5:30, meeting starts ~7:30 Speaker ~8:30

## June 10th, 2004

### Primary Slipper Hybrids by Nick Burnett

Nick Burnett is an accredited judge in the American Orchid Society and serves as the Training Coordinator for the Pacific Central Judging Center. He has grown orchids since 1989 and currently has a mixed collection of survivors that include primarily paphs, phrags, and bulbophyllums. If there is significant work to be done in his greenhouse he uses the excuse of "his other job"--he is the Vice Chair of the Communication Studies Department at California State University, Sacramento where he teaches classes in Freedom of Speech, Political Communication, and Public Speaking for Business Students.

Nick examines why anyone would want to grow primary Paph hybrids (as opposed to the species themselves) and takes a look at some of the beautiful creations hybridizers have made. Additionally he'll delve into directions for future crosses. I've asked him to toss in some cultural info too, because we all need to know how not to kill these beauties!

Come and find out why we hybridize and what to look for in growing primary slipper hybrids.

#### **Dinner with the speaker:**

Speaker's Dinner will be at Grissini's Italian Restaurant at the Concord Hilton, 1970 Diamond Blvd. across from the Willows Shopping Center 5:30 PM \$\$, no host. Call Kathy to reserve your place, 370-6520.

Next Board Meeting is June 17 at Alice Tomassini's.

PLEASE TURN YOUR CELL PHONE OFF DURING THE DVOS MEETING



### **In Memorium**

It's with a feeling of great sadness that I report the passing of Rebecca Tyson Northen on April 30, 2004.

Unquestionably one of the most recognizable and popular personalities in the orchid community, Rebecca, 93, was friend and educator to countless individuals throughout our fraternity. A trained biologist, Rebecca attended Radcliffe College and received an AB from Wayne State University and an MA from Mt. Holyoke College. With her late husband, a plant physiologist and professor of botany at the University of Wyoming, she traveled extensively in central and South America studying and collecting orchids in the wild. She spoke to hundreds of groups over the years, and her wonderful articles graced the pages of Popular Gardening, Flower Grower, Horticulture, and the American Orchid Society Bulletin. In addition to the orchid "bible" -- Home Orchid Growing -- Rebecca wrote Orchids as House Plants and co-authored with her husband The secret of the Green Thumb and The Complete Book of Greenhouse Gardening.

Personally, it was an honor and a privilege to have direct contact with this legend on more than a few occasions in the past decade and a half. On each occasion, Rebecca was always gracious, always giving and always upbeat. I could certainly see why her varied and rapt audiences always came away with on a smile and a lesson.

Rebecca joined the AOS in 1949. She received our organization's highest honor, the AOS Gold Medal of Achievement, in 1979. In 1999, at the Vancouver World Orchid Conference, she was presented with the AOS Certificate of Meritorious Achievement in Orchid Education. As her son, Phil, told me this afternoon, this incredibly classy woman had a "very full life" ... and generations of orchidists are, indeed, testimony to that fact. Kathy

### **Vice President's Message:**

#### **Speaker Housing Needed!!**

2005 looks to be a bountiful year for internationally known speakers to come to Bay Area orchid societies. If the Diablo View Orchid Society would like to hear these speakers then we will need volunteers to house these speakers for two nights at least.

In January 2005 Gavin McDonald is coming to speak about African Orchid Species. He is from Zaire (I think) and is willing to speak for the cost of the plane ticket only, no speaker fee involved, no rental car, nothing. We just need someone to house him and treat him like a house guest for 2 nights.

In February 2005 Ivan Portillo from Ecuagenera is coming to speak about orchids of Ecuador. Again, we'll need someone to house him.

That pretty much finishes my term as Vice President for the society. I have the rest of 2004 booked.

**HOWEVER!!**

In May 2005 Bob Fuchs can come out to talk about Vandas. He will be an interesting counterpoint to Martin Motes (August/04's speaker). We'll need someone to house him as well as Carson Whitlow who can come out in October 05. I can book these speakers, but only if we are interested and can house him.

So I need volunteers for Gavin and Ivan. And a volunteer for Vice President for 2005 - this position is easier to do than in the past because we have a nice network of dedicated VPs who all talk amongst themselves and share the work. Except the DVOS needs more involvement from its membership. It's our stumbling block. So if you want more, varied speakers, step up to the plate and HOUSE THEM!!!

Call Kathy at (925) 370-6520 if you are able to help

### Refreshment Corner

#### **Refreshments:**

Charlotte Leong

Shirley Kerr

Renate Johnson

#### **Beverages:**

Nancy Pak

!

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **July – Bad Plants and Ice Cream Social.**

Bring us your tired, your hungry and your overall unhappy orchids and there will be someone to help you along the correct path of orchid nirvana. If you are shy, you can bring them in anonymously so only you and the person who followed you into the building will know which is yours.

**June** - Nick Burnett - Primary Paph Hybrids

**July** - Bad Plants - Ice Cream Social

**August** - Martin Motes - Vandaceous orchids

**Sept** - [Bob Gordon????]

**Oct** - Show prep??? Haiku Maui Orchids?

**Nov** - Glen Decker - Phrags and maybe some P kovachii

**Dec** - Xmas party

**Jan 05** - Gavin McDonald on African species

**Feb 05** - Ivan Portillo, Ecuagenera.

### Show & Tell Table Ribbons

#### **1st. Place:**

Lc. Canhamiana "Azure Sky" AM/AOS

Kath Barrett

#### **2nd Place:**

Phalaenopsis Autumn Sun

Bernice Lindner

#### **3rd Place:**

Phramipedium China Dragon

Joe Grillo

#### **Lancer Smith Medallion**

Chiloshista parishii

Ulrike Ahlborn

#### **Look What I Bloomed For The Very First Time**

Bulbophyllum grandiflorum

Joe Grillo

**This Month's First Place Winner**  
**Lc. Canhamiana "Azure Sky" AM/AOS**  
**Kath Barrett**



### **Orchid Conservation News**

In May 2004 the International Orchid Conservation Congress was held at Selby Gardens in Sarasota, Florida. Overall the congress was a complete success and thanks all around were give to Wes Higgins, PhD of Selby. During the congress there was an afternoon set aside to discuss the international trade treaty in endangered species known as CITES.

First Barry Walsh gave a history of CITES, then Robert Dressler, PhD and Cal Dodson, PhD each spoke. After that a panel discussion was held consisting of Ted Green, Alex Hirtz, Marv Ragan and Roddy Gable (from the USA Fish and Wildlife Service). After a brief opening statement the panel took questions from the floor. Phillip Cribb, PhD, made the closing remarks and in doing so, he made two proposals.

The first was that all herbarium specimens, spirit collections, root tips etc... be specifically excluded from CITES. The second was that all hybrids be excluded from CITES and CITES Documentation. All attendees agreed with the first recommendation and all except one person agreed with the second proposal.

The Orchid Specialist Group, SSC, IUCN held its plenary meeting on Thursday night and amongst the agenda items were the two proposals made by Dr. Cribb. Both of these were adopted and Dr. Cribb will prepare the appropriate documentation with help from Dr. Dressler and others.

So now the OSG is supporting these changes and some very well known and prestigious individuals have agreed to push for the proposed changes in CITES. All in all it was a very satisfactory outcome to the Congress.

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### May Recap, Bill Thoms

May's treat was an amusing presentation on growing specimen orchids by Bill Thoms, orchidist and amateur comedian. He gave us the five quick rules of being successful with orchids which were:

1. Water from all sides. The above demonstration shows our VP, Kathy, filling a tub of water.
2. Give the fresh air. Sharon Duffy above was demonstrating fresh air and the sound of lighting. OK. Maybe I missed what he was telling me because I was laughing too much.
3. When do you spray? At night.
4. What is the best kind of food? Any kind of food.
5. Don't be an inch worm. And had my pen not run out of ink at that moment I would have had a note to explain what that means.

Bill was a wonderful and entertaining speaker and we hope to see him again.  
Roy ☺

### **Thanks!**

**Mercedes Bell has very graciously volunteered to reserve our meeting space each month at the Water Board. Her work hours allow her to sign us up in the morning so we have our best chance of getting the room.**

**Thanks so much!**

**And, yours truly, your current newsletter editor, has also volunteered to be the club auditor. I guess I shouldn't have mentioned that I do it for a living, huh? I also volunteered to be the Lord High Executioner, but I got no interest except from those who had seen The Mikado.**

### This Month's AOS Winner



Cymbidium canaliculatum 'Phyllis' species, Exhibited by: Paul Chim

Cymbidium canaliculatum 'Phyllis' species, Exhibited by: Paul Chim AM 85

Masdevallia Falcon's Sunrise 'Golden Gate' (Masd. Falcata x Masd. ignea)

Exhibited by: Golden Gate Orchids AM 81

Masdevallia Pat Akehurst 'Golden Zebra' (Masd. Heathii x Masd.

yungasensis), Exhibited by Golden Gate Orchids AM 85

Masdevallia Redshine 'Sheila' (Masd. Falcon Sunrise x Masd. Marguerite)

Exhibited by: Golden Gate Orchids FCC 91

Mystacidium capense 'Myung Chun-seunim' species, Exhibited by: Anna S. Chai

CCM 82

Rhynchoatele cordata 'Samantha' syn. Odm. cordatum, Lembo. cordatum

species, Exhibited by Dan Newman, Hanging Gardens 80

AOS Awards May 17, 2004- Pacific Central Judging Center

Den. hainanensis 'Eun-sook Hong' species, Exhibited by: Anna S.

Chai HCC 78, CCM 80

Renanthera un-named hybrid 'Fireworks' (Ren Twinstar x Ren. Bill Crocker)

Exhibited by Japheth Ko HCC 76, CCM 82

## Membership News

No new members this month. We are holding at 91. If you have not paid your membership dues this year, please contact Ulrike. Your dues helps pay for speaker fees, postage and printing for this newsletter and other support activities to make DVOS as fascinating and educational as it is.

Diablo View Orchid Society  
Att. Ulrike Ahlborn  
117 Laredo Court  
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116  
[Membership@DVOS.org](mailto:Membership@DVOS.org)



**Hey! I didn't get the Newsletter this month!** If you are one of the unlucky few who I missed or the post office has neglected or your email thinks I am spam or know someone in that predicament, please go to our beautiful website at [www.dvos.org](http://www.dvos.org) and you can find all our newsletters for the past year or so, including this one.



**Local Vendors**

**Danville**

**“Commercial Plant Services”**

David & Alice Tomassini  
586 El Capitan Drive  
(925) 648-7667  
[atomassini@aol.com](mailto:atomassini@aol.com)

**Half Moon Bay**

**“D & D Flowers”**

Dennis Olivas  
62 Oceanside Dr.  
(925) 969-1246  
[dolivas@comcast.net](mailto:dolivas@comcast.net)  
(By appointment only)

**San Leandro**

**“The Paph House”**

Francisco Baptista & Fred Jernigan  
375 Warwick Ave.  
(510) 635-2845  
[Paph@flash.net](mailto:Paph@flash.net)  
(By appointment. only)

**Livermore**

**“The Orchid Ranch”**

“Fordyce Orchids” – Catleyas  
[www.fordyceorchids.com](http://www.fordyceorchids.com)  
“Orchids Orinda” –Phalaenopsis  
“Tonkins Orchids” - Paphs  
1330 Isabel Ave.  
(925) 447-1659

**Oakland**

**“Orchids Fiori D'Amore”**

Paolo & Nina Di Candia  
4526 Fair Ave.  
(510) 530-4884  
(By appointment only)

**Pacifica**

**“White Oak Orchids, Inc.”**

Sales and Boarding  
(650) 655-8767  
[www.whiteoakorchids.com](http://www.whiteoakorchids.com)  
(By appointment only)



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