

Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org>

a 501c3 corp.

April 2007



NEXT MEETING

Thur April 12
5:30 Speaker's Dinner
7:30 Meeting Starts
8:00 Presentation

Contra Costa
Water District
1331 Concord Ave
Concord

President:

Brian Wraxall

Vice-President:

Eileen Jackson

Secretary:

Renate Johnson

Treasurer:

Barbara Tague

Board Members:

Jamie Wasson

Nancy Pak

Brad Piini

Dave Tomassini

Diana Vavrek

Alice Tomassini

At Our Next Meeting April 12th

Dendrobiums: Jewels of Gondwana

Dan Newman started growing orchids in 1982. His first successful plant was a Dendrobium hybrid bought as a tiny seedling at a lei stand in the Honolulu Airport. By 1996 he had 350 orchids in a one-bedroom apartment. After moving the collection into commercial greenhouse space, his hobby began evolving into his nursery *Hanging Gardens*. Dan started growing orchids full-time in 2000 and moved to a larger greenhouse in Pacifica a few years later. He currently has 10,000 to 12,000 plants, mostly cool to intermediate growers. Although orchid hybrids far outnumber the known species, Dan prefers growing species. To him, they are the real orchids, whose grace and purity of function transcend the floral display of their hybrid offspring.

Dendrobium, a large genus of Asia, Australia, and the Pacific contains many horticulturally desirable "jewels" among its 1000-plus species. People often ask how to grow dendrobiums and there are no easy answers. It is a group of plants found in habitats ranging from monsoonal Himalayan foothills to equatorial New Guinea's misty alpine grasslands and steamy coastal swamps to the tropical forests of remote Pacific islands and to the cool temperate regions of south Australia. The talk will focus on several of Dan's favorite sections of the genus with photos of representative species and discussion of their culture in the context of their natural habitat.

The plant table will be provided by Hanging Gardens.

Dan will not be able to attend dinner with us. For those who wish to join us for dinner it will be at the Elephant Bar Restaurant, 1225 Willow Pass Rd. Concord, CA at 5:30 pm. Please notify Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 or email jackson.eileen@att.net to join us.

Diablo View Orchid Society

April 2007

Membership:

Ulrike Ahlborn

membership@dvos.org

Greenhouse Tours:

Joe Grillo

Refreshments:

Brenda Aday

Greeters:

Sharon Duffy

Jill Chambers

Bernice Lindner

Raffles and Sales:

Rita Tischler

Equipment and Lights:

Dave Tomassini

Librarian:

Phyllis Arthur

AOS Representative:

Jill Chambers

SFOS Show Chairman:

Brad Piini

Newsletter:

Liz Charlton

Jamie Wasson

newsletter@dvos.org

Webmaster:

Nick Doe

Ulrike Ahlborn

webmaster@dvos.org

Our March DVOS speaker was Ron Parsons.

Ron gave a very enthusiastic speech and slide show on California native orchids. For all of us that are intrigued by orchids, there is a certain fascination about seeing orchids growing naturally in the wild.

I, personally, have been lucky enough to travel through the jungles of Belize and Costa Rica and have seen orchids growing in the wild. In these countries you look up from the jungle floor to see every tree limb covered with moss and epiphytic orchids. Each limb is a platform for hundreds of orchids.

In California, don't bother looking up into the Oaks and Bay trees. There are no epiphytes growing on the limbs. You need to look down. The California orchids are all terrestrial. Ron showed that our native orchids grow from Point Reyes to Monterey, San Louis Obispo and along several streams. The colors, sizes and shapes of California orchids were mostly white or brown, small and insignificant. I don't think Dave Tomassini will be building a new greenhouse anytime soon to start his California collection. *Brad Piini*

Chamaeangis hildebrandtii



Diablo View Orchid Society

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DVOS
Commercial Members

Danville
Commercial Plant
Services
David and Alice Tomassini
586 El Capitan Dr
(925) 648 -7667
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 March

1st **Paph. Prince Edward of York (rothschildianum x sanderianum)**

Linda Castleton

2nd **Cattleya 'Noname'**

Maryann Gschwend

3rd **Laelia anceps**

Sharon Duffy

Look What I Bloomed for the First Time:

Phrag. Jason Fischer

(Memoria Dick Clements x besseae)

Ken Cook

Lancer Smith:

Chamaeangis hildebrandtii

Bernice Lindner



Paph. Prince Edward of York

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Culture Corner by Kathy Barrett: Potting Recipes

Since I sent a comment from Dr Wang about potting Phals and since there's a potting party coming up I figured I'd dig out these recipes for potting mixes. The membership may want to consider them when they crete their own mediums. All recipes date from 1999. Mixes are subject to change over time. But these are a starting point.

Frank Fordyce's Regular Cattleya Mix ca. 1999

1 part lava rock
1 part #3 perlite
4 parts fine fir bark, #4 screen

Paolo D'Candia's Cymbidium Mix

10 gallons small fir bark
5 gallons medium bark
2 gallons Canadian peat moss
1 gallon #3 perlite
1/2 gallon silver sand
water to dampen

Texas A&M Medium - (Dr Wang's Mud)

Equal parts of:

Horticultural charcoal #2 or #3 perlite
Peat-lite medium (such as
Metro Mix 700 or chunky peat moss)

Consider adding:

Superphosphate
Powdered Limestone
Micronutrient

Wetting agent

Steve Gettel's Paper Pot Method

2/3 coarse blonde peat moss
1/3 #3 perlite

To form a light airy mix
paper pots

Note: This is not Mud! Use only with
the third part of the method: Paper
pots. See Orchid Digest vol 61 (1).

Financial statement
available upon written
request to the Board:
DVOS c/o Barbara Tague
716 Skyline Dr.
Martinez, Ca. 94553

Phrag: Jason Fisher



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Refreshments for the April Meeting

FOOD: Lori Maher, Jan Rubiales, Evelyne Powell, Ken Dowdell, Kathi Ames
BEVERAGES: : Mr/Mrs Ketzenberg, Eileen Jackson, Renee Dowdell

Potting Party

APRIL 28, 2007 10 am – 2 pm

AT THE HOME OF JENNIFER ENGLISH

3963 Los Arabis Drive, Lafayette.

Come to learn the right way to repot your orchids. The society will provide the bark for your first 2 orchids, 1 gallon or less pots. More than that will cost \$4 per plant. Bring your friends, they can either pay \$4 per plant or join and get 4 plants repotted for the price of membership. It's suggested to go up one pot size when repotting, so keep that in mind when selecting new pots to bring to the party . . .



*... Oh, by the way ... we have
Pots for Sale! Lots and lots of Pots for Sale!*

We have an inventory of brand new pots given to DVOS by Nathalie Smith. They are being offered at very attractive prices to members as a fund raiser. A stack of 10 - one gallon pots is being *given away* for \$5.00. We have lots of sizes at rock bottom prices. Call Barbara Tague (925) 229-0512 or Diana Vavrek (925) 229-9552 to check what's on hand and to arrange a time for pick-up. *We need to move these pots!*

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Upcoming Speakers and Events

- April 7: **Orchid Walk on Mt Tamalpais with Ron Parsons**
This special event for members and friends
will cost \$20 per person
- April 12: **Dan Newman of Hanging Gardens - *Dendrobiums: Jewels of Godwana***
- April 28: **Potting Party 10 am - 2 pm at Jennifer English's home**
3963 Los Arabis Dr. Lafayette
- May 10: **To be announced**
- May 20: **Greenhouse Tour at California Orchids**
- June 14: **Debra Atwood of Napa Valley Orchids - *Summer your Orchids Outside***
- August: **Our annual picnic - This year's theme "The 60s"**



Laelia Anceps

The next Board Meeting

April 19th: The next Board Meeting will be at the home of
Liz Charlton and Jamie Wasson

Upcoming Shows

- April 7 -8: **Golden Gate Cymbidium Society Orchids, A Field of Dreams show and sale**
9am - 5pm 666 Bellevue Ave. Oakland (near Lake Merritt) FREE
- May 5 - 6: **Carmel Orchid Society MayFaire Orchid show and sale** 9am - 6pm (4pm Sun)
125 Ocean View Blvd., Pacific Grove (Monterey) www.calorchid.com
- May 21 - 22: **Sacramento Orchid Society 60th Orchid Jewels show and sale** 10am -
5pm (4pm Sun) 6151 H St, Sacramento (Scottish Rite Masonic Ctr.)
www.sacramentoorchids.org FREE

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Membership News

Let's give a warm welcome to the new members who joined in March 2007:

George McRae & Heidi Rand from El Cerrito
Huei-Mei Chen & Gegory Mayfield from Pleasant Hill
Kristina Zweig from Pacheco

This brings DVOS up to 96 members.

We had several guests at the March meeting:

Jonau Gridley, Sarah Joy Haynes, Esperanza Hoffmann, Bill & Margret Ketzenberg, Rodney Kline, Judith Parsells, Paula Shiu, Sue & John Tiernan and Jim Wert.

I am preparing the 2007 roster, which should be available at the April meeting. . Unfortunately I will not be able to be there. Please see Alice Tomassini if you want to have a roster.

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 April 12 or mail it to Diablo View Orchid Society

Att.: Ulrike Ahlborn

117 Laredo Ct

San Ramon, CA 94583-2116



Thanks to Madge & Frank, Alice & Dave, and Juan & Toby for their generous contributions in Natalie's honor.

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AOS Awards March 2007

3/2/07 - Sonoma Orchid Society Show - Santa Rosa

No info yet

3/6/07 - Pacific Central Judging Center - San Francisco

Spilotantha ferrusii 'Aria Raven', CBR (prov)

species, Exhibited by Brett Francis

3/7/07 - California Sierra Nevada Judging Center - Sacramento

Laelia jonghiana var. *alba* 'Joan', AM 87

species, Exhibited by Howard Gunn

3/9/2007 - San Joaquin Orchid Society Show - Stockton

Otaara Hwa Yuan Bay 'She Shu', HCC 77

(*Lctna. Peggy San* x *Blc. Sunset Bay*), Exhibited by Helen Burke

Sl. Beautiful Sunset 'Joe Boy', HCC 77

(*Sl. Orpetii* x *L. sincorana*), Exhibited by Kathleen F. Barrett

3/9/07 - Malihini Orchid Society Show - Cupertino

no awards

3/10/2007 - Central California Orchid Society Show - Fresno

Paph. delenatii 'Sunset Dancer', HCC 77

species, Exhibited by Curtis Gean

Paph. Saint Swithin 'Sandwolf', HCC 78 & CCM 82

(*Paph. rothschildianum* x *Paph. philippinense*), Exhibited by Bill Sanders

3/19/07 Pacific Central Judging Center - Oakland

Paph. liemianum 'Harpy', HCC 79

species, Exhibited by Ramon de los Santos

Pictures and descriptions can be seen on the web pages

Pacific Central - <http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

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

Kathy Barrett