

# Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org>

a 501c3 corp.

August 2007



## NEXT MEETING

Thur August 9  
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 August 9*

## 40 Orchids Everyone Should Have in Their Collection

slide show by Fordyce and Trudi Marsh  
Presented by Dennis Olivas



Fordyce "Red" Marsh was the grower and collector and Trudi, the photographer and illustrator of the team. They were friends of Dr. Jack Fowlie (one of the last great pre-CITES orchid hunters) and their travels with him took them to many parts of the world to view and photograph orchids. They collected many specimens for the Los Angeles County Arboretum, always with official permission of their host country.

The title says it all. There will be Trudi's excellent photography and an accompanying script written by Red. BUT... Our own Dennis Olivas will interpret and expand upon the provided script.

Speaker's dinner will be at Sweet Tomatoes (salad bar) in the Pleasant Hill "downtown" at 5:45. Please notify Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 or email [jackson.eileen@att.net](mailto:jackson.eileen@att.net) to join us.

# Diablo View Orchid Society

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Membership:

**Ulrike Ahlborn**

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

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

Webmaster:

**Nick Doe**

**Ulrike Ahlborn**

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

*Our June DVOS speaker was Amy Chung - Jacobsen*

In July we were treated to Amy Jacobsen's talk on the subject of Rupicolous Laelias.



Rupicolous means rock dwelling. These Laelias are found growing in the crevices between rocks or on top of the rocks. The natural location of these laelias is in the Brazilian foothills between 2,000-4,000 feet in altitude.

Amy took us on a slide show tour of the Brazilian outback. There were numerous slides of the desolate and dry conditions where the orchids are able to thrive. In many cases, the orchids were seen growing on top of the rocks with no media surrounding the roots.

Rupicolous Laelias are very important in Cattleya hybridizing. These laelias pass on some very desirable traits. They provide a smaller plant size, bright colors, temperature tolerant plants and flowers that will appear well above the foliage.

If you decide to grow these laelias you will need to try and duplicate the following conditions;

1. Well drained soil - crushed granite in a clay pot with a couple of rusty nails for iron.
2. Bright light, no shade.
3. A wide range of temperatures.
4. Dry rest in the winter.

Thanks again Amy.

- Brad Piini

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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)

**Oakland**  
**Orchids Fiori D'Amore**  
Paolo & Nina Di Candia  
4526 Fair Ave.  
(510) 530-4884  
(By appointment only)

*At the July Meeting*



Special recognition was given to

*The Lady who  
does the Shopping,  
and the Man  
who drives the Truck*

Alice and David Tomassini

Dipsters at the  
ice cream  
social



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## *Awarded Plants in July*

1<sup>st</sup> **Vanda Apec Blue**

Phyllis Arthur

2<sup>nd</sup> **Paph. Red Prince x Paph Hsingin Web**

Kathi Ames

3<sup>rd</sup> **Miltassia Darth Vader 'Dark Star'**

Bernice Lindner



Cycnoches Jean Monniea

Look What I Bloomed for the First Time:

**Cycnoches Jean Monniea**

Ken Cook

Lancer Smith:

**Bulbophyllum Frostii**

Brian Wraxall

## A note from the Board:

*Late arriving plants are disruptive to the meeting. Beginning at the August meeting, plants to be judged must be on the plant table by 7:30. Once the meeting is called to order, a sign will be posted indicating the judging table is closed. An alternate table will be provided at the back of the room, for late arrivals. These will not be judged, but may be viewed.*

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

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## *Membership News:*

Let's give a warm welcome to Bill & Margaret Ketzenberg who rejoined DVOS and the new member Walt Hutchinson from Bay Point. This increased the DVOS membership to 103.

If you would like to have a copy of the 2007 roster see me at the August meeting or send me a message.

Ulrike Ahlborn

Membership Chair

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



Bulbo. Frostii

# Diablo View Orchid Society

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## Orchid Wiz Encyclopedia

We are pleased to announce OrchidWiz Encyclopedia 4.0 is now discounted 20% for orchid societies and clubs. The software can be installed on two computers belonging to each society and is to be used for society purposes-only, i.e., orchid research during meetings and shows.

Encyclopedia 4.0 became recently available. In the past three weeks the program has been installed in over 300 computers and so far it has received outstanding feedback. To take advantage of the 20% discount please follow these steps:

- 1) Navigate to [www.orchidwiz.com](http://www.orchidwiz.com) and click the CD image.
- 2) Click "Add To Shopping Cart"
- 3) Select "Check Out"
- 4) Click "I am a new customer and continue"
- 5) Enter the society's name and address information. At the end of this screen enter "SOCIETY" where it says promotion code.
- 6) The system will take 20% off, reducing the price by \$49.

If you have high-speed internet you may also download a PowerPoint demo available at [www.orchidwiz.com](http://www.orchidwiz.com) by clicking the respective link on the right hand side above the address. Over 200 AOS Judges and more than 150 orchid nurseries currently use OrchidWiz Encyclopedia. For this latest release we received 13,000 photos contributed by volunteers including thousands of photos of awarded plants. For the list of sources used in OrchidWiz please consult the web page [www.orchidwiz.com](http://www.orchidwiz.com).

New in OrchidWiz Encyclopedia 4.0:

\*The user interface has been completely re-written to implement navigation via a tab control and also to resize each analysis window to fit in a 1024 x 768 or greater screen resolution. This allows for more viewing space which was needed to expand functionality. \*About 20,500 orchid images, versus the previous 8,500. The list of images includes over 13,000 contributed by volunteers. Volunteers contributed only photos which they themselves took (every volunteer signed a release form). The list includes 2,500 photos of awarded cultivars which are now featured in the Awards window. \*Comprehensive species taxonomic and culture data from Charles Baker. Ability to search the titles of articles in the AOS Orchids and Orchid Digest bulletins. \*Hybridizers' (Originators') full names and addresses. Also, users now have the ability to list all other orchids hybridized by the same person. \*The "Gallery" analysis, previously only accessed from the Off sprint window, has now been included in several other places throughout the program. For example, the user can now display a gallery of orchids hybridized by a certain person. \*Pronunciations for genera and common species names. \*Compare hybrid photo with photos of top species in the background, all in the same screen. \*Many new reports were added, especially for those analyses called "List Most..." accessed from the top menu. \*Ability to print selected awards only. \*Genealogy pie charts for unregistered hybrids (called from "Find Cross"). \*Information about photo contributors (where provided): name, company, etc. \*Green-pod harvest times. \*Slide show, accessed from the Gallery window or from the Image \*Search window. \*All awards up to and including the AOS Awards Quarterly March 2007. \*All registrations up to and including the March-April 2007 International Register of Orchid Hybrids (Sander's).

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## *DVOS Annual Show and Sale in October*

The theme this year will be *World of Orchids*

an educational theme featuring the locations of our favorite orchids.

The next planning meeting will be at 11:00AM on 8/11 at the Tomassini's warehouse (located right behind their house). We will go over what needs to be constructed and arranged, so yes we still need your help and creativity!! Call me or Alice if you need directions: Kathy Barrett 370-6520, Alice Tomassini 648-7667.



Paph Red Prince x Paph Hsinglen Web



Brassidium Darth Vader

We need *everyone's* help with the [annual DVOS Show & Sale](#). This is a primary fundraiser for our club. Everyone should plan to contribute some time, so that all the work doesn't fall to a few people. Volunteer opportunities include set-up and take-down, clean-up, food purchase, prep., and serve, plant hotel, ticket sales, signs, security, plant sales, greeters, etc. for Friday night, Saturday and Sunday. Sign-up sheets will be at the next few meetings. For more information or to volunteer, email Kathy Barrett at: [mormodes@hotmail.com](mailto:mormodes@hotmail.com)

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## *Upcoming DVOS Speakers and Events*

- Aug 9: Dennis Olivas - *40 Orchids Everyone Should Have in their Collection*  
Aug 18: DVOS annual picnic at the Van Galder's home  
This year's theme: "The 60s"  
Sept 13: Eric Hunt - *Orchids of Borneo*  
Oct 11: Joe Parker - *Draculas*  
Oct 12-14: Annual DVOS Show & Sale - Kathy Barrett, Chair  
Nov 8: Bob Hamilton - *Propagation*  
Dec: Christmas Party

## *The next Board Meeting*

August 16 th: The next Board Meeting will be at Barbara Tague's home at 7:30 pm.

## *Upcoming Shows:*

- Sept 15-16: Orchid Forum of Sacramento Annual Show & Sale, Sat 11:00 - 5:30, Sun 10:00 - 4:00,  
Garden & Art Ctr., 3330 McKinley Blvd. (in McKinley Park) Sacramento, FREE  
Sept 22-23: San Francisco Orchid Society Orchidfest, Hall of Flowers Golden Gate Park (9th & Lincoln)

## *Announcements:*

Jamie & Liz are putting together a [greenhouse kit](#) (from BC Greenhouses) sometime in September. Anyone willing to help with our barn raising is welcome and appreciated. If you are thinking about putting up your own greenhouse, this is a good opportunity to learn how; and, build-up some good karma points for your own work crew. Send us an email [DVOSnews@gmail.com](mailto:DVOSnews@gmail.com) and we will let you know when and where (just as soon as we figure it out.)



## *Refreshments for the August Meeting*

**Food:** You know who you are...

**Beverages:** ditto

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## The Annual Picnic and Auction is August 18

The theme for our picnic is **THE 60'S**. Dress as the person you were, or the person you wish you had been.

If you can't remember the 60's just pick something. Come as a go-go dancer, a draft dodger, a flower child, a NASA engineer, a contractor who builds fallout shelters, or a Peace Corps volunteer. Iron your hair, dig out your granny glasses, grab your Hula Hoop, and come twist with the club. There will be prizes for the best costumes (\$50 for first and \$25 for second. ) and longest Hula Hooper.

Bring a plant or something plant related for the auction, and food to share: This year the Club will provide paper plates and silverware as well as drinks, succulent roast pig and BBQ chicken.



Food assignments:

A-E Hor D'oeuvres

F-I Dessert

J - Q Side Dish (hot)

R-Z Salad (cold)

60's party food:

Cheddar & cream cheese balls rolled in nuts served with Triscuits,

Rice Crispy treats, marijuana brownies

Vienna sausages in tomato sauce,

Molded green jello w/crushed pineapple with a side of Miracle Whip, cucumber in Green Goddess dressing, Ambrosia w/ tiny marshmallows & coconut shreds

The picnic will be held at the Van Galder's home. Their address is in your roster. At the next meeting a sign-up sheet will be circulated. Let us know if you are planning to attend, and if you prefer to help with the set-up or clean-up chores.

Set-up	10:30 - 12:00
Lunch	12:30 - 1:30
Auction	2:00 - 3:30
Clean-up	4:00 - 5:00

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It smelled like sweaty feet or a horse corral on a hot afternoon."

## *Platanthera yosemitensis*

By GARANCE BURKE Associated Press Writer

A foul-smelling orchid that flourishes only in Yosemite National Park and was first collected in 1923 is a distinct species, scientists announced Monday after re-evaluating the flower. Botanist Alison Colwell said the species' minute, tennis-ball yellow flowers weren't what first led her to it, but rather the smell of sweaty feet that the Yosemite bog-orchid emits to attract pollinators. "I was out surveying clovers one afternoon, and I started smelling something. I was like, 'Eew, what's that?'" said Colwell, who works for the U.S. Geological Survey in El Portal. "It smelled like a horse corral on a hot afternoon."

The plant, which is the only known orchid species endemic to California's Sierra Nevada range, grows in spring-fed areas between 6,000 and 9,000 feet, Colwell said. All nine sites where the orchid has been spotted are in the park, some adjacent to areas popular among visitors, according to an article announcing the species' discovery published in *Madrono*, a journal of the California Botanical Society. The species isn't likely to have any commercial value since its flowers are less than a quarter of an inch wide, but some orchid lovers were so enthused by the news they began planning cross-country trips to see its delicate summer blooms.

"This orchid might not be showy enough to get the masses lined up all the way from San Francisco to see it, but I'm leaving Sunday to go out there to photograph it," said wild Advertisement orchid expert Paul Martin Brown, who planned to leave Acton, Maine, this weekend to include the orchid in his latest book. Colwell, one of three scientists credited with the discovery, said the bog-orchid is thought to have persisted in the upland meadows south of Yosemite Valley, which nourished unique plant species because the area never froze under glacial cover.

Botanist George Henry Grinnell collected the first Yosemite bog orchid in 1923 and sent the dried, pressed flower to an herbarium that later gave its collections to Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, Colwell said. Ron Coleman, a visiting scientist at the garden, was combing through the collection one Friday morning in July 1993 when he found the original specimen on a herbarium sheet ringed with notes handwritten by Grinnell, who believed the flower was related to the green bog orchid. "It was just a little dry brown thing, but right away I saw several things about it didn't fit the pattern of any other orchid in California," Coleman said. "This discovery is not only personally satisfying but scientifically satisfying." Coleman and colleague Leon Glicenstein drove up to Yosemite the next day and rejoiced when they spotted the flowers in the fading light. They snapped a photograph and sent it to orchid expert Charles Sheviak, hoping he would confirm their suspicion that the plant was a unique species.

Sheviak, curator of Botany at the New York State Museum, concluded that the orchid was related to a variety that grows in the Rocky Mountains, but botanists familiar with Yosemite remained curious. The mystery was solved in 2003, when Colwell sniffed the blooms' pungent smell. Colwell, then in her first year on the job, called her boss, Peggy Moore. Together, they dug a plant from the meadow and sent it to Sheviak, who later revised his opinion. The trio's publication July 3 announcing the *Platanthera yosemitensis*, the Yosemite bog orchid's official name, made its status as a separate species official.



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## *AOS Awards July 2007*

**July 3 - San Francisco: no awards**

**July 11, 2007 - Sacramento**

Cattleya Green Emerald 'Queve', AM 83

(C. Elizabeth Mahon x C. Thospol Spot), Exhibited by Candace Landerman

**July 16 - Oakland**

C. Pradit Spot 'Winston' HCC 79

(C. Thopol Spot x C. shilleriana), Exhibited by Ken and Amy Jacobse



Vanda Apec Blue

**Pictures can be seen at:**

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

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

*Kathy Barrett*

Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter