

AUGUST 2014

Diablo View

*Orchid
Society*

www.DVOS.org a 501 (c) (3) corporation

DVOS meets on the second Thursday of the month at the
Contra Costa Water District boardroom 7:30-10:00 pm
1331 Concord Ave. Concord, CA.

AT OUR NEXT MEETING:

There will **NOT** be a meeting in August. Instead we will have our annual picnic on August 16th. See p. 3 - 4

BOARD MEETING:

*Aug 28th at 7:30 pm
at the home of Miki Ichiyanagi*



*Den.
bracteosum
v. tanii*



IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL BBQ AND AUCTION

This year's theme is *Hooray for*



Our annual BBQ and Auction will be at the home of Bob and Mary Lou Van Galder (look in your Membership Roster for the address in Lafayette) Saturday, Aug 16th.

There will be a *\$50 prize* for the best theme related costume.

What you need to know for the picnic



The Society will provide the BBQ and drinks.

Members should bring a side dish &

a *nice* orchid, or orchid-related donation for the auction.



And don't forget your checkbook!

Members, friends, and family are welcome to attend this annual orchid and BBQ spectacular.

Members please plan to help with either
Set-up 10:00 am
or Clean-up 4 pm

Last Name begins with:	You bring:
A - E	Dessert
F - I	Side Dish
J - Q	Salad
R - Z	Hors d'oeuvres



Phal. violacea v. coerulea

AT OUR JULY MEETING:

Cultural Secrets of Anna Chai

Swan song definition:

- 1) a farewell or final appearance
- 2) the beautiful legendary song, sung only once by a swan in its lifetime.

Anna Chai did just that as she delivered a very philosophical farewell speech to the DVOS membership at our July meeting. It was a speech marked by reflections of a person who has shown passion, dedication, and incredible diligence in her hobby of growing orchids.

Anna's passion has resulted in her special skill of raising over 100 award winning orchids. It is Anna's vigilant oversight of her orchids that is the key to her success. Anna says it's just like watching over your children. You are constantly looking to see if one of the children is deficient in some area and needs help. She watches her orchids in the same manner, looking to see if one is too wet, too dry, too bright or shady, too much fertilizer, does it need misting, or does it need to be repotted into new media. Just like your own children who have individual needs, so do your orchids. Observation will give you the answers to successfully grow and culture your orchids.

Anna began growing orchids 35 years ago and eventually ended up with over 2000 surviving orchids housed in her 18-foot by 24-foot greenhouse. Anna readily admits that she has killed more orchids than she has successfully raised. Hence the term: 2000 surviving orchids. Through all her failures comes a knowledge and foundation that has led her to her current level



of success. To Anna, as to many of us, her greenhouse and orchids are her sanctuary where she goes to relieve her stress and see which beautiful blossom is about to unveil itself for her pleasure. Unlike most of the West, Anna is focused on the harmony of foliage and flower. For us Westerners the flower has always been the main focus. Anna believes that the foliage is just as important as the flower when judging the overall beauty of the plant.

How does Anna get ready for show time with her orchids? The following are some of her tips. 1) Use black pot holders and black background so as not to distract from the plant itself. 2) Use a 30 percent solution of skim milk in water to shine the leaves prior to showing. Use a tissue, not a sponge, when applying the milk solution. The sponge contains oils that are not beneficial to your orchid. 3) Cut off all crooked leaves or brown tips. Anna completely cuts off the bad leaf just before the show. 4) When supporting the spike, use thin wooden sticks that are thinner than the stem of the plant so that they don't show. Or use thin wire from the Flowermart.



C. Pulcherrima



C. purpurata f. carnea

As for the basics of cultivation, here is the way that Anna treats her orchids: The small pots in her collection get a misting almost every day summer through fall. She fertilizes with Peters 20-20-20 in the months of March through October. She does it three times a week each month. The fourth week of every month she waters without fertilizer to leach out the sodium from her plants. In November she will fertilize only 2 times per month.

For potting media, Anna uses Orchiata bark and then changes the mix every three years. To the bark she adds 5% charcoal and 10% perlite. When repotting her orchids, Anna always does it when the roots are less than two inches long. If the roots are too long they will be easily broken and traumatize the plant in the process of repotting.

I would like to sincerely thank Anna for her wonderful talk. I know that it is rare for Anna to do public speaking engagements, therefore, I will speak on behalf of everyone present and say that it was an honor to be able to listen to Anna present her knowledge, passion, and philosophy as one of the best orchid growers in the country. It was truly a beautiful swan song.

— Brad Pinii



Brs. glumacea



C. Noname

59th Paphiopedilum Guild First World Slipper Orchid Conference



Sponsored by Orchid Digest

with additional funding from

Orchid Growers of Hawai'i and

County of Hawai'i

Department of Research and Development

Expert Lectures

Paph/Phrag Displays

Orchid Sales

AOS Judging

Hilo Hawaiian Hotel, Hilo, Hawai'i

Saturday & Sunday, January 17 – 18, 2015

Plus the latest Paph and Phrag AOS Awards

Tickets: \$95

Order your ticket online at

www.orchiddigest.org

with the Orchid Digest shopping cart

or download registration form and send to

Orchid Digest

PO Box 6966

Laguna Niguel CA 92607

Complete agenda and hotel information on the website!

and

The Big Island of Hawai'i

8



Phrag. Olaf Gruss



DVOS is moving in 2015

Our current meeting place, the Contra Costa Water District Board room, will not be available to us next year due to earthquake retrofitting. Beginning in

January, we will meet at the newly rebuilt Pleasant Hill Community Center in the McHale Room. Some of you will remember this as the location where we held our Fall Show for many years prior to the rebuild.

In addition to changing our location, we will also be changing from the second Thursday to the third Thursday of each month. The Community Center is located at 320 Civic Dr. in Pleasant Hill (near the Police station and the YMCA.)



Membership News

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn,
Membership Chair
membership@dvos.org

General Members \$30

Commercial Members \$40

Lifetime Members \$300

If you are unable to receive the newsletter by email and need a B&W copy mailed to you, there is an additional \$10 charge for copying and postage.



Presents

**California Sierra Nevada
Speaker's Day**

Saturday, August 2, 2014
9am to 5pm
Odd Fellows Building
1831 Howe Avenue at Alta Arden
Sacramento, CA

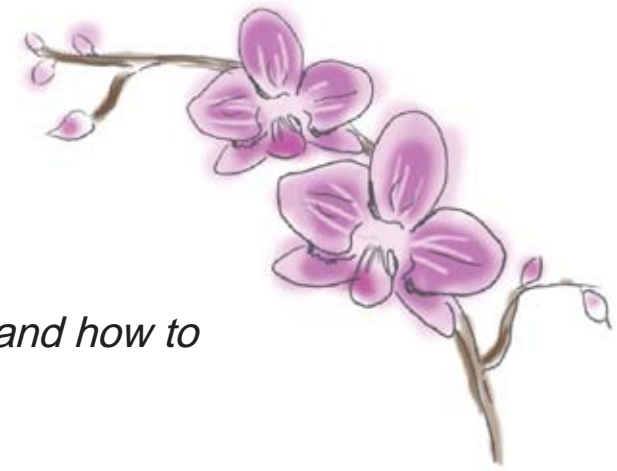


Tickets

\$10 Advance
\$20 at the door for
sponsoring societies and
AOS members
\$25 general admission

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - Saturday, August 2, 2014

- 9:00 AOS Judging: See How We Judge
- 11:00 The Laelias of Mexico, their hybrids and how to grow them
Jim Rose, Cal-Orchid
- 12:00 Lunch Break
- 12:45 Auction
- 1:45 Complex Paphiopedilums
Theresa Hill, Hillsview Garden
- 2:45 Phalaenopsis Species, Their Habitat and Culture
Carlos Fighetti, President of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance
- 3:45 Break out Sessions
Theresa Hill on Paphiopedilum culture
Carlos Fighetti on Phalaenopsis culture
Dennis Olivas on growing Cattleyas outdoor in Northern California



Featuring:

Jim Rose of Cal-Orchids

The Laelias of Mexico, their hybrids and how to grow them

Theresa Hill of Hillsvie Garden

Complex Paphiopedilums

Carlos Fighetti - President of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA)

Phalaenopsis Species, Their Habitat and Culture



Vendors:

Hillsvie Gardens - Paphiopediliums

Cal-Orchids - A Variety of Orchids

Gold Country Orchids - Mini-cattleyas

Carlos Fighetti - Phalaenopsis

D & D Flowers - Dennis will have whatever the others do not.

CSNJC is a 501(c)3 organization.

Visit our website at www.csnjc.org

Rhynchosstylis retusa

UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

Aug 2: CSNJC Speaker's Day (p. 13)
<http://www.csnjc.org>

Aug 16: DVOS Picnic: This year's theme
Hooray for Bollywood!



The Peanut Gallery

**Oct. 4-5: Pleasant Hill Art, Jazz
& Wine Festival**
(DVOS will have a booth)

Awards DVOS July

Novice

- 1st *C. Noname* Irene Desmond
2nd *Phrag. Olaf Gruss* Diane Reeve
3rd *Den. bracteosum v. tanii*
Irene Desmond

Intermediate

- 1st *Rhy. retusa* Jim Wert
2nd *Brs. glumacea* Eileen Jackson
3rd *Onc. Noname* Jim Wert

Advanced

- 1st *C. Pulcherrima* Sung Lee
2nd *V. Yuuko Ito Sumida* 'Ted Sumida' Mark Dillard
3rd *C. purpurata f. carnea* Tom Pickford

Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

- Phal. violacea v. coerulea* Ken Cook



California Sierra Nevada
Judging Center Awards can
be viewed at:
<http://www.csnjc.org>

DVOS OFFICERS 2014

PRESIDENT: EILEEN JACKSON

VICE PRESIDENT: SUNG LEE

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: EILEEN JACKSON

SECRETARY: MARCIA HART

TREASURER: KATHY BARRETT

BOARD MEMBERS: PHYLLIS ARTHUR

LIZ CHARLTON

PASCUAL MACHIN

MIKI ICHIYANAGI

ULRIKE AHLBORN

MEMBERSHIP: ULRIKE AHLBORN membership@dvos.org

NEWSLETTER: JAMIE WASSON, LIZ CHARLTON
dvosnews@gmail.com

WEBMASTER: ULRIKE AHLBORN
webmaster@dvos.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

GREENHOUSE TOURS: PARKY PARKISON

REFRESHMENTS: BRENDA ADAY & MIKI ICHIYANGI

RAFFLE AND SALES: SUSAN FETTER

JUDGING: NANCY AND TED McCLELLAN

EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTS: DAVE TOMASSINI

LIBRARIAN: PHYLLIS ARTHUR

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

Commercial Plant Services

David & Alice Tomassini, 3 Woodside Ct.,
Danville, (925) 736-7630

www.commercialplantservices.com



V. Yuuko Ito Sumida 'Ted Sumida'

