

MAY 2015

*Diablo View*

*Orchid  
Society*

[www.DVOS.org](http://www.DVOS.org) a 501 (c) (3) corporation

DVOS meets on the third Thursday of the month in the  
in the McHale Room at the Pleasant Hill Community Center  
320 Civic Dr. in Pleasant Hill, CA.  
7:30-10:00 pm

AT OUR NEXT MEETING:

**THURSDAY May 21 at 7:30 P.M. in the McHale Room  
at the Pleasant Hill Community Center**

***Janet Lamborn will share her knowledge on orchid  
viruses and testing for them using Agdia test kits.***

PLANT TABLE:

**Plant table will be provided by Dennis Olivas**

SPEAKER'S DINNER

BEFORE OUR NEXT MEETING AT 5:30:

***Sichuan Fortune House,  
41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill***

BOARD MEETING:

***Thursday, May 28th at 7:00 P.M. at the home of  
Yunor Peralta and Greg Scown.***

***RSVP to [mmmper@yahoo.com](mailto:mmmper@yahoo.com)***



# AT OUR NEXT MEETING MAY 15

*Janet Lamborn*

*Don't Put On The Virus Blinders  
(your collection is depending on you.)*

**We are going to look closely at each viral pathogen, what it looks like and how it's transmitted. We will also talk about sanitation practices, testing options and what to do with those results.**

**Janet Lamborn has been involved in the plant diagnostic industry for over fourteen years at Agdia, Inc. Starting in Agdia's Testing Services Laboratory, she gained considerable knowledge of the crops received in the lab, including orchids. After several years in Testing Services, Janet moved into the Sales and Marketing Department. She works closely with Agdia's customers, including specialty crop groups such as orchid societies, making sure members and hobbyists understand what they should be testing for and the options that are available.**

**Janet is the Account Manager at Agdia Testing Services, specializing in ornamental and field crop diagnostics.**

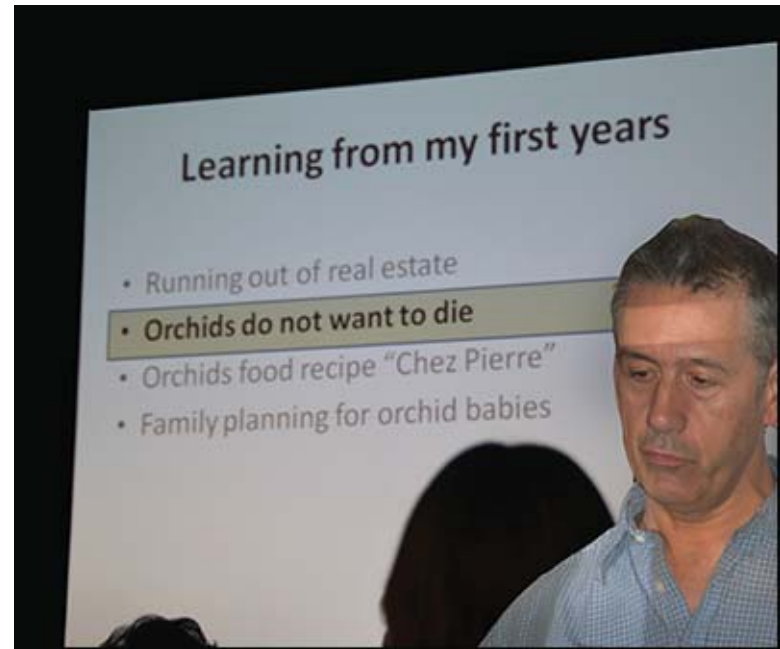


## AT OUR APRIL MEETING:

Pierre Pujol was our chemistry instructor for the April DVOS meeting. Pierre's talk revolved around the science of raising orchids. This was a fairly technical talk, but was also very informative.

Photosynthesis is the process of a plant taking in light, water, and carbon dioxide and producing sugars and oxygen. The CO<sub>2</sub>, or carbon dioxide, is an essential factor for the plants to grow and produce sugars. The CO<sub>2</sub> for your plants can come from a variety of sources. When it rains carbon dioxide is dissolved in the rainwater. The Dutch growers create CO<sub>2</sub> by burning natural gas in their greenhouses. All forms of CO<sub>2</sub> will benefit the plant.

The essential minerals for your plants to grow are nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, calcium, and magnesium. When orchids grow they require different quantities of these minerals for optimum growth. Some minerals are used in much greater quantity than others. In descending order of use, the orchid uses nitrogen the most, then calcium, magnesium, , potassium, phosphorus, and, finally, the micronutrients. Obviously next to nitrogen, calcium and magnesium are the next most essential minerals in growing orchids. Calcium and magnesium can be found in oyster shells, dolomite lime, and gypsum.



Unfortunately, the calcium and magnesium are not very soluble when found in these forms and are not easily absorbed by your plants. The better way to supply these minerals is to use Epsom salts dissolved in water to deliver the magnesium to your plants. Then dissolve calcium nitrate in water to get the calcium and nitrogen supplied to the plant. The problem arises when the Epsom salts and the calcium nitrate are used together. When calcium and magnesium are added into the water at the same time, they form a solid known as a precipitate, and this leaves a solution with no calcium or magnesium in a form that the plants can absorb. The calcium nitrate solution must be sprayed on separately, and then the Epsom salts solution should be sprayed on separately. This way the plant gets the calcium and nitrogen in one dose and then it receives the magnesium separately. The ratio to use during your watering is six parts fertilizer, three parts calcium nitrate and one part magnesium sulfate.



*Pot. Island Peach 'Valley Isle'*

For these solutions of nutrients to be absorbed by the plant the pH, or acidity, of these solutions must be between 5.5 and 6.0, otherwise the roots and leaves cannot absorb the nutrients. Always test your water for its acidity with a pH meter. Most public water systems transport the water in an alkaline or basic form through your pipes. This is so that your water pipes don't corrode from the acidity in the water. Most of you will need a pH meter and some form of acid to get these nutrient solutions in your water to a pH of between 5.5 and 6.0.

Thank you Pierre for the very informative talk.

Brad Piini

## In Memory of Fred Shull

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Fred Shull on April 27, 2015

Fred was an enthusiastic orchid grower for nearly 50 years. He loved to travel in order to view orchids in their native habitat. He frequented Mexico and Brazil to see laelias and other species from the cattleya alliance.



Photo: Chaunie Langland

Fred was a member and judge for the AOS for 25 years. He supported many of the local orchid clubs, including DVOS, as a member and frequent speaker. He was always generous with his time and considerable knowledge.

There will be no funeral or memorial services.

*C. jongheana f. alba*



# Awards DVOS April 2015

## Novice

1st	<i>Phal.</i> Noname	Dave Trebotich
2nd	<i>Cym.</i> Noname	Raul Garcia de Leon
3rd	<i>Blc.</i> Zul	Marcia Hart

## Intermediate

1st	<i>Pot.</i> Island Peach 'Valley Isle'	Phyllis Arthur
2nd	<i>C. skinneri</i> 'Casa Luna'	Linda Castleton
3rd	<i>Sarcochilus hartmannii</i>	Judith Johnston

## Advanced

1st	<i>Paraphalaenopsis</i> Kimmy 'Little Shop of Horrors'	Mark Dillard
2nd	<i>Bulb. falcatum</i> v. <i>velutinum</i>	Mark Dillard
3rd	<i>B.</i> Jimminey Cricket	Sung Lee

## Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

<i>C. jongheana</i> f. <i>alba</i>	Yunor Peralta
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*Cym.* Noname

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

# REFRESHMENTS FOR THE MAY MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED BY:



## FOOD:

*(Please cut into servings)*

Betty Chinn, Jackie Krstulovich, Lisa Chow, Barbara Ungersma, Irma Desmond, Noble Emery, Jeanette Bean, Judith Johnson

## DRINKS:

Heidi Crespin, Dave Trebotich, Judith Johnson

ICE:  
NONE



*C. skinneri* 'Casa Luna'

Marcia Hart is our *New Member Mentor*.

Contact her at [MarHart2@aol.com](mailto:MarHart2@aol.com) if you have questions or a problem, or need advice on an orchid topic. (Her phone number is in your roster). Marcia will answer your question or find someone who can.



# AOS Corner

The May issue of *Orchids* has many great articles, which you may have already seen if you are a current AOS member, but for those of you who are not, here is what you can find inside this month's magazine, which will entice you into becoming a member.

**Embreea- a monster orchid in 3D, by Thomas Miranda**, gives a great overview of this fascinating genus of enormous, yet short-lived flowers.

**Disas by Peggy Alrich and Wesley Higgins**, is a beautifully illustrated look at many variations in color of this African genus.

There is a new series of articles called **Growers Profile**, highlighting a different grower each month. This month we get to peak into Paph Paradise and proprietor **David Sorokowsky** with a Q&A that gives up some insight into how you can start with a "box store" purchase and end up in a full-blown addiction into growing, hybridizing and selling award-winning orchids, as explained in the questions that **Kathy Barrett** asks.

**Selecting a Pot by Sue and Terry Bottom**, is a great tutorial on how to select the perfect pot for your plant, for your growing conditions.

**Sarcochilus- Modern Breeding Lines and Plant Culture, by Scott Barrie and Fred Clarke**, gives an in depth look at the new and excitingly colorful hybrid in this Australian genus.



*Sarcochilus hartmannii*

**In Brazil with Francisco Miranda**, by Stig Dalstrom, is a wonderful article that showcases Brazilian orchids in their

## The Webinars for this month:

We will again have two webinars this month, one of which will be another Greenhouse Chat that will be available to all. At the time of this sending, the topics, dates and times have not been announced. Please check the webinar tab on [www.aos.org](http://www.aos.org) for updated information.



# *Gold Country Orchids*

**INVENTORY**

**REDUCTION SALE**

**& Open House**

**May 8-9**

9am - 5pm

**May 10**

10am - 4pm

**10%-80% off all plants**

Free Plant with any purchase of \$15 or  
30% Off all purchases over \$100

All Mothers Receive a Free Gift Sunday!



# CLASSES:

Friday & Saturday - 1:30pm

Controlling Disease and Pesky Pests for the Home Grower

Sunday - All Day

Bring your problems in a bag for diagnosis and treatment.

**GOLD COUNTRY ORCHIDS**

**390 Big Ben Road  
LINCOLN, CALIFORNIA 95648**

**916-645-8600**

**[GOLDCOUNTRYORCHIDS.COM](http://GOLDCOUNTRYORCHIDS.COM)**



*B. Jimminey Cricket*



*Blc. Zul*

# UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

**May 8, 9, 10: Gold Country  
Inventory reduction Sale  
and classes (see p.10-11 )**

**May 9 - 10: Mother's Day  
Weekend Show and Sale  
in Oakland (see p. 13)**

**May 15: DVOS meeting with  
Janet Lamborn (see p. 3)**

**Aug 1: CSNJC Speaker's Day  
Odd Fellows Hall, Sacramento**

**Aug 8: BBQ and Auction**

**Dec 17: Holiday Party**



*Phalaenopsis Noname*



## Mother's Day Weekend

Saturday and Sunday  
May 9th and 10th  
10AM – 5PM

# *Orchid Show & Sale 2015*

Lakeside Park Garden Center

666 Bellevue Avenue Oakland CA 94610

Next to the Gardens at Lake Merritt Botanical Garden in Lakeside Park

**FREE ADMISSION • Orchid displays • Orchids for sale • Culture sessions • Raffles**

Presented by [orchidsocietyofca.org](http://orchidsocietyofca.org) • This card good for one FREE raffle ticket!

# DVOS Grower Divisions 2015

## Advanced

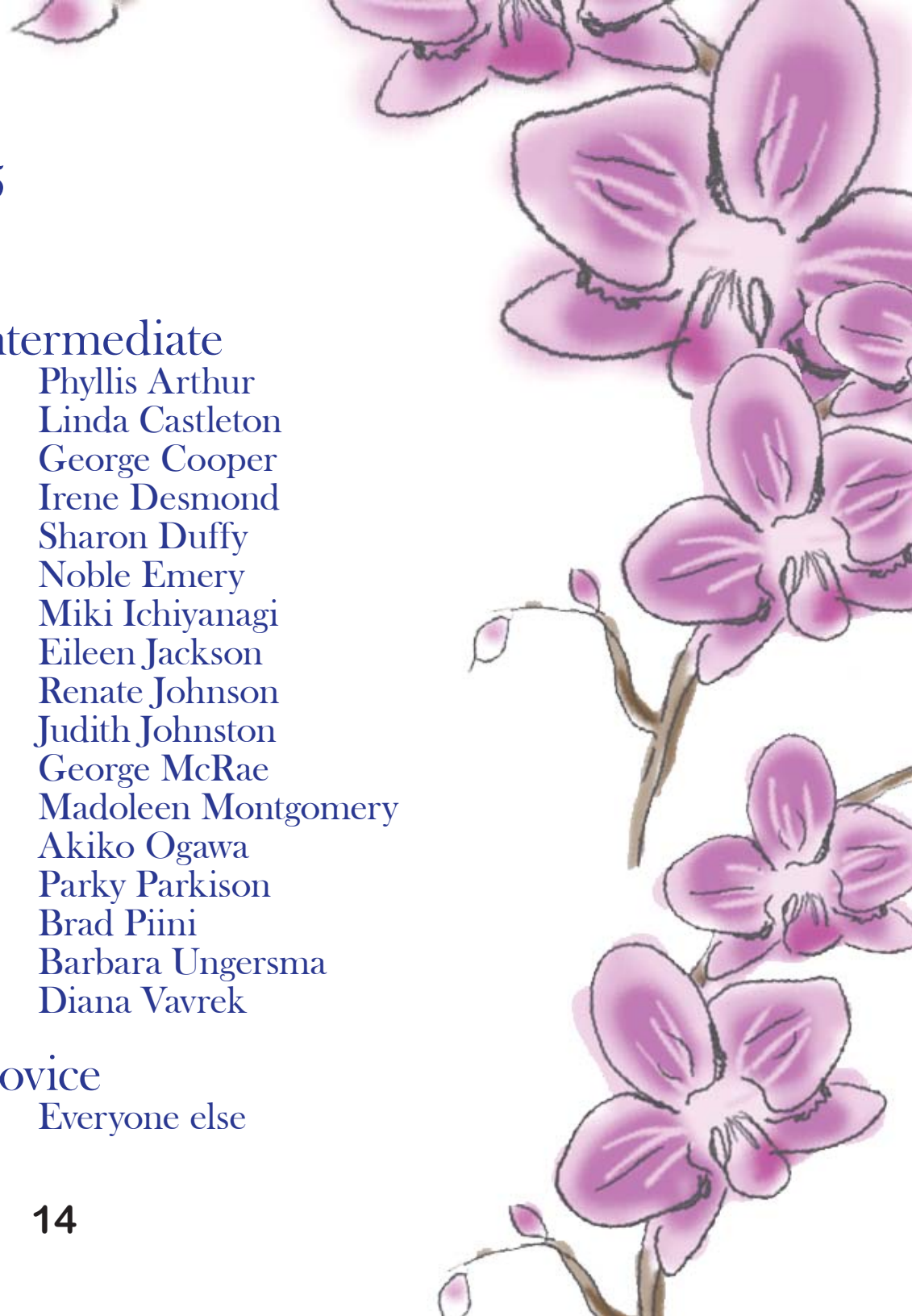
Kathy Barrett  
Cindy Battershall  
Steve Beckendorf  
Jim Chan  
Liz Charlton  
Ken Cook  
Sue Davis  
Mark Dillard  
Cynthia Hill  
Carol Klonowski  
Sung Lee  
Bernice Lindner  
Ted and Nancy McClellan  
Yunor Peralta  
Cheryl Phillipson  
Tom Pickford  
Paul Reeve  
Dave Tomassini  
Jim Wert

## Intermediate

Phyllis Arthur  
Linda Castleton  
George Cooper  
Irene Desmond  
Sharon Duffy  
Noble Emery  
Miki Ichiyanagi  
Eileen Jackson  
Renate Johnson  
Judith Johnston  
George McRae  
Madoleen Montgomery  
Akiko Ogawa  
Parky Parkison  
Brad Piini  
Barbara Ungersma  
Diana Vavrek

## Novice

Everyone else



The California Sierra Nevada Judging Center's web page has been updated with our region's awards including the San Joaquin, Modesto and Sacramento shows, as well as CSNJC monthly awards. Also! Save the date for the 2015 CSNJC Speaker's Day on Saturday, Aug 1st. Although admission fee and speaker & vendor line ups are still being arranged, this year there will be a conservation theme. We've never held a themed day before, so this should be fun.



*Paraphalaenopsis Kimmy*



*Bulb. falcatum v. velutinum*

Awards, images and descriptions can be seen at <http://www.csnjc.org>

Kathy Barrett

# DVOS OFFICERS 2015

PRESIDENT: SUNG LEE

VICE PRESIDENT: YUNOR PERALTA

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: EILEEN JACKSON

SECRETARY: MIKI ICHIYANAGI

TREASURER: NANCY McCLELLAN

BOARD MEMBERS: JUDITH JOHNSTON

JIM WERT

MARCIA HART

ULRIKE AHLBORN

RENATE JOHNSON

DAVID TREBOTICH



MEMBERSHIP: ULRIKE AHLBORN [membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

NEWSLETTER: JAMIE WASSON, LIZ CHARLTON  
[dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)

WEBMASTER: ULRIKE AHLBORN  
[webmaster@dvos.org](mailto:webmaster@dvos.org)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

GREENHOUSE TOURS: EILEEN JACKSON

REFRESHMENTS: BRENDA ADAY & MIKI ICHIYANGI

RAFFLE AND SALES: SUSAN FETTER

JUDGING: LIZ CHARLTON

EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTS: SUNG LEE

LIBRARIAN: PHYLLIS ARTHUR

## COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

### Commercial Plant Services

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

[www.commercialplantservices.com](http://www.commercialplantservices.com)

### D & D Flowers

Dennis Olivas & David Dunn  
169 1st Avenue Daly City,  
CA 94014

By Appointment Only