



# Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.geocities.com/diabloviewos/>

July 2001

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## Program:

### “Zygos Are Easy to Grow”

### Stephen Monkhouse

### Adelaide Orchids, Australia

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#### Meeting Date, Time and Location

**When: Thursday, July 12, 2001**

**7 PM:** Culture session with Vinton Brown “Orchids that need little cooling or heating”

**7:30 PM:** General Meeting

**Where:** Contra Costa Water Dept. Auditorium  
1331 Concord Ave., Concord

**Dinner with Stephen:** 5:30 PM (same day) at the Peppermill, 1100 Concord Ave.  
Call Pauline Brault at (925) 757-9684 if you're interested in attending

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## Upcoming Events:

(topics in parenthesis)

### July

- 12 General meeting,  
Speaker: Stephen Monkhouse
- 19 Board Meeting, Barbara Tague's

### August

- 18 Club BBQ

### September

- 13 General meeting  
Speaker: George Carr

### October

- 11 General meeting.  
Speaker: Weyman Bussey

### November

- 8 General meeting  
Speaker: Francisco Miranda  
(Brazilian species)

### December, 2001

- 13 DVOS Holiday Party

## Letter from the Editor

Hi all. I would like to call your attention to a phenomenon that occurred in last month's newsletter. We in professional journalism circles call it "The Incredible Shrinking Newsletter."

Right now, about five people are providing input to the newsletter. The rest of you, if you have anything remotely related to orchids (or anything else, for that matter) send it to me! Otherwise, I'll be forced to continue to make stuff up.

Thanks!  
Mark

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## AOS Judging Results

Awarded 6/5/01

Paph. delenatii 'Chico's #2' species HCC 77  
**Francisco Baptista**

Masd. coccinea 'Chris' species CCM 85  
**Anna S. Chai**

Disa Bountiful 'Persimmon' (Estelle Yach x Passion) HCC 76  
**Valerie Henderson**

Den. cuthbertsonii 'Red Parrot' species CCM 85  
**Golden Gate Orchids**

Sievekingia reichenbachiana 'Sunset' species CBR (prov)  
**Sunset Orchids**

- Kathy Barrett

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR  
AUGUST NEWSLETTER  
IS WEDNESDAY, JULY 25**

## DVOS STAFF

*President* - Dan Chiappone

*Vice-President* - Pauline Brault

*Secretary* - Karen Moonitz

*Treasurer* - John Chamberlain

*AOS Rep.* - Barbara Tague

*BBQ* - George Kaplan

*Culture Sessions* - Pauline Brault

*Greenhouse Tours* - Katie Quinn

*Historian* - Open

*Indoor/Outdoor Group* - Open

*Librarian* - Phyllis Arthur

*Lights&Equipment* - Juan Bofill

*Membership* - Ulrike Ahlborn

*Newsletter Ads* - Karen Moonitz

*Plant Sales* - Jeanette Bean  
Madge Fordyce

*Raffle/Other sales* - Nancy Pak

*Refreshments* - Brenda Aday

*S.F. Show* - Ron Bettencourt

*Sound System* - Dave Tomassini

*Webmaster* - Nick Doe

*Welcome Hostess* - Madge Fordyce

*Board Members* - Phyllis Arthur; Juan Bofill; Charlotte Leong; Alice & David Tomassini

*Newsletter Editor*

Mark Rotter (925) 833-3787

DVOSnews@home.com

## This Month's Speaker

Stephen Monkhouse is a second generation orchid grower and hybridist. He has been actively involved with the orchid family for some 32 years. His parents pioneered the development in Australia and introduced many people to the beauty of the Cymbidium orchid. During the last 10 years Stephen has given presentations throughout Australia and overseas. He has been involved as a judge, exhibitor and speaker at the Asia Pacific Orchid Conference held in Fukuoka, Japan and also at the WOC in Vancouver. He is also invited to speak at the WOC in Malaysia in 2002. He travels the world and regularly attends shows in Japan, Malaysia, Western Europe and United States. He has contributed articles to publications such as the AOS Bulletin, The Orchid Digest, The Orchid Review, Orchids Australia on Zygopetalums.

He operates Adelaide Orchids with his wife Robyn located in picturesque Woodcroft approximately 45 minutes south of the capital city Adelaide, in South Australia. They specialize in the development of the Zygopetalum genus and are now producing plants for export to many different countries.

For almost 100 years Zygopetalums remained as the forgotten genus with no improvements to change this unique orchid. They now have finally improved this beautiful genus and have a color range from whites to yellows, greens, reds and browns. Other variations include spots and stripes. The plant size has been reduced with the production of more compact plants with shorter narrower leaves. The plants now bloom quicker often twice a year and take less space in the greenhouse.

Along with improved color combinations the fragrance has also been improved, and it is not unusual to have a fragrance resembling, vanilla; sweet green apples; delicate roses; cinnamon; lavender and the list could just keep on going. Plants are more floriferous and bloom much sooner with multiple flower stems per growth. Some plants are able to bloom twice a year.

The new generation Zygopetalum can be called a Zygoneria, or a Hamelwellsara or a Woodwardara, or a Monkhouseara and now even a Stephenara.

Plant culture is simple and the plants can be grown successfully with Cymbidiums sharing similar potting medium and the same fertilizing program. Filtered light from the Cymbidium leaves will help to prevent any leaf burn.

RAFFLE TABLE will be provided by Stephen Monkhouse. He will also bring plants for sale.

- Pauline Brault

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## Culture Session

Vinton Brown, president of the Napa Valley Society will conduct a session on orchids that can be grown with very little cooling or heating. Vinton grows many genera of orchids outdoors in a make-shift shelter while using hardly any energy.

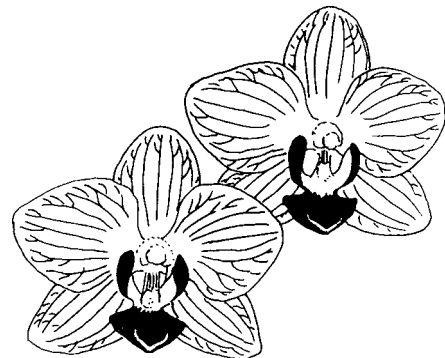
- Pauline Brault

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## Refreshment Corner

Thanks for those who provided refreshments last month, and a reminder for those who signed up for July: **Myra Measells, Karen Moonitz, Patrick Gagne, Naomi Chamberlain, Nat Smith, Nancy Pak, Susan Fetter and James Clements.**

Brenda Aday



# Dennis Olivas - Man of Mystery!

by  
**Alice Tomassini**

Those of you who journeyed to Half Moon Bay on Saturday, June 23, to attend the Greenhouse Tour at D & D Orchids can attest to its outcome.

After enjoying his presentation at the last general meeting, we were all looking forward to seeing his orchids. When we arrived at 10:00 am, the door was wide open, so we all took our time exploring the “jungle” while waiting for Dennis to arrive. (Where was Dennis?)

When it got to be close to 11:00 we began to wonder what was up. I called his home and got the recorder, and as I left a message and was just about to hang up - to our surprise, Dennis picked up the phone!!!

“Dennis, we’re all out here in Half Moon Bay waiting for you,” I said.

All Dennis could say was:

“Oh my God, I thought it was on *Sunday*;  
Oh my God, I’m so sorry.  
Oh, my God, Oh my God.”

I told him we were all going to take home an orchid from his greenhouse - (only kidding). To make it up to us, he said if we give him the name of the plants we’re interested in, he would sell us the plant or a piece of it “*for a really good price.*”

There was no mystery, just a case of middle-age memory loss. We forgive you Dennis, but remember ~

**The Barbeque/Auction is “Saturday” - Aug. 18**

## A Plea for Housing

Our society will be bringing out-of-town speakers for your enjoyment during the months of July, September, October and November. Please see our schedule for the year in this newsletter. These speakers travel among three other Bay area societies to present their programs. During this time-frame we need to house them and usually their spouses/guests. We are asking for volunteers to house them for one or two nights (second Wednesday and possibly Thursday of the month) during their stay. If we cannot find volunteers the society will have to incur the cost of placing them in hotels, etc. This can be very costly. If you think you can accommodate some of them please let me know the dates/nights you can do so. Contact me (925)-943-2022 or e-mail me at Dchiapej@aol.com. I'm certain the speakers will be very appreciative and I know the society definitely will.

Dan Chiappone

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## Membership News

**Catherine Gardner** and **Jinnie & Denyu Tom** all from Walnut Creek joined DVOS in June. Let’s give them a warm welcome. The guest at our June general meeting was **Gloria de Forest** from Port Costa.

A note to our guests, who attended our general meeting prior to April 2001, please be aware that this will be your last newsletter. If you would like to continue receiving it and enjoy the meetings and participate in the club’s benefits, send in your application and dues before the end of this month or just bring them to the next general meeting.

Please inform me of any changes in address, phone/ fax number or e-mail address so I can keep the data current. You can contact me by e-mail. [ulrieka@usa.net](mailto:ulrieka@usa.net) or call me during the day at (510) 741-6762 or at (925) 830-8830 in the evening.

Ulrike Ahlborn  
Membership

# Club Competition Results

1st Place

*Brassia Rex 'pieper'* -

**Ron Bettencourt**

2nd Place

*None (mistakenly awarded to an ineligible plant)*

3rd Place

*Epidendrum Costa Rica* -

**Juan Bofill**

Look What I Bloomed For The Very First Time!  
Ribbon

*Phalaenopsis Ever Spring King* -

**Linda Daraskavich**

Lancer Smith Medallion

*Broughtonia Sanguinea* - grown on a  
windowsill by **Karen Moonitz**

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## How Are the Club Winners Selected??

Since we have many new members to the Diablo View Orchid Society a review of the criteria and procedures for awarding ribbons for plants brought in for Show and Tell is appropriate. This really is a fun portion of the program and folks shouldn't be intimidated if asked to select awards.

Pick the flower(s) you'd like to take home with you. Its really no different from shopping! Feelings never get hurt. And any controversies are easily settled by diplomatic processes such as counting potatoes; eenie, meenie, miney, moe; or paper, rock, scissors.

Handout for Orchid Judging - abbreviated. Full handout can be seen on the webpage.

1) Judges:

Three (3) judges will be selected from the rank and file membership present at any given meeting.

2) Criteria

The criteria for judging Show-and-Tell Table plants will be as follows:

Pick a Pretty Flower.

3) Ribbons

Ribbons will be awarded to orchids that fit the above criteria in 1st, 2nd and 3rd place (blue, red and white, respectively). Frank Fordyce requests that his orchids be excluded from judging because he is a professional hybridizer. Plants brought in by that night's Speaker are to be excluded from ribbon judging.

4) Awards

The Lancer P. Smith Medallion is given to the "small orchids" which are easily overlooked in judging larger, more floriferous orchids.

The Look What I Bloomed For The Very First Time Ribbon will be given to an orchid that has been bloomed for a new grower for the very first time. These are separately grouped and can be considered for regular ribbon judging.

5) Bribes can be accepted.

6) Double Awards

An orchid can win in two categories, but it is hoped the judges will spread the ribbons around to the most orchids as possible. Use your best judgment and spirit of fair play.

- Kathy Barrett



## Photos from the Club Competition

(for color images go to the DVOS website - Photos courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn)



1st Place

*Brassia Rex 'pieper'* -  
**Ron Bettencourt**

3rd Place

*Epidendrum Costa Rica* -  
**Juan Bofill**





Lancer Smith Medallion  
*Broughtonia Sanguinea*  
**Karen Moonitz**

Look What I Bloomed For The Very  
First Time! Ribbon  
*Phalaenopsis Ever Spring King* -  
**Linda Daraskavich**



**Livermore**

\*The Orchid Ranch\*;  
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659  
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis  
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiopedilums

**Oakland**

\*Orchids Fiori D'Amore\*  
Paolo & Nina DiCandia  
510-530-4884 (by appt. only)

**Hawaii**

\*Yamada's Orchid Nursery\*  
Allen Yamada  
5087-A Kawaihau Rd.  
Kapaa, HI 96746

**Yuba City**

\*Orchid Obsession\*  
Brent & Toni Cushenbery  
1477 Oswald Rd., Yuba City, CA 95993  
916-673-6763

**Walnut Creek**

\*Orchid Gallery\*  
Jing Ho  
1501 N. California Blvd.

**Martinez**

\*MGM Orchids\*  
Mariano G Morales  
718 Main Street  
Martinez, CA. 94553

**San Leandro**

\*The Paph House\*  
Francisco Baptista & Fred Jernigan  
375 Warwick Avenue, San Leandro, CA  
510/ 635-2845, (by appt. only)

**Concord**

\*San Miguel Greenhouses\*  
Pamela Leaver  
936 San Miguel Rd.  
925-798-0476 (by appt. only)

**Concord**

Nathalie Smith  
1507 Lavetta Way; 925-685-8904  
(by appt. only); orchid supplies

**Danville**

\*Commercial Plant Services\*  
David & Alice Tomassini  
586 El Capitan Dr.; 925-837-1780

**Half Moon Bay**

\*D & D Flowers\*  
Dennis Olivas; 62 Oceanside Dr.  
650-994-7465 (call in advance)



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