



Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.diabloviewos.org>

November 2002

It's Holiday Party Time!! (see enclosed map for location; for what to bring, see Pg. 4)

Meeting Date, Time and Location

When: Thursday, Dec. 12, 2002

Party starts @ 7:00 PM

Where: The Bridge Center,
2219 Morello Ave., Pleasant Hill

Upcoming Events:

(topics in parenthesis)

December

12 General meeting

DVOS Holiday Party @ The Bridge Center,
2219 Morello Ave., Pleasant Hill

January

9 General meeting

Speaker: Susan Wedegaerten 'De-mystifying the
AOS judging program'

May 2003: Roy Tokunaga of H & R Nurseries
'Everything you wanted to know about
Dendrobiums'

June 2003: Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids
'How to Get the Most Out of Your Plants'

Sept. 2003: Gene Crocker of Carter & Holmes
Orchid Nurseries: 'Current Trends in Art Shade
Cattleyas (including the influence of certain species)'

Message from the President

Well, this is my last president's message. The year has gone by quickly and we were able to accomplish most of the things we set out to do.

All of our special events were successful. From the S.F. Orchid Show to the orchid sales at the Fordyces, the BBQ Picnic Auction and the greenhouse tour. Our membership is up and our treasury balance is roughly the same as when we started last January. Thanks to the dedication of the Officers and Board, Staff members and volunteers who all made it happen.

A special thank you to Charlotte Leong, our outgoing Vice President, for all of her hard work of scheduling the speakers for our meetings. And to Mark Rotter for being Newsletter Editor for the last 2 years. I don't think it could have been done any better. "Great Job" to a hands-on couple.

This year has also been one of loss with the passing of three of our longtime members ~ John Chamberlain, Bob Hilson and Tom Bean. They won't be forgotten.

I am confident that the new officers and board members will do as good or better job as the outgoing members. As for the officers and board members who are staying on ~ thank you, thank you.

Looking forward to our Holiday meeting this month. See you all there.

David Tomassini

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR
NOV. NEWSLETTER
IS FRIDAY, DEC. 27**

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DVOS STAFF

President - David Tomassini

Vice-President - Charlotte Leong

Secretary - Alice Tomassini

Treasurer - Barbara Tague

AOS Rep. - Barbara Tague

BBQ - Sue Fordyce

Culture Sessions - Charlotte Leong

Greenhouse Tours - Linda Daraskavich

Historian - Nathalie Smith

Indoor/Outdoor Group - Open

Librarian - Phyllis Arthur

Lights&Equipment - Juan Bofill, Parky Parkison

Membership - Ulrike Ahlborn

Newspaper Ads - Karen Moonitz

Raffle/Other sales - Nancy Pak

Refreshments - Linda Castleton, Tonky Bofill

S.F. Show - Ron Bettencourt

Sound System - Dave Tomassini

Webmaster - Nick Doe

Welcome Hostess - Madge Fordyce

Board Members - Juan Bofill, Linda Daraskavich, Nancy Pak, Parky Parkison, Mark Rotter

Newsletter Editor

Mark Rotter (925) 833-0840

DVOSnews@attbi.com

Au Revoir

As you may have read in Dave Tomassini's message, this will be my last newsletter. It's been a heck of a lot of fun, and I am glad it has given me the opportunity to meet much of the membership. Your next newsletter editor will be Kathy Barrett (thanks, Kathy!). She has been a member of the society for quite some time and will do an excellent job as editor. Until further notice, please send all newsletter submissions to her at Mormodes@hotmail.com. I also want to thank the board for all their submissions, without which this newsletter would have been a lot thinner and not nearly as interesting. Finally, I want to thank Dave for his kind words in his message. As far as Charlotte and I being a "hands-on" couple, gee Dave, I didn't think we were that obvious during the meetings...

Keep on growing,
Mark

This Month - Entertainment, Contest, and Gift Exchange

In the spirit of the holidays we have brought back, by popular demand, Sue Fordyce of "Fordyce Orchids" for our holiday entertainment. Sue will grace us with her popular 'Orchid' themed skits and humorous poetry. A favorite tradition with DVOS, you'll be glad you joined us in the festivities.

There will also be the 'BEST DECORATED ORCHID' contest. Decorate your orchid in the spirit of the holiday season. The winning plant will receive a nice prize.

Everyone should bring an orchid or orchid related item for the gift exchange. The value should be around \$10. If you don't have an orchid to exchange, then there are other items like orchid fertilizer, an orchid book, orchid stationary, bamboo stakes. If you can't bring a gift, don't let that stop you from joining us. We will have some extra gifts available.

Culture Corner

Last month fellow DVOS member and future DVOS VP Sybil McGowan gave us a brief overview of several types of medias ranging from bark and coconut products to artificial media such as the dyna rock. She briefly discussed the relative water retention capabilities of each type and their different characteristics.

There will be no culture session next month, but in lieu of this I want to report the results of my latest investigation. A few months ago I asked for people to send me their solutions to protecting their orchids from extremes in temperature during a power outage. These are some solutions that our members have used .

PROPANE GENERATOR

Advantages - 1. Depending on the size you get, this will run your fans, heater, or conversely it can run your swamp cooler. 2. You can keep it running indefinitely by refueling with propane.

Disadvantages - 1. You have to be home to turn it on when the power goes out. 2. It creates a lot of noise and exhaust. 3. Cost depends on the size of the unit but starts around \$300. 4. They are relatively large, the smallest that will run a swamp cooler takes up about as much space as a large trash can.

ELECTRIC INVERTER

The set-up is amazingly simple. This system consists of an electric inverter connected to a 12 volt battery. You can use a golf cart battery for this purpose or there are specially made batteries to be used with the inverter. The latter batteries may offer longer running times. You plug your temperature controlling devices into the inverter and plug the inverter into your electric socket. When there is an electric outage, the inverter automatically draws power from the battery.

Advantages - 1. Will automatically provide power when the main system is down. So you don't have to be home. 2. Provides a clean and quiet source of electric power. 3. The device is small and takes up about 2 square feet on a shelf. 4. Golf cart batteries are relatively cheap if you have to replace it ~ \$100.

Disadvantages - 1. There is only enough power to run a few hours. But this may get you through a temporary

Have Dinner with the Speaker (in January)!

Due to the December pot-luck, we will not have a 'Dinner with the Speaker' this month. Join us in January when we will have dinner with AOS judge Susan Wedegaertner.

The Holiday Party is here!

Our annual Holiday Party will be held on Thursday, December 12th, at 7:00 pm. Once again we call on all you excellent gourmet chefs to bring a dish for 10-12 servings, according to the 1st letter of your last name:

A-G	Casseroles
H-L	Appetizer
M-Q	Salads
R-Z	Desserts

Please bring your own plates and utensils, additional fare will be provided by the club. The "Best Holiday-Decorated Orchid" and gift exchange will complete the evening. Please try your best to attend.

Last Month's Presentation

Last month world renowned author Dr. Eric Christenson discussed 'Maxillarias'. His presentation ranged from the taxonomic characteristics and geographic distribution, to the variety of species in this genera. Dr. Christenson graciously autographed his books for our members.

In January AOS judge and chairman of our Pacific Central Judging Center, Susan Wedegaerten, will share with us an inside view of the orchid judging program.

2003 DVOS Officer Candidates

President: Linda Daraskavich

Vice-President & Culture Sessions: Sybil Renee McGowan

Secretary: Alice Tomassini (incumbent)

Treasurer: Barbara Tague (incumbent)

Membership: Ulrike Ahlborn (incumbent)

Newsletter: Kathy Barrett

Sound System: Dave Tomassini (incumbent)

Lights & Equipment: Dave Tomassini & Parky Parkinson (incumbent)

Indoor/Outdoor Group: Open

Refreshments: Esther Yee & Tonky Bofill (Incumbent)

Webmaster: Nick Doe (Incumbent)

Newspaper Announcements/Advertising:

Karen Moonitz (Incumbent)

Welcome Hostess: Naomi Chamberlain & Madge Fordyce (incumbent)

Greenhouse Tours: Open

Librarian: Phyllis Arthur (Incumbent)

Raffle & other Sales: Nancy Pak (Incumbent)

Historian: Nathalie Smith (Incumbent)

San Francisco Show Chairman: Ron Bettencourt (Incumbent)

Board Members: Mark Rotter (Incumbent)

Parky Parkinson (Incumbent)

Juan Bofill (incumbent)

Brad Piini

Naomi Chamberlain

DVOS Show Chair: Juan Bofill

Co-Chair: David Tomassini

P.O. Box Monitors: Juan Bofill and David Tomassini

Results from the DVOS Competition

1st Place

Jack Isacoff

Lc Angel Love "Pink Panther"

2nd Place

Dick Emory

Br. Amazonica.

3rd Place

Parky Parkison

Bllra Peggy Ruth Carpenter "Morning Joy"

Look What I Bloomed For the First Time

Katie Pleasance

Paph Gloria Mangle

Lancer Smith Award

Karen Moonitz

Muracyllium windlandii

Many thanks to our judges **Dave Altman, Giovanna Deem, and Phyllis Arthur**. The editor assumes no responsibility for spelling errors...

Membership News

DVOS has 103 members again thanks to **Sharon Duffy** and **Diana Vavrek**, both from Pleasant Hill, who joined in November. Let's give them a warm welcome. Guests at the November meeting were Takatumi Okajima and Jeffrey Walpole from Vallejo and Paula and Leslie Tint from Walnut Creek.

A note to our guests who attended our general meetings prior to October 2002. 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.

Yes, it is membership renewal time again!

The following members have paid the dues for the year 2003:

Jeanette Bean

Jill Chambers

Sharon Duffy

Michael Gallagher

Marcia & Barry Hart

Gabrielle Henderson

Jing Ho

Tomi Mathews

Gene & Akiko Ogawa

Diana Schneider

Bob & Mike Solari

Dave & Alice Tomassini

Esther Yee

Mercedes Bell

Giovanna Deem

Susan Fetter

Catherine Gardner

Donna Haslow

Jeanne Hilson

Jack Isacoff

Karen & Ken Moonitz

Dennis Olivas

Betsy Sings

Rita Tischler

Diana Vavrek

Lifetime Members:

Pauline Brault

Dick Emory

Bernice Lindner

Nathalie Smith

Bea & Noble Emery

Frank & Madge Fordyce

Floyd & Marlene Lundquist

Bob & Mary Lou Van Galder

If you do NOT find your name in the list above, your membership for 2003 is due.

Please send me a check (\$ 15 for one year, \$ 25 for two years, \$ 10 for out of state members) or bring it to the General Meeting in December or January.

For all Members:

I want to update my data. Please fill out the attached **DVOS Membership** form.

You can either bring it to the next meeting, send it to me by e-mail to: membership@DVOS.org or by snail mail:

Ulrike Ahlborn

117 Laredo Court

San Ramon. CA 94583

Ulrike Ahlborn

Membership

'Culture Corner,' from pg. 3

outage. 2. The 12 volt battery can run fans, or a small swamp cooler, but is not enough to run an electric heater. 3. The cheapest inverter we could find cost around \$400 -\$500 for a model made by Tripp Lite.

ATTACH GREENHOUSE TO SIDE OF HOUSE THAT HAS A WINDOW

This can generally be done with a small greenhouse (gh). You will want to waterproof the outer wall of your house. According to Kelly Moore Paints, a semi gloss latex paint (like you use in bathrooms and kitchens) is sufficient to protect your home from relative humidities of 60% to 90%. The concept here is to open a house window to let the air from the house help heat/cool the gh in times of a power outage. The large volume of air from the house will help avoid the outside temperature extremes. The relative effectiveness of this method depends on how well you've sealed your gh. We don't recommend this method for regularly heating/cooling your gh since there are articles that say that this will cause undo strain on your heating/cooling system.

Advantages- 1. This will work when you are not home if leave a window partially open during those times you expect temperature extremes or if you go on vacation. 2. No additional equipment to store. 3. You have the benefit of enjoying your plants from the house as you look out the window. 4. An added benefit is, if you water your plants too late in the day, you can blow air from the house with a fan into the gh and this will help evaporate the water off the plants.

Disadvantages - 1. Security may be an issue and you will want a lock on your gh. 2. You will have a drop in the humidity, but this can be minimized with misters that operate on batteries. In the one set-up I've seen, even without misters, the humidity typically stayed above 60%. 3. This method is not feasible for larger ghs.

COVERING PLANTS

You can help reduce the cold by covering your plants with burlap or some of the new plant protection materials such as Remy™

Advantage - 1. The cost of the material is relatively inexpensive compared to some of the systems described above. 2. You can reuse the material for several years. 3. In the case of materials like Remy™, you can put it on your plants early in the season and leave them on since the material will transmit light.

Disadvantages - 1. The burlap has to be removed during the day to let the plants get some light. This creates more labor. 2. Although the manufacturer of Remy™ says that water can penetrate the material, it will last longer if you don't repeatedly get it wet. So you may need to adjust the material when watering. 3. This is more of a method for protection from cold temperatures and won't protect against extreme heat. 4. It may not be sufficient protection if the temperature drops to 20°F. 5. The weight of the material may break spikes.

WATERING TO PREVENT FREEZING

One member has used a continuous sprinkler on her plants to prevent freezing. The plants are in a covered shelter and the sprinkler is left running to constantly wet the plants.

Advantage 1. A quick and simple method. 2. Most people have portable sprinklers and if not, they are inexpensive to purchase.

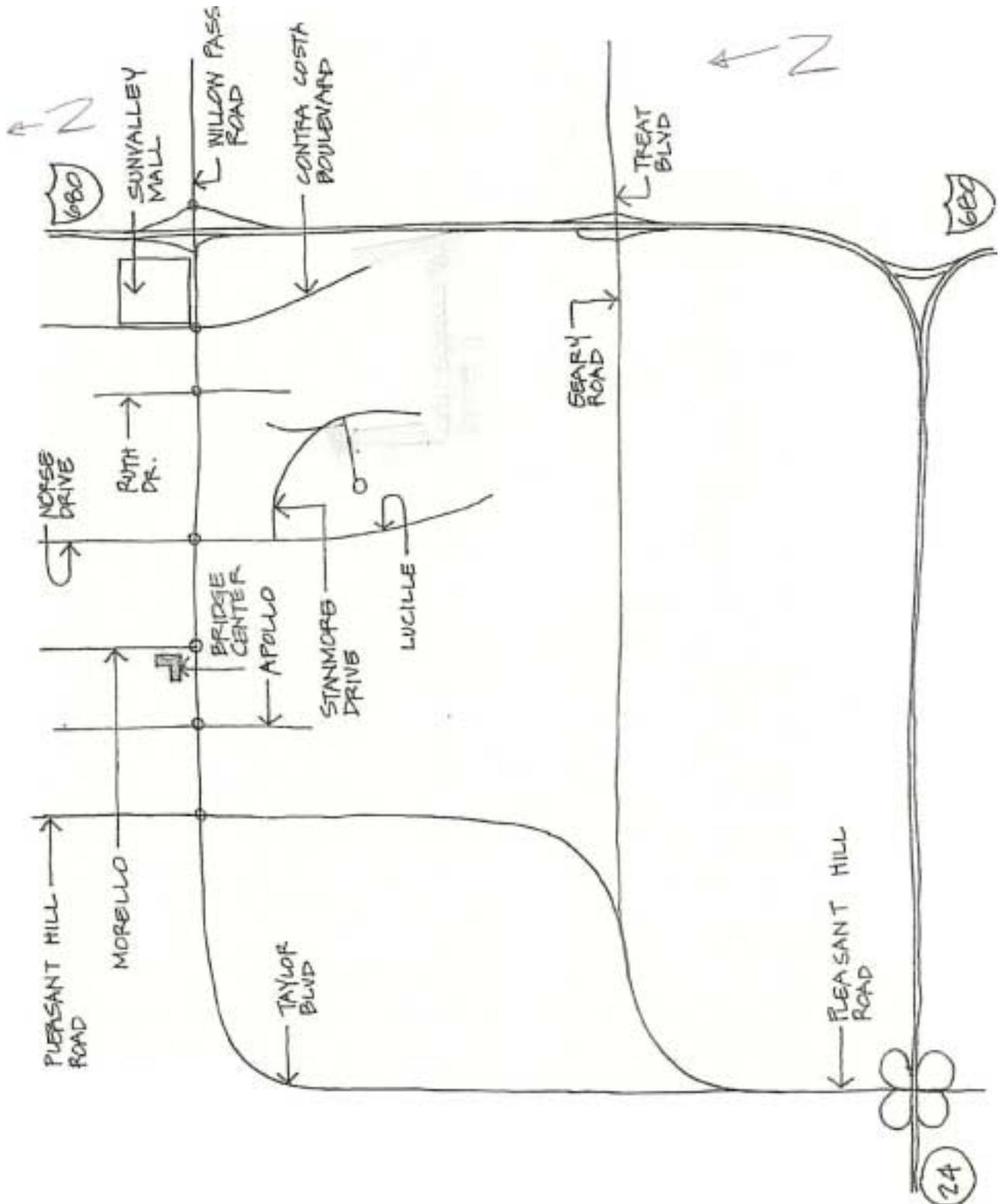
Disadvantages 1. You'll want to use this method only when your plants are in danger of freezing. 2. You have to be careful to avoid subsequent rot and fungus. So keep the fans blowing once the power comes back on. 3. This method uses a lot of water and will increase your water bill.

Hope these suggestions help you figure out a way to keep your plants protected. And with that, I say goodbye - it's been a fun year. Charlotte



Sue Fordyce and Kathy Barrett regale us with one of their wonderful songs - from last year's party.

Map to Bridge Center



Livermore

The Orchid Ranch
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiodeliums

Oakland

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

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.

Vallejo

MGM Orchids
Mariano G Morales
(707) 557-2716 (by appt. only)

San Leandro

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

Lafayette

Diablo Disas
Michael Gallagher
3 Maloyan Lane
925-283-8450 (by appt. only)

Concord

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

Danville

Commercial Plant Services
David & Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.; 925-736-7630

Half Moon Bay

D & D Flowers
Greenhouse located in Half Moon Bay
(925) 969-1246 (by appt. only)

Australia

Adelaide Orchids
Stephen and Robin Monkhouse
16 Pine Road
Woodcroft, South Australia 5162



Diablo View Orchid Society
Mark Rotter, editor
7489 Hillsboro Ave.
San Ramon, CA 94583-3509

Single/Family \$15 (___), Two-years \$25(___), Life \$300 (___)
(Please note, all memberships run January 1 to December 31)

PLEASE PRINT

New (___), Renewal (___)
Date:_____

Principal Member:_____AOS Member Y/N(___)

Resident/Family Member:_____

Mailing Address (Must fill in)

Ad-
dress:_____

City:_____ State:_____ ZIP:_____

Home Phone:(_____)_____-_____ Home Fax (Opt): (_____)_____-_____

Work (Opt): (_____)_____-_____ Car/Cellular (Opt):(_____)_____-_____

E-Mail address:_____

Web Page:_____

Occupation:

Cultivation (Check all that apply):

Indoor (___), Outdoor (___), Greenhouse (___), Hobbyist (___), Commercial (___)

Please send to: **Diablo View Orchid Society**
c/o Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Court
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116

Membership@DVOS.org

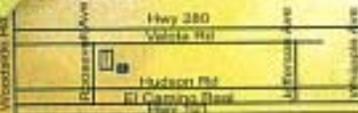
Peninsula Orchid Society Annual Show and Sale

Orchid Addiction!

Saturday Jan 4 2003 10 am-5pm
Sunday Jan 5 2003 10 am-5 pm
Admission: \$5 General \$3 Seniors, Disabled and Children 12-18

Community Activities Building
1400 Roosevelt Ave
Redwood City

Information: 650-365-1765 <http://penorchidsoc.org/>
Supported in part by a grant from the Redwood City Civic Cultural Commission



Watercolor by Carrie Drilling