

Diablo View Orchid Society

<http://www.dvos.org>

a 501c3 corporation

Christmas Party! *December 11, 2003*

Time to get this party
started = **7:00PM!**

This meeting is held at

The Bridge Center

2216 Morello Drive
Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523
(same place as last year)

Featuring:

Fabulous Food,
Fun Friendships

and a

Gift Exchange!

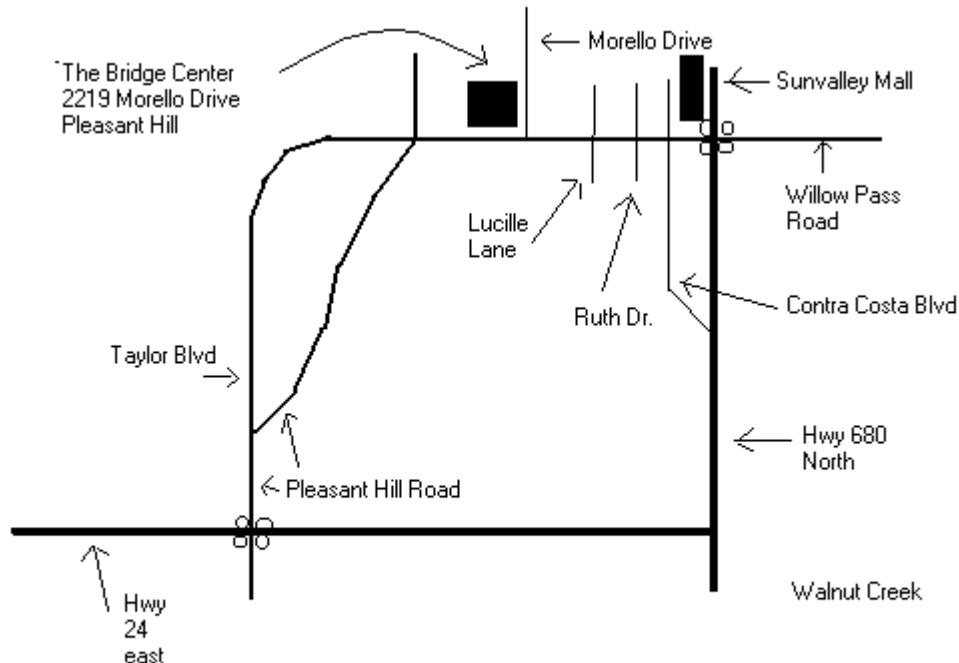
~PLUS!~

Don't forget the \$50.00

Prize for

'Best Decorated Orchid'

Last 2003 Board Meeting to follow regular meeting.



Christmas Party Food Schedule

The Christmas Party features entrees and beverages paid for by the Society, usually turkey, honey-baked ham and other delectables. Side dishes are provided by the membership, similar to the BBQ assignments.

A-H brings side dishes

I –R brings salad

S-Z brings dessert

These are suggestions only. If you have a new favorite recipe and want to bring that please call Tonky Bofill (925) 609-8443 to switch, that way we won't get swamped with too many of one sort of food - like we did at the BBQ... hint hint.

Remember to bring your plates & cutlery. The society will provide napkins and plastic cups.



DVOS Election Results, 2004 DOERS

President: **Dennis Olivas**

Vice- President: **Kathy Barrett**

Secretary: **Alice Tomassini**

Treasurer: **Barbara Tague**

Board Members: **Sharon Duffy**

Dave Tomassini

Parky Parkison

Brad Piini

Jill Chambers

Membership: **Ulrike Ahlborn**

Greenhouse Tours: **Joe Grillo**

Refreshments: **David Dunn**

Hostesses: **Sharon Duffy and Jill Chambers**

Raffles and Sales: **Esther Yee**

Librarian: **Phyllis Arthur**

Historian: **Nathalie Smith**

Newsletter: **Kathy Barrett** (newsletter@dvos.org)

Webmaster: **Nick Doe** (webmaster@dvos.org)



Gift Exchange/Orchid Decoration

Every Christmas the DVOS has a prize for the best orchid or orchid basket decorated in a Christmas (Holiday) theme. **\$50 SMACKEROOS.** That's right. Enough to pay for your 2004 DVOS membership dues with a few bucks left over!

But WAIT!! THERE'S MORE! Everyone coming to the Xmas party brings in an orchid or orchid related item for the gift exchange table. They get a raffle ticket that allows them to pick from the abundance of gifts when their ticket number is called out. I know I'm stating this badly. You'll all have to come and see for yourselves how it works!

November Show Table Results

1. Blc. Goldenzelle 'Lemon Chiffon' – Dave Tomassini
2. Blc. Koolau King – Joe Grillo
3. Phrag. Sergeant Dean – Joe Grillo (but this could be Phrag Aker's Superstar (Jason Fischer x Eric Young)

Lancer Smith Medallion:

Den. lamellatum - Barbara Tague

LWIBFTVFT :

Mtssa. Olemec, 'Kanno' – Eileen Jackson

The Judges flew out the back door before we could catch their names, but they left behind this silver bullet. Or so say Akiko Ogawa and Fumi Ninomiya.

AOS Awards – November

San Francisco – 11/4/03

- Masdevallia glandulosa 'Golden Gate', species, AM 80 Exhibited by Golden Gate Orchids
- Pleione maculata 'Snow White', species, CCM 85, Exhibited by Walter M. Shinn
- Slc. Sierra Doll (C. coccinea X Slc Pink Doll) Exhibited by Echo Valley Orchids (Jan speaker!)

Oakland – 11/17/03

- Paph. gratixianum, species. HCC 77, Exhibited by Carson Barnes

<http://www.aospacificcentral.org>

By Popular Request: Jerry's Grow Address

Jerry's Grow
492 Sapena Court
Santa Clara, CA 95054
(650) 968-4708

jrodder1@aol.com

<http://www.wundergrow.com/index.htm>

2004's Fearless Leader

Taking the DVOS where it has never gone before.



EL PRESIDENTÉ

Shamelessly Stolen From the Internet*

(*used with permission – Geoff posted this at OrchidSafari)

Author Geoff Stocker is by profession a forester and has worked in Papua New Guinea as an administrator, teacher and forest management researcher.

Most of the trees that are being felled in Papua New Guinea contain epiphytic orchids but there are no local markets for them and because the provisions of CITES makes it impossible for them to be exported. They are left to rot where they fall.

But the interesting (and disgusting) fact is that an average of 3 million cubic metres (about 40 million board ft) of logs were exported each year. This would have been cut from about 1 million trees with many additional, mainly smaller trees destroyed during the harvesting operation (perhaps as many as 10 times the number exported).

Most of the timber exported ultimately ends up in Japan as plywood for the building industry. The plywood is used one time for concrete forms and then destroyed. How's that for conservation?

Website News

We're approaching 10,000 visitors on the website, so if you haven't looked recently, check us out. There's a lot of pictures of DVOS members' plants – click on the 'Orchid Gallery' link in the left-hand column.

We're hovering around #20 on the OrchidWire (www.orchidwire.com) for all orchid related sites worldwide and the #1 website for US organizations! Orchidwire.com is a great resource for finding websites related to orchids, so check them out and why not vote for us while you're there. You may have noticed that the society's website was down for a couple of weeks at the end of October. We originally registered diabloviewos.org and parked our website with FeaturePrice.com. When they started having problems, I moved the site, registered a new name, dvos.org, and tried to transfer the name registration for diabloviewos.org. FeaturePrice seemed unwilling or unable to help me so when the name expired at the end of October, diabloviewos.org stopped working. Eventually after many emails and phone calls and with the help of dotregister.com we're up and running again. It's worth remembering that we have both names just in case.

When we were having trouble, I tried emailing everyone to tell them to use dvos.org, I would guess about of the third of the emails bounced. If you didn't get an email from me, it means that we probably have an old address in our member's database so please send Ulrike or me and email so we can correct the database in time for the roster.

--Nick Doe--

webmaster@dvos.org

YOUR DVOS MEMBERSHIP IS ABOUT TO EXPIRE!!!

To renew your membership in DVOS, please return the form on the back page of this newsletter along with your check for one or two year's dues.

Checks should be made out to:
Diablo View Orchid Society.

Please mail them to the Membership chairman at the address listed below the form.

The date on this newsletter's mailing label is the date your dues have been paid through. So if it says '2003' you need to pay for 2004! Membership expires Jan 1, 2004, so send your check to Ulrike!

Diablo View Orchid Society

c/o Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Court
San Ramon, CA 94583-2116

Membership@DVOS.org

Catasetums: Soon to be America's Favorite Genus

Some experts say there are over 130 species in the genus *Catasetum*. This number may include some natural hybrids as well as confusion by botanists and taxonomists. Their homeland extends from Mexico to the Andes in South America. *Catasetums* offer an astonishing array of flower shapes, even on the same plant. Occasionally a single plant will have male, female and bisexual flowers at the same time, all vastly different. The male flowers contain a wishbone shaped antennae, which when touched shoots out the pollen mass with great force. The flying pollen mass contains a quick drying glue which attaches the mass to the back of a large, strong bee whose job it is to find a female flower of the same species. Sound complicated? It is! These may be the most highly evolved plants in existence. Even the name *catasetum* is a boggle of two languages: *Cata*, Greek, means down and *seta*, Latin, means bristles. The description refers to the antennae in the flower that is the trigger for firing the pollen. This shooting out of the pollen is certainly one of the most dramatic mechanical displays in the plant world. The flower dies within a day feeling it has done its job.

The plants are deciduous and lose their leaves in the fall. Fall is the time that understanding the conditions in the plant's natural habitat is important for successful culture. *Catasetum* species come from conditions ranging from long dry spell to no dry spell. This information is easily obtained from the book **The World of *Catasetums*** by Arthur Holst, which is **available** at the DVOS library and the AOS bookstore. Species from dry spell areas should be kept dry from after the leaves fall off until new growth starts in spring. Wet causes them to rot. If repotting or dividing a dry species, de-pot, cut off the roots and store the pseudobulbs in a dry place until the new roots are about an inch long in the spring. Then repot. Wet species can use the same routine but the plants may be kept in the growing area and watered as usual. Please note that some *catasetums* bloom after the leaves fall off and cutting those roots is a bad idea. For potting use a standard cattleya mix in plastic pots. After growth starts in the spring (wet season) the plants should receive lots of water and fertilizer. In the wild *Catasetums* grow on palm trees or dead trees, saprophytic. They are also lithophytic in nature. Plants tolerate anything from bright sun to moderate shade. Lower light generally produces more of the desirable male flowers. Female flowers are all

somewhat similar across the genus and do not have the neat pollen-firing mechanism (no pollen). Snails and mites are especially fond of *catasetums*. The genus is also susceptible to the usual orchid viruses and diseases.

Catasetum species *pileatum* and *discolor* are now in bloom. *Pileatum* is widely considered one of the prettiest of the genus and is the national flower of Venezuela. *Pileatum* is also much used in hybridization.

Other interesting genera in the subtribe *Catasetinae* are *Mormodes* (the Goblin Orchid) *Cycnoches* (the Swan Orchid) *Clowesia* and *Dresseleria*.

Happy Growing

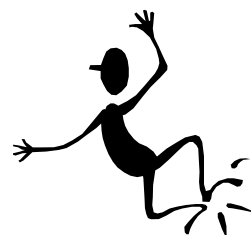
Don Carpenter
President Deerfield Beach Orchid Society
Reprinted with permission

Membership News

New members joined DVOS since September: Let's give a warm welcome to **Joe Garcia** from Walnut Creek, **Chari Manansala** from Danville and **Eileen Jackson** from Vallejo.

A note to our guests who attended our general meetings prior to October 2003: 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 or bring them to the next general meeting.

Ulrike Ahlborn,
Membership Chair
Phone 510.741.6762
Membership@DVOS.org



Local Vendors

Livermore

The Orchid Ranch

Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659

<http://www.fordyceorchids.com>

Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis

Tonkins Orchids – Paphiodeilums

Oakland

Orchids Fiori D. Amore

Paolo & Nina DiCandia

510-530-4884 (by appt. only)

Walnut Creek

Orchid Gallery

Jing Ho

1501 N. California Blvd.

Vallejo

MGM Orchids Mariano G Morales

(707) 557-2716 (by appt. only)

San Francisco

White Oak Orchids www.whiteoakorchids.com

324 Havelock St (behind SFCC)

415-584-8767 (by appt. only)

Lafayette

Diablo Disas <http://www.disas.com>

Michael Gallagher

3 Maloyan Lane

925-283-8450 (by appt. only)

Half Moon Bay

D & D Flowers

Greenhouse located in Half Moon Bay

(925) 969-1246 (by appt. only)

Australia

Adelaide Orchids <http://www.adelaideorchids.com>

Stephen and Robin Monkhouse

16 Pine Road

Woodcroft, South Australia 5162

The Paph House

OPEN HOUSE SALE!!

SATURDAY DECEMBER 6TH 8AM to 5PM.

375 Warwick Ave, San Leandro, Ca 94577

(510) 635-2845

Call for directions

Featuring Multi-Floral Paphs, Complex Paphs, seedlings, species, hybrids and divisions. Miltoniopsis divisions and seedlings. Many other genera for sale and Clivias.

Diablo View Orchid Society

Kathy Barrett, ed.

Newsletter@dvos.org

**DIABLO VIEW ORCHID SOCIETY
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

**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)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

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

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

E-Mail address: _____

Web Page: _____

Profession: _____

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