

Diablo View Takes Top Honors at the Pacific Orchid Exposition

The DVOS display got the Best Exhibit by a Visiting Society plus \$1000 prize money, Best Exhibit Illustrating Show Theme, & Orchid Digest Trophy. Results for individual awards:

- *Novice division*: Best Paph/Phrag (Phrag. Don Wimber) & Best Cat (Hknsa. Sogo Doll 'Little Angel') both exhibited by **Joe Grillo**. Best Den (Den. Elfin Charm) exhibited by **Gene Ogawa**.
- *Intermediate division*: Best Den, & Best of show for a Den. (Den. mimminimees), & Best Paph/Phrag (Paph. Angela) exhibited by **David Tomassini**. Best Phal/Doritis (Phal. amabilis) exhibited by **Barbara Tague**.

Additionally we had 25 First Place ribbons, 12 Second Place ribbons, and 6 Third Place ribbons— Linda Daraskavich



February meeting Recap

Rob Terry discussed Miltoniopsis, one of the easiest orchids to grow, according to Rob. The plants themselves can become specimen sized in just 4-8 years. Mealy bugs don't like them. Best of all the plants 'talk' to you. The leaves will tell you if they are not getting enough water on a regular basis by responding with crinkled leaves. Too bright of light and the thin leaves will yellow or burn brown. Too little light and they are a dark green.

DRUM ROLL! THE MOST IMPORTANT THING ABOUT GROWING HEALTHY MILTONIOPSIS IS---THE ROOTS! How many times have we heard that about orchid culture? Healthy roots make a healthy plant. To get those healthy roots Rob's secret is in the potting mix. He uses lava rock as a basis, mainly because it doesn't break down. The mix consists of 6 pts lava rock, 2 pts coconut coir, and 2 pts charcoal chunks 1/8" in diameter. This mix will provide tremendous drainage, meaning you can't over water. The process of watering will bring air through the pot and bring air to the roots. There is no need to use styrofoam pellets in the bottom of the pot either. The recipe for Rob's 'Baby Mix' can be found in the March 2001 newsletter on the DVOS web page. <http://www.dvos.org> Rob waters 2-3 times a week during the summer, never letting the pots dry out. One last thing. When potting these miltoniopsis you can over pot without getting into trouble. A 3-inch pot with a small plant is just fine. It will give plenty of room to grow, and, if the medium doesn't dry out between watering, all the better. – Brad Piini.

Diablo View Orchid Society Threpeats!!!

Diablo View has won top honors for our display at the annual Pacific Orchid Exposition three consecutive years!!! For the last 7 years we have taken first place 5 times!!!

The other Societies are sneering at us as we walk by, I don't think they like us anymore.

This year's show theme was "The Art Of Orchids". Our display featured a very large paint can attached to the backdrop spilling four colors of paint onto a table covered with orchids. We had a half painted picture of an Orchid, 8-foot tall paintbrushes, and a 2-½ foot ceramic Cattleya flower added to the display.

We had some very artistic people in our group that took extra time out of their busy week to construct props for are display. **Renate Johnson** created the ceramic Cattleya, which was fired in **Kerry Bettencourt's** kiln. **Dan West** designed a rotating table for the ceramic flower.

Parky Parkison designed the non-rotating paint can. **Brenda Aday** and **Linda Daraskavich** sewed all those little pot skirts. **Brad Piini**- constructed the 8' paintbrushes. Additional thanks go to **Linda Daraskavich** and **Nancy Pak**- for their food that kept us energized. **Alice and Dave Tomassini**- for the great food, use of the warehouse, and large moving truck.

I just wanted to thank those that had helped set-up and tear-down of the display: **Brenda Aday, Juan Bofill, Joe Grillo, Linda Daraskavich, Renate Johnson, Charlotte Leong, Veronica Bettencourt, Mark Rotter, Dennis Olivas** (Mr. President), **Parky Parkison, Alice and David Tomassini, Dan West, Jeanette Bean,** and **Nancy Pak**.

As you can tell it took a very large team to pull this off, I hope I didn't miss anyone.

We all had fun, hope to see you all helping next year,

- **Ron Bettencourt** (Captain Ron)

March 11th, 2004
Spring Repotting Round-up!

Contra Costa Water Dist, 1331 Concord Ave. Concord ~7:30

THREE demonstrations on repotting the orchids most common in our collections!

- Helen Michael of Orchids Orinda will repot a Phal and answer brief questions about repotting.
- Susan Fordyce of Fordyce Orchids will repot a Cattleya and answer brief questions.
- Fred Jernigan of the Paph House will repot a wild Paph right in front of your eyes, and answer brief questions.
- EACH DEMONSTRATION IS SCHEDULED FOR 15 MINUTES, TOPS. So please keep your questions brief or hold them till the end. We may vote to have an abbreviated 'Show and Tell' Table if question/answer goes over time.
- Speakers will provide Raffle Table plants.

Dinner w/ the speakers: 5:30PM @ Grissini Italian Restaurant @ the Concord Hilton. 1970 Diamond Blvd, Concord across from The Willows. **No Host.** \$\$\$ Call Kathy for reservations 370-6520 (required).

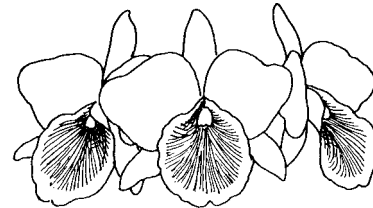
March Refreshments: Joe Grillo, Jill Chambers, Renate Johnson, Sherley Kerr, Diana Vavrek, Pam Wood, Parky Parkison, Kathi Ames,

Beverages: Juan & Tonky Bofill, Bob Akbarian(?)

Show Table Winners:

- 1) Cym. Yai – Dennis Olivas,
- 2) Phrag. Preying Mantis – Joe Grillo
- 3) Den. Elfin Charm – Akiko Ogawa,
Lancer Smith Medallion – Sophronitella violacea –
Charlotte Leong,
LWIBFTVFT – Blc. Chia Lin 'Golden Super' –
Joe Grillo.

Judges: Brian Wraxall, Eileen Jackson, Susan Fetter
Many thanks; I hope you enjoyed the experience.



Next Board Meeting: Alice Tomassini's 3/18 @ 7:30

See web page for Upcoming Events <http://www.dvos.org>

Diablo View Orchid Society
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