

Diablo View Orchid Society Holiday Pot Luck Party!

Note the changes of **LOCATION**, **DATE** and **TIME** for the December Meeting!

Location: Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive
(In the large room where we met last year - street level - center)

Date: **December 15** (the **THIRD** Thursday of the month)
Time: Set-up begins at **6:00 PM**, Dinner begins at **7:00 PM**



Meat and drinks will be provided by the Board ... the rest... by you, our members!
Bring a dish, salad or desert... enough for 8... according to the beginning letter of your last name...

(A - H) Hot Dish

(I - O) Dessert

(P - Z) Salad

For the gift exchange, bring either a nice plant (bug free) or an orchid related item!
(a pot, gardening tool, etc... something that you would like to get yourself... limit = \$20)

The gift exchange is lots of fun... stealing is permitted (each item has a limit of 2 steals)

There will also be a small auction for some very special items!

Pay your dues at or before the party and you will be eligible for a special raffle prize!

Note: This is a paid-members only event... spouses are welcome, too!

If you haven't paid for your membership yet, you can pay at the door! (\$30)



***This is a chance to
"break bread"
with new friends!***

President's Message

Hello Members:

I just read my outside thermometer. It said 42 degrees!

How are doing with your orchids? I fired up the gas heater for my greenhouse in mid November. I am trying to keep it around 53° minimum. Growing orchids is a year around task that requires constant work. I hope everyone utilizes this society to communicate with each other to learn how others deal with problems, issues and to share your beautiful orchids. That is why I launched the DVOS Facebook page. It just surpassed 500 members from locals to all over the world!

I have had the pleasure serving as President for the past two years. I hope you have enjoyed this as much as I have. I will be serving as Past President to help our new board members grow our society for the next few years.

Let's have another exciting year with even more beautiful orchids!

Sung Lee

For those who missed the November Meeting... Our speaker was Debbie Atwood

Debbie presented a working demonstration on how to repot orchids along with some general cultural information to help enlighten many of the new members that were in attendance at this meeting.

Debbie started with three orchids that were already established in their pots, but required repotting. The first thing to recognize is when it is time to repot your orchids. You can repot your orchid when there are new roots starting to appear on your orchid. These roots need to be 2 inches long or longer so that the repotting process does not cause them to break off or get damaged. If no new roots are present and you decide to repot your orchid anyway, you will cause your orchid to enter a state of hibernation and sulk. Next, you need to pull your orchid out of its existing pot and look for bugs such as millipedes, pill bugs and slugs that might be hiding in the roots. Remove them. Cut off all the dead spongy roots and remove all the loose media from the roots. Debbie then cuts off the tips of any roots that don't have green tips. This is done in the hopes of getting the old roots to "retip". Retipping is the process of stimulating your orchid to form a new green root tip and, of course, the green tip means that the root is actively growing.

The number of living roots left on your orchid will determine the size of the new pot to use. When selecting a pot, allow for approximately two years of future growth. Place some Styrofoam peanuts in the bottom of the pot for drainage and open up the root ball of your orchid and place it in the pot. Orient your orchid so that the new growths will have room to grow out into the pot. In other words, put the old pseudo bulbs against the pot rim with the new growth facing out. Now fill the pot with media. Debbie prefers using Orchidata media, which is a New Zealand Pine based bark. Any cuts or wounds that occurred during the repotting process of your orchid should now be treated with cinnamon. Cinnamon is a natural antiseptic and will help heal any wounds. If you notice any scale, mealy bugs, or thrips on any of your orchids, you need to use Bayer three-in-one systemic pesticide. This can be purchased at Orchard Supply Hardware and is very effective and eliminating these bugs.

Thank you Debbie for the wonderful introduction to orchids. Your enthusiasm is awesome!

Brad Piini



DVOS Board Slate 2017

The following is the proposed slate of officers for 2017, as presented during the November meeting. If there are no additional / opposing nominations, *we will hold a voice vote at the Holiday Party on December 15th to approve this slate.*

President:

Renate Johnson

Co-Vice Presidents:

Betty Chinn

Lisa Chow

Treasurer:

Nancy McClellan

Secretary:

Miki Ichiyanagi

Immediate Past President:

Sung Lee

Directors At Large:

Ulrike Ahlborn

Eileen Jackson

Jackie Krstulovich

Yunor Peralta

Greg Scown

Pending / Alternates:

Marcia Hart

Judith Johnson

Jim Wert

The DVOS Constitution calls for there to be exactly five Directors At Large. The Board will seek to amend this to be a minimum of five Directors at Large to allow for the additional interested members to serve. This amendment will be submitted in writing at the December meeting and be read aloud by the Secretary. The amendment vote will occur at the January meeting. Two thirds of the members voting at the January meeting must approve for the amendment to pass. In the meantime, the members listed above as Pending / Alternates will attend board meetings and keep up to date. They have promised to serve if the amendment is passed or to remain prepared to replace Directors At Large if necessary with the appropriate approval of the Board if the amendment does not pass.