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)

Last 2003 Board Meeting to follow regular meeting.

Featuring:
Fabulous Food,
Fun Friendships
and a
Gift Exchange!

~PLUS!~
Don’t forget the $50.00 Prize for
‘Best Decorated Orchid’

Diablo View Orchid Society
http://www.dvos.org
a 501c3 corporation
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 Parkinson, 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

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. gratrixianum, species. HCC 77, Exhibited by Carson Barnes

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.

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 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 an 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. Plieatum 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

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**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 – Paphiodilums

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

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