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Diablo View Orchid Society

http://www.dvos.org a 501c3 corp.

May 11, 2006

5:30 Speaker's Dinner, 7:30 Meeting Starts, Presentation ~8:00 Contra Costa Water District, 1331 Concord Ave, Concord

Transplanting with Dennis

The Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter was able to gain access to secret government files about this month's speaker. For the first time, utilizing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), the truth about Dennis Olivas can now be revealed!

Your intrepid reporter has discovered that Dennis Olivas was born on Kauai, Hawaii, once belonged to that hotbed of radical thought – the Future Farmers of America! I ndeed it was through his association with that covert organization that his orchid addiction started. He wrested himself from the cult and at the age of 28 swore never to touch the evil weed again! I t's unclear how long he was clean but we know one thing for sure: Fellow travelers from the cell at Rod McLellan's Acres of Orchids' enticed him back into the addiction.

From there his whole life became one downward spiral. First he fills his home with upwards of 6,000 plants. Later he leased a greenhouse space for his ever burgeoning orchid collection. This man is more than just a hardened hobbyist. Dissemination of orchids and their like has become his career. His known distribution point is located in Half Moon Bay. His has been traced to every orchid society in the Greater Bay Area. And the most devastating revelation of all: he has been awarded many of those society's highest positions and honors. He wears his hair in a ponytail. Need we say more?

As a public service, the Diablo Orchid Society offers its members a chance to see and meet this known purveyor of orchids. But BEWARE!!!!!!! He's a silver-tongued devil! You too may become addicted!!!!!!!

The transplanting presentation will include live demonstrations, questions & answers, and a slide show. Dennis will be providing the raffle table.

Dinner prior to the meeting will be at 5.30pm at the 3 Brothers From China Restaurant., 2001 Contra Costa Blvd, Pleasant Hill. Tel# 925,671-6888. Please notify Eileen Jackson at 707-642-5915 or jackson.eileen@att.net if you would like to join our speaker for dinner.

Speakers for 2006:	Refreshments for May Meeting:
The speaker for June will be Dr Mary Gerritsen speaking on Masdevallias. She has recently written a book on this subject and will be selling signed copies at the meeting.	Editors Note: Alas, once again the evil gremlins of the Hard Disk came and went, attacking your editor's computer. That said, I lost all I had, at least for this printing, including the much needed Refreshments List.
July we are hoping to have Lou Jost talk about the new species of orchid being found in Ecuador.	If you were one of the kind and generous people who offered to donate your goodies, please bring them to our next meeting. I will be sure to mention your name in the next edition.
September Eric Christensen will be here.	Roy, Editor in chief
October Gerardus Staal will be speaking on pests and disease of orchids.	PS A special thanks to the board members who sent me all I needed to get this out this month

President's Corner

When I joined DVOS I was impressed by the warmth and encouragement given to me by the members. Clearly the society was run by a Board and there were plenty of helpers whether at the general meetings, the Annual Barbeque, Annual Show or Christmas Party. The same is true today.

As President I have a very hardworking Board and the membership is increasing monthly. We try to create a diverse program which I hope is of interest to our members. However we are always looking for new ideas or suggestions to improve our programs and operation.

If you have thoughts along these lines please let me, or any Board member know. We will be happy to discuss your suggestions at our next Board meeting.

Thanks and all success to your orchid growing.

Next board meeting will be at Dennis Olivas' and David Dunn's home on May 18th, 2006 at 7:30 pm. All are welcome. Please let me know if you intend to attend.

Brian Wraxall

April Recap

The April meeting was hosted by Dennis Olivas and Kathy Barrett. With the topic of bad and dying plants, these two are the experts by virtue of experience.

Kathy started the talk with a huge pile of plastic plant nametags that were from all the plants she has killed over the course of her hobby. Everyone of us has that same pile... it's just not as big - yet! I guess that we save these tags as some form of memorial or grave marker for the dead orchids. Or maybe it's the thought that out of that \$20-\$40 dollar that you spent on the orchid, you can still salvage and recycle a 5 cent name tag and write a new name on the back.

Dennis and Kathy then diagnosed the ills of many bad orchid plants through the course of the evening. Most of the problems were the same over and over. Small plant, big pot. The big pots of bark hold too much water and the plants can't use it all. This causes the roots to rot. Most of the orchids on display had minimal to no roots. Dennis and Kathy then singled out the three worst plants and Kathy "Abdul Jabar" then did a windmill slam dunk with the bad plants into a large garbage can. The three bad plant owners were then compensated with a new healthy orchid, which they can start to punish immediately.

Kathy it's good to see you back in the club. The enthusiasm and playful interaction between Dennis and you makes for a very enjoyable evening. Thanks again. Brad



Former VP Kathy Barrett

Membership News

Let's give a warm welcome to our new members Luz and Mike Gannon and Ray Newbury. With new members and late renewals DVOS has now 88 members.

We had several guests at the April meeting: Susan Axton, Fame and Chelse Barnes, Samuel Dennis and Ron Mettale.

The 2006 roster is available. If you would like to have a copy, see me at the May meeting or send me a message.

Diablo View Orchid Society Att.: Ulrike Ahlborn 117 Laredo Ct San Ramon, CA 94583-2116 membership@DVOS.org

OPEN HOUSE:

D & D Flowers will have an open house on May 6th & 7th. Sale hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Bring your own boxes. The greenhouse is located in Half Moon Bay, 1/3 mile east of Main St. off Hwy 92. Just east of Spanish Village (look for the huge metal dinosaurs) on Hwy 92 is a house and woodpile yard. Turn onto the street between the house and the woodpile yard and go over the bridge. The greenhouse is the first one on the right.

Carmel Orchid Society presents MayFaire 2006 Orchid Show and Sale on May 6th & 7th at The Crossroads Shopping Village, Highway 1 at Rio Road in Carmel. Hours: Sat. 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sun. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information visit <u>www.carmelorchidsociety.com</u>.

ORCHID MART

Starting this month I am encouraging members to share items that they have found that may be of interest to others in the society. I will announce them at our general meeting and publish them in the Newsletter and on our website.

I recently came across an insecticide and fungicide spray that is very safe for humans and animals. It' called 'Organicide'. Its active ingredient is Sesame Oil. The inactive ingredients are Edible Fish Oil and Lecithin. It kills a wide variety of insects including mites, scales and mealy bugs. Check out their website <u>www.organiclabs.com</u>.

Your President



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Friday, May 12, 2006 – 12 noon to 7 pm Saturday, May 13, 2006 – 9 am to 5 pm Sunday, May 14, 2006 – 9 am to 5 pm

Lakeside Garden Center (Lake Merritt) 666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA

Bring this card and receive one free raffle ticket with the purchase of one or more raffle tickets

Diablo View Orchid Society – Commercial Members

Danville Commercial Plant Services David and Alice Tomassini 586 El Capitan Dr. (925) 648-7667 atomassini@aol.com

Half Moon Bay D&D Flowers Dennis Olivas 62 Oceanside Dr. (925) 969-1246 dolivas@comcast.com (By appointment only) Livermore Fordyce Orchids Frank and Sue Fordyce (925) 600-8406 Lilasue1@comcast.net www.fordyceorchids.com

Pacifica White Oak Orchids, Inc. Sales and Boarding 1204 Linda Mar Blvd. (650) 355-8767 www.whiteoakorchids.com

Diablo View Orchid Society **Roy Florey, editor** <u>newsletter@dvos.org</u>