

OCTOBER 2013

Diablo View

Orchid
Society

www.DVOS.org a 501 (c) (3) corporation

DVOS meets the second Thursday of each month at the
Contra Costa Water District boardroom 7:30-10:00 pm
1331 Concord Ave. Concord, CA.

AT OUR NEXT MEETING:

Deborah Atwood will speak on Oct. 10 at 7:30 at the Concord Water Board meeting room

PLANT TABLE PROVIDED

BY: Deborah Atwood

BOARD MEETING:

Oct. 25th at 7:30 pm, at the home of Greg and Yunor

SPEAKER'S DINNER

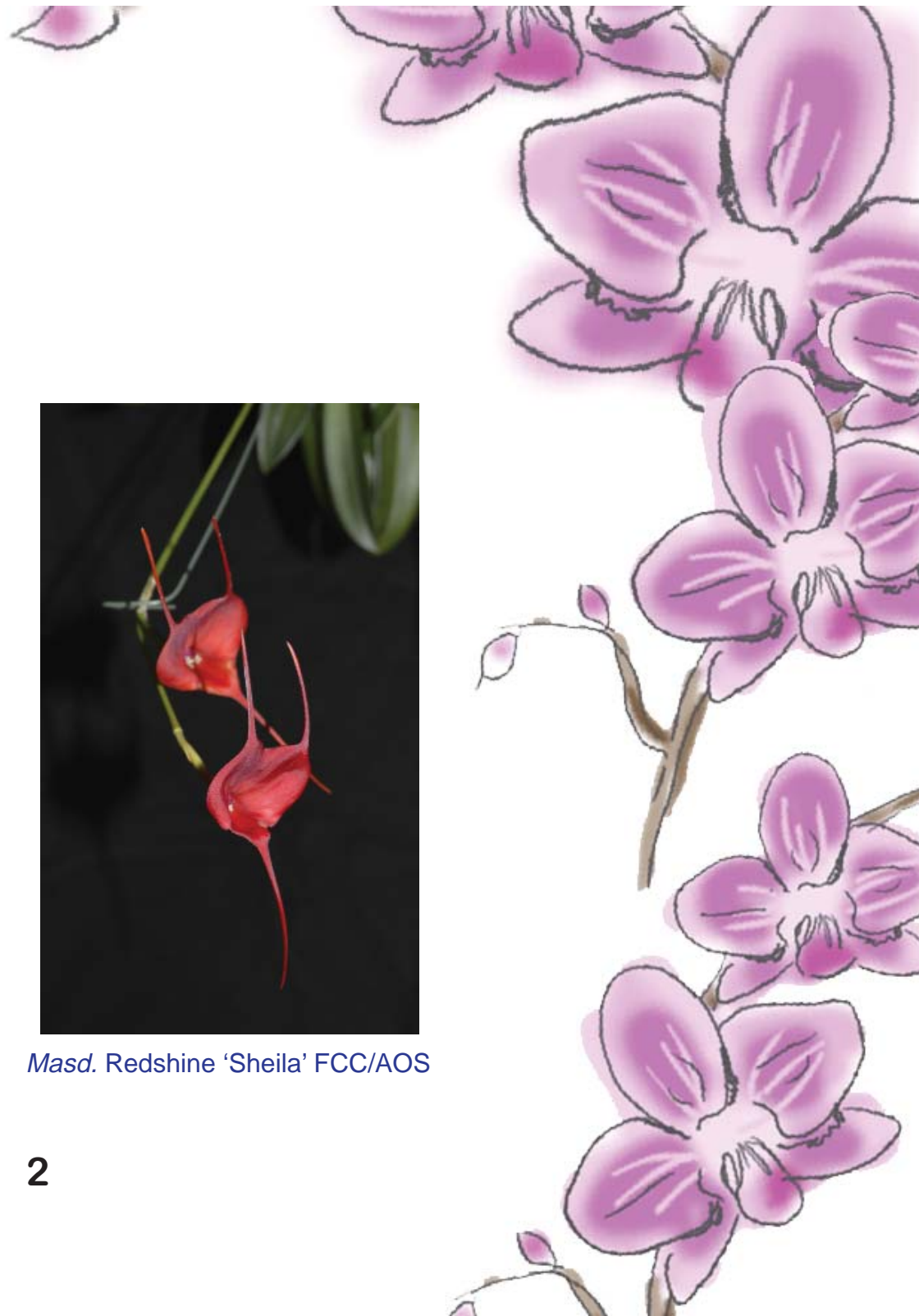
BEFORE OUR NEXT MEETING

AT 5:30 PM:

***Sichuan Fortune House,
41 Woodsworth Lane,
Pleasant Hill***



Masd. Redshine 'Sheila' FCC/AOS



AT OUR NEXT MEETING OCT. 10

Deborah Atwood will talk on

will talk about her favorite orchids
and how she grows them



Currently Debra grows Angraecoids, species Phalaenopsis, Neofinetias, Maxillarias, and what ever else catches her fancy. Her greenhouse maintains an intermediate temperature range, and her plants thrive in the Mediterranean climate of Napa Valley.

Napa Valley Orchids was started in March 2001 by third generation Napan Debra Atwood. In addition to growing a greenhouse full of beautiful orchids, primarily species, she also consults, is a regular speaker at orchid societies and garden clubs, and in addition, performs greenhouse maintenance for a handful of clients. She has also taught orchid classes for many years, and still conducts orchid workshops as time allows. Summers you will find her at the St. Helena farmers' market, and winter is show season, with 7 to 9 shows a year.

Art, Jazz & Wine Festival

Pleasant Hill Oct 5-6

This year we will have our annual Show in a new venue. We have rented a booth at the street fair in Pleasant Hill. This is our best shot at recruiting new members. We will have a display, and a membership drive which includes the ever popular “free orchid”.

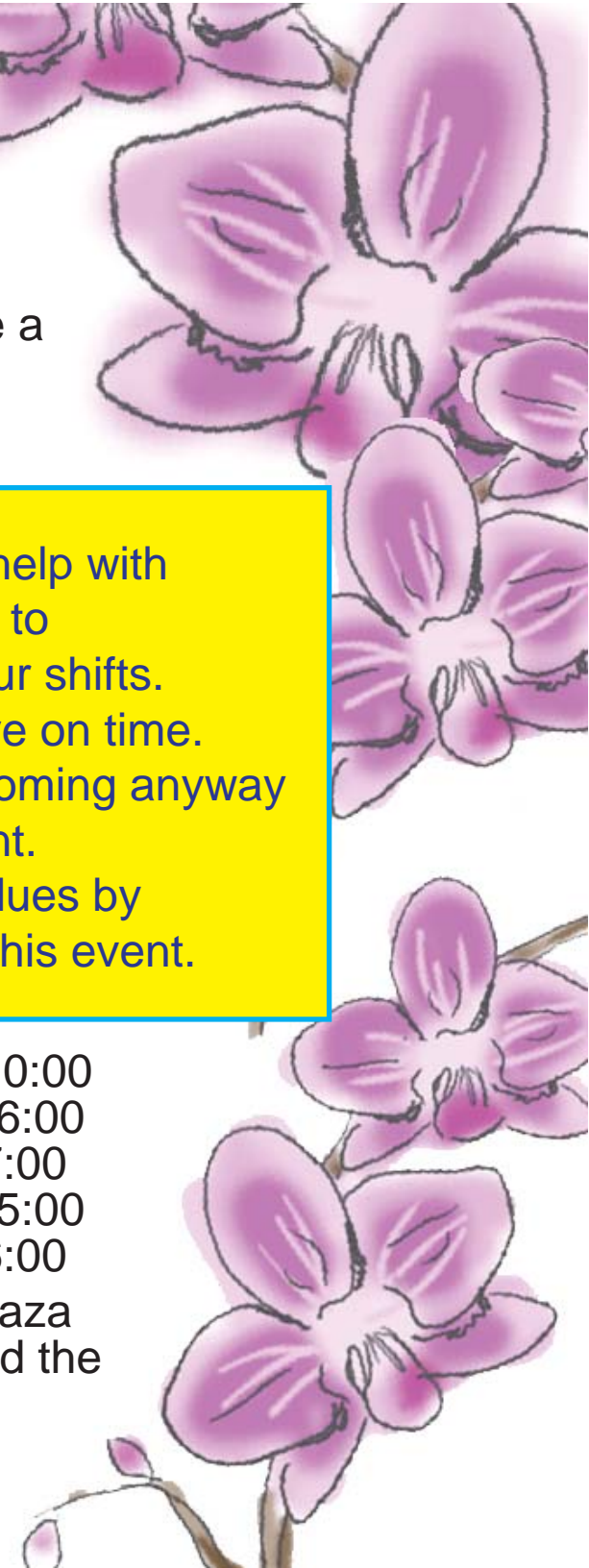


Volunteers are needed to help with set-up, clean-up and to occupy the booth, in 4 hour shifts. If you signed-up please arrive on time. If you did not sign-up consider coming anyway to help with the event. Help us hold the cost of dues by recruiting new members at this event.



Set-up Sat. & Sun.: 8:30 - 10:00
Sat. event: 10:00 - 6:00
Take-down Sat.: 6:00 - 7:00
Sun. event: 10:00 - 5:00
Take-down Sun.: 5:00 - 6:00

Crescent Dr. at Crescent Plaza
Our booth is near Jack's and the premium wine tent.



AT OUR SEPTEMBER MEETING:

The mark of an effective speaker is their ability to capture the audience's attention within the first few minutes of the presentation. Fred Clarke did just that when our September speaker mentioned that he owned a 22-foot ocean going fishing boat. After that statement, many of us sat up and were on the edge of our seats for the rest of the lecture. Unfortunately, the rest of the lecture contained no more information about Fred's fishing experiences. He degraded into a fabulous talk about how to create spots and splashes by selective breeding of Cattleya orchids.



There are two influential species involved in the breeding of Cattleyas that will create color splashes and flat flowers. These are *C. intermedia* v. *aquinii* and *L. briegei*. When these orchids are involved in a cross, the lip of the flower will determine the shape and flatness of the petals. If the lip is curled back, then the petals will be curled back. If the lip of the Cattleya is flat and pointed straight down, then the petals will be flat. This relationship between the lip form and the shape of the petals was never fully understood in the past. *L. briegei* will result in color flares in the petals in the Cattleyas that are crossed with it. Fred went on to show numerous photos of the different crosses made with these parent plants. For producing spots in Cattleyas, the main breeding parents are *C. leopoldii*, *C. aclandiae* and *C. schilleriana*.

Fred also discussed the cultural requirements of these beautiful Cattleya orchids. Watering is what he feels is the most important factor in raising orchids. The frequency that you water is determined by the medias ability to hold water. Perlite has very little water holding capacity. The more perlite that you use in your bark mix the less water it will retain. The size of the container that your orchid is in will also play into how frequent you need to water. A large pot holds more water than a small pot and therefor will require less watering. Fred likes to water by filling the pot to the top with water and then letting the water flush the container and in the process pull new air into the roots of the plant and displace any stagnant air .

As for light, Cattleyas like 10,000 foot candles of light in the summer when they are actively growing and 7,000 foot candles of light in the winter. Fred says that ideally you would add 35% more shade in the summer than the winter but in reality a 65% shade cloth used all year long would be a good compromise.

Fertilizer is determined by your water quality. The type of fertilizer and the rate of fertilization is determined by the amount of bicarbonate and the pH of the water. If you have hard water, lots of bicarbonate, then use a 20-20-20 soluble fertilizer. This will neutralize the high pH. If you are using very pure water or reverse osmosis (R.O.) water, then use 15-5-15 fertilizer with cal-mag (calcium-magnesium) supplement added.

When repotting your orchids, get all your supplies together first. These should include disposable gloves, clippers, a torch, and newspapers. These supplies should help to prevent the spread of disease. Only repot when new roots are showing on your orchid, not just when new growth appears. Select a pot that will allow for three years of new growth. Any pot bigger than this will retain too much water and will rot the root system of the plant. The newly formed roots are the most effective at absorbing moisture. If you leave some of the old potting media on the roots it is o.k. This is preferable to breaking off the roots and damaging them trying to remove the last bits of old media from the roots.

Fred Clarke was one of the best lecturers that the club has heard in years. His information was a good blend that was enlightening to both the novice and advanced growers of the club. Thank you very much Fred. My only suggestion for a better lecture would be to talk more about stripes and color flares (i.e. the stripes on a striped bass and the color flares of a beautiful rainbow trout). Happy Fishing!

Awards DVOS September

Novice

- 1st *C. Orquidacea's* Copper Charm
Mary-Ann Gschwend
2nd *Paph.* Noname David Trebotich

Intermediate


- 1st *V. lamellata* Sung Lee
2nd *Milt.* Honolulu Eileen Jackson
3rd *Coel. usitana* Parky Parkison

Advanced

- 1st *Dimorphorchis lowii* Ken Cook
2nd *Masd.* Redshine 'Sheila' FCC/AOS
Yunor Peralta
3rd *C. harrisoniana* 'Volcano Queen' AM/AOS
Sue Davis

Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

- Abdominea minimiflora* Ken Cook



California Sierra Nevada
Judging Center Awards for
May can be viewed at:
<http://www.csnjc.org>

The September AOS awards are on the California Sierra Nevada web page: <http://www.csnjc.org> This month features another question for the SITF. The Species Identification Task Force (<http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=42>) handles the tough questions of orchid identification. In this case, it is whether Jim Morris's plant is a natural hybrid of *C. virens* x *C. xanthina* called *C. x nesyana* or the species *C. bradei*. The 'x' in front of the name designates a natural hybrid. A natural hybrid is one that occurs in nature. It isn't man made. The birds or the bees do it. Even educated fleas do it. - K. Barrett

UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

- Oct 5-6: **Art Jazz & Wine Festival (see p. 4)**
<http://pleasanthillchamber.com/artjazzwinefest13/index.php>
- Oct. 10: **DVOS Meeting with speaker Deborah Atwood**
- Oct. 25: **Board Meeting at the home of Greg and Yunor**
- Oct 26: **Open Greenhouse at the home of Eileen Jackson**
10 am - 2 pm (see roster for address)
- Nov. 8: **DVOS Meeting with speaker Dan Newman**
- Dec 11: **Annual DVOS Christmas Party**
(this is a Wednesday)



Coel. usitana

REFRESHMENTS FOR THE OCTOBER MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED BY:

FOOD:

(Food must be cut into servings)

George McRae

Connie Klern

Barbara Paul

Sung Lee

Phyllis Arthur

DRINKS:

Brad Piini

ICE:

We need someone to bring Ice

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP:

Brenda Aday



Milt. Honolulu



C. Orquidacea's Copper Charm



V. lamellata

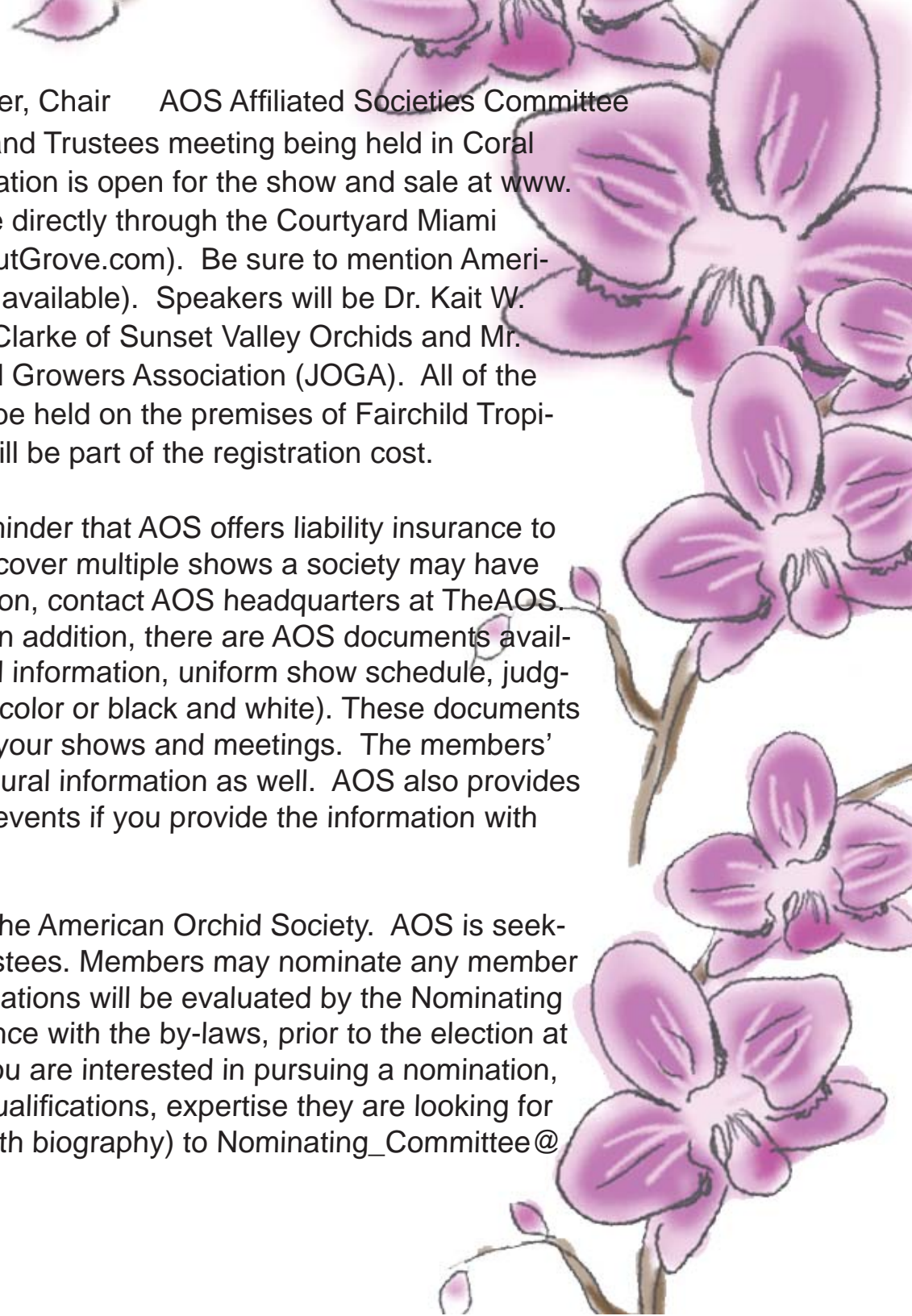
AOS NEWS

Lynn Fuller, Chair AOS Affiliated Societies Committee

Plans are complete for the AOS Members and Trustees meeting being held in Coral Gables, Florida, November 14-16, 2013. Registration is open for the show and sale at www.aos.org. Reservations for the hotel may be made directly through the Courtyard Miami Coconut Grove hotel site (CourtyardMiamiCoconutGrove.com). Be sure to mention American Orchid Society to get the special rates (if still available). Speakers will be Dr. Kait W. Tan, CEO, Gardens by the Bay Singapore; Fred Clarke of Sunset Valley Orchids and Mr. Munekazu Ejiri, Director & Judge of Japan Orchid Growers Association (JOGA). All of the lectures, the show and most of the meetings will be held on the premises of Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens. Entrance to the Gardens will be part of the registration cost.

_____ Fall Show season is gearing up. Just a reminder that AOS offers liability insurance to affiliated societies which on an annual basis can cover multiple shows a society may have during the course of the year. For more information, contact AOS headquarters at TheAOS.org and an application form can be sent to you. In addition, there are AOS documents available on the website for use at the shows: cultural information, uniform show schedule, judging request form and AOS membership forms (in color or black and white). These documents are available to download and print out to use at your shows and meetings. The members' only section of the website has more detailed cultural information as well. AOS also provides a free listing on their calendar of all AOS society events if you provide the information with enough lead time.

Call for Nominations: Board of Trustees of the American Orchid Society. AOS is seeking nominations for members of the Board of Trustees. Members may nominate any member in good standing, including themselves. All nominations will be evaluated by the Nominating Committee and a slate will be mailed, in accordance with the by-laws, prior to the election at the Members' Meeting in the spring of 2013. If you are interested in pursuing a nomination, see the website for more information regarding qualifications, expertise they are looking for and requirements and forward the nomination (with biography) to Nominating_Committee@aos.org. You may also mail it into headquarters.





Dim. lowii

"Recently I saw some mention of Coryanthes at an orchid meeting. I did know that Coryanthes have a relationship with species of aggressive ants. Little did I know how important the relationship was. And how important the symbiosis is with other plants as well. Understanding the intricacies of species interrelationships helps immensely in our efforts at conservation. We must always look towards preserving the biological community in order to preserve the species. I hope you find this article as fascinating as I did!

To read this facinating article visit www.dvos.org
Thanks to George McRae for posting this article.



Abdominea miniflora

Open Greenhouse Oct. 26

10:00 am - 2:00 pm at the home of Eileen Jackson
(check your roster for address)

Curious about how other people grow
their orchids?

Want to talk about building or
maintaining a greenhouse?

Have questions about growing
your orchids?

Come to this informal greenhouse
tour. New growers are especially
encouraged to attend.



C. harrisoniana 'Volcano Queen' AM/AOS

The increasing costs of speakers, plant tables,
and the expenses associated with our BBQ and

Christmas party, require us to make a small
increase in the club dues. The 2014 dues will be
\$30 for general members, \$40 for mail delivery
of the newsletter, and Commercial Members.



Paph. Noname

DVOS OFFICERS 2013

PRESIDENT: EILEEN JACKSON

VICE PRESIDENT: YUNOR PERALTA

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: GEORGE McRAE

SECRETARY: MARCIA HART

TREASURER: KATHY BARRETT

BOARD MEMBERS: Greg Scown

Brad Piini

Sung Lee

Parky Parkison

Jamie Wasson

Miki Ichiyanagi

MEMBERSHIP: ULRIKE AHLBORN membership@dvos.org

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dvosnews@gmail.com

WEBMASTER: ULRIKE AHLBORN
webmaster@dvos.org

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

GREENHOUSE TOURS: PARKY PARKISON

REFRESHMENTS: BRENDA ADAY & MIKI ICHIYANGI

RAFFLE AND SALES: CAROL AND CASEY CAMPPELL

JUDGING: NANCY AND TED McCLELLAN

EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTS: DAVE TOMASSINI

LIBRARIAN: PHYLLIS ARTHUR

COMMERCIAL MEMBERS

Commercial Plant Services

David & Alice Tomassini, 3 Woodside Ct.,
Danville, (925) 736-7630

www.commercialplantservices.com

California Orchids

Mary Nisbet, 515 Aspen Rd.
Bolinas, (415) 868-0203

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