Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

http://www.diabloviewos.org December 2001

It’s Holiday Party Time!!!!

Meeting Date, Time and Location
When: Thursday, Dec. 13, 2001
Dinner starts at 7 PM
Where: Contra Costa Water Dept. Auditorium
1331 Concord Ave., Concord

Upcoming Events:
(topics in parenthesis)

December
13  DVOS Holiday Party
    (board meeting follows)

January, 2002
10  General meeting
    Speaker: Frank Fordyce
    (Orchid-speak and lingo)

February, 2002
14  General meeting
    Speaker: Rob Terry
    (Phragmipedium Culture)

April, 2002
11  General meeting
    DVOS Auction w/Dennis Olivas

October, 2002
10  General meeting
    Speaker: Dr. Joanne Whitney
    (How did it get that name?)

December, 2002
12  DVOS holiday party
**Holiday Party and Gift Exchange Details**

This December DVOS members, their families, and guests will gather for our traditional holiday feast and festivities. We will not have a speaker program in deference to the party. Our incredible refreshment chairperson, Brenda Aday, is arranging a delectable assortment of meats and members will supply a pot luck of side dishes and desserts. See Brenda’s article in this newsletter for what dish you should bring. Rumor has it that Sue Fordyce has surprise entertainment in store. We request that everyone please bring an orchid or orchid-related gift valued at ~$10 to give to the gift exchange. If you can’t bring a gift, please come anyway as the most important part is sharing in good company.

Our monthly ‘Show and Tell’ session will be pre-empted by our annual ‘Best Holiday Decorated Orchid’ Contest. Dress up your blooming orchid and enter for a chance to win a cash prize of $50!! So get your creative juices flowing and let’s see what you can create!

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**Do you suffer from sick plants?**

Members can bring plants in need of a diagnosis or cultural questions to the monthly meeting. Ask any member for help. If they cannot help, they will refer you to someone who can. But, please, do not place a sick or infested plant near any other plant or on the display table.

Phyllis Arthur

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**DVOS STAFF**

President - Dan Chiappone  
Vice-President - Charlotte Leong  
Secretary - Karen Moonitz  
Co-Treasurers - Barbara Tague; Kathy Barrett  
AOS Rep. - Barbara Tague  
BBQ - George Kaplan  
Culture Sessions - Pauline Brault  
Greenhouse Tours - Open  
Historian - Open  
Indoor/Outdoor Group - Open  
Librarian - Phyllis Arthur  
Lights & Equipment - Juan Bofill  
Membership - Ulrike Ahlborn  
Newsletter Ads - Karen Moonitz  
Plant Sales - Jeanette Bean; Madge Fordyce  
Raffle/Other Sales - Nancy Pak  
Refreshments - Brenda Aday  
S.F. Show - Ron Bettencourt  
Sound System - Dave Tomassini  
Webmaster - Nick Doe  
Welcome Hostess - Madge Fordyce

**Board Members** - Phyllis Arthur; Juan Bofill; Charlotte Leong; Alice & David Tomassini

**Newsletter Editor**  
Mark Rotter (925) 833-3787  
DVOSnews@home.com

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**Article Deadline for Jan. Newsletter is Friday, Dec. 28**
AOS Judging Results

AOS Awards
Pacific Central Supplemental Center
San Francisco, CA
11/6/01

Phrag. Hanne Popow ‘Sherwood’
Parentage: Phrag besseae x Phrag schlimii
Award: AM 82
Owner: Sherwood Orchids

Den. tobaense ‘Green Giant’
Award: HCC 79
Owner: Golden Gate Orchids

AOS Awards
Oakland, CA
11/19/01

(The information below is recalled from memory so don’t blame the editor if it’s wrong)

Phrag Jason Fischer
Phrag Mem. Dick Clemens x besseae
HCC
Owner: Sherwood Orchids

Lycaste Geyser Gold
Lyc Auburn x Aquila
AM 83
Owner: Walter M. Shinn

Refreshment Corner

Our annual Holiday Party will be held on Thursday, December 13th, at 7:00 pm. Once again we call on all you excellent gourmet chefs to bring a dish for 10-12 servings, according to the 1st letter of your last name:

A-E Appetizer
F-L Salads
M-Q Desserts
R-Z Casseroles

Please bring you own plates and utensils, additional fare will be provided by the club. The “Best Holiday-Decorated Orchid” and gift exchange will complete the evening. Please try your best to attend. I thank you again for the opportunity to serve as your Refreshment Chair.

Brenda Aday

How can I Benefit from DVOS?

A wise man once said ‘The more you contribute to your Orchid Society, the more you will get out of it.’ This wise man is Frank Fordyce. Frank was not talking about monetary contributions, but instead explained to us that the more active you were in volunteering to help the activities of the Society, the more you would learn.

I’ve been following his advice ever since and can attest to the fact that what he says is true. You will find that by being active in your society you will have more opportunities to share growing tips and learn about orchids from fellow orchid addicts like yourself. Whether you help write plant name tags for our San Francisco show display where you will learn why the names are written the way they are and what it means, or help set-up for our monthly meetings where you may learn extra tips from our speakers,

Please see Benefit, Pg. 5
DVOS Officer Slate - 2002

The following is the proposed slate of officers for 2002.

PRESIDENT - David Tomassini
VICE PRESIDENT - Charlotte Leong
SECRETARY - Alice Tomassini
TREASURER - Barbara Tague, Kathy Barrett
AOS REP. - Barbara Tague
CULTURE SESSIONS - Charlotte Leong
GREENHOUSE TOURS - Linda Daraskavich
HISTORIAN - Nathalie Smith
LIBRARIAN - Phyllis Arthur
LIGHTS and EQUIPMENT - Juan Bofill, Parky Parkinson
MEMBERSHIP - Ulrike Ahlborn
NEWSLETTER EDITOR - Mark Rotter
VIDEOGRAPHER - Dan Chiappone
SHOW COMMITTEE - Ron Bettencourt
NEWSPAPER ADS - Karen Moonitz
RAFFLE - Nancy Pak
REFRESHMENTS - Linda Castleton, Tonky Bofill

SUMMER BBQ - Kathy Barrett, Sue Fordyce
WEBMASTER - Nick Doe
WELCOME HOSTESS - Madge Fordyce
BOARD MEMBERS - Juan Bofill, Mark Rotter, Clarence Parkinson, Linda Daraskavich, Kathy Barrett

Membership News

Yes, it is membership renewal time again!

Please have a look at the address label. If you see 2002 next to your name, your membership fee for 2002 has already been paid and you do not need to do anything. If you see 2001 next to your name on the address label, your membership for 2002 is due.

The membership fee is still $15 for one or $25 for two years. If you are an out of state member who would like to renew and receive the monthly newsletter, we ask you for $10. Please fill out the attached renewal form and send it together with your check to:

Ulrike Ahlborn
117 Laredo Court
San Ramon, CA 94583

Or give it to me at the December meeting. Please let me know of any changes in address, phone, fax number or e-mail address so I can keep the data current. You can contact me by e-mail ulrikea@usa.net or call me during the day at (510) 741-6762 or at (925) 830-8830 in the evening.

Ulrike Ahlborn
Benefit, from Pg. 3

both you and the society will benefit. No experience is necessary. If interested, just contact the person in charge of the activity for which you want to volunteer.

Along these lines I will approach many of you who are familiar faces at the meetings to present a pre-meeting culture session. Many of you will be surprised as to how much knowledge you have to share with others about your own growing experiences. What does or does not work well for you will help others to be more successful as they evaluate how your conditions apply to their situation. So start thinking now about what you’ve learned and what topic you would like to offer. The first people to volunteer will most likely be given their first choice topic for their presentation:oD

Charlotte Leong

Seeds and the Mail

“As of Nov. 1, Ball Seed, Ball Superior and ColorLink are shipping seed orders in N. America by Federal Express. The switch to FedEx was based on the recent U.S. Postal Service decision to use electron-beam devices to sanitize letters and packages. By using FedEx the seed will not be exposed to any irradiation or sterilization system. Growers will now be able to track their seed orders online through the FedEx tracking system (<http://www.FedEx.com>). Growers can also request that their orders be shipped by UPS from Ball’s West Chicago distribution center. A spokesperson for USPS said the agency is aware that certain things are affected by irradiation (including plants) and is working on a process to separate mail that would be affected. It will start installing some irradiation machinery this month. <http://www.ballseed.com>”

These concerns are shared by many mail-order nurseries. It appears the amount of radiation needed to kill anthrax spores would be sufficient to kill seeds and possibly live plants. Many companies that have relied on the U.S. mail are considering changing to an alternate carrier. USPS Spokesman Jerry Kreienkamp confirms that the USPS is working on a solution to this problem.

Contact the post office nearest you for further information, but don’t be surprised if they aren’t aware of any of this.

Kathy Barrett

Yummy Recipes

Ah!! Winter’s here and we’re freezing! Remember Summer? Remember the wonderful warm day of the DVOS BBQ? Remember I said I’d share recipes? Well here’s one! (more next month) - Kathy Barrett

Madge Fordyce’s Creamed Corn

Known far and wide as Frank’s favorite dish! He likes the creamed corn, too.

16 oz. frozen whole kernel corn (I use petite corn)
8 oz. whipping cream
8 oz. milk
1 tsp salt
1/4 tsp Accent (optional)
6 tsp sugar
pinch white or cayenne pepper
2 Tbsp. butter
2 Tbsp. flour

Combine all ingredients except last 2 in a pot and bring to a boil. Simmer 5 minutes. Blend melted butter with flour, add to the corn mixture and stir well. Remove from fire.

VARIATION: Put finished corn in an oven proof casserole, sprinkle with parmesan cheese and place under a broiler till evenly browned. Serves 8.
Livermore
*The Orchid Ranch*;
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiopedilums

Oakland
*Orchids Fiori D’Amore*
Paolo & Nina DiCandia
510-530-4884 (by appt. only)

Hawaii
*Yamada’s Orchid Nursery*
Allen Yamada
5087-A Kawaihau Rd. Kapaa, HI 96746

Yuba City
*Orchid Obsession*
Brent & Toni Cushenbery
1477 Oswald Rd., Yuba City, CA 95993
916-673-6763

Walnut Creek
*Orchid Gallery*
Jing Ho
1501 N. California Blvd.

Martinez
*MGM Orchids*
Mariano G Morales
718 Main Street
Martinez, CA 94553

San Leandro
*The Paph House*
Francisco Baptista & Fred Jernigan
375 Warwick Avenue, San Leandro, CA
510/ 635-2845, (by appt. only)

Concord
*San Miguel Greenhouses*
Pamela Leaver
936 San Miguel Rd.
925-798-0476 (by appt. only)

Concord
Nathalie Smith
1507 Lavetta Way; 925-685-8904
(by appt. only); orchid supplies

Danville
*Commercial Plant Services*
David & Alice Tomassini
3 Woodside Ct.; 925-736-7630

Half Moon Bay
*D & D Flowers*
Dennis Olivas; 62 Oceanside Dr.
650-994-7465 (call in advance)

Australia
*Adelaide Orchids*
Stephen and Robin Monkhouse
16 Pine Road
Woodcroft, South Australia 5162

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