



# Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.diabloviewos.org>

October 2002

## Program:

**“What’s in a Name: Fact and some fiction about the naming of orchids”**

**Dr. Joanne Whitney**

**Meeting Date, Time and Location**

**When: Thursday, Oct. 10, 2002**

**SPEAKER WILL BEGIN AT 7:30 PM**

**Culture Session @ 7 PM: Linda Daraskavich: “A is for Ants and Aphids”**

**Where:** Contra Costa Water Dept. Auditorium  
1331 Concord Ave., Concord

**Dinner with the speaker: 5:30 PM @ Spring Garden Restaurant**  
785 Oakgrove Rd., Concord

RSVP (925) 833-0840 or e-mail [DVOSNEWS@ATTBI.COM](mailto:DVOSNEWS@ATTBI.COM) by 10/8/02

## Upcoming Events: (topics in parenthesis)

### October

- 10 General meeting  
Speaker: Dr. Joanne Whitney  
(What’s in a Name: Fact and some Fiction about the naming of Orchids)
- 17 Board meeting

### November

- 14 General meeting

Speaker: Dr. Eric A. Christenson  
author of *Phalaenopsis: A Monograph*  
Topic: Maxillarias

### December

- 12 General meeting  
DVOS Holiday Party

**May 2003:** Roy Tokunaga of H & R Nurseries ‘Everything you wanted to know about Dendrobiums’

**June 2003:** Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids ‘How to Get the Most Out of Your Plants’

**Sept. 2003:** Gene Crocker of Carter & Holmes Orchid Nurseries: ‘Current Trends in Art Shade Cattleyas (including the influence of certain species)’

## Message from the President



*Dave has to wear this every time he doesn't have a President's message - Ed.*

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR  
NOV. NEWSLETTER  
IS FRIDAY, NOV. 1**

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## **DVOS STAFF**

*President* - David Tomassini  
*Vice-President* - Charlotte Leong  
*Secretary* - Alice Tomassini  
*Treasurer* - Barbara Tague

*AOS Rep.* - Barbara Tague

*BBQ* - Sue Fordyce

*Culture Sessions* - Charlotte Leong

*Greenhouse Tours* - Linda Daraskavich

*Historian* - Nathalie Smith

*Indoor/Outdoor Group* - Open

*Librarian* - Phyllis Arthur

*Lights&Equipment* - Juan Bofill, Parky Parkison

*Membership* - Ulrike Ahlborn

*Newspaper Ads* - Karen Moonitz

*Raffle/Other sales* - Nancy Pak

*Refreshments* - Linda Castleton, Tonky Bofill

*S.F. Show* - Ron Bettencourt

*Sound System* - Dave Tomassini

*Webmaster* - Nick Doe

*Welcome Hostess* - Madge Fordyce

*Board Members* - Juan Bofill, Linda Daraskavich, Nancy Pak, Parky Parkison, Mark Rotter

*Newsletter Editor*

Mark Rotter (925) 833-0840

DVOSnews@attbi.com

## Letter from the Editor

### POSITION AVAILABLE - NEWSLETTER EDITOR

After two years as newsletter editor, I have decided that it is time to move on and allow someone else the privilege of being the newsletter editor for DVOS. As the saying goes, it's been real, it's been fun, and it's also been real fun, but I believe it's time for someone else to have the opportunity.

So, December 2002 will be the last issue with yours truly as editor. If you're interested in the position, please e-mail me at [dvosnews@attbi.com](mailto:dvosnews@attbi.com). Of course, I will be happy to assist with the transition.

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## This Month's Speaker - Dr. Joanne Whitney

Feel out of step in the orchid world? Have you ever stood in a crowd of orchid enthusiasts and the conversation just sails over your head? Do you try to disguise your cluelessness by silently nodding with a knowing look and pray no one asks you a question? Does Champornensis and Doritenopsis sound like a bad disease? Do you have aspirations of becoming a DVOS auctioneer or Show and Tell describer? If you can relate to any of these questions then you need to join us at the October DVOS society meeting as Dr. Joanne Whitney takes us on an entertaining course through the orchid world. Back by popular request, Dr. Whitney will give some interesting, some funny, and some outrageous information about how orchids were named. Her presentation will include slides and entertaining stories to help you remember and understand popular orchid names. Sure to become a best seller if she ever writes a book, this is one presentation you won't want to miss. Come join us for "What's in a Name: Fact and Some Fiction About The Naming of Orchids".

Joanne Whitney has a Ph.D. in Chemistry and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree and an abounding interest in Orchids. She runs the compounding laboratory and teaches pharmacy at the University of California, San Francisco. Joanne has been an accredited AOS judge for about 13 years and served for a period of time as chairman of the Pacific Central Judging Region. She never found an orchid she didn't want and grows a wide variety of types, Odontoglossums, Miltoniopsis, Paphs and other cool growers in one greenhouse and Cattleyas, Calanthes and warmer growers in another. Her most loved area is in the (wind) tunnelled entrance of her San Francisco home where she raises Masdevallias and Draculas. She has lectured to both orchid and pharmacy groups on the pharmaceutical uses of orchids.

NOTE THAT DUE TO SCHEDULING CONSTRAINTS, JOANNE WILL BE STARTING HER TALK AT 7:30 PM!!

Next month join us as world renowned author Dr. Eric Christenson presents 'Maxillarias'

We are pleased to announce that the raffle table will be provided by The Paph House, known for their fine paphiopedilums and miltonias.

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## Culture Corner

In October, fellow DVOS member Linda Daraskavich will present "A is for Ants and Aphids." She will share her experiences and collected home remedies for controlling and eliminating these pests. Beginner orchid growers are encouraged to attend. We hope this will be the first in a series of culture topics designed to give beginner orchid enthusiasts a jump start in becoming better growers.

The session begins at 7 PM in the refreshment room. Please join us.

Happy growing,  
Charlotte

# Yummy Recipes

## COLCANNON

(Irish Origin - 1 ½ hrs prep time - Serves 6 people)

### INGREDIENTS

2 pounds boiling potatoes, peeled and quartered  
1 ½ pounds cabbage, cored and quartered  
4 Tbsp butter  
1 cup light cream or milk  
1 tsp salt, or to taste  
Freshly ground pepper

### PREPARATION

Place the potatoes in a pan and just cover them with cold water. Bring to a boil gently for 15-20 min., or until tender when pierced with a fork. Halfway through the cooking, add the cabbage quarts to the pot. When done, drain very well. Remove cabbage and slice in thin strips, and set aside. Add the butter, half cup of cream or milk, salt and pepper to the pot with the potatoes, and mash with a potato masher, fork or electric mixer, smoothing out all the lumps. Add the remaining cream or milk, blending until a thick puree. Add the shredded cabbage and mix until well blended. Taste and correct seasoning. Return the pot to low heat, stirring frequently until hot. Serve in a heated bowl.

Submitted by Shirley Kerr

*From the Fannie Farmer Cookbook, 13<sup>th</sup> Edition, revised by Marion Cunningham*



*V Hadd Song-Khla x V Suntan owned by Bernice Lindner. First place in DVOS competition*



*Lc Christopher Gubler "Betties Beau" owned by Nathalie Smith. Second place in DVOS competition*



# Results from the DVOS Competition

1st Place

**Bernice Lindner**

*V Hadd Song-Khla x V. Suntan*

2nd Place

**Nathalie Smith**

*Lc Christopher Gubler "Betties Beau"*

3rd Place

**Kathy Barrett**

*Lc Mary Elizabeth Bohn "Royal Flare"  
AM/AOS*

Look What I Bloomed For the First Time

**Sybil McGowan**

*V Pak Chong*

Lancer Smith Award

**Sybil McGowan**

*Tolumnia triquetra*

Many thanks to our judges **Jill Chambers, James Clements, and Betty Wilson**

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## Have Dinner with the Speaker!

Come join us for dinner prior to the October meeting. Here is your opportunity to meet and talk with Dr. Joanne Whitney. Dinner reservations are for 5:30 PM at Gary's Spring Garden Restaurant, 785 Oak Grove Rd. at the corner of Oak Grove and Treat Blvd. in Concord. Gary puts on a nice family style dinner for all who attend. If you get lost, the phone number for the restaurant is 925-827-1900. Cost is \$15/person with tax and tip, drinks are an additional cost. Please RSVP with Charlotte at [dvosnews@attbi.com](mailto:dvosnews@attbi.com) or leave a message at 925-833-0840 by 10/8/02. If you don't RSVP, but find you can come to dinner at the last minute, please join us. We can always accommodate a few extra people. Hope to see you there.

Charlotte

## Membership News

At the August BBQ some new members joined DVOS. Let's give a hearty welcome to Giovanna Deem from Walnut Creek and Mary & Tom See from San Ramon. Now the Diablo View Orchid Society is 100 members strong again.

If you have not received a roster yet and would like to have one, please send Nick Doe a message or see Nick at the next meeting. He also will bring copies of the Addendum to the roster to the meeting. I will not be able to come due to business conflicts.

For new members who have not received a nametag yet, please let me or Nick know and we will make one for you and bring it to the next meeting.

A note to our guests who attended our general meeting prior to August 2002: 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 just bring them to the next meeting.

You can contact me using the **new e-mail address for the membership chair** [membership@DVOS.org](mailto:membership@DVOS.org) Please make a note of it.

Ulrike Ahlborn  
Membership Chair

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## The Holiday Party is coming!!

Mark your calendars for our annual holiday party on Thursday December 12, 2002. Join us for a great time of socializing and good food. You don't want to miss this event.

Now's the time to start thinking how you might decorate your orchid for the Holiday party in December. Traditionally the best decorated orchid will get a prize !

## Refreshment Room

September's refreshment table was enjoyed by all present. Thanks to those that brought food and beverages. Those who have volunteered for October are: **Juan Bofill, Giovanna L. Deem, Nancy Pak, Susan Fetter, Phyllis Arthur** and **Nathalie Smith**. Beverages will be provided by: **James Clemens** and **Tonky Bofill**.

If for whatever reason any of you can't attend the meeting, please call **Linda Castleton** (925-256-4628) or **Tonky Bofill** (925-609-8443) at least one day in advance of the meeting.

Linda Castleton  
Antonieta Bofill

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## Positions Available in DVOS!

The following positions within DVOS are still open. Please help the society by volunteering! Thanks much.  
- Dan Chiappone, Nomination Committee

**Vice-president** - Help find speakers for the meetings; occasionally pick up speaker at the airport; take speaker to dinner prior to the meeting; introduce speaker at the meeting; occasionally take speaker around the bay area to visit vendors, nurseries, etc, at club expense.

**Newsletter editor** - Compile input from DVOS members into newsletter. Also mail newsletters. As a side benefit, you get to see your name in print every month.

**Board member** - Assist the President in carrying out his or her agenda for a successful new year of meetings, dinners, BBQs, shows, etc. Attend monthly board meetings and occasionally assist in activities.

**Greenhouse Tour Leader** - Set up society member tours of local member and/or vendor greenhouses on a monthly basis or when the opportunity presents itself. Attend the tours with the members. Announce the tours at the monthly meetings and in the newsletter.

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## Last Month's Presentation

Last month Leonard Gines of Gines Nurseries in Hawaii shared some new practices in orchid culture. Growers have discarded compots and now grow seedlings in plug trays. By wedging the seedlings between the oasis cubes, growers can transplant out of flask faster and with less labor. This method results in faster growth often gaining an extra year of growth in a shorter period of time. This method also eliminates one transplantation step compared to seedlings grown in compots.

Leonard brought samples of media currently in use. Cinder is what the Hawaiian's term for lava rock. But besides the heavy lava rock we typically see here, in Hawaii there is a second light weight form of lava rock. Excitement is growing as a new synthetic media shows promise. Currently under limited distribution out of Australia, 'Diatomite' provides a 'breathable' media suitable for orchids. Growers also feel that the silicone nature of the media imparts a 'hardening' property to the plant cells that make the plants heartier. For the past year Carter and Holmes Nurseries has been using 'Diatomite' as their base media. Many other growers are also switching from the familiar but hard to obtain bark to this silicone product.

In parting Leonard advised us to maintain good culture habits and thereby we hope to avoid the 'stink eye' of the orchid gods. And now we are 'pow' [finished].

Mahalo



*Lc Mary Elizabeth Bohn "Royal Flare"  
AM/AOS owned by Kathy Barrett.  
Third place in DVOS competition*

## **Tour Anyone??**

Weyman Bussey has put together a tour to Mexico to see Mexican species in bloom. The tour dates are Oct. 21-27, 2002. For more details, go to <http://64.127.166.67/>. This should be a great orchid adventure and if you know Weyman, you will have a lot of fun going to Mexico with him as an orchid guide: he knows Mexico and the orchids!

*Tolumnia triquetra* owned by Sybil McGowan. Lancer Smith award in DVOS competition



**Livermore**

\*The Orchid Ranch\*  
Fordyce Orchids - Cattleyas 925-447-1659  
Orchids Orinda - Phalaenopsis  
Tonkins Orchids - Paphiodeliums

**Oakland**

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

**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.

**Vallejo**

\*MGM Orchids\*  
Mariano G Morales  
(707) 557-2716 (by appt. only)

**San Leandro**

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

**Lafayette**

\*Diablo Disas\*  
Michael Gallagher  
3 Maloyan Lane  
925-283-8450 (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\*  
Greenhouse located in Half Moon Bay  
(925) 969-1246 (by appt. only)

**Australia**

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



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