

Diablo View Orchid Society 2017 Holiday Pot Luck Party!

Note the changes of **LOCATION** and **TIME** for the December Meeting!

Location: Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Concord
(Where we had our party last year - street level - center)

Date: December 14 (the second Thursday of the month)
Time: Set-up begins at 6:00 PM, Dinner begins at 7:00 PM



Meat and drinks will be provided by the Board ... the rest... by you, our members!
Bring a dish, salad or desert... enough for 8... according to the beginning letter of your last name...

(A - H) Salad

(I - O) Hot Dish

(P - Z) Dessert

For the gift exchange, bring either a nice plant (bug free) or an orchid related item!
(a pot, gardening tool, etc... something that you would like to get yourself... limit = \$20)

The gift exchange is lots of fun... *See the rules on page 3 of this newsletter!*

There will also be a small auction for some very special items!

Pay your dues at or before the party and you will get an orchid grown by Dennis!

Note: This is a paid-members only event... spouses are welcome, too!

If you haven't paid for your 2018 membership yet, you can pay at the door! (\$30)



This is a chance to

"break bread"

with new friends!

President's Message

Dear Orchid Friends,

Our annual Holiday Party is about to take place, and I hope to see all of you there to enjoy friends, good food and have some fun!

It was an honor to serve as President of Diablo View Orchid Society in 2017. Throughout this year, I was fortunate to work with many talented, supportive and generous members of our organization. Thank YOU to All.

This organization is now, for the first time, a member of the Orchid Conservation Alliance (OCA). Due to generous, financial contributions this year, DVOS was able to support the (OCA) in their effort to preserve orchids in their natural habitat.

You may want to consider personal membership of the OCA and assist in creating preserves protecting not only the orchids, but other organisms living in the same space.

For additional information: <https://orchidconservationalliance.org/about/>

I am pleased to confirm that Diablo View Orchid Society will have another, progressive year under new leadership.

At the Holiday Party, we will vote for and support our proposed slate of new officers for 2018:

- 1) **President : Marcia Hart**
- 2) **Board Member : Kevin Jones**
- 3) **Member Mentor: Sung Lee**

Enjoy your orchids, and see you soon!

Cheers,

Renate Johnson
President, DVOS



Ted McClellan is honored!

Congratulations on your success as a novice hybridizer!

It is an honor to have a member of Diablo View Orchid Society published in the AOS Magazine! His article is in the November edition.

We have enjoyed reading your account about your adventure in the world of orchid hybridizing!

One of his hybrids →



**Pages 4 thru 7 of this
newsletter were taken
from the December 2017
AOS Corner**

Bio of Marcia Hart

Marcia is a third generation San Franciscan. She has lived on the East Coast (Mystic, CN) and in Alaska (Kodiak Island) over the years before settling in the bay area and buying her home in 1978.

She has always been interested in gardening and garden clubs and has been an officer in all of them (San Leandro Dahlia Club, Clayton Valley Garden Club and African Violet Club).

Her home doesn't have a lot of land around it, but she has managed to plant enough to get over 10 different crops during the year. She is constantly experimenting with new plantings.

Marcia became a accredited Dahlia Judge for the August Dahlia Shows in the Bay Area, but after getting her greenhouse, her interest turned to orchids. She has been more and more successful in getting them to rebloom.

In the picture, Marcia is in Halong Bay, Vietnam. The Harts were touring Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam and Thailand in November. That's why they missed the November meeting.



DVOS Board Slate 2018

The following is the proposed slate of officers for 2018. If there are no additional / opposing nominations, *we will hold a voice vote at the Holiday Party on December 14th to approve this slate.*

President:
Marcia Hart

Co-Vice Presidents:
Betty Chinn and Lisa Chow

Treasurer:
Nancy McClellan

Secretary:
Miki Ichiyangi

Immediate Past President:
Renate Johnson

Board Members:
Ulrike Ahlborn, Linda Castleton, Eileen Jackson,
Edith Johnston, Kevin Jones, Yunor Peralta and Greg Scown

New Member Mentor:
Sung Lee



DVOS Holiday Party Gift Exchange Game Rules

1. Bring a wrapped gift--a plant or an orchid related item that you yourself would like to receive.
2. Pick up a ticket (hold onto it!) and place your gift on the table in the middle of the room. Take a look at what people brought without undoing the wrapping.
3. Each person whose ticket number is called will select a gift, also without undoing the wrapping (guessing is part of the game!), then present the gift to the audience—read the label, describe the item, etc. The next number will be called after we've all had a chance to admire your gift.
4. Put the gift on your table and keep it there where everyone can see. No putting it down on the floor or otherwise hiding it.
5. The next person whose turn it is can either "steal" yours or any other available gift. If yours is stolen, it'll be your turn next to pick.
6. Each gift may be stolen up to twice. After the second time, the gift is considered "dead," and cannot be taken away from that person.

Have fun!



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

THE DECEMBER 2017 AOS CORNER – From the desk of Denise Lucero, Vice Chair, American Orchid Society Affiliated Societies Committee (dluceroaosmembership@gmail.com)

Dr. Daniel Geiger, Chair of the Research Committee, advised that their page has been completely overhauled. New grant application guidelines have been posted and the committee members are now listed with a short bio. The Research Committee is also open to offering named awards (akin to the named plant awards). A first such award, the Chair's Award for systematics of overlooked taxa, was funded by an individual friend of AOS. If individuals, societies, or organizations are interested in that, please contact the RC Chair or the Main AOS office.

Here's a link directly to the Research Committee page: <http://www.aos.org/about-us/orchid-research.aspxAs2017>

As yearend approaches, we ask you to remind your members that The American Orchid Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting and supporting the passion for orchids through education, conservation, and research. All donations are greatly appreciated and tax-deductible.

Here's a link directly to the donation page: <https://secure.aos.org/donate/default.aspx>

Thanks for all the pics that you are sending in for the Instagram feed. It's really wonderful to see such a variety of everything orchid that's enjoyed around the globe.

Please continue to send your photos and short videos

to: americanorchidsociety@gmail.com. Be sure to send a short caption explaining your photo. Also, if you are bilingual and can include your caption in English plus your other language(s)—it will help with our universal outreach.

Don't forget to check-in on our Facebook Group Page for Affiliated Societies of the American Orchid Society. Our administrator, Chad Brinkerhuff, monitors the feed and is a great resource for all that the AOS has to offer. Keep us up to date on what's going on at your local society and let us know how we can help you. If he doesn't have the answer you need, he will find it for you.

Also, remember we have an updated [List of Speakers](#) to help you plan society meeting programs. You will now find the Affiliated Societies link on the home page under the "About Us" heading.

And... Here's a link to check it all out - <http://www.aos.org/>

December: The Month of Unbridled Joy ~ by Thomas Miranda

This is a re-print of an article from Orchids magazine, December 2013. It's still as useful today as it was when Tom first wrote it.

Gifting Your Friends with Orchids and the Joys of Growing Them

I'm not ashamed to say that of all the people who've come and gone through my life, I miss my mother, Patti, the most. This might make me a sentimental mama's boy to some, but I don't care. Mothers throughout history have always gone to heroic lengths to bring happiness to their progeny. I'll never forget one holiday season when I was eight or

nine. I was an avid collector of rare seashells (I still am) and mom took me to meet a famous local collector she read about in the newspaper to encourage my interest. There was a fascinating shell in that collection that was rare and probably one of a kind. After all these years, I've never seen another. It was beyond my imagination that I would find this rare creature inside a box under the Christmas tree that year. I don't think I can recall ever again being as ecstatic. I'll never know what she had to do, nor how much it must have cost, but that is what love is. And that year I knew I was loved.

We all have the power to create such unbridled joy. With our orchid friends, in this day of massive orchid propagation, such tasks are easy. Most adults won't indulge in that rare orchid for themselves, but you know what brings your orchid friends joy. With all the strife, division and despair we're feeling around the world, the gift of a young seedling or clone of that orchid your friend so desperately wants should go a long way to spreading much needed happiness and goodwill. This holiday season, I encourage you to spread that unbridled joy of orchid growing. You might be surprised at how good it makes you feel when full-grown adults jump up and down and run screaming around the room like beloved, happy children.

BREAK THE ICE The weather has taken a turn for the inclement with the winter season. It's bleak, barren and cold outside, but warm, buoyant and full of life in the greenhouse. Spikes are everywhere this time of year, particularly on *Phalaenopsis* and *Cymbidiums*, but also on many others triggered by cooler night temperatures and short day lengths. Collecting ice and snow can be novel ways of supplying pure water for your orchids, although you would want to melt them and allow the water to reach room temperature before applying to your plants because cold water will shock them. Imagine someone sticking your foot in an ice bucket while you're sleeping.

UP IN THE AIR There is one thing that we all tend to lack in our air this month. If you wake up with a scratchy throat and a dry mouth in the morning, it's a sign your humidity has plummeted, often to levels lower than a cactus might need. In the greenhouse, misting systems and wetting down gravel and floors can help alleviate this problem, but on windowsills this can be much more challenging. Pebble trays are one option, but any humidity that rises a few inches above the surface dissipates quickly. (A pebble or humidity tray holds wet pebbles on which containers are placed; the increased surface area of all the stones creates extra humidity around the plants.) Grouping your plants can help create a humid microclimate. Frequent misting can be beneficial, but is labor intensive. Placing plants behind a partition or shower curtain can create that humid terrarium effect, but beware of low air circulation under such circumstances. I never cease to be amazed by the ingenious ways people solve these problems for their individual conditions. If you have a novel solution you'd like to share with our readership, please send it to me.

KEEN OBSERVATION Because temperatures and day lengths have decreased dramatically over the last two months for most of us, it is more important than ever to monitor your watering, fertilizing and other proactive activities in your collection. Some frequently grown orchids, including *Cattleyas*, *Phalaenopsis* and most *Dendrobiums*, need significantly less water now than they did three or four months ago. It's okay for most succulent orchids, particularly those with large pseudobulbs, to dry out more thoroughly at this time of year. Some plants should barely be watered at all. This is especially true for deciduous dormant plants, such as *Catasetums*, *nobile*- and other deciduous-type *Dendrobiums*, many terrestrials and seasonally dry forest plants, such as *Prosthechea citrina* and *Prosthechea mariae*, that will rot if watered heavily at this time of year. Aside from books, the best way to know these things is to observe your plants daily, and learn as much about individuals as you can. At that orchid club holiday party, ask those more experienced growers about the plants you're having trouble with or don't know much about. With few exceptions, orchid people tend to be uncommonly nice. Most are happy

to help.

Tom Mirenda has been working professionally with orchids for over three decades, is an AOS accredited judge, recently coauthored The Book of Orchids: A life-size guide to 600 species from around the world and begins this month as the director of horticulture, education and outreach at the Hawaii Tropical Botanical Garden (email: biophiliak@gmail.com; www.htbg.com).

UPCOMING WEBINARS

Note: There will only be a Greenhouse Chat in the month of December. Additional webinars will be added after the new year.

American Orchid Society: Greenhouse Chat with Ron McHatton Thursday, December 14, 2017 @ 8:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST

Please join Ron McHatton, American Orchid Society Director of Education and Science Officer, who will discuss a variety of topics on orchid culture based on questions submitted by attendees. Please send you questions to stillisch@cox.net by Sunday, December 10th.

Register now using this

link: <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/2847045007049760515>

Note: After registering, you will receive a confirmation e-mail containing information about joining the seminar.

WHAT ARE WEBINARS? Webinars are an Internet conference where you can hear the speaker and view his presentation, ask questions, and hear interactions from other members of the audience. You can join either on your computer or by phone. You can join from anywhere, via your Mac, PC or even your mobile device. Audio is included, so attendees can phone in or use VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol). You will need a microphone for your computer to use VoIP.

WANT TO LEARN, BUT CAN'T MAKE THE DATE? The live webinars will be recorded and posted on the AOS website, where you will find a link allowing you to view the webinars at your convenience.

THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF ORCHIDS MAGAZINE will feature great articles and beautiful pictures on:

- Orchids Illustrated - *Gymnadenia*
- For the Novice - Gift Ideas for your Orchid Fanatic
- Genus of the Month - *Telipogon*

Telipogon ariaasii 'Cesar' AM/AOS; Photographer: Walter H. Wust



- Collector's Item - *Neobathiae grandidieriana*: Is Yours Correctly Identified?
- The New Refugium Botanicum - TBD
- OrchidRoots.org
- Photograph of the Week
- Phragmipedium Tall Tails 'Gayle's Ozone', AM/AOS - without a greenhouse



Phragmipedium Tall Tails 'Gayle's Ozone' AM/AOS; Photographer: Larry Vierheilig
YOUR SOCIETY CAN EARN FREE AOS MEMBERSHIP EXTENSIONS:

Encourage **new** membership to AOS. Affiliated societies can now earn a one-month extension of their AOS society membership for each **new** AOS member that they refer (note: membership renewals don't count). For now, the only way to take advantage of this program is to download and **print** the [AOS Membership Application Form](#), check the box "yes" to indicate that you are a member of a local orchid society, most importantly fill in the NAME of your orchid society, and **mail** the completed application and payment to: AOS, 10901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, Florida 33156.

With twelve new AOS members, your affiliated society can have a FULL YEAR OF FREE AOS membership! Be sure to have membership applications with your society's name already filled in and available at your club meetings!

Remember to let your members know, we want to sweeten the deal and give them every possible reason to join AOS today! If they become an American Orchid Society member, they have considerably more resources at their disposal making growing orchids even more enjoyable and successful.

Digital Access To Over 350+
past issues of Orchids magazine extending back to 1932!

ALSO FEATURED IN ORCHIDS MAGAZINE!

16-page award gallery of breath taking pictures of recently awarded orchids.

RECENT ORCHID AWARDS PICTURES ON THE AOS WEBSITE:

See fabulous pictures of the most breathtakingly beautiful orchids receiving awards from the AOS! Visit the new "[Latest Orchid Awards](#)" page on the AOS website to enjoy these stunning photographs! Click on the thumbnails to see them in larger format. Free to members and nonmembers.



Cattleya pumila 'Jocelyn' HCC/AOS; Photographer: Ramon de los Santos

**Let's grow together,
Denise Lucero**