



# Diablo View Orchid Society Newsletter

<http://www.geocities.com/diabloviewos/>

December 2000

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## Program

### Holiday Party!!!

(see pg. 2 for details)

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#### Meeting Date, Time and Location

**When:** Thursday, December 14, 2000 @ 7 P.M. (note time)

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

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### Upcoming Events:

#### December, 2000

- 14 General meeting & Holiday  
Pot-Luck

#### January, 2001

- 11 General meeting. Speaker: Rob  
Terry

#### February, 2001

- 9 Club auction at general meeting
- 22-25 Pacific Orchid Expo.  
Ft. Mason Expo Center

#### March, 2001

- 8 General meeting. Speaker:  
Heather Drobis

#### April, 2001

- 12 General meeting. Speaker:  
Dennis Olivas
- 22 DVOS Orchid Sale  
at the Orchid Ranch

#### May, 2001

- 10 General meeting. Program TBA

#### June, 2001

- 14 General meeting. Speaker:  
Nick Burnett

#### October, 2001

- 11 General meeting. Speaker:  
Weyman Bussey

#### December, 2001

- 13 DVOS Christmas Party

# Holiday Pot-Luck Dinner!!

It's that time of year to stuff ourselves like ol' Santa Claus and make merry! Our DVOS holiday party is a wonderful event and the food is dee-licious! To assure this is a success, we need the help from our fantastic gourmet cooks. Please bring a dish for 10-12 servings according to the first letter of your last name (no orchid soup please):

A - F	Dessert
G - O	Casserole
P - T	Salad
U - Z	Appetizer

Don't forget to bring your own plate and silverware. Additional fare of ham, turkey, roast beef, and refreshments will be provided by the club. If you have a plant(s) for Show and Tell, please decorate them with a festive flare and you may win a prize! There will be door prizes as well! We also will have a great gift exchange, so bring an orchid plant or related orchid item (bark, calendar, garden gloves, etc.) all wrapped up. We will also have a short program of pure holiday fun presented by our own Ms. Claus herself, Sue Fordyce. Don't miss the fun and BYOM (bring your own mistletoe, sans mealybug). No BAH HUMBUGS allowed!!

-Brenda Aday  
-Sue Fordyce

**ARTICLE DEADLINE FOR  
JANUARY NEWSLETTER  
IS MONDAY, DEC. 25**

## **DVOS STAFF**

*President* - Sue Fordyce  
*Vice-President* - Bill Hetrick  
*Secretary* - Ulrike Ahlborn  
*Treasurer* - John Chamberlain

*AOS Rep.* - Barbara Tague  
*BBQ* - Bob VanGalder  
*Culture Sessions* - Bill Hetrick  
*Greenhouse Tours* - Kathy Barrett  
*Historian* - Nathalie Smith  
*Indoor/Outdoor Group* - Open  
*Librarian* - Phyllis Arthur  
*Lights&Equipment* - Juan Bofill  
*Membership* - Nick Doe  
*Newspaper/Ads* - Open  
*Plant Sales* - Jeanette Bean  
Madge Fordyce  
*Raffle/Other sales* - Nancy Pak  
*Refreshments* - Millie Ray/Brenda Aday  
*S.F. Show* - Ron Bettencourt  
*Sound System* - Dan West  
*Webmaster* - Nick Doe  
*Welcome Hostess* - Nancy Pak

*Board Members* - Phyllis Arthur;  
Tom Bean; Karen Moonitz; Nathalie  
Smith; David Tomassini  
*Newsletter Editor*

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

## Membership News

At the October meeting we welcomed six new guests: Diane Aspinwahl from Danville; James Clemats and Betty Wilson from Oakley; and Gina D. Matteo, Faye McCann and Sharon Nestore from Walnut Creek.

Rick Sumner joined us for the November presentation. Rick was the DVOS newsletter editor before he moved to Browns Valley. Welcome back.

A note to our guests who attended our general meetings prior to October 2000. 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 before the end of this month. You may also bring them to the next general meeting.

Yes, it is membership renewal time again! Please have a look at the address label. If you see 2000 next to your name, it means that your membership for the year 2001 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, the fee is \$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 Ulrike at the next 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:

[ulrieka@usa.net](mailto:ulrieka@usa.net)

or call me during the day at (510) 741-6762 or at (925) 830-8830 in the evening.

-Ulrike Ahlborn & Nick Doe  
Membership

## An Unfortunate Incident

DVOS long-time member Pamela Leaver has been growing and collecting orchids for 26 years. Her greenhouse, with all the species, burned down two weeks ago. Arson was suspected. Pamela always delighted our members at the monthly meetings with her tiny miniature plants; so tiny that she brought along her magnifying glass so that we could see the flowers! We are so sorry to hear the sad news.

- Barbara Tague

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## News from the AOS Judging World

A word to the wise....

Our AOS judges want to become more 'user friendly' by encouraging more participation in the monthly AOS judgments. They'll lighten up on the screening process for a while in order to encourage hobbyist participation. (This means you!) Whoa! If this is true then we should take advantage of this momentary lapse in sanity, because it won't last long! If you have a plant you think might be worth having them look at, take it to the next judging. The Oakland Judging Center is at Lake Merritt, in the Garden Center. Judging is always the 3rd Monday of the month, just before the Oakland meeting. Plants should be there at 6:30pm. Remember, never pre-screen your own plants, make the judges do that work. You might get surprised!

- Kathy Barrett

# **YUMMY RECIPES**

## **Raspberry Diagonals**

1 c. butter  
1/2 c. sugar  
2 tsp vanilla  
1/2 tsp salt  
2 1/2 cups flour  
Raspberry Jam

3/4 c. powdered sugar  
2 tsp almond extract

Cream butter, sugar, vanilla and salt until fluffy. Gradually stir in flour until blended. Divide dough into thirds, in ropes (I use my hands to work the dough). Place on cookie sheet 3" apart and depress centers. Fill depression with raspberry jam. Bake in 350 deg. oven 12-15 mins until golden brown.

Blend powdered sugar and almond extract and drizzle over the raspberry jam (I use a brush for the icing). Cut diagonally while warm. Enjoy!

- Nathalie Smith

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## **Yet More News from the AOS Judging World**

### **Tax Benefits for Judges**

Some AOS judges have asked about obtaining substantiation documentation for unreimbursed expenditures incurred when providing services on behalf of the AOS. If you need a letter from the AOS for your more-than-\$250 in unreimbursed travel, etc., expenditures for judging at an event away from your home, please send a request to Kelly Friese, Controller, at AOS Headquarters, 6000 South Olive Avenue, West Palm Beach, Florida 33405.

Your request must include:

1. Date(s) of the expenditures
2. Name of Event
3. Location - city, state, country
4. Services provided to the AOS at the event.

5. A good-faith estimate of the value, if any, of anything you received in exchange for your services. Items of a nominal value (tote bags received after paying a show registration fee in order to judge), do not need to be valued and included.

6. A self-addressed, stamped envelope to facilitate the process.

You do not need to send receipts or copies of receipts. You do not need a substantiation letter for separate contributions of less than \$250, regardless of whether the sum of the contributions made by the donor during a taxable year equals \$250 or more. Based on the assumption that the AOS is not providing goods and services in consideration for these unreimbursed expenditures, these substantiation letters or written acknowledgments from the AOS must be issued by the earlier of the date you file your original return for the taxable year in which the contribution was made or the actual due date (including extensions) for filing your original tax return for that year. If you have questions, you may want to consult with your personal tax advisor before sending your requests to the Society's Controller.

Kelly Friese, AOS Controller.

American Orchid Society Awards Quarterly  
Volume 28, Number 4, 1997

- Kathy Barrett

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## **Donations wanted!**

Want to get a great tax deduction? The DVOS will gladly accept your donation of good-running vehicles, or other real property! Contact Dan Chiappone or any of the board members for details.

## Culture Session Summary

Miltoniopsis Culture Session with Francisco Baptista

At the November Culture Session, Francisco Baptista of the 'Paph House' shared his tips for successful *Miltonia* and *Miltoniopsis* culture. He emphasized that his methods work well for his greenhouse environment. Others will have to adjust his recommendations according to the conditions at hand.

Most important with these plants is they must not dry out. Frequent watering is important. In the winter, Francisco waters twice a week. In the summer, he waters more frequently sometimes even twice a day during the hottest days of the season.

On the flip side, with all the watering you want to be sure that the media allows the roots to breathe so they don't rot. To accomplish this Francisco uses a good draining media of almost equal parts #3 perlite and small bark (he uses a little more bark than perlite). To this mix he adds 5% rock wool.

When repotting Francisco recommends filling the bottom 1/4 to 1/3 of the pot with styrofoam peanuts, then add the bark mix. The bulbs should be level with the rim of the pot. Francisco insists these plants tolerate repotting any time of the year.

These orchids like shade, and too much sun will cause yellow leaves. Black spots on leaves may be due to water splashing on the leaves. At the Paph House the plants are fertilized with Peter's 20-20-20 fertilizer at the recommended strength on the label.



*Francisco Baptista and Nathalie Smith*

**THIS  
SPACE  
AVAILABLE**

**Livermore**

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

**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  
 586 El Capitan Dr.; 925-837-1780

**Half Moon Bay**

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



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