

APRIL 2013

*Diablo View*



[www.DVOS.org](http://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:

**Jacob Knecht - will talk about favorite orchids and growing under lights** *See P 3 for details*

## PLANT TABLE PROVIDED BY:

*April's plant table will be a "Grab Bag" drawing. Each ticket will cost \$10 - \$12. You are guaranteed to win a plant .*

## SPECIAL PLANT DRAWING:

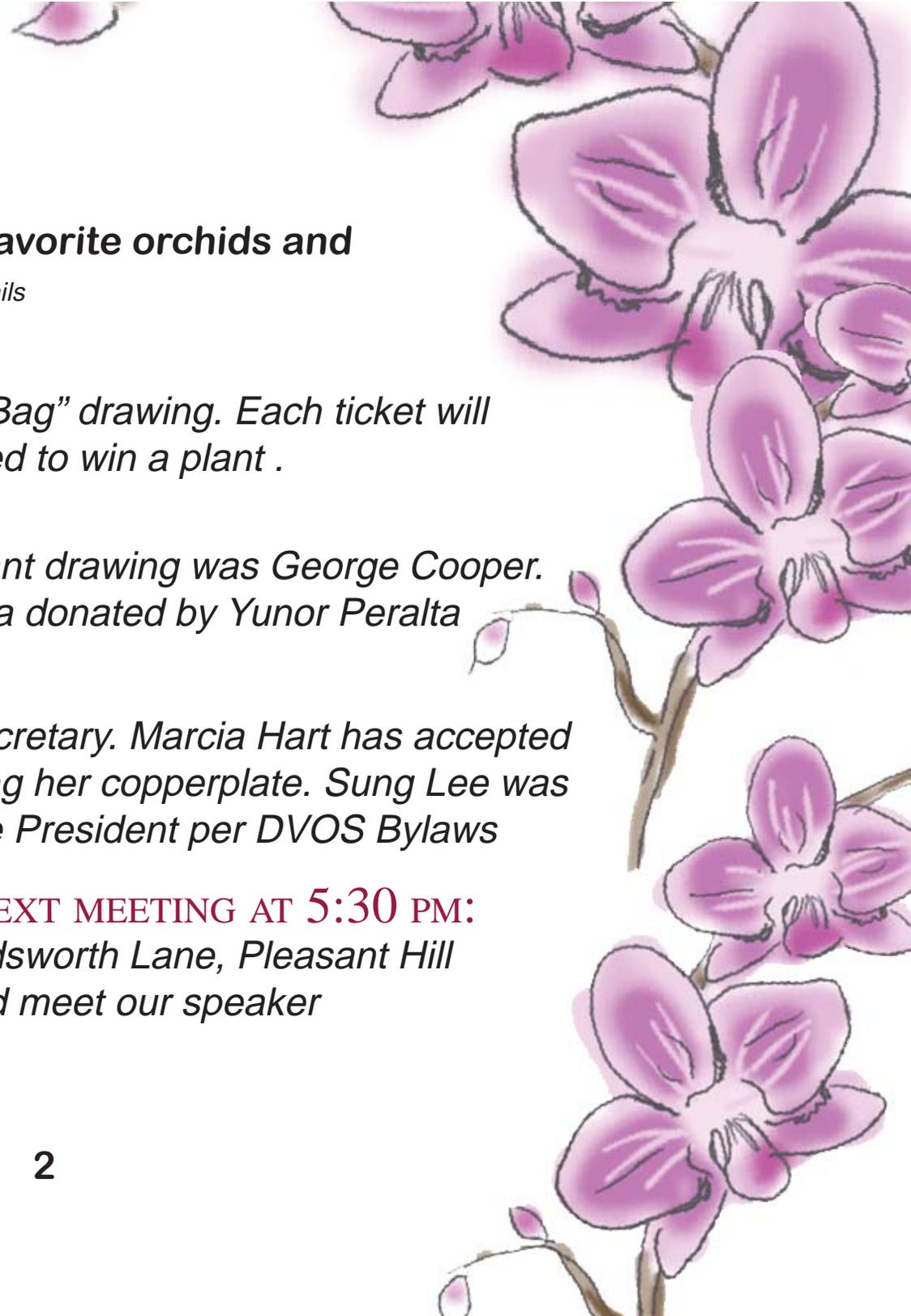
*Winner of the "Members Only" plant drawing was George Cooper. He won a very special masdevallia donated by Yunor Peralta*

## BOARD CHANGES:

*Rodney Kline has resigned as Secretary. Marcia Hart has accepted the quill and scroll and will be practicing her copperplate. Sung Lee was appointed to the Board vacancy by the President per DVOS Bylaws*

## SPEAKER'S DINNER BEFORE OUR NEXT MEETING AT 5:30 PM:

*Sichuan Fortune House, 41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill everyone is welcome to come and meet our speaker*



# AT OUR NEXT MEETING APRIL 11



*Jacob Uluwehi Knecht has been mesmerized by plants for as long as he can remember and his passion for orchids species began at age 11. He has worked in landscape architecture, wholesale and retail nursery operations and is now pursuing his dream of studying botany and growing the plants he loves most. He has grown orchids in Hawaii, southern California and for the past three years, in Berkeley, California. His collection is focused on his favourite group of orchids, the angraecoids, as well as colourful Dendrobium and other vandaceous species all grown between four different growing environments.*



C. Nancy Off



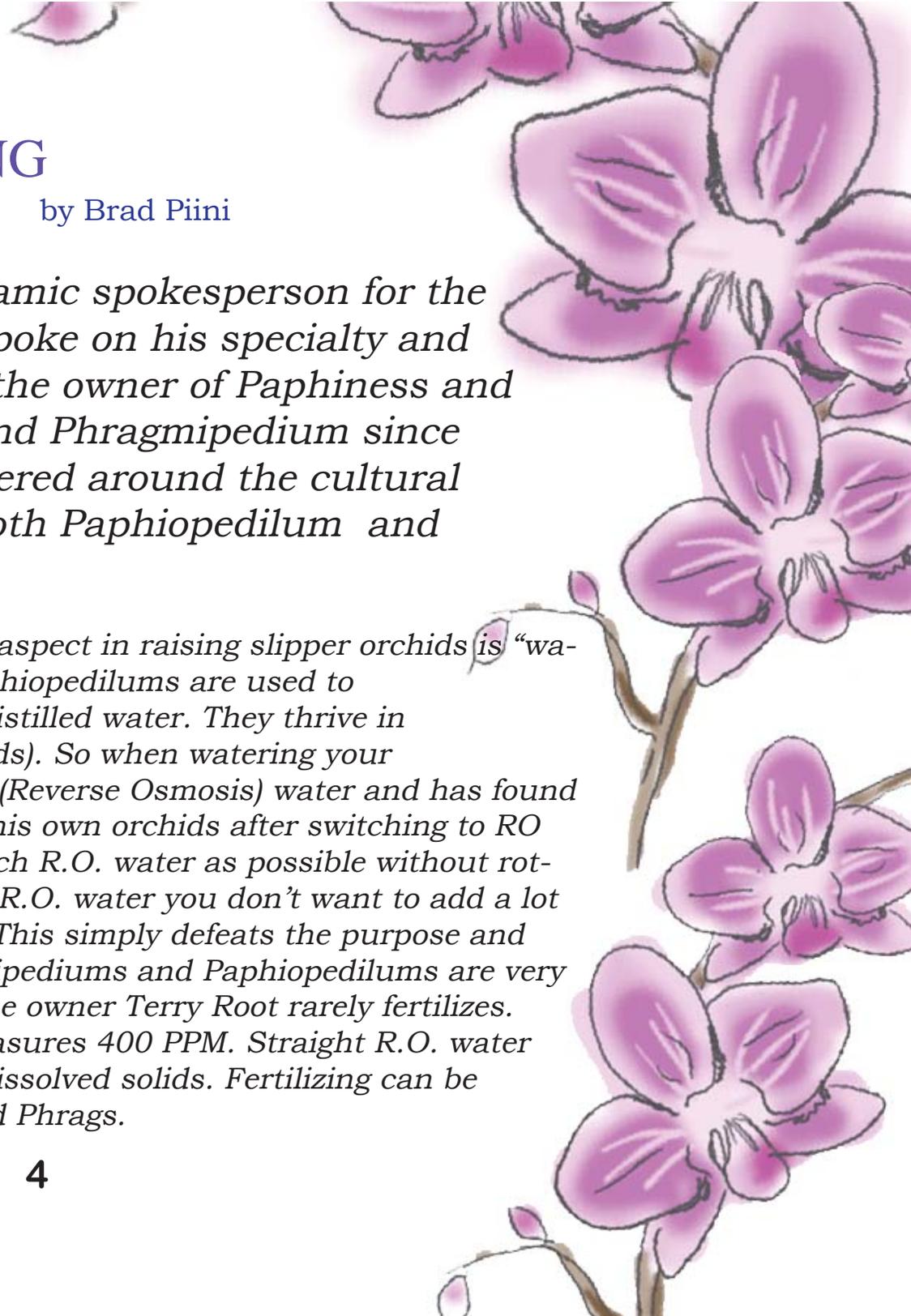
Den. Roy Tokunaga

# AT OUR MARCH MEETING

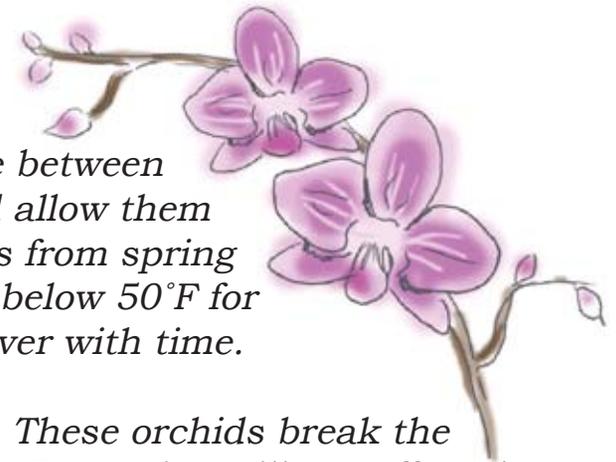
by Brad Piini

*Dean Hung, PhD was our dynamic spokesperson for the March DVOS meeting. Dr. Hung spoke on his specialty and passion, slipper orchids. Dean is the owner of Paphiness and has been raising Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium since 2001. Dean's talk was largely centered around the cultural requirements of slipper orchids, both Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium.*

*According to Dean the most important aspect in raising slipper orchids is "water quality". Not potting mix or fertilizer. Paphiopedilums are used to rain water in the wild, which is essentially distilled water. They thrive in water with very low TDS (total dissolved solids). So when watering your personal collection, Dean recommends R.O. (Reverse Osmosis) water and has found a substantial change in the performance of his own orchids after switching to RO water. He recommends watering with as much R.O. water as possible without rotting the roots. Be aware that when you use R.O. water you don't want to add a lot of fertilizer (Salts) back into the R.O. water. This simply defeats the purpose and raises the TDS in your water. Again Phragmipediums and Paphiopedilums are very light feeders. At the Orchid Zone Nursery, the owner Terry Root rarely fertilizes. When he does the TDS in his water only measures 400 PPM. Straight R.O. water usually contains less than 10 PPM of total dissolved solids. Fertilizing can be done by foliar or root feeding with Paphs and Phrags.*



*The temperature requirements for Paphs and Phrags are considered to be intermediate. Try to keep your temperature range between 60°F – 65°F on the low end, and mid 80's on the high end. This will allow them to grow well. In the bay area, this can be done fairly safely outdoors from spring until fall. If your slipper orchids are exposed to cold temperatures below 50°F for an extended period of time, they will show side effects but will recover with time.*



*Re-potting – When Dean re-pots, he does so every 18 months. These orchids break the rules in that they can be re-potted even when the plant is in bloom. Re-potting will not affect the existing blossoms on the plants. New root shoots are not a requirement. The pots he uses can be plastic or terracotta. He uses a mix that contains 40% fine Rexius Fir Bark, 45% Lava Rock and the remainder being charcoal or perlite.*

*How do you re-bloom your slippers? Paphs and Phrags will only re-bloom from the new growths. The old growths will not produce blossoms. To stimulate your Paphs and Phrags to re-bloom you can cold shock them. Keeping them at 50°F for one month will stimulate the blooming process. Almost any kind of stress will cause the plant to re-bloom. Many growers will deprive the plant of light and water to stress the orchid into blooming. Dean says slipper orchids are tremendously tough plants and fairly easy to grow. They are sensitive to water quality but very forgiving in every other way. Even viruses will not show up in the flowers. No color breaks or streaking will be evident in the blossoms.*

*Thank you Dean for the entertaining talk!*



# How DVOS works

Miki Ichiyanagi

As an absent-minded grower of orchids for many years, it was an eye-opener when I first started attending the DVOS meetings a couple years ago. I had no idea about the various cultural requirements of specific plants. Even more surprising was the beehive-like activity I saw at every society meeting. It's taken me a while to get a good sense of how everything comes together, and what some of the society jargon means. I thought it might be useful for everyone to have a brief description of how the monthly meetings are put together, and to find out how all of us can participate in the process to make belonging to this society and growing orchids even more enjoyable. In future installments we'll touch on other activities, including the board meetings, Summer Auction, DVOS Show and Sale, Christmas Party, and The Pacific Orchid Expo (POE).

## Monthly Meetings

Meetings start at 7:30 on the second Thursday of most months. Some members start to arrive by 7:00 to **set up the room**, including tables for the Show and Tell, the raffle, and reception area. Here's a **volunteer opportunity**: More people can help set up and take down the tables at the end.

The **equipment** for the presentations such as lights, slide projector, audio equipment, and computer, are brought by Dave



*Den. Specio-kingianum*

Tomassini, Liz Charlton, and Jamie Wasson. Consider arriving early to **help set these up.**



**The refreshment break** with its chance to chat and nosh is a big attraction for all of us. Currently Brenda Aday is in charge of plating and clean-up. People who bring goodies are given a raffle ticket for a chance to win a plant. Thanks go to Dave Tomassini for taking away the trash every month, keeping the Contra Costa Water District (our hosts) happy.

**The DVOS library** is managed by Phyllis Arthur, who sets up at the top of the auditorium with a selection of great books. I've found this service invaluable; many of these books and magazines are hard to come by. If you have a specific book in mind, why not check with Phyllis to see if DVOS owns a copy. You also might **give her a hand carrying books.**

Who doesn't like a good **raffle table**? The plants are purchased from the speaker of the month or are ordered from a nursery. Ticket sales cover part of the cost. The plant table is often related to the speaker's topic, and having a chance to try a new genus, species, or hybrid at such a low cost is one of the great benefits of membership. Tickets are gladly sold by Carol and Casey Campbell at the reception desk. If you **bring a plant for Show and Tell, or wear your name tag, you'll get a free ticket.**

Also on the reception desk are membership-related items such as sign-up sheets and badges managed by our membership coordinator and Webmaster Ulrike Ahlborn. Make sure to **pay your membership dues** at the beginning of the year. The cost is miniscule compared to what you receive in return.

For me, the highlight of the monthly meetings is the **Show and Tell**. Seeing what members grow in this region is really inspiring. I'll be honest: I drool over every plant every month! Nancy and Ted McClellan organize volunteers to help with **ribbon judging**, and Rodney Kline and Jamie Wasson do a fine job photographing the plants. The awards indicate which plants are particularly noteworthy that month.

**Volunteering as a ribbon judge** is an excellent way to learn what to look for in plants. No credentials necessary—talk to Nancy or Ted.

Long-time members such as Dennis Olivas, Kathy Barrett and Carol Klonowski, who are also American Orchid Society judges, help us learn about the history and culture of the plants submitted for Show and Tell. Members can **help hold up the plants** to the light so the crowd can see.

Bay Area orchidists are very lucky to have so many accomplished growers among our ranks; all generously share their experience and advice when they speak at our meetings. Vice President Yunor Peralta schedules and coordinates the **monthly speakers**; Board Member Greg Scown performs the introductions. Some speakers are local; others are invited from out of the area, even across the country, at great expense. **Members are invited** to get to know the speakers at the Speaker's Dinner which takes place right before the meeting. See the newsletter for details and let Yunor know a week ahead if you want to attend.

Jamie Wasson and Liz Charlton are co-editors of the **monthly newsletter**, which cover the activities of DVOS and the Bay Area orchid community. Brad Piini's report on the previous month's speaker presentation is a wonderful bonus for those of us who miss a meeting or can't read our own notes. Anyone wanting to add local event information or otherwise **contribute to the newsletter** is invited to contact Jamie or Liz (dvosnews@gmail.com) by the middle of the month.

And finally, current President Eileen Jackson acts as **MC** and is the glue that keeps all these parts together. Thank you for serving a second term, Eileen. I'm sure anyone will be happy to **pitch in** if you need help.

cont. p.9



Thanks to all of the volunteers, named and unnamed, regular and occasional, who come in early and stay late, who give up their refreshment breaks or work on tasks at home to make the meetings fun and informative. Orchids provide incredible rewards on their own. When everyone comes together, society meetings are the icing on the cake.

- Miki Ichiyanagi  
Board Member



*Masd. leptoura*

## *Membership News*

courtesy of Ulrike Ahlborn,

Membership Chair

[membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

**Membership Dues are Now Due for  
2013.**

**General Members/Families \$20**

**Commercial Members \$25**

**Lifetime Members \$300**

If you are unable to receive the newsletter by email and need a B&W copy mailed to you, there is an additional \$10 charge for copying and postage.

New Member/ Renewal application:

[www.dvos.org/About/membersh.htm](http://www.dvos.org/About/membersh.htm)

**2013 Dues are now past due  
You must be a paid member  
to be included in the 2013  
Roster booklet and  
to receive the DVOS  
newsletter.**

The DVOS will participate in the  
**Sacramento Orchid Society's 66th annual show**  
*In the Mood For Orchids*

April 20 - 21 at the Scottish Rite Temple  
6151 H St., Sacramento, CA

Last time we participated at the SOS show was when they held the AOS Trustees meeting there back in '04. We'll put in a small display, about the same size as the one we did for the POE, so if you have any orchids in bloom please bring them to our April meeting. If anyone has a small statue of a couple waltzing that we can use as representation of the theme in the display please bring it too. Nothing fancy, please - we'd hate it if it got damaged. This was a spur of the moment decision to have some fun and have



Visit: **Diablo View Orchid Society**

*Lc. Caligula 'Hadrian'*



# D & D Flowers Spring Open House

May 18th & 19th, 2013 9:00 AM to 3 PM

D & D Flowers is not open to the public except for our bi-annual open house events

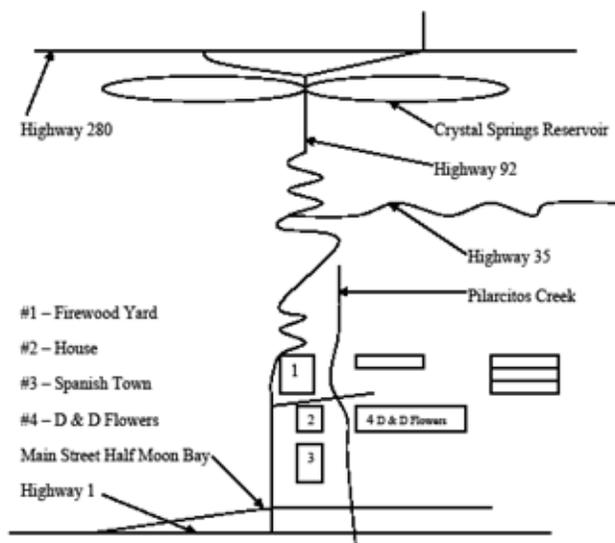


Really good deals... priced to sell. There is no list of plants available and divisions are sold on first come for serve. We will be having a \$7.00 sale on many cattleya, oncidium and cymbidium seedlings and back bulbs. We accept cash, checks, or credit cards.

Help your local orchid society. For every \$25 you spend, you may enter your local orchid society in a raffle for their monthly opportunity table. 30 healthy plants (some in bloom) will be award to the winning society. Winning society will be picked at the end of Sunday. The society must redeem their prize to D & D Flowers within 6 months of this sale.



*Max. picta*

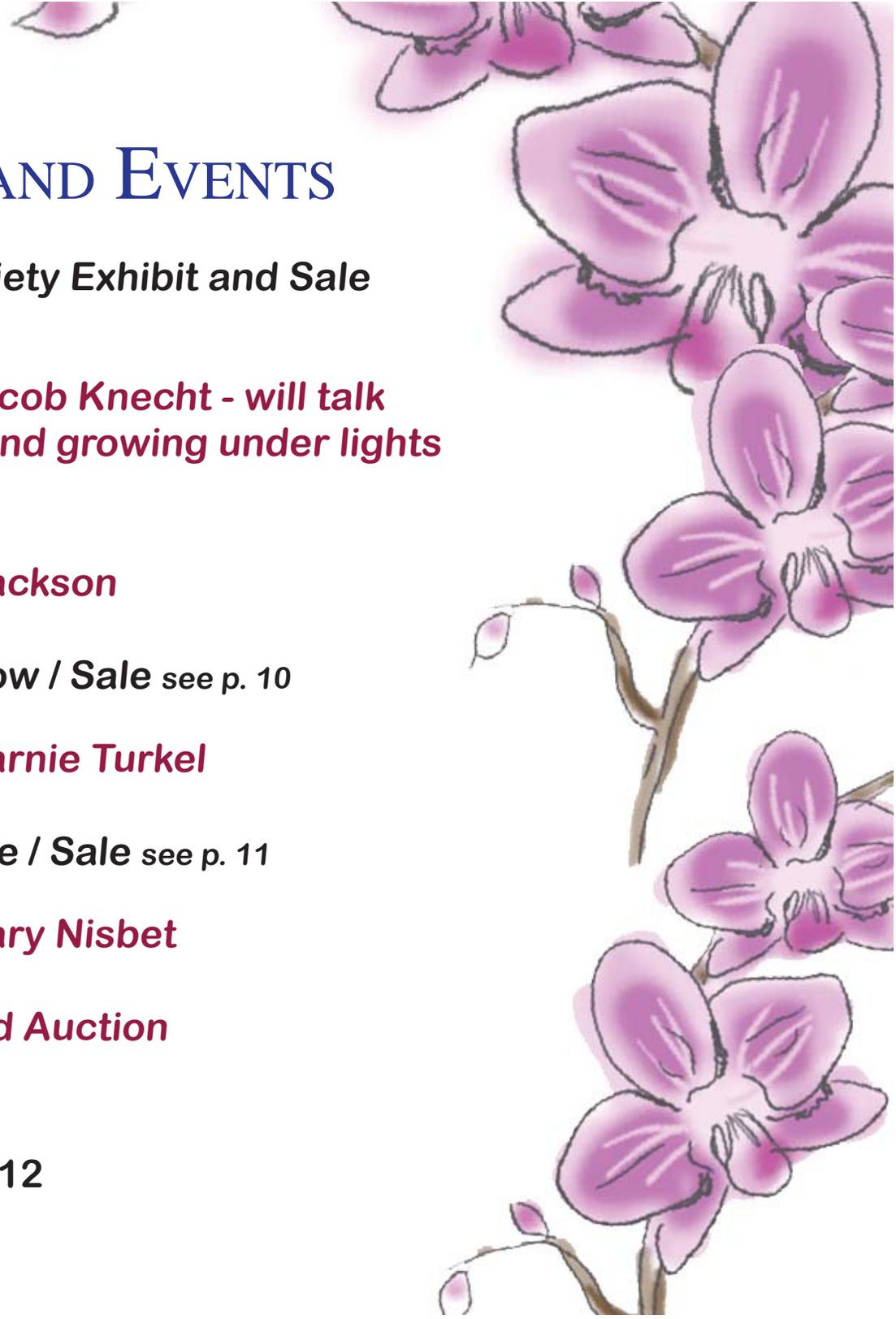


Half Moon Bay 1/3 mile east of Main Street off Hwy 92.

Just east of Spanish Town on Hwy. 92 there is a house and firewood business. Turn onto the street between the house and firewood business and go over the bridge into the greenhouse complex.

# UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

- April 6-7:** Napa Valley Orchid Society Exhibit and Sale  
- see p.13
- April 11:** DVOS meeting 7:30 - Jacob Knecht - will talk  
about favorite orchids and growing under lights
- April 18:** DVOS Board Meeting  
at the home of Eileen Jackson
- April 20-21:** Sacramento Orchid Show / Sale see p. 10
- May 9:** DVOS meeting 7:30 - Marnie Turkel
- May 18-19:** D&D Spring Open House / Sale see p. 11
- June 13:** DVOS meeting 7:30 - Mary Nisbet
- August:** Annual DVOS Picnic and Auction



# REFRESHMENTS FOR THE APRIL MEETING WILL BE PROVIDED BY:



## Napa Valley Orchid Society Exhibit and Sale April 6-7

### FOOD:

*(Food must be cut into servings)*

Greg Scown

Inge Brooks

Gina Lee

Sung Lee

### DRINKS:

Jim Wert

### ICE:

Miki Ichiyonagi

### SET-UP/CLEAN-UP:

Brenda Aday

at the Napa Senior Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa In addition to a fabulous offering of orchids to view and buy, orchid accessories from Noble Emery will be for sale. This will be the last time Noble's accessories will be available because of his broken hip. Available will be: 1/4 cu. ft. sacks of Rexius fine and medium bark, 1/4 cu. ft. sacks of coconut mix , N. Z. sphagnum moss in 150 mg. and 1/2 kilo bags, 1 and/or 1.25 lb. bottles of fertilizer (30-10-10, 20-20-20, 10-30-20 and urea free), plus miscellaneous items. The items will be priced at cost, with sales tax included, plus 25% profit to the Society.

# Awards DVOS Feburary

## Novice

- 1st *Onc. Masai Red 'Anthura'* Barbara Ungersma
- 2nd *Den. Roy Tokunaga* Barbara Ungersma
- 3rd *C. Nancy Off* Marcia Hart

## Intermediate

- 1st *Den. Specio-kingianum* Jinnie Tom
- 2nd *Masd. MacInnes 'Golden Heart'* Miki Ichiyangi
- 3rd *Max. picta* Eileen Jackson

## Advanced

- 1st *Slc. Tutankamen* Tom Pickford
- 2nd *Lc. Caligula 'Hadrian'* Cheryl Phillipson
- 3rd *Masd. Dennis Riphenburg* Ken Cook

## Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

*Masd. leptoura* Miki Ichiyangi



*Slc. Tutankamen*



*Masd. Dennis Riphenburg*



*Masd. MacInnes 'Golden Heart'*



# 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

MEMBERSHIP: ULRIKE AHLBORN [membership@dvos.org](mailto:membership@dvos.org)

NEWSLETTER: JAMIE WASSON, LIZ CHARLTON  
[dvosnews@gmail.com](mailto:dvosnews@gmail.com)

WEBMASTER: ULRIKE AHLBORN  
[webmaster@dvos.org](mailto:webmaster@dvos.org)

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

GREENHOUSE TOURS: PARKY PARKISON

REFRESHMENTS: EILEEN JACKSON

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](http://www.commercialplantservices.com)

### California Orchids

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

[www.californiaorchids.com](http://www.californiaorchids.com)

Orchids by Neal (510) 499-8424

*Onc. Masai Red*  
*'Anthura'*

