

AUGUST 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:**

There will not be a meeting in August. Instead we will have our annual picnic. on August 10th. See p. 3 - 4

**BOARD MEETING:**

The next board meeting will be on Aug. 15 at the home of Kathy Barrett



*Den. tobaense*



*Bulb. dearei*



# IT'S TIME FOR OUR ANNUAL BBQ AND AUCTION

This year's theme is



**O**ur annual BBQ and Auction will be at the home of Bob and Mary Lou Van Galder (look in your Membership Roster for the address in Lafayette) Saturday, Aug 10th.

**T**here will be a *\$50 prize* for the best theme related costume.

# What you need to know for the picnic

The Society will provide the BBQ and drinks. Members should bring a side dish and a *nice* orchid, or orchid-related donation for the auction.

And don't forget your checkbook!



V, Princess Mikasa 'Blue'

If your Last Name  
Name begins with: \_\_\_\_\_ You bring:

A - E  
F - I  
J - Q  
R - Z

Side Dish  
Salad  
Hors d'oeuvre  
Dessert

## AT OUR JULY MEETING:

“Just a spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down.” That famous line from the movie “Mary Poppins” was the same thought that Dennis Olivas conveyed as he talked to the DVOS group about reviving your sick orchids. Dennis Olivas, our own orchid expert, was the DVOS July speaker. He spoke on the subject of raising cymbidiums and phalaenopsis for the novice orchid grower.

Dennis started his talk with some knowledge about raising cymbidiums, which are grown almost exclusively outdoors in the San Francisco Bay Area. Dennis likes to treat his cymbidium collection with a lot of neglect and a little slow release fertilizer (18-18-18). During the growing season, May- October, Dennis uses Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) at a rate of 2 tablespoons per gallon of water one time per month to stimulate his cymbidiums to produce better spikes. The Epsom salts cause the roots of the orchid to branch out and grow, and when the roots are thriving the plant will thrive. The result is a plant that will produce stronger and showier flower spikes when they bloom. Make sure that you water your plants first before applying the Epsom salts to avoid burning the roots. We have all seen the classic giant cymbidium in a barrel that is overgrown and is ready to split the container. What do you do with this monster? Dennis says leave it alone and the result will be one large showy display of flowers when it blooms.

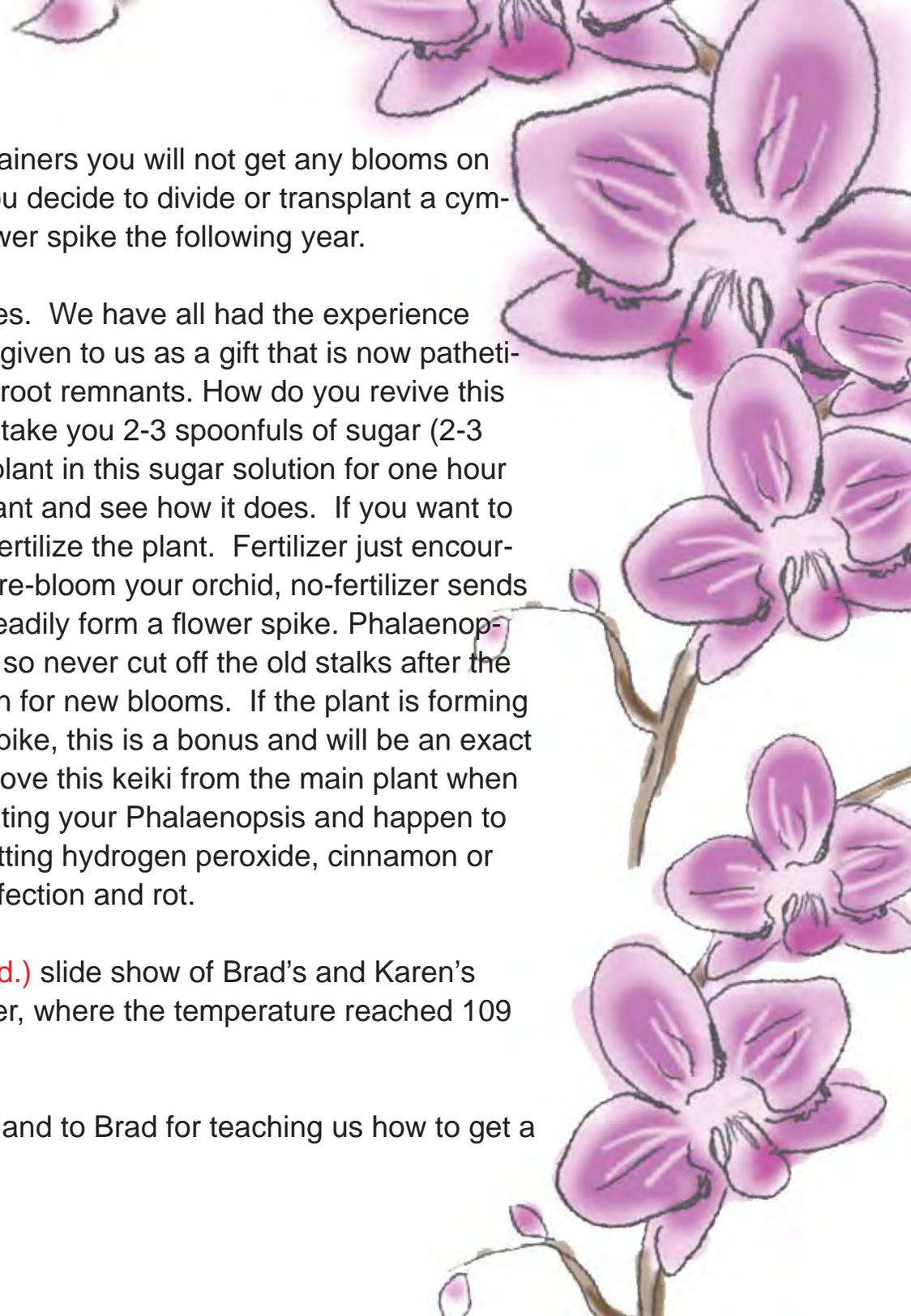


If you decide to break it up into 40 one gallon containers you will not get any blooms on these plants for the first year or two. Every time you decide to divide or transplant a cymbidium the plant will react by not sending out a flower spike the following year.

So what about that spoonful of sugar? Ah yes. We have all had the experience with a phalaenopsis orchid that was purchased or given to us as a gift that is now pathetically wrinkled with limp leaves and only has a few root remnants. How do you revive this plant? Answer, a spoonful of sugar! Actually, it will take you 2-3 spoonfuls of sugar (2-3 tablespoons in a quart of water). Place the entire plant in this sugar solution for one hour to perk up these weak plants. Then, pot up the plant and see how it does. If you want to re-bloom your Phalaenopsis, Dennis says do not fertilize the plant. Fertilizer just encourages the plant to form new growths and thrive. To re-bloom your orchid, no-fertilizer sends the plant into reproduction mode and it will more readily form a flower spike. Phalaenopsis orchids will re-bloom from the old flower spike, so never cut off the old stalks after the blooms are gone because these are the foundation for new blooms. If the plant is forming a keiki or baby plant on the end of the old flower spike, this is a bonus and will be an exact clone of the original plant. You can sever and remove this keiki from the main plant when it has formed 3 or more roots. If you are transplanting your Phalaenopsis and happen to damage or tear the roots, Dennis recommends putting hydrogen peroxide, cinnamon or Neosporin on the cut to help it heal and prevent infection and rot.

We were also treated to a **fabulous** (ed.) slide show of Brad's and Karen's death march through the Grand Canyon in Summer, where the temperature reached 109 degrees.

Thank you Dennis for the sweet knowledge! and to Brad for teaching us how to get a Grand Canyon permit two years in a row.





*Den. treacherianum (Epigeneium lyonii)*



*Den. Little Green Apples*

## Orchids in the Park

Sale and Exhibition  
Sept. 28-29 10 am - 5 pm

County Fair Building  
9th Ave. & Lincoln Way,  
San Francisco, CA  
Admission \$4, Seniors \$3, children  
free

[www.orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://www.orchidsanfrancisco.org)

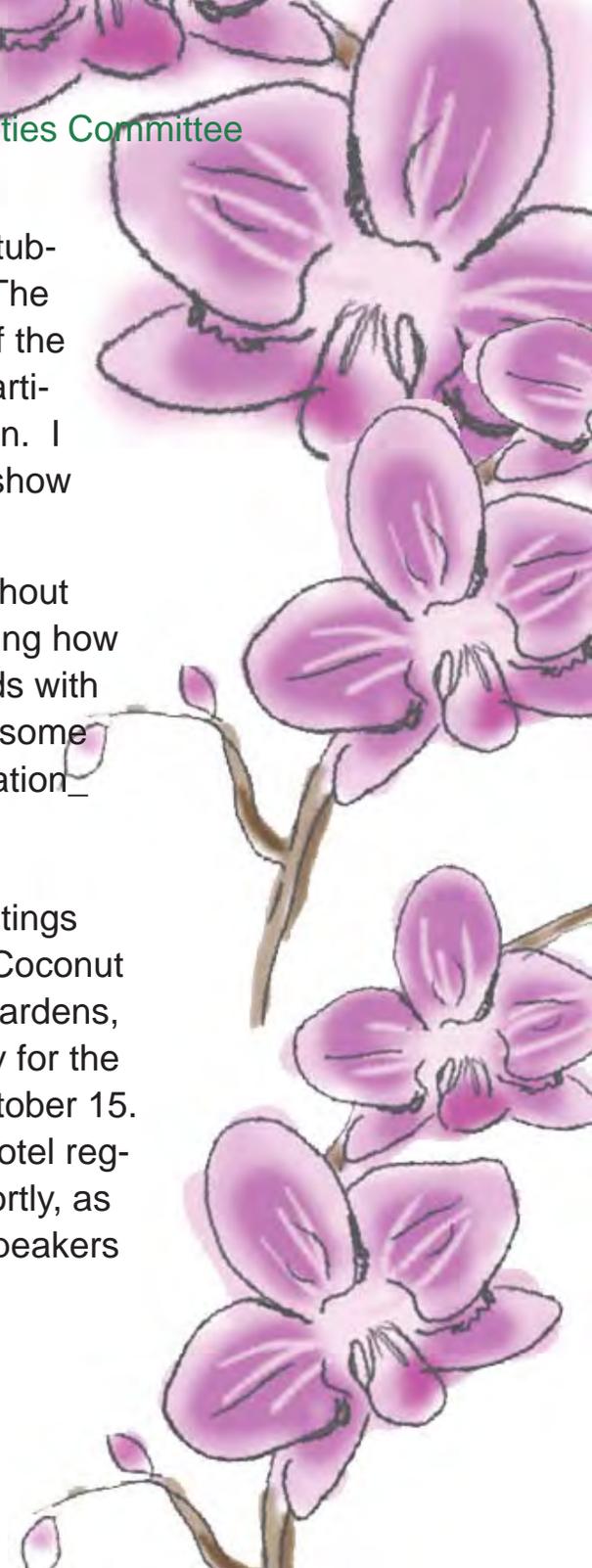
The Houston Orchid Society and SWROGA have been featuring kid friendly activities at their orchid shows. The AOS Education Committee, through Sandy Stubblings and Susan Dally, has started posting a 'Kids Corner' on the AOS Website. The May and June postings can now be found under the News and Archive sections of the website (link to the June article <http://www.aos.org/Default.aspx?id=687>). These articles are worth mentioning because they talk about their efforts in engaging children. I had the opportunity to see the featured photo wall at the Portland Orchid Society show last November and can attest that it is just not for kids!



The 'Kids Corner' hopes to continue throughout the year. They would be interested in hearing how your society has 'shared your love of orchids with kids.' If your society has had success with some kid-oriented activity, let them know at [education\\_committee@aos.org](mailto:education_committee@aos.org).

The Fall Members and Trustees meetings will be held between the Courtyard Miami Coconut Grove and the Fairchild Tropical Botanic Gardens, November 15-17. Special AOS rates apply for the hotel and will be available only through October 15. A link for registration for the meeting and hotel registration should be on the AOS website shortly, as well as more information on the featured speakers and vendors.

*Den, Angel Baby 'Love Pocket'*



# Awards DVOS July

## Novice

- 1st *Den.* Angel Baby 'Love Pocket' Barbara Ungersma  
2nd *V.* Princess Mikasa 'Blue' Barbara Ungersma  
3rd *Den.* Little Green Apples Jeanette Bean

## Intermediate

- 1st *Vanda falcata* Amani Island Judith Johnston  
2nd *Den. tobaense* Eileen Jackson  
3rd *Zygo.* Noname Miki Ichiyanagi

## Advanced

- 1st *V.* Robert's Delight 'Crown Fox' Mark Dillard  
2nd *Den. treacherianum* Ken Cook  
3rd *Bulb. dearei* Mark Dillard

## Lancer Smith (species/under 6")

- Bulb. melanoglossum* Mark Dillard

California Sierra Nevada Judging Center

Awards for May can be viewed at:

<http://www.csnjc.org>



*Vanda (Neofinetia) falcata* Amani Island



# UPCOMING SPEAKERS AND EVENTS

**August 3:** California Sierra Nevada Judging Center's  
4th Annual Speaker's Day 9-5 at the Odd Fellows  
Hall in Sacramento, Howe at Alta Arden.  
Details: <http://www.csnjc.org/>

**August 10:** Annual DVOS Picnic and Auction!

**Sept. 12:** Fred Clarke

**Sept 28-29:** San Francisco Orchid Society -Orchids in the Park



Visit: [Diablo View Orchid Society](#)

*Zygo. Noname*



# DVOS OFFICERS 2013

PRESIDENT: EILEEN JACKSON

VICE PRESIDENT: YUNOR PERALTA

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: GEORGE McRAE

SECRETARY: MARCIA HART

TREASURER: KATHY BARRETT

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## 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

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:

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RAFFLE AND SALES: CAROL AND CASEY CAMPPELL

JUDGING: NANCY AND TED McCLELLAN

EQUIPMENT AND LIGHTS: DAVE TOMASSINI

LIBRARIAN: PHYLLIS ARTHUR



V. Robert's Delight 'Crown Fox'