WINTER: HOLIDAY IN BLOOM

Our evening Holiday in Bloom Open House event, held on December 3, was a huge success, with 370 visitors! This year, we added several venues: a most popular acapella performance by BSU’s Sedoctave, a children’s activity, a long welcoming string of luminaries, a silent auction, a partnership with the Glick Center for Glass, and Minnetrista, whose own Luminaria event was connected to ours via the MITS trolley. These venues are designed as a community activity for families, and are free for all to attend. Many thanks go to Sedoctave, the BSU Wildlife Society, and the many docents who helped prepare for and staff the event: Beth Hahn, Jackie Harris, Joy VanderHill, Kitty Sandy, Jean Gadziola, Betty Kendall, Dr. Joe Rinard, Deb Frederick, Leslie Slack, Andrew Slack, Carolyn Vann, Suzanne Plesha, Beth Gonser and Frida Cannon, Linda Hanson, Tom Schwartz, Nancy Umbach, Usha Shivaswamy, and Hilde Calvert.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mark your Calendars!

January 14: Winter Greenhouse Tour Saturday, 1 - 2 p.m. Escape to a warm, tropical place without expensive travel! Explore and find the numerous winter blooms.

February 11: New Docent Training (10:00 a.m. – noon) and Children’s Program – Sensory Exploration 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

March 4: Community Photographer’s Day, Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – noon. The greenhouse will be flush with spring blooms. Join us special early hours, to capture the orchids in good morning light.

Be sure to set aside April 29 for our annual greenhouse fundraiser/plant sale!
WINTER QUIET

As we enjoy the holidays, and prepare for winter, it is nice to remember that winter means spring is right around the corner. Literally, in a greenhouse, spring arrives early in January and February, as Dendrobiums (in photo, right) awake and begin to bloom in abundance. They are a breath of fresh air in our long dark winters, and much welcomed. The warm tropical greenhouse isn’t too bad, either! It’s a great place to get your ‘green’ on: enjoy a large healthy dose of oxygen, and give your skin some relief from the dry winter air!

We have turned the corner of seasons as the gradual lengthening of days begins the march to Spring. The plants sense this change, too, as many of the Australian orchids are sporting buds for the coming months. Be sure to visit often to enjoy this colorful show!

The rest of the plants are resting and preparing for a flush of spring-time growth. This is the time when we prepare for spring. Repotting season will soon be upon us, beginning in February, when plants begin new root growth in response to the lengthening days.

Preparations are ongoing for the plant sale, so if you are interested in helping with this process, please let us know. Training is provided.

On another note, due to low attendance, we have put the Mini-Educational Programs on hold until we find a better time, place and venue.

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For those of you who support us as a Friend of the Rinard Orchid Greenhouse, we thank you very much for your 2016 contribution! Our free programs depend on your continued interest and support of the Rinard Orchid Greenhouse. We value you! Thank you!

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