



- Contents
- About DVOS
- Join DVOS
- Maps
- DVOS Awards
- Newsletters
- Upcoming Events
- Orchid Gallery
- DVOS Library
- Links
- Past Months
- Contact Us

### Schedule Change

Next Meeting is on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm -10:00pm

Contra Costa Water District Building Board Room  
1331 Concord Ave. Concord, CA

## Dr. Jim Chan: Plant Nutrition or Why You Make Your Orchids Smell Like Fish.

Jim has a B.Sc., M.Sc., and Ph.D. in organic chemistry, and worked as a synthesis, process research, and formulations chemist for several Bay Area chemical companies. After retiring, Jim spent 5 years as a professor of chemistry at Diablo Valley College (DVC) teaching research in organic chemistry to students interested in pursuing a career in science.

Jim spent his early years in Singapore and recalls that his first orchid was a dendrobium crumenatum, known as 'The Thunderstorm Orchid', he inadvertently knocked down from the upper trunk of a coconut tree. After planting it in a coconut husk, this dendrobium thrived and soon produced a cascade of beautiful fragrant white blooms. This incident got Jim hooked on orchids, spending much time observing the many different types of orchids at the Singapore Botanic Gardens and purchasing orchid seedlings for his collection from local nurseries.

Jim spent his college years in Southern California and recalls frequent visits to Stewart Orchids, Armacost and Royston, Arthur Freed Orchids, and other nurseries. After Jim moved to Northern California, Jim spent many weekends visiting orchid growers in the Santa Cruz, Capitola, Watsonville, and Livermore areas learning about orchid growing and hybridization from the experts (Frank Fordyce, Herb Hager, Richard Shaffer, Woody Carlson, and others). After marrying Grace, there were frequent trips to Hawaii purchasing orchids for their collection. Jim and Grace reside in Martinez, Ca on a property with different varieties of fruit trees and a 1,600 sq ft. green house. Jim grows mainly phalaenopsis and cattleya orchids.

Jim's current interest is studying how minerals and biostimulants help orchid plants grow strongly, including the resistance to biotic (insect and pathogens) and abiotic (drought, heat, cold) stress. At the same time, he is involved in the R&D of biochemical regulators (BCRs) that enhance plant growth and help crop plants resist the damaging effects of global climate change.

**Plant Table** will be provided by Jim Chan

**Speaker's Dinner** before the meeting is at 5:30 pm at China Lounge (Sichuan Fortune House), 41 Woodsworth Lane, Pleasant Hill.

Everyone is welcome to attend and meet our speaker. Please notify Eileen Jackson [eileen.jackson@att.net](mailto:eileen.jackson@att.net) by May 18th for a reservation.

## DVOS Show & Sale in October Celebrate the Beauty of Orchids



[Flyer to print](#)

[Print Coupon](#)

[Map](#)

[Show Events Timeline](#)

Visit the new **Diablo View Orchid Society** page on **Facebook**:

It is a CLOSED GROUP page, to which only members can post orchid related pictures and comments. To become a member use this link

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1688682468073346/?ref=ts&fref=ts>  
and someone will contact you and invite you to the group.