

# Diablo View Orchid Society

*We're still only doing Zoom meetings!*

## President's Letter

Greetings Orchid Friends

May 5, 2021

I love this time of year. The garden is starting to wake up. We have had our first warm spell (You need to understand- over here in Oakland, we start to melt if the temperature gets above 80°F!). Now, the garden plants are competing with the repotting needs of the orchids. What a blessing to have these problems. I hope you are all enjoying the plants as much as I am.

Peter Lin has me dreaming of Phalaenopsis. His talk on the important species in his program as well as his latest hybrids was fascinating. Can't wait to see the next adventure that Peter A. is going to take us on. See the summary in Speakers Corner in this newsletter.

What's going on with your orchids? I am mid-Cymbidium season. I need to get out there and take pictures and be ready to divide so that I can share some of these plants around. I seem to be in a bit of a lull in the greenhouse. I am sure that something else is just around the corner. I am taking this quieter time to think about repotting and dividing. I hope you get a chance to get out and enjoy your plants. Take some pictures to share with all of us.

Stay safe, healthy and happy. Get out there and help friends, family and neighbors find some vaccines!

Regards,

*Diane*

## DVOS Fall Auction

We plan on having an auction some time this fall. We truly hope that it can be a live auction and we all get to see each other by then but if not- we'll do it on line. Regardless of how we do it, we WILL have an auction.

It is always fun to see what folks have to offer and who wants what (and how badly!!). Our challenge to every single person in the society is that you become a donor this year. This is the time of year to be thinking about a fall auction. Take pictures of blooms. Make divisions when you repot. Grow your divisions on and keep them healthy and pest free. Enter them in the auction this fall.

There are many benefits in being a donor:

- You finally get around to repotting your beautiful plants in a timely manner because you need to get that division going!
- You are helping DVOS by donating a plant.
- It's exciting to see other growers interested in what you grow.

All we are asking for is one division (more are ALWAYS welcome). Let's see if we can get a larger proportion of the society active in this auction. Below you will see a timeline for getting plants ready for a fall auction:

### May/June

- Decide which plants you are going to divide and donate.
- Take pictures if they are in bloom now. If they are not in bloom, find pictures that you have already taken or at least an example of what it looks like on the web.
- Divide those plants! As soon as possible, get your donations divided and repotted.

### July/August

- Grow your donations and keep them healthy, happy and pest free.
- Document each of your donations and any comments/suggestions you have about culture and performance to get the best from them.

We will be reminding everybody about this auction over the summer so please keep it in mind and **PARTICIPATE.**

## Virtual Show and Tell

It is a new month. We need to see what you have blooming in May. Take pictures of your blooms and send them in.

The only way we get to see the variety of orchids grown in our society is if EVERYODY participates. Last month we had photos submitted by thirteen members. Better than February but still not enough. I want to see what you are growing!

Category	February	March	April
Novice	5	5	4
Intermediate	2	4	2
Advanced	4	5	5
Lancer Smith	1	3	2

Let's shoot for ATLEAST 15 members this month. It's easy. Take a photo and either follow the link below to drop your photo off or just send it to me (see below).

VOTE for your favorites from the beautiful entries From April.

Voting for April and entry for May close May 31. If you have any questions, problems with the links, concerns etc. with virtual show and tell, direct them to Diane Bond at [bonddiane9@gmail.com](mailto:bonddiane9@gmail.com) .

## April Show and Tell Voting

We have a wonderful collection of plants this month. They are certainly showing how the seasons are changing in everybody's collections

Vote on April Show and Tell (voting closes May 31):

Lancer Smith

<https://forms.gle/kr1VeyqoNqZWZi828>

Novice

<https://forms.gle/riMpQFK7MWsWvJrFA>

Intermediate

<https://forms.gle/oR8jYo9fBgVBmNBx8>

Advanced

<https://forms.gle/VCN6JmvXeELTX8gm8>

## May Show and Tell Submissions

May entries are currently being accepted. Let's get a large group of photos! I want to see more blooms from folks who don't usually share. I know you have them out there! C'mon- everybody can take a quick pic to share with all of us.

- Enter photos of your May blooms
- All images should be labeled with the name of the **plant** and the name of the **grower**. This ID can be in the name of the file or you can actually label the photo itself.
- If your plant is eligible for the Lancer Smith award (entire plant is 6 inches or less) please indicate that in the name of the file or on the photo itself.
- Drop your entry into this folder:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1y0EynpMC953pXJ9Nwxmb3PIAEpoF26TZ?usp=sharing>

If you have any problem with this, you can always mail it to me at [bonddiane9@gmail.com](mailto:bonddiane9@gmail.com)

- **Entries will close May 31.**

# ***About our April Meeting's speaker***

Greetings everyone,

Looking back to our April meeting, Peter Lin of Big Leaf Orchids took us on a detailed tour through the world of novelty Phalaenopsis. In the first section of his presentation he introduced us to the five main, fragrant species used in hybridizing novelties (*gigantea*; *bellina*; *ambioensis*; *tetrapsis* and *leuddemanniana*), their habitats and their growth patterns. He followed up with a discussion of their individual flowering habits, form, size and fragrance, explaining and illustrating their strengths and weaknesses in the eyes of a hybridizer. *Gigantea*, for example, adds many desirable features into the genetic mix but also carries forward its small lip which is less desirable at a time when the development of larger lips is the trend. Peter made a special point that many of these species and their hybrids bloom on florescences from prior years as well as the current year's growth.

In a second section we were shown many examples of the permutations of primary hybrids developed from the five species, the reasoning behind the crosses, the resulting successes and the disappointments. He showed how the various parents interacted to produce particular flower sizes, colors and patterns. We saw many of the famous primary hybrids which he and others used in developing novelties over the years.

After completing his review of the five specific species, our speaker opened the door to the many others used in modern Phalaenopsis development. Peter presented an extensive array of complex hybrids which, although based on one or more of the "Big Five", included others added as "spices" in the hybridizers' recipes. In most cases the resulting crosses were award-winning, and in some cases eye-popping, combinations of flower form and color.

A major recent development has been the "beet" color and its use in developing commercial "Harlequin" hybrids which are sometimes seen in the inventories of big box stores. Looking forward, Peter told us that hybridizers are particularly interested in yellow shades and exotic spots as well as the *coerulea* color forms which they hope may eventually lead to a blue Phalaenopsis. Fragrance is also a modern emphasis he told us, particularly in conjunction with the continuing search for fragrant, pure white hybrids.

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**There's a special event flyer  
after the flower picture pages!**

# Our speaker for the May 2021 Meeting



Our guest speaker on Zoom on **May 13**, at 7:00PM PST will be **Dr. Leslie Ee**. He will be joining us from Toronto to share his knowledge of Cattleya species with a presentation entitled “**Cattleya warscewiczii and Its Contribution to Large Blue Flowers**”. Leslie, who is the President of the Canadian Orchid Congress and has been an occasional guest at our on-line meetings, was born in Borneo where he was surrounded by orchids. He has grown our favorite plants himself for over 30 years with selected and heirloom cattleya species being particular favorites.

Our speaker is an AOS Associate Judge with the Toronto judging center and has enjoyed traveling widely to attend overseas orchid shows and visit nurseries and habitats. He is committed to the sharing of orchid knowledge and to conservation efforts for local orchids around the world.

To attend Dr. Ee's presentation, please follow the steps below. **If you would like to invite a friend**, just send me the name and email address and your guest will receive the sign-in information when you do.

- Before the event, please check to be sure you have the latest version of the "Zoom Client for Meetings" from: <https://zoom.us/download>. There have been upgrades since our last meeting.
- RSVP to [padvos@attglobal.net](mailto:padvos@attglobal.net) not later than **May 9**.
- If you RSVP, you will receive the sign-in data and other final information before the meeting. Be sure to look for an email message headed **DVOS-EEINFO**. You do not need to respond to that message.

As usual, there will be a drawing from members present for \$50 gift certificates provided by DVOS (for the ever-popular Sunset Valley Orchids again this month). The winners will be announced during the evening. If you are a winner, you will receive your gift certificate and our recently **simplified** redemption instructions by email.

Please remember that some files referred to in past editions of Speakers' Corner are still available for personal viewing. Should you be interested in any of them, just send me a message at the RSVP address. Here is the current list:

- "Shangri-La", a documentary on Yunan, China from the 2008.
- "The Judge, the Thief, the Hunter and the Black Orchid", a 2010 documentary directed by Rich Walton featuring Fred Clarke and other orchid luminaries.



- "The Culture of Hybrid Phragmipediums", based on the knowledge of Leo Schordje.
- "10 Species of Orchids you can Grow Outside", by Jeff Trimble.
- "Fred's Catasetinae Tips", by Fred Clarke.
- "How to Grow Happy, Healthy Scale and Mealy Bugs", by Deborah Dillon-Townes.
- "What Do Orchids Eat?", text slides from Rick Lockwood's 2/21 Zoom presentation to DVOS.

**One** of my first unforgettable evenings with DVOS, and there have been many, was a "live" auction with two stellar auctioneers. I do not remember if I really needed more plants at the time or if I was just waving my paddle while I laughed! Will the 2021 auction be "live"? I am keeping my fingers crossed, but will uncross them long enough to go through my two tables and pick out some interesting plants to send out looking for new homes. Hopefully, you will be able to see them, *in person*.

Until the 13th,

Santé,

*Peter*



*Barry thought you might like this picture (since he had some space to fill). If you like tulips, visit Keukenhoff Gardens (close to Amsterdam, Holland) in April and you will see over 7 million flowers arranged artistically in a park of several acres.*



## March 2021 Show and Tell Winners

SAC Coastal Sunrise  
'Tropico'

Novice: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff



BLC Bryce Canyon  
'Speindiferous' AM Novice

Novice: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Grown by Francine Donner:



Miltassia Kauai's Choice  
'Tropical Fragrane'

Novice: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

Grown by Daniel Neighbors



Rhyncattleanthe Caroline  
Golden D'or Lennette #2 x  
BLC Dan O'Neill 'Jubilee'

Novice: HM 1<sup>st</sup>

Grown by Francine Donner







Dencrobium Peter Shen x Dendrobium Little Atro  
 Novice: HM 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 Grown by Francine Donner

Cymbidium Spark Sprite

Novice: HM 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grown by Daniel Neighbors



*Rhynchostylis gigantea*

Intermediate: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Grown by Linda Castleton



*Rhyncholaelia digbyana*

Intermediate: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Grown by Renate Johnson







LC Blazing Sun NN  
Intermediate: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Grown by Renate Johnson



Laeliocattleya Stonehouse 'Houston'  
Intermediate: HM 1<sup>st</sup>  
Grown by Renate Johnson



Sergioara Yokosuka  
Story

Intermediate: HM 2<sup>nd</sup>

Grown by Pat Bacchetti



Laelia Anceps  
'Semi-alba'

Intermediate: HM 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grown by Henry Shaw



Bulb frosti x Bulb evardii

Advanced: 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Grown by Eileen Jackson



Mystacidium Neil McCormick

Advanced: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Grown by Miki Ichiyanagi







Cattleya No ID #3  
Advanced: 3<sup>rd</sup> Place  
Grown by Diane Bond

Cymbidium Misaki's Dream

Advanced: HM 1<sup>st</sup>

Grown by Marcia Hart





*Masdevallia superbiens*

Advanced: HM 2<sup>nd</sup>

Grown by Diane Bond



*Laelia Santa Barbara*  
Sunset

Advanced: HM 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grown by Diane Bond



*Dryadella cristata*

Lancer Smith: 1<sup>st</sup>

Grown by Diane Bond



*Aerangis fatuosa*

Lancer Smith: 2<sup>nd</sup>

Grown by Eileen Jackson





Leptotes bicolor

Lancer Smith: 3<sup>rd</sup>

Grown by Diane Bond



## **DVOS Officers and Board**

President: Diane Bond

Vice President: Peter Ansdell

Treasurer: Liz Charlton

Secretary: Brittany Miller

Board Member: Ulrike Ahlborn

Board Member: Daniel Neighbors

Board Member: George Su

Board Member: Henry Shaw

Board Member: Yunor Peralta

Board Member: Greg Scown

Past President: Marcia Hart

New Member Mentor: Eileen Jackson

Newsletter Editor: Barry Hart

Refreshment Chair: Helen Ratto

Membership and Website: Ulrike Ahlborn

Show Committee Chair: Eileen Jackson



## A Special Event:

This is here because the Hart garden is one of the 5 gardens in the tour.  
The picture on the poster is of the front of their house!

# Clayton Historical Society's 29th Annual Clayton Gardens Tour

Friday & Saturday, May 14 & 15, 2021

10am to 4pm – Rain or Shine

*Please, no children under age 12*

## 5 Great Gardens for \$35\*

**\*Prepaid tickets are \$35 🌸 Day of tour price is \$40**

**Payment with check or credit card preferred to minimize handling of cash**

**Self-guided tour begins at the Clayton Historical Society Museum  
6101 Main Street, Clayton 🌸 All transactions will be outside in the garden**



For more information, call the Clayton Museum 925-672-0240  
Or e-mail [museum@claytonhistory.org](mailto:museum@claytonhistory.org)

Proceeds benefit The Clayton Historical Society –  
[www.claytonhistory.org](http://www.claytonhistory.org)

The Clayton Historical Society is a 501(c) (3) organization and your  
Gardens Tour Ticket is a tax deductible donation

Ticket(s) will **NOT** be mailed to you – They will be held at  
the Museum for pickup on the day you choose to tour.  
Please enclose your email for verification of your order.  
Pick up your ticket(s) at the Museum.

🌸 **To allow for physical distancing, all activities will be outdoors, and  
admission will be paced to allow adequate spacing for all guests to enjoy  
these lovely gardens.**

🌸 **All tour-goers will be required to wear masks.** 🌸

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**\*For advance purchase of \$35 tickets, please return this form and payment by May 12.  
To: Clayton Historical Society, GARDENS TOUR 2020, P.O. Box 94, Clayton CA 94517**

# \_\_\_\_\_ Gardens Tour Ticket(s) \$35 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed or pay online at: [www.claytonhistory.org](http://www.claytonhistory.org)  
**Online ticket sales will close at 5pm Thursday May 13.**

*I am unable to attend, but enclosed is my donation to the Clayton Historical Society for \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ CITY: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_