

Diablo View Orchid Society

**Annual Auction – Saturday
Aug. 14 - In person**

DVOS Late Summer Auction

August 14, 2021

Contra Costa Water District Parking Lot

1331 Concord Ave, Concord, CA 9452



- There is a catalog and flyer available at the link below. Feel free to distribute these to gardening friends.
Everyone is welcome.

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1vdcFycY17aqeiTAeFUeylLFEHjD_mp3v?usp=sharing

- Check in will start at 8:00 AM
- Auction will start at 9:00 AM If you can volunteer to work, please contact Diane Bond (bonddiane9@gmail.com)
- **BRING A CHAIR**- this auction is outside.
- We would like EVERYONE to participate. Please donate plants. Please make sure your plants are healthy, vigorous and pest free.
- The catalog has already been published BUT- **You can still bring your plants on the day of the auction! The more the merrier.**

This auction is going to be outside in August. Bring sun protection, water, chairs.

IF YOU CANNOT BE PRESENT IN PERSON, BUT WOULD LIKE TO BID on items in the catalogue, we have appointed Peter Ansdell to act as Proxy and bid for you. Please contact him at padvos@attglobal.net or (509)961-8719 no later than August 11 for details. This service is available to DVOS members only.

President's Letter

Greetings Orchid Friends,
August 3, 2021

This always seems like a funny time of year for my orchids. The Phalaenopsis are starting to think about the seasons changing. I always have one Dendrobium kingianum that has to send up a few blossoms in August (!?) Most of my major potting is done (that being the Cymbidiums). The Restrepias are getting ready to give me a nice fall bloom and of course this is the month that my Habenaria puts on a show. I am trying to make sure that I get good photos of everything so that I can compare from year to year how the plants are doing. This is also a good opportunity to share some photos with the rest of us for show and tell! I am truly enjoying my orchids and I hope you all are too. Please let us all see what you have growing.

We had another wonderful meeting last month with Charles Wilson walking us through the fascinating (and sometimes whiffy!) world of Bulbophyllums. I can't wait to see what Peter has in store for us next. BUT- not this month! This month we are going to have our DVOS Auction. It is August 14th at 9:00 AM in the Contra Costa Water District parking lot. See the notice below for more details. Mark your calendars! Make sure you are there to see each other in person and share some wonderful orchids.

Remember to take photos (and share those photos!) of your orchids. We all want to see.

Stay safe, healthy and happy. I am looking forward to seeing you all at the socially distanced auction on August 14. See the attached auction info PDF!

Regards,

Diane

Now for a few reminders and updates:

There are a couple time sensitive items to cover here. Make sure you don't miss anything!

- Speakers corner
 - See Peters comments later in the newsletter for details
- Show and tell links
 - See details below
- Fall Auction preparation
 - See details below
- September meeting
 - See details below

Virtual Show and tell

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

June Winners

See the photos of the winners we chose below and on the website. Voting was down a bit last month....were you all on holiday? Let's get in there and vote for these beautiful plants this month! Let's make it a good August.

July Show and Tell Voting

We have a wonderful collection of plants this month. We have many new entrants and a total of 31 submissions. That's pretty good for the dog days of summer. It is great to see everyone's plants. Vote for your favorite July Show and Tell plants (voting closes August 31):

Lancer Smith

<https://forms.gle/9RjDY7GnSQZ7DaR77>

Novice

<https://forms.gle/bmKQ3R4LHkAGhc7U9>

Intermediate

<https://forms.gle/Sn5a79UyoBZ2YQiT8>

Advanced

<https://forms.gle/rMiEx5TTqdroz13R6>

August Show and Tell Submission

August entries are currently being accepted (thru August 31). We are going to have to work hard to beat last month but I have confidence in us. I want to see all of those beautiful blooms! C'mon- everybody can take a quick pic to share with all of us. PLEASE REMEMBER- submit photos of YOUR OWN PLANTS only.

- Enter photos of your August 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/1PD7QIGZc87BuVC0z6aEQAAWeVcCDJdga?usp=sharing>

If you have any problem with this, you can always mail it to me at bonddiane9@gmail.com.

DVOS September 9, 2021 Meeting will be on Zoom

We had been hoping to hold our first in person meeting in September. Due to COVID concerns, the water district cancelled our September reservation. Our September meeting will be on zoom and I am certain that Peter will provide top rate entertainment (as usual). We will provide more information as we get it but for the time being, stay safe and adopt the most up to date practices so that we can get on top of this virus.

Recap of the July Meeting speaker

Greetings everyone,

Last month's speaker, Charles Wilson, took us on an intense and often humorous hour-long journey into the fascinating world of Bulbophyllums. Although barely scratching the surface of their 2000+ *accepted* species divided into 78 sections he presented over 100 of them in superb photographs coupled with close-ups of their flowers. Each plant and its inflorescence was analyzed in such a way that one could clearly imagine it in real-time. Often, parts of the inflorescences were not what they appeared to be. These notes can only hint at the quality of Charles' presentation. You had to be there!

Orchids classified as Bulbophyllums all have three things in common Charles told us. Their pseudobulbs are singly jointed, the lip is hinged from the column foot and the inflorescence is either basal or rhizomal.

For those of us who have had little success growing Bulbophyllums, or who have grown them well only to fail to get them to flower, Charles reminded us that most of them come from tropical, consistently warm/hot and moist locations regardless of which country they inhabit within their huge geographic range. All but the few cool growing species need temperatures of 65-90 fahrenheit year round with a >10 degree change between the daytime maximum and the night time minimum. He warned that if your temperatures drop consistently lower warm-growing Bulbophyllums may survive but will probably not bloom. To bloom they also need bright light and plenty of air movement. Humidity of 60-75% is good, more would be even better. Most Bulbophyllums will definitely thrive best in a warm greenhouse. [What my grandfather would have called a "hothouse."]

Charles recommended moist but buoyant media, his recipe being 7 parts small bark, 1 part medium charcoal and 1 part small/medium Perlite. He uses shallow pots partially filled with *undyed* Styrofoam peanuts. We learned the word "thigmotropism" as he explained how he uses rhizome clips on all his orchids to stimulate root growth. For Bulbophyllums with rangy growth (many of which we saw later) he plants a good distance below the top of the pot and is then able to train wayward rhizomes as they grow up around the inside of the rim.

Satisfied that we had all the tools we needed to grow Bulbophyllums, Charles showed us examples of the extraordinary variety of the genus. For each species the petals, sepals and lip were identified in close-up (not always an easy matter without a magnifying lens) along with its growth habit, fragrance or malodor. We learned some of the unique ways in which different Bulbophyllums used their hinged lips to attract pollinators.

Our exploration of individual species started with *longiflorum* the first named Bulbophyllum identified in 1822. The same species was "rediscovered" with different names 27 times over the years before the organization of modern orchid taxonomy took hold. Here are a few of the subsequent discoveries which particularly caught *my* eye.

There was *retsiusculum* with its vivid yellow sepals; *bicolor* with its satiny red stripes; *rothschildianum* with its eye-catching speckled flowers; *cocoinum* which Charles said smelled of pina colada; *purpureorhachis* with long spikes that lasted for months; the rare *occultum* with completely hidden flowers and *cruciatum* also with tiny hidden flowers that needed a magnifying glass. But, I am forgetting *claptonense*; *dearei*; *macranthum* (one of Charles all-time favorites) and *septemtrionale* a serial bloomer which can stay in flower "Almost forever." And let us not forget the Bulbophyllums in the section Lepidorrhiza which Charles said as he introduced them to us were all "Stinkers".

During our photographic tour we saw splendid mature plants of *medusae* with its amazing inflorescence, *lobbii*, *falcatum* and many others, ending with a photograph of a greenhouse full of Bulbophyllums which Charles had been asked to inventory for distribution to various botanical institutions. Those orchids ranged from the miniature *agastor* to the massive *phalaenopsis* hanging from the roof with 6-8 foot long leaves. Such is the diversity of this truly remarkable genus.

Our August Fundraiser – the Auction

August will be the first time in 16 months that DVOS computer screens will stay dark. As you all know, our annual auction, live this year (Hurrah!), will be the focus of intense attention that month. Our Auction Committee is working hard to ensure it is a great opportunity to acquire some excellent new plants; we all have room for at least one more don't we even if it is not a miniature? I know Eileen has been talking to many of you about supporting your favorite orchid society by adding a few choice plants from your own collection to the auction inventory. I have already designated some of my own for the event and hope you will do the same. The auction is our most important fundraising event each year without which the great speakers we have been fortunate enough to enjoy during our Zoom meetings might never have appeared.

SummerAuction month. By this time, I am sure you will all have set aside the orchids you will be donating and have received the catalogue and final information from Diane and her hard-working committee. A great deal of careful planning has been going on behind the scenes of this iteration of one of the most popular dates on the DVOS calendar. Undoubtedly, it will be a truly enjoyable morning and a highly successful event. I am looking forward to it and to finally seeing many of you again after far too long an absence.

If you cannot be there on 8/14 but would like to bid on something in the catalogue, I would be able to bid for you as authorized **Proxy** bidder. Just contact me for details.

That said, it does mean there will not be a speakers' evening this month. In its place we have a **fun competition** and drawing for members so please get out your lucky shamrocks. To stay within the parameters of Speakers' Corner, it is based on the 15 experts who have shared their knowledge with us during the pandemic. Here they are listed chronologically with a brief note of their topics:

Jeff Trimble - Outdoor Orchids
Mary Gerritson - Masdevallias
Ron Kaufmann - Bahia, Brazil
Ken Jacobsen - Cattleya *purpurata*
Scott Barrie - Sarcochilus
Sam Tsui - Paphiopedilums
Leslie Ee - Cattleya *warscewiczii*
Charles Wilson - Bulbophyllums

Leo Schordje – Phragmipediums
Ron Parsons – Dendrobiums
Steve Hampson - Southern China
Fred Clarke - Catasetinae
Rick Lockwood - What do orchids eat?
Peter Lin - Phalaenopsis
Kristen Uthus – Miniatures

The rules are very simple. All you have to do to participate in the drawing is name our **September 2021** guest who will be a speaker from the above list on a return visit.

One entry per member/household - Board members are not eligible to participate.

No consultations with previous guests or Board members, please.

Email the name of your chosen speaker to padvos@attglobal.net **not later than 8/11.**

Three \$50 certificates to be used in the usual way at Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, sborchid.com, will be awarded by random drawing from the correct entries received. Give it a try! It is not as difficult as it looks and there is a clue in this section to start your "Little grey cells" working. The winners will be notified on 8/12 and the speaker's name revealed officially in next month's Speakers' Corner.

Always remember that some files referred to in past editions of Speakers' Corner continue to be available for members' personal viewing. Should you be interested in any of them, just send me a message. 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 movie 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.
- "*Honey I Shrunk the Orchids*" a Zoom presentation by Christen Uthus in 6/21.

I trust that those of you who went to Bolinas had a great time. Unfortunately, I had a previous engagement, but I did go out there the following week and spent a foggy morning browsing Mary's greenhouses and enjoying her always great hospitality. These thoughts come to mind because I have just finished my daily watering and spraying. The last plant to be given attention was my *Agraecum leonis* which came from said Bolinas greenhouse some years ago. It has never bloomed but there just *might* be an inflorescence coming now. Maybe it will be in bloom when we finally have a "live" show and tell. I can hardly wait!

Take care everyone.

Until next month,

Peter

June 2021 Show and Tell Winners



Pleurotyallis pubescens
Novice: 1st Place
Grown by Carol Basset



LC Tropical Pointer 'Cheetah'
Novice: 2nd Place
Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff



Laelia purpurata Uba Tuba
Novice: 3rd Place
Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff

Bulbophyllum discolor
Novice: HM 1st Place
Grown by Daniel Neighbors



Bulbophyllum rothschildianum
Novice: HM 2nd Place
Grown by Daniel Neighbors

Rhncostylis gigantea
Intermediate: 1st Place
Grown by Linda Castleton



Vanda Paki
Intermediate: 2nd Place
Grown by Henry Shaw





Laeliocattleya Drumbeat
Intermediate: 3rd Place
Grown by Linda Castleton



Vanda falcata
Intermediate: HM 1st
Grown by Henry Shaw

Dencrobium Kingianum Big Foot
Intermediate: HM 2nd Place
Grown by Linda Castleton



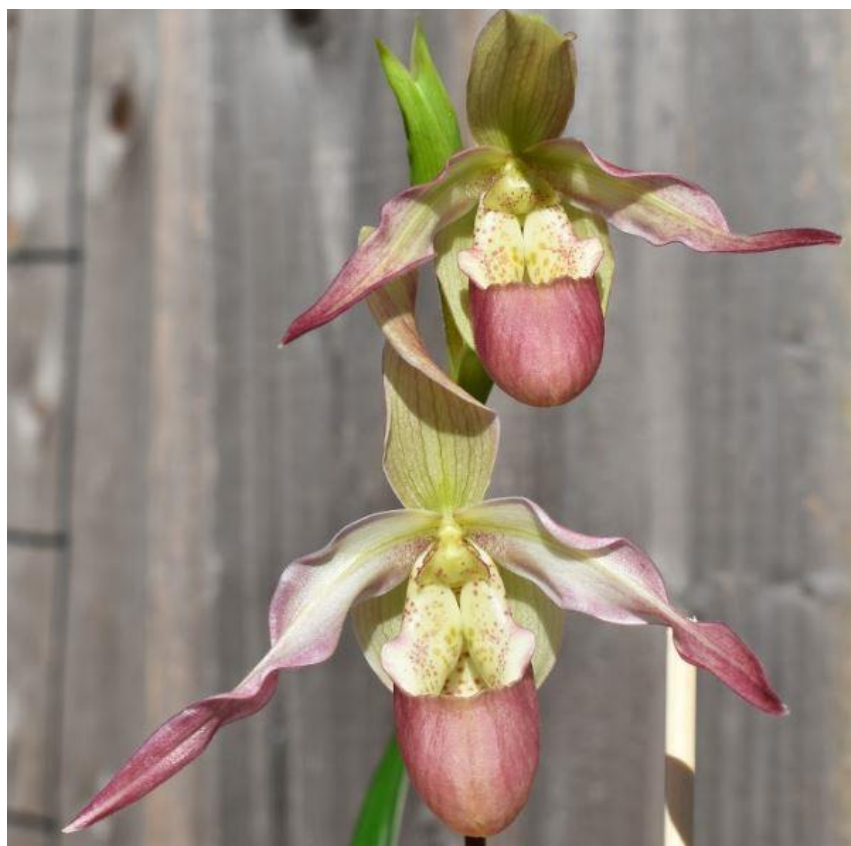
Paph St. Albans
Advanced: 1st Place
Grown by Marcia Hart



Cymbidium Sweet Devon
Advanced: 2nd Place
Grown by Miki Ichiyanagi



Phragmipedium calurum
Advanced: 3rd Place
Grown by Miki Ichiyanagi



Laelia purpurata 'Clitoself'
Advanced: HM 1st Place
Grown by Marcia Hart



LC Miss Wonderful
Advanced: HM 2nd Place
Grown by Eileen Jackson





Dendrobium trantuanii
Lancer Smith: 1st Place
Grown by Diane Bond

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