

Diablo View Orchid Society

September *might* be our last zoom meeting!

President's Letter

September 6, 2021

Greetings Orchid Friends,

Fall has definitely arrived in my greenhouse. The first of the Phalaenopsis spikes have initiated, Paphiopedilums are sending up buds, the fall Cattleyas are starting to open and the Restrepias have decided that they can survive yet another summer. I like to watch the seasons through the prism of the greenhouse. I hope your plants are bringing you as much happiness as mine are.

We did not have a meeting last month but did have a wonderful auction. It was not too hot. It was great to see those of you who could come out. There were amazing orchids to be had and it was a lot of fun. Who could ask for anything more? This month Peter will be back at it, providing a wonderful program.

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

Stay safe, healthy, and happy. I am looking forward to seeing you all (virtually) Thursday.

Regards,

Diane

Now for a few reminders and updates:

Make sure you don't miss anything!

- Speaker's corner
 - See Peters comments later in the newsletter for details
- Show and tell links
 - See details below
- **September 2021 DVOS Emergency Amendment Vote**
 - See details below

Virtual Show and tell

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

July Winners

See the photos of the winners we chose below and on the website. Let's get in there and vote for these beautiful plants this month! Let's make it a good September.

August 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 September 30):

Lancer Smith

<https://forms.gle/zDqfGdPZCj2FJgeP8>

Novice

<https://forms.gle/NoG4b1na78UdwT936>

Intermediate

<https://forms.gle/1TfFVtuyyPgEi9oz6>

Advanced

<https://forms.gle/AQbW9DL9UB3aiJvt6>

September Show and Tell Submission

September entries are currently being accepted (thru September 30). 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 July 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/16FmDRxrfjPbGj_B8mbZ2xYW4VJ8kHMBB?usp=sharing

If you have any problem with this, you can always mail it to me at bondddiane9@gmail.com.

September 2021 DVOS Emergency Amendment Vote

WE NEED YOU TO VOTE

The DVOS Board of Director elections are quickly approaching. Our annual elections are held in December, after the publication of a proposed slate of board members in the November newsletter. Not holding in-person meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic has made it even more difficult than usual to recruit people to leadership positions and given the difficulty the Society had prior to the pandemic, we foresee the possibility that there will not be enough volunteers/candidates to fill all the open positions.

Although almost all the current board members are willing to serve another term in their positions, Article 4 Section 3 of the Society's Constitution states that "No officer, with the exception of Treasurer, shall be eligible for more than two consecutive terms in the same office...". All but three of our current board members are subject to this term limitation.

The Board is therefore seeking a temporary amendment to the DVOS constitution that suspends term limits for the upcoming election cycle to ensure the Society will have continuous leadership in 2022.

Proposed temporary amendment:

We propose that the term limits in Article 4, Section 3 for current 2021 board members who have reached their 2-year maximum in 2021 be extended by one year (to the end of 2022) if they are unchallenged for their position in the December 2021 election. Board members who receive this term extension will be obligated to find a candidate replacement for their position by October 2022.

In lieu of notification of a proposed Constitution change and voting on that change at an in-person meeting as required by Article 7, this emergency vote on an amendment shall be sent to the entire membership via email. Voting will occur electronically, and a two-thirds majority of participating voters will be required for the proposal to pass.

These changes only apply to the election of the fiscal year 2022 Board of Directors of DVOS.

**PLEASE FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW TO VOTE
ON WHETHER OR NOT TO SUSPEND TERM LIMITS FOR 2022**

<https://forms.gle/CH8DrXXBA2fAgYdM9>

VOTING CLOSSES SEPTEMBER 19,2021

***SPEAKERS' CORNER** September, 2021*

Greetings everyone,

We did not have a speaker last month because of our **Late Summer Auction** so my keyboard has needed a little less oil than usual. Those of you who were able to attend the auction in person can attest to the sterling results generated by Diane and her many volunteers. I doff my hat to all of them and particularly to our two auctioneers Tom Pickford and Gregg Scown who sold all the plants available at great prices and made it fun to want to buy them, and to Liz Charlton and her fully staffed accounting department who made sure bidders knew clearly how much they owed and that they actually enjoyed settling their bills for a great morning's entertainment. While it might perhaps have been just a *little* more fun and a lot cooler to have been *inside* the Water District building, the whole event was a splendid substitute. As proxy for absentee bidders I personally had a great time playing both sides of the fence. Bravo!

For those of you who perhaps stayed home to puzzle over our August competition, the answer is hereinbelow. The clue mentioned in the instructions was the list itself. It deliberately gave the names of the genus covered and not the actual titles of the talks. When one made a quick list of them there were 2 major genus frequently grown by many of you and exhibited in Show and Tell that were not included - Vandas and Cymbidiums. A little searching on the internet would have revealed there was only one previous speaker who was an internationally respected hybridizer of either of them - **Scott Barrie**.



Scott was our speaker in January, when he brought us up to date on the latest Sarcocylus. **This month, he will be back with us on Zoom at 7:00PM PST on September 9**, to discuss his work with **Cymbidiums**. There is no specific title for his presentation but he gave me the following quote which implies it should be a very interesting evening: "I've been around Cymbidiums all my life. They are our bread and butter

and have given me some of my most significant moments. They have also given me some of my most frustrating and confronting moments as a crop and as a life choice. In this talk I'll share some of the challenges and our experiences."

The results of his current efforts with the genus can be seen at <https://barritaorchids.com/collections/cymbidiums>

As many of you will remember, Scott is co-owner and manager of Barrita Orchids located in Kulnura north of Sydney. Barrita is a commercial grower supplying quality potted plants to retail stores and nurseries throughout the east coast of Australia as well as cut flowers to markets Australia-wide. Scott grew up around the benches and packing shed of his family's nursery and has spent his entire working life in the orchid business. He was also a judge for the Australian Orchid Council (AOC) for over twenty years.

To attend Scott's new 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 not later than **September 8**.
- 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-SB2INFO**. 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 to be used this month at the popular Santa Barbara Orchid Estate, <https://www.sborchid.com/>. The winners will be announced during the evening. If you are a winner, you will receive your gift certificate and redemption instructions by email.

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.

Scott and I have at least one thing in common; we both enjoy cricket, that apparently snail's pace game that lasts for days and which nobody understands or enjoys - unless they really love it. Coming up soon is a 5 game international series between England and Australia which is probably the most famous of all cricket contests. It is called the "Ashes" series but since the English team is currently having a noticeably difficult time playing against India, I will probably keep a very low profile on the subject when I see Scott again!

Why "Ashes" you may ask? That is an interesting story. The term originated in a satirical obituary published in a British newspaper immediately after Australia's first international victory against England on English soil, in 1882. The obituary stated that English cricket had died and "the body will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia". The mythical ashes immediately became associated with the next confrontation which was to be played in Australia. Before that series started the English captain vowed to "regain those ashes". The English media therefore dubbed the tour *the quest to regain the Ashes*.

After England had won two of the three matches in the series, a small urn was presented to the English captain by a group of Melbourne ladies. The contents of the urn are reputed to be the ashes of a burned wooden "bail" (Call up Wikipedia for that one it has no connection with the law) and were humorously described as "the ashes of Australian cricket". Yes, the urn still exists, but whether it contains said ashes is another question.

That's all from me for this month, I look forward to seeing you all again on the 9th at the usual time.

Stay well,

Peter

July 2021 Show and Tell Winners



Phalaenopsis 'Yaphon Sensational #3 x Phalaenopsis 'Mituo Sun Queen
Novice: 1st Place
Grown by Peter Ansdell



Rhyncattleanthe Coral Gold 'Volcano Queen'
Novice: 2nd Place
Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff



Phalaenopsis Inscroptiosinensis
Novice: 3rd Place
Grown by Peter Ansdell



Oncidium Sharry Baby 'Red Fantasy'
Intermediate: 1st Place
Grown by Henry Shaw



Neifenetia Falcata
Advanced: 1st Place
Grown by Marcia Hart



Cattellonia Sacramento Splash
Advanced: 2nd Place
Grown by Ted McClellan



Cattleya Purple Fantasy
Advanced: 3rd Place
Grown by Ted McClellan



Pleurothallis cyripoides
Lancer Smith Award
Grown by Diane Bond

Just in case you missed it.... Our auction was in the newspaper!

Diablo View Orchid Society holds plant auction

By David Scholz 2 weeks ago



Photo by David Scholz

The Diablo View Orchid Society held its in-person event with an auction at the Contra Costa Water District offices on Saturday, August 14. More than 30 bidders attended the event. All proceeds benefited the nonprofit organization. DVOS members Tom Pickford (light blue shirt) and Greg Scown (purple shirt) served as auctioneers for the day. They provided backstories about each plant that was up for sale during the event.

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