

Diablo View Orchid Society

Zoom Meetings Continue

Our meeting is January 13 at 7:00 PM.
You will get the Zoom information after you sign up! See next page.

DVOS virtual monthly meeting speaker for January 2022



Unfortunately, our monthly meetings will continue to be held in a “virtual” (Zoom) format for at least the next few months. Although we all miss seeing each other in person to socialize and eat those yummy potluck goodies, holding meetings virtually has allowed us the freedom to host speakers from all over the world who we would have had difficulty bringing for in-person meetings.

Our January 2022 meeting will continue to take advantage of that freedom; we will hear from Sarah Hurdell, who will tell us how she grows a genus that has a reputation for being “difficult”.....

Habenaria - Best in Show!

Learn about these often misunderstood, yet surprisingly easy-to-grow terrestrial orchids. Our speaker will introduce the *Habenaria* species and hybrids and provide expert advice on how to grow them. Greenhouse not required!

Sarah is a grower, exhibitor, and accredited AOS Judge. She has been growing orchids for about 20 years and currently maintains a collection of over 600 orchids under lights in her basement. She has received numerous AOS award recognitions for culture, flower quality, and exhibit design, including the Walter Off Exhibit Award, given annually to the most outstanding exhibit in an AOS-sanctioned show.

Her presentations combine her love of orchids, photography, and illustrations with experienced advice and a sense of humor. She also has a Facebook Blog Page - Something About Orchids - <facebook.com/askmeaboutmyplants>.



From Henry Shaw, Program Chair

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

- **RSVP to dvosshowandtell@gmail.com** no later than **January 8th**.
- After 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-Meeting Info**. You do not need to respond to that message.
- 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 are frequent updates.](#)
- Please note that Sarah's talk will run almost 60 minutes, excluding time for questions.

The President's Letter

Greetings Orchid Friends,

January 4, 2022

I hope you all had a wonderful and safe holiday season. We got to carefully gather with close family, and we even had some chilly weather. I hope those Cymbidiums and Dendrobium kingianums appreciated it! I also hope that all of you in cooler regions (that includes just about everybody!) did not get too much cold weather.

Now for some less than happy news- The officers and board of directors have decided to postpone our February show and sale. With the uncertainty of new COVID risks and our concerns for everyone's well being, we decided to cancel the February plans and start thinking about a show in a few months. I expect this will be disappointing to some of you. I am certainly disappointed but also relieved in the knowledge that we are doing the prudent thing. I keep telling myself that it will be even sweeter when we finally DO get to have a show and sale. Soon- I hope.

The meeting last month featured Nicholas Rust presentation on jewel orchids. I keep thinking that I am starting to understand orchids then we have a presentation on a group that I have never really considered. It was nice to see Nicholas' presentation and I was happy to see that we have some jewel enthusiasts out there. As for me... just one more thing to get obsessed about. At least they aren't huge!

Our new vice president is getting off to a very exciting start! Sarah Hurdell will be telling us all about her Habenarias this month. My husband looked at the photo of her standing next to her Habenaria medusae that is as tall as she is. He is worried that we don't have the room for that. I told him that an over 5-foot tall Habenaria is a problem that I would love to have!

Stay safe, healthy, and happy Remember the meeting: Thursday January 13 at 7:00.

Regards,

Diane

Now for my reminders and updates:

REMEMBER- we have canceled the February Show and Sale

DVOS Orchid Show and Sale

Mark your calendars! We are making plans to have the DVOS Valentines show and sale this year. We need to all participate. Some of the details include:

- Date- Saturday February 12, 2022
- Location- First Lutheran Church, 4000 Concord Blvd
- COVID protocols will be adhered to
- We will have AOS judging as well as DVOS judging of the show
- Members sales table
- Commercial vendors
- Repotting

Peter's Last SPEAKER REVIEW

Our last speaker for 2021, Nicholas Rust, introduced us to the *wild* world of jewel orchids. Jewels are taxonomically a work in progress with unidentified plants and others with synonyms and unaccepted names leading to much confusion and mislabeling. The field is so new Nicholas started his program with the question "What is a jewel orchid?". If you do a little internet searching you will find as many definitions as there are definers. Nicholas offered only three (1) orchids of the sub-tribe Goodyerae, (2) certain orchids with unique leaf patterns and (3) orchids with pretty leaves. Choosing the most focused definition, he introduced us to numerous species within the genera comprising Goodyerae. Almost all were terrestrial and recognized for the beauty of their leaves which they lose after flowering.

The boundaries of his topic defined, Nicholas gave us his general jewel culture (GJC). Jewel orchids require high humidity and most require a vivarium to flourish. They like plenty of water which should be applied when they are nearly dry but they should *never* be allowed to dry out completely for an extended period. His recipe for jewel media is equal parts coarse Perlite, fine pine bark, fine charcoal, fine chopped sphagnum and peat-based soil mix. He uses one half to one quarter strength regular fertilizer every 3 to 4 weeks. Most jewels like warmth and low light levels.

We were taken on a journey into 8 of the 35 genera within Goodyerae. Most of those genera had many species [as noted] giving the world of jewel orchids plenty of room for expansion. We saw many images of the often-glamorous leaf patterns and sometimes flowers of the species selected. They included those most readily available as well as others more difficult to find in the *marketplace*. Nicholas had more to say about that word at the end of his presentation.

Our first visit was to the genus *Anoectochilus* [43 spp.] which Nicholas defined as "... a taxonomic train wreck". However, its species are easy to grow if not to label and follow GJC. We saw *renwardtii* with gold venation on a black background; *formosanus* with silver markings on a green background; *lowii* with large leaves showing the gold venation and *roxburghii* which is often confused with other species both identified and unidentified all of which have outstanding but very different foliage patterns.

Nicholas said the genus *Cheirostylis* [54 spp.] was a personal favorite because unlike many jewel genera the flowers of its species can be interesting as well as the foliage. Both *tortilacina* and *griffithii* are of special interest for that reason. While they follow GJC, *Cheirostylis* need a strict winter dormancy, dying back completely after blooming. They should not be watered again until new shoots appear. Although their leaves do not have the glitter of other genera, they come in many different colors. *Flabellata* and *montana* were his favorites.



Nicholas's next choice, *Dossinia*, has only a single species at this time - *marmorata*. Known as the "Queen of Jewel Orchids" it is the poster species for jewels with its large and glittery green, gold and black/brown leaves. He cautioned that although very popular it is less tolerant of overwatering and needs somewhat brighter light than the norm. It will stand some drought.

Discussing the key genus *Goodyera* [99 spp.] Nicholas said he finds them difficult to grow. There is a very wide range of species in a rainbow of colors some of which are tropical growers and others temperate. The tropical species follow GJC but are very prone to stem rot and must not have *any* of the stem buried in the media. We saw *daibuzanensis* and *malipoensis*. The temperate species such as *pubescens* and *oblongifolia*, which Nicholas has found growing in the wild in this country, are even more difficult to cultivate requiring definite sub-freezing winter temperatures as part of their growing environment.

Ludisia is the most popular genus because its sole species, *discolor*, is very easy to grow. It has many cultivars with large, impressive leaves and interesting flowers. *Discolor* is not picky about water or humidity and will grow happily into a large plant on a not too bright windowsill. Nicholas recommended the cultivars Spiderman, Sandstone, Marble and especially Salmon Sandstone.

Macodes [11 spp.] is another popular genus which follows GJC but will accept less humidity and could be grown on a windows sill. We saw the outstanding *electric* foliage patterns of this species with *sanderiana* and *petola* as beautiful examples.

Odontochilus [26 spp.] have bright yellow flowers, are known for their colored foliage and can be grown like *Anoectochilus*. Nicholas recommended *lanceolatus* and *elwesii* - with its black leaves.

Vrydagzynea [43 spp.] was the penultimate stop on our tour of genera. In addition to the expected foliage, species in this genus have unusual and sometimes positively weird flowers. We saw *tristriata* (which is an epiphyte) and *albida*. They follow GJC but are best planted in a 50-50 mixture of sphagnum moss and Perlite. Nicholas warned they are regrettably extremely unforgiving of cultural transgressions.

Finally, with Zeuxine [76 spp.] we saw a genus whose foliage is not as spectacular as many jewels. Nicholas enjoys them as a change of pace and for their attractive flowers. They follow GJC and have a dormancy similar to Cheirostylis. We saw *affinis*, *flava*, *grandis*, *parvifolia* and finally *clandestina*.

After showing us a few genus he regarded as jewels even thought they were not in the sub-tribe Goodyerae such as Oeceoclades, Malaxis and Nephelaphyllum, Nicholas demonstrated how to create a simple vivarium** before ending his presentation with a plea for us to be cautious when buying jewels. Piracy is rife because of there sudden popularity. They are being taken from the wild without controls and sold into the trade without any of the restrictions applied to more traditional orchid exports. We saw photographs of piles of jewels taken from the wild and Nicholas asked us to be particularly on the lookout for plants with damaged leaves since the wild plants are seldom the perfect specimens produced by seed or stem culture.

It was apparent from our speaker's presentation that there is a lot of potential and work to be done in the field of jewel orchids. With the enthusiasm Nicholas showed throughout the evening he looked like a prime candidate to accept that challenge.

Peter

Virtual Show and Tell

It is a new month and a new year! Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2022. In the meantime, we want to see what you had blooming this month. Take pictures of your blooms and send them in, and please vote for your fellow members' submissions for last month.

December Show and Tell Voting

Once again, we have a beautiful collection of plants. Make your preferences known and vote! Voting closes on January 31, 2022.

[Novice](https://forms.gle/RuEXCNufFj64JKeD7)

<https://forms.gle/RuEXCNufFj64JKeD7>

Intermediate

<https://forms.gle/T4jh6TiwWc7ggYVf7>

Advanced

<https://forms.gle/7VFxFpmyk9UXDzgqz6>

Lancer Smith

<https://forms.gle/N2NqnbsqVVCrTJuR7>

January 2022 Show and Tell Submissions

Entries are currently being accepted (thru January 31, 2022). Don't hold out on us. We want to see those beautiful blooms! It's not hard to participate. Take a quick picture with your camera or phone and upload it to the website/folder listed below. **PLEASE REMEMBER** – only submit photos of **YOUR OWN PLANTS, YOUR OWN PHOTOS**.

- All images should be labeled with the name of the plant, the name of the grower, and the experience level of the grower (novice, intermediate, advanced, or master). This information can be in the name of the file or you can label the photo itself. If you don't know what experience level you should choose, contact Eileen Jackson (eileen.jackson@att.net) and she will ask you a few questions and assign you a level.
- If your plant is eligible for the Lancer Smith award (the entire plant is 6 inches or less) please indicate that in the name of the file or on the photo itself.
- Drop your entries into this folder:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1_ACyV0zzvPNDEfshqhSUKu8TJXT0OJyU?usp=sharing

If you have problem uploading your images, you can always email them to me at hshaw@sbcglobal.net.

Henry

Your 2022 Officers and Board Members

• President	Diane Bond
• Vice President	Henry Shaw
• Secretary	Brittany Miller
• Treasurer	Liz Charlton
• Board Member	Ulrike Ahlborn
• Board Member	Patricia Bachett
• Board Member	Rachel Brinkerhoff
• Board Member	Barry Hart
• Board Member	Eileen Jackson
• Board Member	George Su
• Newsletter Editor	Barry Hart
• Web Master	Ulrike Ahlborn
• Membership Chairperson	Ulrike Ahlborn
• Past President	Marcia Hart
• New Member Mentor	Eileen Jackson
• Show and Sale Chairperson	Eileen Jackson
• Hospitality	open
• Raffle	Marcia Hart
• Show and Tell Supervisor	open

November 2021 Show and Tell Winners

Paphiopedilum Perfectly Superb

Novice: 1st Place

Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff



Sanhopea wardii

Novice: 2nd Place (tie)

Grown by Daniel Neighbors



Catesetum After Dark

Novice: 2nd Place (tie)

Grown by Daniel Neighbors



Phal. Zheng Min Monster

Novice: 3rd Place

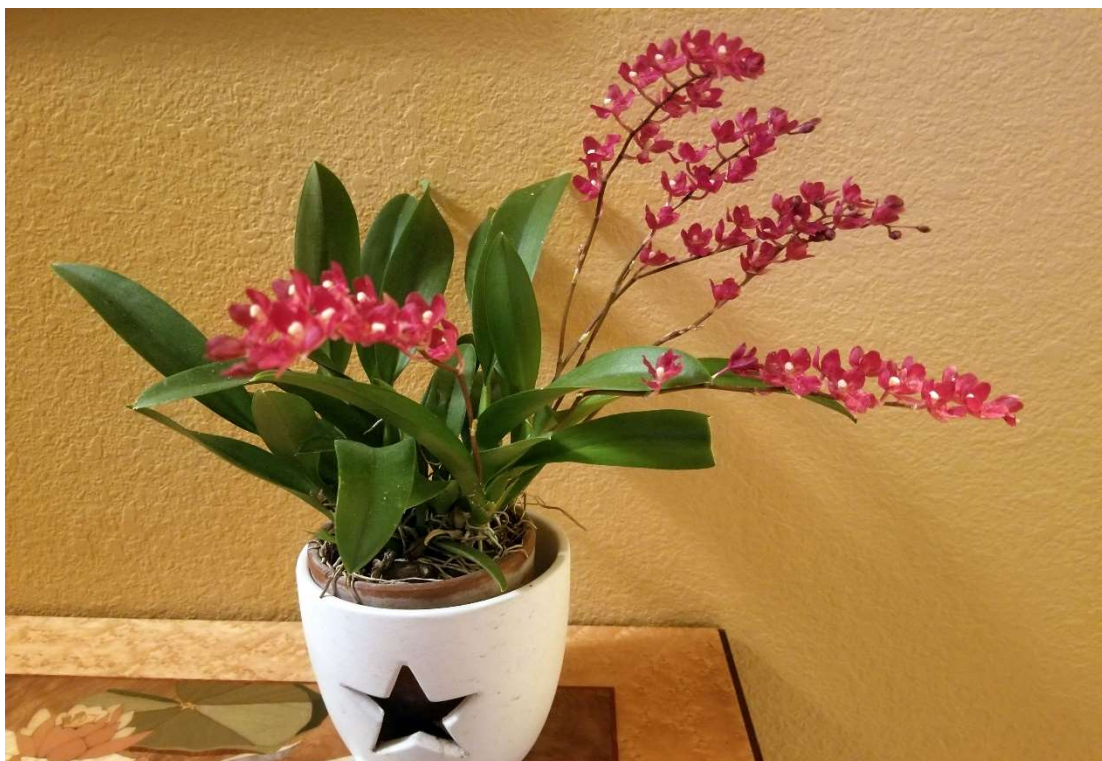
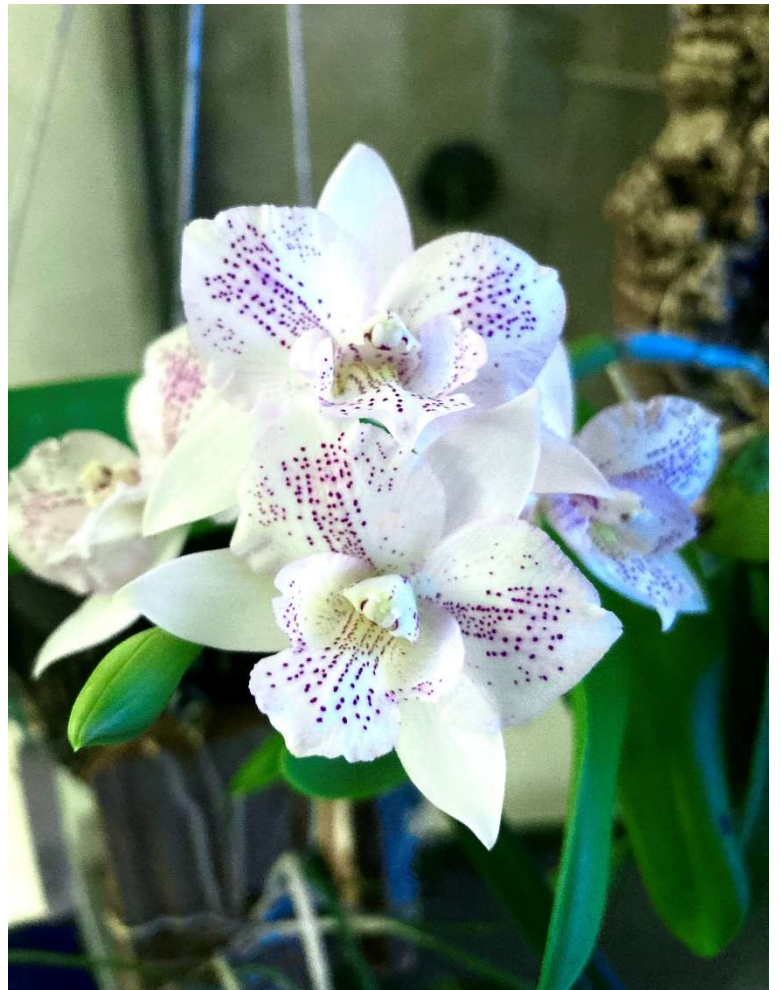
Grown by Peter Ansdell



Caulocattleya Chantilly Lace
‘Twinkle’

Intermediate: 1st Place

Grown by George Su



Leomexezia Lava Burst “Puanani”
Intermediate: 2nd Place
Grown by Henry Shaw

Restrepia mendozae

Intermediate: 3rd Place

Grown by Pat Bachetti



Phragmipedium cardinale

Advanced: 1st Place

Grown by Eileen Jackson



Cymbidium erythraeum

Advanced: 2nd Place

Grown by Eileen Jackson



Phragmipedium grassau

Advanced: 3rd Place

Grown by Eileen Jackson





Cattleya Dream Catcher
Advanced: Honorable Mention
Grown by Ted McClellan



Cattleya brevipedunculata
Lancer Smith Award
Grown by Ted McClellan