

Diablo View Orchid Society

**The meeting is May 11 at 7:15 pm PST, at the
Concord Water District, 1331 Concord Ave, Concord 94521
Doors open at 6:30pm for Show & Tell setup and conversations.
May Speaker: Marni Turkel**

"Show Me the Plant"

This month our speaker is Marni Turkel (pronounced tur KELL). The title of her talk will be "Show Me the Plant". *The meeting will be a hybrid in person/ZOOM meeting. Please contact Henry Shaw (dvosshowandtell@gmail.com) if you want the link for the ZOOM meeting.* But I would certainly try to be at the meeting in person. Marni will be supplying the raffle table.



"Show Me the Plant" is a presentation that uses images of blooming specimen plants as well as close-ups to consider the whole plant for a sense of proportion and relationship and not the flower in isolation. Marni will be talking about many of her favorite plants and will cover some basic information as well as specific needs for individual plants and strategies for growing specimen plants. This is a chance to see some of the best of her collection and learn how she grows it.

Marni's Orchid Biography

Marni is a native of the San Francisco Bay Area and has been growing orchids since 1980. She grows in four greenhouses in Santa Rosa with approximately 1250 sq ft of growing space. Her main interest is in miniature species but plenty of larger plants have crept into the collection as well. Marni has been a contributor to Orchids magazine with her series called 'Well Worth the Space' and 'Give It a Rest'. Her articles have been translated into Dutch, German, Portuguese and Swedish for international publication. Photographs of her plants have been feature in articles noted orchid publications

including Orchids Magazine, Orchid Digest, Richardiana, The Orchid Review, and The Australian Orchid Review. For the last few years she has been sharing her photographs and knowledge on OrchidsForum.com.

Starting in 2009, Marni expanded her work with orchids to include propagation of orchids from seed and has set up a flasking lab of her own to take the process from start to finish and sell flasks of many of the orchids species in her collection. After working for over 43 years as a potter, she has retired from ceramics to pursue orchids full-time.

Please visit Marni's site for orchids that she sells:

Ebay: She sells plants on ebay. Her username is mostlyspecies.

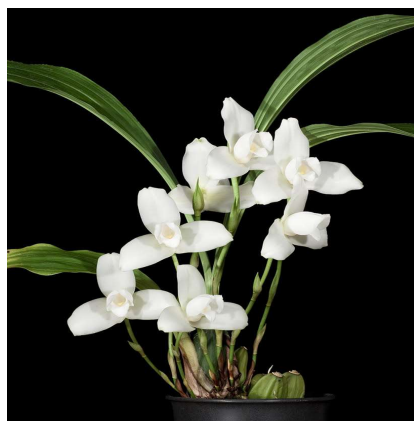
She sells flasks: <http://marniturkel.com/mostlyspecies.html>



Habenaria



Schoenorchis



Lycaste

Anybody interested in Orchiata?

Mitch Schnieder (new co-owner of New World Orchids) is selling all sizes of Orchiata for \$40 (+tax) for a **35 liter** bag.

Precision Ex Small (1/8" 4-6 mm)

Classic Small (3/8" 6-9 mm)

Power Medium (1/2" 9-12 mm)

Power Plus Large 3/4" 12-18 mm)

Super Ex Large (1" 18-25 mm)

If you are interested in buying some of this bark, please contact Diane Bond (bonddiane8@gmail.com). I will be collecting orders until June 5, 2023.

The President's Letter

I'm happy to report that our first "hybrid" meeting, with speaker Peter T. Lin joining us remotely *via* Zoom, seems to have been well received. Peter's talk was great, and we had excellent attendance (relative to other recent meetings) in person at the Water District, with a few of our members joining us from home via the Zoom broadcast. The Show & Tell tables were well populated with some beautiful plants. I'm very pleased to see growing participation in this aspect of our meetings. Let's keep it up!

Our May meeting will have a similar format, with remote speaker Marni Turkel. For more details, see Diane Bond's write-up on the May meeting elsewhere in this newsletter. Based on a suggestion from a member, we'll introduce one tweak to the format in May; we will continue the Zoom broadcast through the presentation of the Show & Tell plants so that our members watching from home can see what people brought in. (I still encourage people to attend in person if they can, though!)

Now that May has arrived, it's time for orchid growers in the Bay Area to start paying close attention to the weather. As we move into late spring and early summer, temperatures are starting to rise (finally), and the days are getting longer. These changes can have a significant impact on your orchids, so it's essential to adjust your care routine accordingly.

Here are a few tips for caring for your orchids this month:

Watering: With warmer temperatures, your orchids will likely need more frequent watering. Check the moisture level of the potting mix frequently and water when it starts to dry out. Be careful not to overwater, as this can lead to root rot.

Fertilizing: May is a good time to start fertilizing your orchids regularly (~ once/week) as most orchids are putting on new root and leaf growth. Use a dilute solution (1/2 to 1/4 the concentration recommended in the fertilizer instructions) solution of a balanced, water-soluble fertilizer.

Repotting: Most orchids don't appreciate having their roots disturbed, but the best time to repot is when they are putting out new roots. That time is now. If you have plants that need to be divided or moved to a larger pot, this is probably a good time to take on that work. If you are dividing or pruning plants, be sure to sterilize any cutting instruments in between use on different plants. To sterilize, heat the tool using a propane torch, or dip in 70% - 100% isopropyl alcohol (rubbing alcohol) or a 10% household bleach solution for a minute or two.)

Pests and diseases: Keep an eye out for pests and diseases, especially as temperatures rise. Spider mites, mealybugs, and scale insects can all be problematic for orchids, so take steps to prevent and treat infestations as soon as you notice them.

Light: As the days get longer, your orchids will receive more light. This is generally a good thing. Nevertheless, be careful not to expose them to direct sunlight (particularly at midday), which can burn their leaves. Consider using a shade cloth or moving your plants to a slightly shadier location if necessary.

Membership in DVOS gives you access to the hundreds of person-years of orchid-growing experience of our members, all of whom are more than willing to share their knowledge. It's an amazing resource. Come to our monthly meeting with your questions and pick the brains of the more experienced attendees!

Henry

April Show and Tell Winners



SL Pache 'Prolific' x self
Novice: 1st Place
Grown by Claire Conger



Den. Peter Shen x Little Atro
Novice: 2nd Place
Grown by Francine Donner

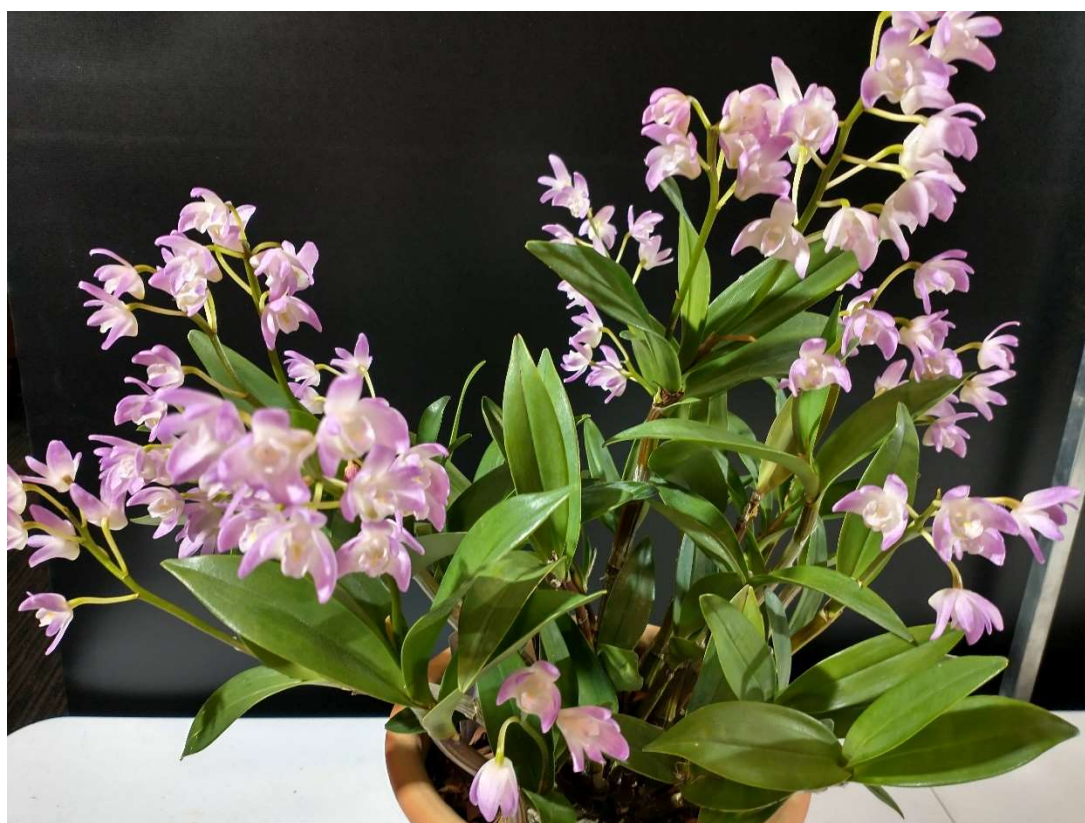


Cymbidium no name
 Novice: 3rd Place
 Grown by Mary Christopherson



Rhyncattleanthe Shinfong Little Sun
 Intermediate: 1st Place
 Grown by Rachel Brinkerhoff

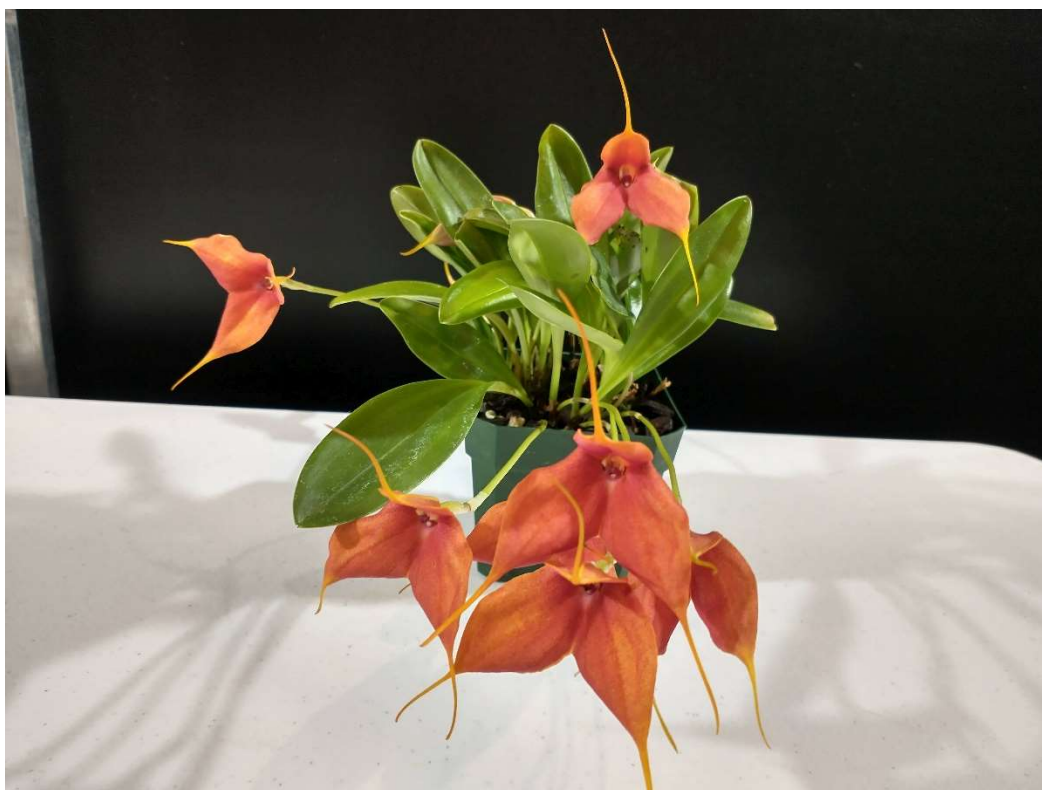
Paphiopedilum delenatii
Intermediate: 2nd Place
Grown by Kaitlyn Strom



Dencrobium delicatum
Intermediate: 3rd Place
Grown by Jan Danciger



SLC Solar Flare
Advanced: 1st Place
Grown by Phyllis Arthur



Masdevallia Copper Wings
Advanced: 2nd Place
Grown by Micki Ichiyanagi



Enanthleya Jairak Kyogu
Advanced: 3rd Place
Grown by George Su



Oncidium Croesus
Lancer Smith Award
Grown by Micki Ichiyanagi

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