

# **Diablo View Orchid Society**

**The meeting is September 14 at 7:15 PM PST  
at the Concord Water District, 1331 Concord Ave,  
Concord 94521**

**Doors open at 6:30pm  
For Show & Tell set-up and conversations.**

**September Subject:  
“Australiian Dendrobiums”**

This month our speaker is Tyler Albrecht. Tyler will be speaking on Austrailian Dendrobiums: Finding the Right Fit for Your Home Growing. The meeting will be a hybrid IN PERSON/ZOOM meeting. Please contact Henry Shaw ([dvosshowandtell@gmail.com](mailto:dvosshowandtell@gmail.com)) if you want the link for the ZOOM meeting. But I would certainly try to be at the meeting in person. Tyler will be supplying the raffle table.

## **Tyler’s Orchid Biography**

Orchids have been a thing of interest, passion, mystery, disappointment, exploration, and love of mine since I was 8 years old. It’s all my father’s fault for introducing me to Cymbidiums in the early 80’s. After finding success in not killing Cymys for a year or so, I tried some other genera and fell in love with Paphiopedilums and a keen interest in all things weird.

Living in the Bay Area was great for Orchid enthusiasts, and access to many fantastic people who later went on to become mentors to me early on in growing. People like Lil Severin, Dennis Olivas, Gerardus Staal and Dorothy Stevens to name just a few. Now I am surrounded by some additionally fantastic mentors who are not only encouraging but incredible people as well.

Fast forward 30 something years and with a short hiatus for five years, I’m back full steam doing what I love, growing orchids. With an eye on the future and blessing from my wife of 15 years, things are set in motion to transition to full time nursery production in the coming years. Also immersing myself into the AOS Judging program with the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. In the meantime, my day job is servicing aquarium and ponds out of our home in Loomis at the base of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Other day jobs include shuttling my daughter Reagan back and forth to the barn where she rides as a competitive Hunter/Jumper at shows around the state and region. Also making sure that my son Reece



gets to his Taekwondo studio where he recently acquired his blackbelt and his various competitions!

And last but certainly not least, go out on the occasional date with my lovely wife Dana.....when we are not knee deep in kids and work stuff.



Dendrobium x suffusum 'Reece' HCC/AOS.

One of Tyler's recently awarded

Australian Dendrobiums

## Dinner with the Speaker

Members of DVOS are invited to a no-host, pre-meeting dinner with our guest speaker, Tyler Albrecht. We will meet for dinner at 5 PM on Thursday September 14th at:  
Aung Burma 2151 Salvio St Suite E  
Concord, CA 94520

This restaurant is a 5-minute drive from the meeting venue. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to [bond Diane9@gmail.com](mailto:bond Diane9@gmail.com) by 5PM Wednesday, September 13th so that I can make reservations.

## The President's Letter

Greetings Orchid Friends,

Well...we completed our annual late-summer auction and picnic last month. Although the attendance (and revenue) was down from last all year, the post-auction picnic was a great time to socialize and partake of the wonderful variety of contributed dishes. If you were there, I hope you had a good time! The auction is our major fundraiser; the proceeds fund the costs for our monthly meetings (rent, speaker fees, and raffle tables), the all the "invisible" costs the Society incurs annually (insurance, dues, speaker dinners, *etc.*). Although our revenue was down significantly from the last two years, the Society remains in excellent financial health and has robust cash reserves.

I want to thank everyone who helped set up, conduct, and clean up after the auction. Special thanks go to Tom Pickford and Diane Bond for their excellent (and entertaining) auctioneering skills, Liz Charleton for managing the finance side, and Mara Kaufmann-Puchall for running plants to the winning bidders.

The Society has recently invested in a new audio/visual system to replace the over 20-year-old PA system and projector with modern, more capable equipment. The PA system was used successfully at the Auction and the projector will make its debut at the next monthly meeting. Your purchases at the Auction make these sorts of upgrades possible.

The Society's next major activity is our annual ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS. There are several positions that are open, including a successor for our Treasurer (one year of "training" followed by an expectation that the person will become Treasurer) and up to two additional at-large Board member positions. Any member can self-nominate for any of the Society's leadership positions. Being a volunteer on the Board or in one of the non-Board leadership positions doesn't take that much time but having broad-based participation of our members is essential for the continued success of the Society. DVOS is a vibrant, fun organization because members get involved; consider getting more involved! If you are interested in learning how you might participate, shoot me an e-mail at [dvosshowandtell@gmail.com](mailto:dvosshowandtell@gmail.com).

We have a wonderful lineup of in-person and "virtual" speakers coming this fall. See Diane's write-up for our September speaker in this newsletter. As previously announced, we also have a repotting workshop scheduled for Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. See the following article in this newsletter for more information.

What's happening in your collection? I have a *Coilostylis ciliaris* (formerly *Epidendrum ciliare*) that's filling our kitchen with its intoxicating honey-like fragrance. A *Vanda falcata* is blooming for the second time this summer, a NOID reed-stem epidendrum is blooming with multiple 3'-long spikes out on our patio, and my (nearly) everblooming *Leomesezia* Lava Burst 'Puanani' is back in bloom after taking a 4-month rest. I hope your plants are thriving and giving you much pleasure, and I encourage you once again to participate in the Show & Tell portion of our monthly meetings.

*Henry*

## September Repotting Workshop

Saturday Sept. 16, 2023, 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Henry Shaw and Marina Hsieh's yard:

4073 Terra Alta Dr.

San Ramon, CA 94582

If you intend to attend, please RSVP to [dvosshowandtell@gmail.org](mailto:dvosshowandtell@gmail.org) by Wednesday September 13<sup>th</sup> so we can plan for the necessary "hospitality".

As previously announced, DVOS will be holding a repotting workshop in September. Although this is a little late in the season to repot, as it's best to do so when roots are actively Growing. We've had a busy summer with the California Orchids picnic and the annual DVOS auction, so September ended up being the earliest we could schedule it.

Note that this is a hands-on **workshop**, not a repotting **service**, in which you can divide (if necessary or desired) and repot your own orchid under the watchful eyes of experienced growers. DVOS will be providing a limited amount of medium-size Orchidata and other media for the demos and for one or two of your orchids. The intent is to provide an opportunity to hear from experienced growers; learn about their preferred media; and get tips on how to divide and repot your orchid. This will also be an opportunity to socialize and see how others grow their orchids. I'll warn you, I'm a low-tech grower – no greenhouse, just windowsills and outdoor plants.

## Some guidelines:

- You are welcome to bring one or two plants in need of repotting, but not your entire collection unless **you** bring the necessary media and pots/mounts.
- Please limit the pot size to less than 12" for both the primary plant and the secondary repotted plants.
- Please do not bring large, overgrown Cymbidiums!
- Bring your own appropriately sized pots/mounts (and tools if you have them).
- If you have preferred media, or intend to repot more than 2 plants, bring your own media and pots/mounts.
- We will provide sterilization methods and a few basic tools, including monofilament line for securing potted and mounted plants.

Light snacks and refreshments will be provided. Potluck "donations" are welcome.

Looking forward to seeing you in September!

## DVOS Leaders

• Secretary	Pat Bacchetti
• Treasurer	Liz Charlton
• Board Member	Ulrike Ahlborn
• Board Member	Rachel Brinkerhoff
• Board Member	Barry Hart
• Board Member	George Su
• Board Member	Kaitlyn Strom
• Board Member	Tom Merics
• Past President	Diane Bond
• Newsletter Editor	Barry Hart
• Web Master	Ulrike Ahlborn
• Membership Chairperson	Ulrike Ahlborn
• New Member Mentor	Eileen Jackson
• Show and Sale Chairperson	Eileen Jackson
• Hospitality	open
• Raffle	Marcia Hart
• Show and Tell Supervisor	open