



The Backbulb

The Carmel Orchid Society

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December 2002

Jim Nybakken Named Carmel Orchid Society's New President

The Board of Directors of the Carmel Orchid Society is delighted to welcome Jim Nybakken as its new President. Jim has been a member of the COS since 1973 and an officer of one sort or another since 1978, including his most recent post as Vice President, ably arranging for speakers and making sure they get to the meetings well-fed and on time. Jim grows his orchids in seven greenhouses at his home in Carmel Valley. He is particularly interested in species, especially cool growing ones from higher eleva-



Paph. boxalii

tions in central and south America. He is partners with Bill and Ida Hale in a small part-time business called Bakkehelle Orchids, which leases blooming orchids to local hotels and restaurants. Jim is a retired professor from the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories where he taught marine ecology and marine invertebrate zoology for 33 years and was a founding faculty member of the institution. He is also the author of several textbooks in marine science and recently served as the editor of a new encyclopedia of marine science.

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COS Wants a Presence on the Worldwide Web

The Carmel Orchid Society is interested in starting up a web site and would be interested in hearing from any of our members if they have expertise or ability in setting up and maintaining a web site. If so would you please contact Jim Nybakken by phone, 659-4060 or by e-mail, nybakken@redshift.com.

Do We Have Your Current Email Address?

We know that people change email addresses as they move, find a better provider, a higher speed connection or providers merge.

Please take a moment to make sure that your email address is correct if we have it, or send it to us if we don't. You can send your current email address to hdstraus@earthlink.net



Paphiopedilum Culture

Paphiopedilums, or slipper orchids, originate from the jungles of the Far East and Indonesia. They are semi-terrestrial, growing in humus and other material on the forest floor, on cliffs in pockets and occasionally in trees. They're easy to grow in the home, under lights or in the greenhouse.

LIGHT is easier to provide for "paphs", as we will call them, than many other types of orchids. They like shady conditions, as in the home in an east or west window, or near a shaded south window. In the greenhouse, heavy shade must be provided — giving them about 1,000 to 1,500 foot-candles. They are often grown under the bench, provided precautions are taken to prevent rot. Fluorescent light is excellent; use 2 or 4 tubes just over the leaves.

TEMPERATURES for paphs range considerably. Many growers separate paphs into two groups, the warm growing mottled-leaf types and the cool-growing, green-leaf types. Warm-growing types should be 60 to 65 degrees F at night and 75 to 80 degrees F or more during the day. Cool-growing types should be 50 to 60 degrees F at night, 75 to 80 degrees F during the day. Many growers grow all plants in the same temperature range with excellent results. The plants can stand night temperatures in the 40's if necessary (as when grown outside in mild climates), as well as temperatures to 95 degrees F. Care must be taken to protect the plants from rot when cold (keep humidity low, and do not let water stand on leaves or in the crowns of the plants), and also to protect from burning when hot (shade more heavily and increase humidity and air movement).

WATER must be available at the plant's roots constantly, since they have no pseudobulbs, and therefore store most of their water in their leaves. They need a moist medium — never soggy, but never dry. Water once or twice a week. Humidity for paphs

should be moderate, between 40% and 50%, which can be maintained in the home by setting the plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water, so that the plants never sit in water. In dry climates, misting (in the morning only) can help increase humidity. In a green house, average humidity is sufficient; spraying the floor or using an evaporative cooling system in warm climates can increase the humidity. Air movement is essential, especially when humidity is high.

FERTILIZER must be applied on a regular schedule, but care must be taken to

avoid burning of the fleshy, hairy roots. High-nitrogen fertilizers (like 30-10-10) are recommended when potted in any fir bark mix. In warm weather, some growers use half-strength applications every two weeks; others use 1/4 strength every watering. It's important to flush with clear water monthly to leach excess fertilizer, which can burn roots. In cool weather, fertilizer applications once a month are sufficient.

POTTING should be done about every two years, or as the medium decomposes. Seedlings are often repotted annually. Mixes vary tremendously; most are fine- and/or medium-grade fir bark, with varying additives -- perlite (sponge-rock), coarse sand, sphagnum moss, etc. Moisture retention with excellent drainage is needed. Di-



Paph. argus

vide large plants by pulling or cutting the fans of the leaves apart, into clumps of 3 to 5 growths. Smaller divisions will grow, but may not bloom as well. Spread the roots over a small amount of medium in the bottom of the pot and fill with medium, so that the junction of roots and stem is buried 1/2" deep in the center of the pot. Do not overpot; an average plant should have a 4 to 6" pot.

Courtesy of the Education Committee, American Orchid Society, 6000 S. Olive Ave., West Palm Beach, FL 33405 (407) 585-8666.



Photographs courtesy Sally Straus



Treasurer's Report - September, 2002



Checkbook Balance on October 1	\$4,239.19
October income	142.00
October expense	(912.60)
Checkbook Balance on October 31	\$3,468.59

CD balance on September 15 was **\$7,386.42**

A Reminder ... If you are enrolling as a new member, or are simply renewing your membership, please make sure that we have your **current** address and telephone number (and email, if you have one). We want to make sure you get your *Backbulb* regularly! Use the form below to make any changes, please.



Carmel Orchid Society, Inc.

Affiliated with the American Orchid Society

Monthly meetings at 7:30 PM on the first Monday of each month (Except September and December) at the First Presbyterian Church of Monterey, 501 EI Dorado, Monterey. Membership \$ 10.00 for a single or \$ 15.00 for two at the same address. Make check payable to the Carmel Orchid Society and mail to:

Carmel Orchid Society-Membership
P.O.Box 2454
Monterey, CA 93942

Application for Membership — Please print

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Member of the American Orchid Society?

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____ Yes No

Email address _____



Upcoming Events

Carmel Orchid Society Annual Christmas Party

December 8, 2002, from 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM
At the Cabrillo Room, the Monterey Beach Resort,
Canyon Del Rey and Route 1, Sand City.
Price: \$25/person (members), \$30/person (non-members) for a sumptuous buffet, plant table, and party.

There will be no Board of Directors' Meeting in December, 2002.

Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Monday, January 6, 2003, at 7:30pm
The First Presbyterian Church
510 El Dorado Street
Monterey, CA 93940

Carmel Orchid Society January Board of Directors' Meeting

Monday, January 20, 2003 at 6:30pm
James Nybakken's home,
151 Country Club Drive
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
659 4060

New Board of Directors

The Nominating Committee submitted a slate of proposed new Directors to the Board, and at the last membership meeting, the members approved the slate by acclamation. Namely, there were no contenders who wished to vie for the responsibility of being on the Board.

Therefore, starting in January, 2003, the following members are elected to the Board of Directors:

President	James Nybakken
Vice President	Susan Segal
Secretary	Kathy Apodaca
Treasurer	Shirley West
Past President	Bill Hale
AOS Representative ...	Carolyn Salmon

Directors:	Lori Lenz
	Ken Ashton
	Danny Orwick
	Carolyn Salmon
	Carol Easton

Howard Straus will continue as Editor of *The Backbulb*



Photograph—courtesy Sally Straus



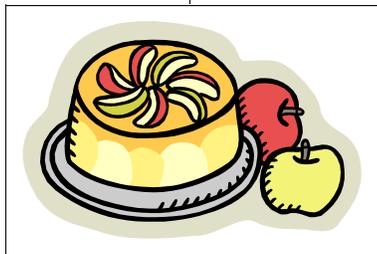
Photograph—courtesy Sally Straus



Thanks to our October Goodies Volunteers!

Once again, we would like to give a special "Thank You" and our compliments to the suppliers of the delicious table of treats that greeted us at our October monthly meeting. Our October goodies were provided by **Cely Cruz, Emelta Harvey, Elizabeth Coelho, Carol Easton** and **Ophie Antonio**. What on Earth would we do without Ellie Mamon faithfully and with loving care preparing and serving the spread? Thank you one and all!

There is no volunteers list for December, since the Christmas Party takes the place of our December meeting. Also, the goodies in January are normally what remains of the desserts from the party.



Random Notes From Your Editor

This time of year is always an interesting one, filled with holiday celebrations and thoughts of the past year, and anticipation of the year to come.

November's meeting was no exception. One of the more momentous items on the agenda was the announcement of the slate of directors that, for want of any opposition, will soon become the Board of Directors of the Carmel Orchid Society for 2003. James Nybakken, who, as our Vice President has been arranging the speakers for the past year, will move up to President. Some of our perennial workhorses will continue, and there will be a few new faces. For a complete

listing of the new officers, see the back page. Your editor will continue to produce the *Backbulb*, once again, due to serious lack of someone to take my place.

November's meeting was marked by a somewhat humorous occurrence (for all but James Nybakken). As the speaker, Scott Dallas, began his unusual and colorful slide show, the slide projector lamp burned out. Close inspection and several attempts later revealed that the spare lamp in the carrying case was not the correct size for the projector, so, on James Nybakken's last meeting as Vice President, we had a slide show *without* slides! To his great credit, our speaker continued with humor and an engaging and knowledgeable presentation nonetheless, and promised to either leave the slides for a future meeting or to return them to us so that we may enjoy the "wonderful world of the weird" in orchids.

Speaking for myself, I thoroughly enjoyed the presentation, even without the slides.

And also speaking for myself, though I suspect most of the members feel the same way: As they pass the reins of leadership of the Society to a new Board, I wish to thank Bill and Ida Hale for making my first year and a half of membership in the Society such a pleasant and rewarding experience. Bill's potting demonstrations completely took the mystery and fear out of the necessary operations of caring for orchids, gave me an understanding of the plants, and Ida's firm leadership and natural organizational ability helped to keep things running smoothly. Ida was the one who grabbed me one day and almost "assigned" me to be your editor, an experience that has been very rewarding for me. Bill and Ida's constant good humor make it a pleasure to know these lovely people. Thanks to you both!



Photograph courtesy Sally Straus



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Carmel Orchid Society

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