



# The Backbulb

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 46, Number 5

May 2003

## Our May Speaker: Ernie Campuzano of Butterfly Orchids in Newbury Park

Ernie has been growing orchids since 1963, commercially since about 1980. In his career, he has grown many award winning plants. Ernie's most memorable award was for Phal. Abendrot Celia, named for his wife, which was an AOS FCC winner that made the front cover of AOS Quarterly Fall 1985. It was given 91 points and is the only pink phalaenopsis to have been awarded a score that high. One comment he made underlined something Scott Collins said in his wonderful April presentation: these orchids have been improved so much since then that plants that were awarded then would not be now.

The name of Ernie's company came from the florists he was selling to – they referred to his white phals as "butterfly orchids." He really became a commercial grower to support his passion for orchids. His "real" job was printing currency and travelers' checks for countries and companies

all over the world.

Ernie grows many different types of orchids and will talk about different mixes and fertilizers for different kinds of plants. He was the first American grower to import sphagnum moss from New Zealand and still uses it. He will bring samples of mixes and fertilizers. He uses only organic fertilizers and mixes many of them together and will bring samples of his mixes and fertilizers. He will talk about culture, water, pots, fertilizers, and growing materials for phals, cat, cymbidium, den-drobium and others.

Ernie recently had a fire in his greenhouse, which he has taken as a sign to slow down. Accordingly, he will go back to growing as a hobby but continue to do a few shows a year-Carmel is one of his favorites and he has been coming here for he thinks as long as we've been at Cross-roads and is a longtime member of the COS.



*Phal. Juan Escobar*

## In this month's Backbulb

April Speaker: Ernie Campuzano of Butterfly Orchids	page 1
Please Note ...	page 1
Miltonia/Miltoniopsis Culture	page 2
Treasurer's Report	page 3
Membership application	page 3
Events Calendar	page 4
Call for MayFaire Volunteers	page 4
In Memoriam	page 4
May Goodies Volunteers	page 5
Volunteer Reminder	page 5
OrchidMania — The World's Largest Orchid Garage Sale	page 5
Remember ...	page 5
Board of Directors	page 6

**Please Note:** The date of the June COS Birthday Party Potluck has been moved to **Monday, June 23**. Note, as well, that **this has been changed** from the last notification! Update your calendar now!



# Mil tonia and Mil toniopsis Cul ture

**Miltonias** have gained a reputation for being difficult to grow. However, their culture is basic and the rewards of growing this beautiful genera are many. Below are a few notes on the successful culture of these plants.

**LIGHT:** Miltonias prosper under light intensities just below the needs of Cattleyas. They require about the same light as mottled leaf Paphiopedilums. This would be about 900 to 1000 foot candles. If the plant is in flower it is wise to place it in a area of less illumination to preserve flower quality.

**WATER:** They should never be allowed to dry out. They should be kept moist but not too wet over a long period of time or the roots will rot. Pot should have sufficient drainage holes to help prevent root deterioration.

**TEMPERATURES:** The ideal temperature should be kept below 85° F. and above 68° F. if possible. If the temperature rises above this limit, shade and humidity should be increased. The night temperature should be in the 58° F. to 60° F. range. A differential of about 10° F. between day and night temperature is very beneficial.

**HUMIDITY:** The relative humidity that is recommended is 50 to 70%. As the temperature during the day rises, with increased light intensity, the relative humidity should be increased. Miltonias appreciate being "fogged" on sunny days. In nature these plants are found in cloud forests where it rains daily.

**VENTILATION:** Miltonias like good air circulation, as do all orchids. Air circulation allows the plants to absorb more light without burning

since the leaf temperature is reduced. The air circulation can be provided by fan, open vents, or cooling system. The circulation of cool moist air is beneficial to these plants.

**POTTING:** These plants are grown in many different mixes and containers. Whichever medium is used, it should retain moisture and at the same time provide excellent drainage. Generally, the mix is composed of fine fir bark, plus additives such as approx. 10% small sized charcoal, or 15% perlite. Miltonias like to be repotted



*Photograph courtesy Pat Landee*

yearly during the cool season, preferably when the new growth is approx. 2" tall. Miltonias resent overpotting. A small pot, with good drainage will allow the free watering that Miltonias prefer without the consequences of a soggy mix. Use plastic pots if possible. Miltonias are very susceptible to root damage caused by salt accumulation of which occurs in clay pots. A Miltonia prefers to grow into good sized clumps before dividing. It will produce more, and better flowers if left in

a large clump.

**FERTILIZING:** Feed a one quarter strength solution of 20-20-20 or 18-18-18 fertilizer every other watering. During active growing season this may be applied at every watering.

**PESTS AND DISEASES:** Miltonias are susceptible to the same pests as most other orchids. Modern insecticides will handle most pest problems but they must used with caution as these plants have tender foliage and will "burn". Poor culture will cause fungal and bacterial rots. Treat these areas with fungicide and remove bad portions with a sterile knife.



Photographs courtesy Pat Landee

## Treasurer's Report March, 2002



Checkbook Balance on March 1	<b>\$5,690.18</b>
February income	2,341.00
February expense	(1,644.49)
Checkbook Balance on March 31	<b>\$6,386.69</b>

CD balance on March 15 was **\$7,463.10**

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, I nc.

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 **\$ 15.00** for a single or **\$ 20.00** for two at the same address, **\$ 25.00** Vendor membership. Please make checks 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 \_\_\_\_\_

New Member  Renewal



## Upcoming Events

### **Carmel Orchid Society MayFaire**

Saturday-Sunday, May 3-4, 2003, 9am-4:30pm  
The Crossroads Shopping Center Mall  
Between Safeway and Long's Drugs  
Rio Road and Highway 1, Carmel, CA  
This is our flagship fundraising event of the year. Come to see the spectacular displays and acquire some new plants, and bring your friends!

### **Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting**

Monday, May 5, 2003, at 7:30pm  
The First Presbyterian Church  
510 El Dorado Street  
Monterey, CA 93940  
Speaker: Ernie Campuzano of Butterfly Orchids in Newbury Park, CA.

### **Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting**

Tuesday, May 13, 2003, at 6:30pm (second Tuesday of every month)  
At the Community Bank, Community Room, 6th Floor, 301 Main Street, Salinas, CA. Entrance on Alisal. For more information, call (408) 375 6871.

### **Carmel Orchid Society May Board of Directors' Meeting**

Monday, April 19, 2003 at 7:30pm  
At Ken and Sharon Ashton's home  
26966 Laureles Grade Road  
Carmel Valley, CA

### **June COS Birthday Party Potluck**

Monday, June 23, 2003, at 7:30pm  
The First Presbyterian Church  
510 El Dorado Street  
Monterey, CA 93940

## Call for MayFaire Volunteers!

We all know that the MayFaire is our premiere annual fundraising event, bringing in enough cash to keep our Carmel Orchid Society dues literally below the cost of printing and mailing the Backbulb, to say nothing of the other benefits we get from our membership.

One of the necessities of the MayFaire, however, is volunteer labor for all the myriad tasks that need to be done. At the last two monthly meetings, there have been signup sheets for members to volunteer for the various jobs.

In general, there has been a good number of people willing to put their time and energy into the Society, and some of the tasks are well-subscribed with capable and energetic volunteers.

I need to report, however, that some of the tasks have been under subscribed, even seriously so. They tend to be the less glamorous or less obvious jobs. While the plant table and hospitality are traditionally fun and very public jobs, the set up and take down tasks are begging for volunteers, as is the security detail.

Now, setting up on Friday afternoon from 1:00pm to 4:00pm is one of the most important jobs there is. If there is nobody to set up the tables, there will be no place for the vendors (who arrive at the end of the setup period) to put their wares. We are seriously in need of people to just "show up" at the Crossroads Mall Friday afternoon to help with the table setup and arrangements. Please, just show up and give a hand.

Taking down the show at the end, Sunday afternoon at 4:45pm, is another task that, due to its lack of glamor, gained it *no* volunteers. Please, folks, we NEED to get this taken care of, and there are no more meetings before the MayFaire to sign up. Just call or show up and your welcome services will be gladly used.

Bill Hale will be doing a potting demonstration every hour on the hour. Any help that you would care to provide him would be greatly appreciated. Those of you who have been on the receiving end of Bill's gratitude know what a pleasure that can be! If you have some time, and are in the building, let Bill know you would be willing to help.

And, finally, the security detail needs to be fleshed out. That is one that I enjoy, with the feeling of being in law enforcement, without the gun or baton, of course. Come and help with the security detail anytime during the MayFaire. Just let Ida know you're there, and she'll put you to work!

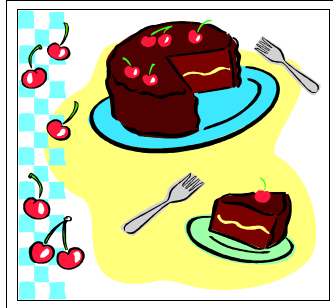
## In Memoriam

We sadly report the passing this month of COS Member Dinna Silacci. The Board of Directors and the Membership of the Carmel Orchid Society express their deep condolences to her sons Robert and Steven. She will be missed.



## May Goodies Volunteers

I am just going to have to stop treating myself to the wonderful post-presentation snacks! They are so good that I am gaining weight! Luscious goodies for our April meeting were provided by **Lupe Rubio, Diane Segelbacher, Emelita Harvey, Frances Richardson, Ellie Mamon and Patricia Wespiser**. Thanks, as always, to **Ellie Mamon** who takes such pride and care preparing and presenting the goodies beautifully and promptly. Thanks, one and all.



Our May Goodies Volunteers are:

**Debra Majcher Gore**  
**Bev Hill**  
**Marilyn Uribe**  
**Joanie Linares**  
**Lori Siegmund**



*Photograph courtesy Pat Landee*

## Remember ...

... when you sell plants at the MayFaire on the Club Plant Table, you keep the sales price minus 17¼%. 10% of the sales price goes to the Club and 7¼% goes for California sales tax.

## Volunteer Reminder

Remember, please, if you signed up for one or more of the volunteer positions at the MayFaire, to please show up for your job. You will be getting a call from one of the volunteer coordinators in the day or two before you are expected, just so you won't forget, space out and not come.

The MayFaire is a spectacular event, one you can't miss anyway if you are the slightest bit interested in Orchids. Being a part of it is such a pleasure, you wouldn't want to miss it. See you there!

## OrchidMania — "The World's Largest Orchid Garage Sale"

The 14th Annual Mother's Day Sale will be held at the Fort Mason Conference Center, Saturday (10am — 5pm) and Sunday (10am — 4pm) on May 10 and 11, 2003. There will be a breakfast preview for "The Friends of OrchidMania" Saturday at 9:00am.

*Admission and parking are free.*

The proceeds from this sale support grassroots AIDS organizations in Northern California, Thailand and Columbia.

*Contact:* OrchidMania, PO Box 423627, San Francisco, CA 94142-3605.

*Website:* [www.orchids.org](http://www.orchids.org)



*Photograph courtesy Sally Straus*



P. O. Box 2454  
Monterey, CA 93942  
www.carmelorchidsociety.org

(831) 646 8724



## Carmel Orchid Society

President	James Nybakken	659-4060	bnybakken@redshift.com
VP Program/Education	Susan Segal	375-5897	susansegal@attbi.com
Secretary	Kathy Apodaca	392-1558	
Treasurer	Shirley West	620-1001	west@gotnet.com
<i>Backbulb</i> Editor	Howard Straus	625-3565	hdstraus@earthlink.net
May Faire Chairman	Ida Hale	646-8724	imaryhale@aol.com
Directors	Carolyn Salmon	375-3748	cargie@yahoo.com
	Danny Orwick	424-1886	
	Ken Ashton	659-7387	ashcas@email.msn.com
	Sharon Ashton	659 7387	ashcas@email.msn.com
	Carol Easton	625-1565	eastonce@aol.com
Hospitality	Ellie Mamon	883-8533	
AOS Representative	Carolyn Salmon	375-3748	cargie@yahoo.com
Hospice Cymbidiums	Peggy Purchase	624-8442	pegpaule@redshift.com
Ticket Sales	John Mockett	624-9596	
Past President	William G. Hale	646-8724	bakkehalleorchids@aol.com