

The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

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April 2005

April Speaker Blaine Maynor

Blaine Maynor studied botany at HSU and specialized in the field of pollination biology. While studying pollination biology Blaine became fascinated with orchids. Today he owns Orchids For The People, a full service orchid nursery in McKinleyville, CA. Orchids For The People specializes in cool and intermediate orchids with an emphasis on Pleurothallids, species, miniatures, and "odd" orchids. Blaine will speak on Pleurothallis.



Photo courtesy of Ida Hale

Please join us and welcome Blaine for what should be a most interesting evening.

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Bill Hale Potting Demonstration

Bill Hale will do a Cymbidium potting demonstration at 6:45pm before the monthly meeting. It's been a while since Bill has done a demonstration and this is a great chance for new members to get some great advice.

Annual Dues

For those of you who have not done so nearly a third of the membership it is again time to pay our dues. Dues become delinquent after MayFaire. Make sure you continue to receive the Backbulb and are included in the 2005 Roster, pay your dues **NOW**. All the information that you need is on page 3.



Cymbidium Culture

On the West Coast of the United States, and in other cool-summer areas that receive no severe frosts, cymbidiums are among the most popular of spring-flowering orchids and are often grown as garden plants. Their striking sprays of long-lasting blooms provide ideal home or patio decoration, and are often used as cut flowers. There are both standard (large-flowered) and miniature (smaller-flowered) types grown. The miniature types, often known as “novelties,” are more heat-tolerant, but neither type is particularly good in warm summer areas; nor are cymbidiums of any kind successful as house plants. Cymbidiums are terrestrial plants in nature and require a moisture-retentive but well-drained mix. Fir bark is most commonly used, though more and more growers are switching to artificial or inorganic mixes as quality fir bark becomes less available.

Temperatures: Mature plants need night temperatures in the low 60°s or high 50°s in late summer to initiate flower spikes. PROVIDE Nights of 55° to 60° F, though temperatures into the 30°s are tolerated; days of 70 to 85° F. Cymbidiums can tolerate temperatures up to 95° to 100° F if shading, humidity and air circulation are increased.

Humidity: Cymbidiums need 50 to 60 percent. In the home, while in bloom, place on trays of moistened pebbles. In greenhouse,

use a humidifier if conditions are too dry.

Lighting: Sufficient light is important for healthy growth and flower production. PROVIDE Very bright light, up to 80 percent of full sun in coastally moderated areas. Leaves should be naturally erect and of a medium olive-green color. Dark green, limp foliage indicates too little light.

Moisture: Mature plants must never dry out between watering.

Feeding: Must be provided on a regular basis because most potting media have little nutrients. The exact fertilizer you use will depend on the mix in which your plant is growing. A good general rule is to apply a balanced (10-10-10, 12-12-12 or similar ratio) fertilizer “weakly, weekly.” That is, fertilize every week at one quarter to one half of the recommended dilution.

Media: Best done every two to three years in spring immediately after flowering to allow maximum time to reestablish before next flowering season.

American Orchid Society

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Frances Elizabeth Woodruff Drummond

March 16, 1919 ~ March 23, 2005

CARMEL VALLEY - Frances Elizabeth Woodruff Drummond passed away peacefully in Carmel Valley, CA on March 23, 2005. Born on March 16, 1919 in Kansas City, Missouri, Mrs. Drummond attended Southwest High School and Stanford University, where she graduated with honors. She was a member of Phi Beta Kappa. Mrs. Drummond was married to Donald H. Drummond on August 15, 1940. She is survived by her husband, three children, Donald F. Drummond of San

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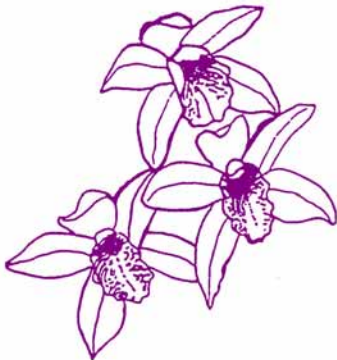
Photos by Debra Maicher-Gore
Plant from February "Show & Tell".

Treasurer's Report February, 2005



Checkbook Balance on February 1	\$8,709.67
February income	1,322.00
February expense	(1,069.05)
Checkbook Balance on February 31	\$8,962.62
CD balance on February 15 was	\$7,643.42

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 El 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

Date _____

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____

Member of the
American Orchid Society?

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Yes No

Email address _____

New Member Renewal



Upcoming Events

Check Our Website For More Events

Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Monday, April 4, 2005 at 7:30pm (First Monday of every month)
The First Presbyterian Church
510 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA 93940

Carmel Orchid Society Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, April 18, 2005, at 7:30pm
The meeting will be held at Pat Landee & Jud Grubbs home, 1037 Rodeo Road, Pebble Beach, (831) 655-9729.

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, April 12, 2005 at 7:00pm (Second Tuesday of every month)
At the Via Verde Medical Group, 1332 Natividad Road, Suite C, Salinas, CA. For more information, call (831) 375 6871.

San Diego County Orchid Society - 59th Spring Show & Plant Sale

April 8th - 10th, 2005. Fri. 4 - 9 pm; Sat. 9 am - 6 pm; Sun. 9 am - 4 pm. Admission \$6, children under 12 - free. Free parking. Scottish Rite Center, 1895 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108. Info: Genie Hammond, 1341 Park Dr., Chula Vista, CA 91911. (619) 426-6831 or (619) 997-1208.

www.sdorchids.com/shows.htm. Email: sdcos-orchid-show@san.rr.com.

Golden Gate Cymbidium Society Show

April 2-3, 2005. Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Ave., Oakland, CA. Contact: Kathi Ames, 17500 Kingston Way, Castro Valley, CA 94546; (510) 886-3932; drunrcoyote69@yahoo.com.

Selling Orchids at MayFaire

Members of the Carmel Orchid Society may sell their orchid plants at the COS Sales Table during the May Faire. Plants, which are presented for sale, must be disease and pest-free and attractive. A good rule-of-thumb is to ask yourself.... *Would I buy this plant?*

Peggy Purchase is in charge of the Plant Table again this year and asked for us to remind members....

- 1. Fill out the sales tag as completely as possible.** A plant with appropriate name and references will sell much easier than one with little identification.
- 2. Attach the sales tag with masking tape or string to the pot.** This way it can be removed and you will receive credit (\$\$) for the sale. Scotch tape sticks to the tags and tears them and creates problems in reading the tags. Contact Peggy or Ida to get tags in advance.



- 3. Bring the plants on Friday afternoon, April 29th between 12noon and 5pm.** There is storage space and the plants will be displayed as they are received. Plants may also be brought in on Saturday or Sunday morning just before 9am and shall be put on display as sales space is available.
- 4. Plants that don't sell must be picked up at 4:30pm on Sunday, May 1st or they will be discarded or donated.** The Society can not be responsible for plants not picked up at the designated time.

Plants that have flowers or a picture to show what the flower looks like sell first! Plants with references – pedi-

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Orchid Growing Tips

We've all heard that good hygiene is important in orchid growing. This practice inhibits the spread of viruses and bacterial diseases. We are advised to "flame" our tools when cutting into plants. Many of the propane torches are large and heavy when the liter tank is attached. I personally use what is called a micro torch. It is a very small, light-weight torch that fits easily into your hand. It is filled with butane so there is no heavy tank. The butane fillers are a small aerosol can normally used for butane lighters. Albertsons and Rite Aid carry them. The torches can be found at Harbor Freight in Salinas for \$5.00 each.

All those little baby slugs and snails are on the march these days and our new budding orchids are favorite food. Ida Hale recommends wrapping a cotton ball on the stem. These critters don't like to crawl over them, so your buds can be safe.

I've found a good internet company that sells good quality shade cloth for very good prices. They have a wide selection to choose from. I have discovered that not all shade cloth is created equal. They are the International Greenhouse Company. Their website is www.igcusa.com.

All this wonderful rain water is great for your orchids. Collect it while it is still available. Those orchids planted in sphagnum moss and those that normally live at higher elevation appreciate it the most.

Don't forget to volunteer for our upcoming MayFaire! See you there.

Carolyn Salmon, cargie@yahoo.com

April Goodies Providers

Thanks to Lupe, Margaret, Emelita, and Marilyn for taking care of the treats for our March meeting. They were wonderful.

Treats for this month will be provided by:

- Maggie Holm
- Lorette Petersen
- Lori Siegmund
- Lesley Olson
- Thé Jongens
- Greta Chavez



We are all anxious to try their faire!

(Continued from page 2) Drummond Memoriam

Rafael, CA; Diana Frizzelle of San Leandro, CA; and Kenneth Drummond of Salem, OR; as well as her beloved grandchildren, Haley, Derek, Jennifer, Joe and Robbie. Mrs. Drummond was a consummate horticulturist and orchidist. Her passion for and knowledge of The Drummond Collection was unbounded. She also actively participated for many years in her husband's home building business, which won many national awards. Private family services will be held under the direction of The Paul Mortuary, Pacific Grove, CA. Memorial contributions may be made in Frances' name to the Carmel Orchid Society, PO box 2454, Monterey, CA 93942.



The Big Display, MayFaire 2005

One of the major attractions at the MayFaire Orchid Show and Sale is always the members display under the flags in the Rotunda at the Crossroads Mall. This is a very special display of many, many varieties of blooming orchids. In order to create the splendor of orchids for which the MayFaire is famous, we need your contributions!

The display will be assembled on Friday afternoon under the able direction of Joyce Elisha. **Plants should be brought to the Crossroads Mall anytime between 12-4pm on Friday, April 29th**. The show opens at 9am on Saturday morning, April 30th and the display must be in place!

Members are encouraged to bring their plants in an attractive container or basket. The plants will be shined with leaf polish and have moss placed around the base unless written instructions are attached to the plant that it is not to be shined and the plant is already attractively presented and the member has furnished his/her own moss. If you cannot bring the plants in yourself, please contact another COS member to assist you. Last minute additions may be accepted before 8am on Saturday if space is available.

At the conclusion of the show the display will be disassembled by Joyce and her Committee,

moss removed and the plants will be available from where the Plant Sale table was located during the show. **No plants are available until 4:30pm on Sunday, May 1st**.

The Guidelines that have been adopted for the MayFaire include:

- 1. All plants are pest and disease free.**
- 2. The leaves are clean and attractive (COS will clean with Plant Shine unless otherwise specified by the grower).**
- 3. Plant is blooming to display its special attributes.**
- 4. Pot is provided with an outer container.**
- 5. Moss covers the base of the plant (provided by COS).**
- 6. Plants should be staked and secured appropriately.**

Members must pick up their plants promptly at 4:30pm on Sunday, May 1st because there is no storage or security for plants that are left after the show is concluded. We hope that members will be available at that time anyway to help in closing the show and sale and assisting with clean up. Many hands make light work for all! See you there!

Backbulb Notice

At the March Board of Directors Meeting it was decided that starting in 2005 there would be a \$5.00 surcharge on the annual dues to cover the cost of printing and mailing for those who receive the BackBulb via the US Mail. There will be no charge to receive the electronic version of the Backbulb. If you need help with web site or electronic Backbulb, please contact Pat Landee or Jud Grubbs at 655-9729 who will provide assistance.

(Continued from page 4) Orchid Selling at MayFaire 2005

gree – are sold readily. Plants with appropriate pricing sell well. The volunteers at the Sales Table are not allowed to alter the price on your plant, therefore, you might want to come by several times during the sale and check on your plants. That way you can adjust prices if it seems warranted. A portion of

each sale goes to COS and is one of our primary fund-raisers during the year.

If you have questions about the Sales Table or would like to help during the May Faire, please sign up or call Peggy at 624-8442. If you need assistance in pricing your plants, please ask a member when you bring them in.