



The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

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June 2005

MayFaire Big Success



MayFaire 2005 was a big success. Lots of flowers, lots of vendors, lots of visitors, lots of awards, and lots of sales. Potting demonstrations by Derick Wentzel, Carolyn Salmon, and Bill

Hale. Thanks to all the volunteers that setup, tore down, sold bark, sold plants and otherwise made Mayfaire a success. And for organizing it all, a very special thanks to Ida Hale

Thank You Vendors

The Society wants to give special thanks to all the vendors who participated in this years MayFaire. They displayed and sold their beautiful orchids with élan and made the show a big success.

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Aerides, The Air Plants

Aerides, a genus (member of the Phalaenopsis Alliance) that extends from India thru Asia to the Philippines.

Essentially large growing plants of the tropics, where they receive high humidity and rainfall. They use their roots to both nourish and attach themselves to trees, rock faces or just suspend themselves from the branches.

Thus to grow these plants well, they require something to attach to, warmth, water and humidity when growing.

Baskets offer a good solution for the usual rampant root systems of these plants. Wire, wood or plastic will do.

The basket should be large enough to allow for future growth, and be of a manageable size. The roots of the plants should be wound into the basket, and securely tied to hold the plant firm. Large pieces of treefern, bark, charcoal or even coconut husk can then be used to fill around the roots in the basket. This media then supplies some nutrients as it slowly breaks down. In very high rainfall/humidity areas, wooden slat baskets can be sufficient, but extra fertilising would be required.

Plant roots will eventually engulf the basket and grow down to form long ae-

rial roots, which feed from nutrients from the basket media and fertilising, when watered.



Aerides lawrenceae Var *Sanderiana*

Once established, fertiliser on a regular basis is beneficial. A piece of hard dry cow manure or pelletised fowl manure sitting on top of the basket may not be aesthetically pleasing, but is certainly effective.

Roots should be trimmed to keep them off the ground and away from soil borne pathogens, fungus, bacteria etc. Under bench misting sprays in drier areas can help keep humidity up and ae-

rial roots healthy.

When spraying for fungus, insects etc, attention should be paid to the bushhouse floor and surrounds, so that problems do literally grow from the roots up.

When planting a basket, quick specimens can be produced by growing 3 or so plants together.

Editors Note: Data from the Burleigh Park Orchids web site. I resisted the urge to edit this from Australian to American.

Burleigh Park Orchids
54 Hammond Way, Thuringowa, Townsville,
Queensland, Australia, 4815

<http://www.speciesorchids.com/>



MayFaire 2005 Best of Show
Cuitlauzina pendula 'Jackie'
Jack Blakemore

Treasurer's Report April, 2005



Checkbook Balance on April 1	\$8,901.55
April income	1,574.00
April expense	(2,907.69)
Checkbook Balance on April 31	\$7,632.86
CD balance on April 15 was	\$7,675.50

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.

Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the Carmel Orchid Society and mail to:

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

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter via E-Mail	Receive Newsletter via US Mail
Single	\$15.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>

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, June 6, 2005 at 7:30pm
(First Monday of every month)
The First Presbyterian Church
501 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA
93940

Carmel Orchid Society Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, June 20, 2005, at 7:30pm
The meeting will be held at the home
of Carol and Bill Easton, 27525 Loma
del Rey, Carmel, CA 625-1565.

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, June 14, 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.

2nd Annual Westminster Or- chid Show

June 10—12, 2005
1025 Westminster Mall, Westmin-
ster, CA Info: (949) 292-9091

The Orchid Society of South- ern California Annual Auction

Saturday, June 18, 2005 Doors open
at 1:00PM, auction starts at 2:00PM
Meeting Hall, First Christian
Church, 221 South Sixth Street,
Burbank, CA Info: (323) 782-
9035

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 are now delinquent. To be included in the 2005 Roster, pay your dues by May 27 and you will be included. All the information that you need is on page 3.



Cym. Blue River 'Thunder'
First Place MayFaire 2005
Jim Nybaaken



Cymbidium
First Place MayFaire 2005
Sharon Ashton



Orchid Growing Tips

I hope the month of June finds many of you have finished repotting your cymbidiums. The rush is on because most cymbidiums set their buds in August and the new growths need as much time as possible to mature for the winter bloom cycle. You don't have to throw away the dormant bulbs either. If one is stuck in between live growths and is awkward to remove, don't. You can choose to repot those bulbs to see if they will sprout in 2-3 months. You could encourage them further by putting them in a plastic bag with slightly moist vermiculite and put them on top of the frig for warmth. Use an egg carton to sit them upright so the new sprouts don't grow sideways or downward. To save time, space and labeling you can twist the bulb loose from the underlying rhizome and leave it in the original pot with the Mother plant. If it sprouts, then you can decide to place it in a new pot or not.

Feed with lots of nitrogen now through the end of September. Saving the biggest baddest cymbidiums for last?

Bill Hale tells me of an "old time" grower who would clean up those huge cymbidiums, but let them set outside the new pot for an extra day to let them dry out a little. Maybe that would cut down on that bulb or new growth rot they sometimes get.

Are you having trouble with mealy bugs? They love to multiply in this warm weather. Help save our environment by using isopropyl alcohol to kill them.

Sharon Ashton suggests using a syringe to apply the alcohol deep inside the leaves. Great idea! I

May Goodies Providers

Thanks to Gigi Wharton, Imogene Speiser, and Pat Landee for taking care of the treats for our May meeting. They were wonderful.

June is our Birthday Party month with the feast provided by all.



Found a good website for orchid photos. There are of course lots of photos from AOS judging and lots of info about taking better orchid pictures as well. The site is www.orchidworks.com.

See you at the June dinner.

Carolyn Salmon, cargie@yahoo.com



Cymbidium
Third Place, MayFaire 2005
Carolyn Salmon



Bl. Morning Glory x *L. purpurata*
First Place MayFaire 2005
Geva Arcanin



Pleur. Obscura 'Sophia'
CBR(prov)/AOS MayFaire 2005
Susan Segal
Photo: Walter M. Shinn



Phrag. Longifolium x *V. gracilis*
Second Place
Bill and Ida Hale



Phalaenopsis
First Place MayFaire 2005
Susan Phillips

Backbulb Notice

At the March Board of Directors Meeting it was decided that 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. This effects all new and renewing subscriptions after MayFaire 2005. There will be no additional charge to receive the electronic version of the Backbulb. If you need help with the web site or the electronic Backbulb, please contact Pat Landee or Jud Grubbs at 655-9729 who will provide assistance.