



The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 48, Number 9

September 2005

September is Greenhouse Tour Month

This year's Greenhouse Tour includes COS Member Greenhouses. On the tour will be:

- Carol & Jeff Salmon's small backyard greenhouse.
 - Pat & Jud Grubbs' indoor atrium and outdoor cymbidium area.
 - Carol & Bill Easton's greenhouse.
 - Bill & Ida Hale's Bakkehelle Orchids greenhouses.
 - Jim Nybakken's greenhouses.
- No greenhouse handicap access.**

All the homes will be open from 10 am to 2 pm for you to visit at your leisure.

Greenhouses will offer orchid items such as plants & supplies.

At the end of the tour (3 pm) lunch will be served at Jim Nybakken's house at a cost of \$10 Per member and \$15 for guests.

Luncheon menu:

- Salad
- Harris Ranch Tri-Tip
- BBQ Free Range Chicken
- Grilled Veggies
- Bill Hale's Chili Beans
- Garlic Bread
- Desert
- Wine

Plant raffle after BBQ will feature Bay Breeze Orchids.

Sign up by September 1, 2005, sign-up sheet is on page 4.

Maps are available on the website.

In This Month's Backbulb

Greenhouse Tour	page 1
Christmas Party	page 1
Oncidium Culture	page 2
Treasurer's Report	page 3
Membership application	page 3
Upcoming Events	page 4
Stony Point Ceramics Sale	page 4
Greenhouse Tour Signup Form	page 4
Orchid Growing Tips	page 5
October Goodies	page 5
Oncidium Culture (Con't)	page 6
Sherwood Orchids Relocation Sale	page 6





Oncidium Alliance

This is an extraordinarily large and diverse New World genus with an equally diverse number of habitats. Oncidiums may originate anywhere from sea level in the tropics to the high elevations of the Andes. This obviously makes cultural generalizations difficult. More specific instructions may be available from the grower. Some genera included are *Aspasia*, *Brassia*, warm-growing miltonias (often called the Brazilian type) and many of their hybrids.

LIGHT needs can vary from bright to nearly full direct sun depending on the species. Most will thrive with one to several hours of sun a day. Generally, thicker leaved plants, such as "mule-ear" and "equitant" oncidiums, can stand more light. In a greenhouse, 20 to 60 percent shade is required, or about 2,000 to 6,000 footcandles, depending on the plants. In the home, east, south or west windows are ideal. Many types of oncidiums will grow under artificial light: Four fluorescent tubes supplemented with incandescent bulbs and placed 6 to 12 inches over the plants are necessary for proper growth. Metal-halide and sodium-vapor bulbs also provide sufficient light without needing to be so close to the plants.

TEMPERATURES for this group are generally considered intermediate to warm: 55° to 60° F at night, and 80° to 85° F during the day. Temperatures up to 95° to 100° F are tolerated if humidity and air movement are increased as the temperatures rise, a good general rule in any case.

WATER requirements vary with the type of plant. Generally, plants with large fleshy roots or leaves need less-frequent watering than thin-leaved or thin-rooted plants. Watering should be thorough, and the medium should dry at least halfway through the pot before watering again. This may be every two to 10 days depending on weather, pot size and material, type of orchid and type of potting medium. Plants not actively growing should be watered less; many species have winter rest periods.

HUMIDITY should be between 30 and 60 percent. Many oncidiums require less humidity than other orchids. Most greenhouses have adequate humidity. In the home, placing the plants above moist pebbles in trays is ideal.

FERTILIZE regularly while plants are actively growing. Applications of 30-10-10 formulations twice a month are ideal for plants in a bark-based potting medium. A 20-20-20 formulation should be used on plants in other media or on slabs. If skies are cloudy, applications once a month are sufficient.

POTTING should be done when new growth is about one-half mature, which is usually in the spring. Fine-grade potting media are usually used with fine-rooted plants and coarser mixes with large-rooted plants; the standard size is medium grade. The plant should be positioned in the pot so that the newest growth is farthest away from the edge of the pot, allowing the

(Continued on page 6)



Be. Maikai x B. nodesa
Carol Easton
First Place, MayFaire 2005



Cybidium
Evelyn Russo
First Place, MayFaire 2005

Treasurer's Report July, 2005



Checkbook Balance on July 1	\$8,025.67
July income	.00
July expense	(461.78)
Checkbook Balance on July 31	\$7,563.89
CD balance on July 15 was	\$7,724.41

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, October 3, 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, September 19, 2005, at
7:30pm
The meeting will be held at the home of
Jim Nybakken's.

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, September 13, 2005 at
7:00pm (Second Tuesday of every
month)
At the Lincoln Ave Presbyterian Church,
536 Lincoln Ave, Salinas, CA. For
more information, call (831) 375 6871.

OrchidFest 2005

October 1 - 2, 2005 10 AM to 5 PM
Admission: \$3.00, Sponsored by The
San Francisco Orchid Society, Hall of
Flowers, The San Francisco County Fair
Building
Info: SFOS HotLine: 415. 665.2468
or Jean Lee, 415. 665.6079
jeanleorchids@cs.com
www.orchidsanfrancisco.org

Orchids in the Wine Country

October 14-16, 2005 10am to 5pm
Doubletree Hotel Sonoma Wine Country,
Rohnert Park, CA
Info: (707) 528-1671
www.sonomaorchids.com/show.htm

AOS Members Meeting

October 12-16, 2005 10am to 5pm
Doubletree Hotel Sonoma Wine Country,
Rohnert Park, CA
Info: (707) 528-1671
www.orchidweb.org/aos/events/
members.aspx

Seconds Sale & Open House Stony Point Ceramics

Our friend Marni Turkel is having a seconds sale and open house on September 24 , 2005; Saturday only, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 2080 Llano Rd #1B, Santa Rosa.

Save at least 50% off the regular price on seconds (slightly flawed and irregular pieces), trials, discontinued colors and shapes, samples, old stock, and overstocked items. To make a trip to the pottery even more appealing, there is a 20% discount on all first quality work on hand.

Check her web site www.marniturkel.com.

Greenhouse Tour & Barbecue Signup Form

Greenhouse Tour: 10am-2pm
Barbecue: 3pm at Jim Nybakken's house
Yes! I will be attending the September 11th Greenhouse Tour and Barbecue. Please reserve the following for me:

_____ Members @ \$10.00 each \$ _____
_____ Guests @ \$15.00 each \$ _____
Total \$ _____

My preference for meals is:

_____ Beef tri-tips _____ Chicken _____ Vegetarian entrees

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone (_____) _____

Email _____

Please make checks payable to the Carmel Orchid Society, and mail them to : Pat Landee, 1037 Rodeo Road, Pebble Beach, CA 93953, 831-655-9729, pat@pinotnoirs.com by **September 1, 2005**.



Orchid Growing Tips

By Carolyn Salmon

Remember some cattleya species put out roots on the new growth after the bloom, around Oct or November. That is the time to repot using medium bark and some foam peanuts in the bottom. There is a good website to learn more about cattleyas. It contains approximately 25 articles on various cattleya species as they appeared in Orchids magazine. All were written by A. A. Chadwick of Chadwick Orchids. The website is: www.chadwickorchids.com/cattleya/index.html. A second website that is worth looking at is www.jborchids.com/culture.html. They have good culture articles on some of the most popular orchids like cattleya, dendrobiums, phalopsis and papheopedilums.

Many of you coming on the local greenhouse tour will notice a variety of potting mixes that we commonly use. Most of the orchids we cultivate are epiphytes or lithophytes, meaning they grow hanging onto tree limbs or on the surface of rocks. The potting mix is really just anchoring the roots in place, not feeding the plant like soil does for terrestrial plants. Quality fir bark is getting more expensive and harder to find, so some of us are experimenting with mixes that use little or no bark. Such products include perlite, charcoal, small lava rock, horticultural rock wool, tree fern fiber, coconut husks, Dyno-Rock that comes from riverbeds in Australia and other man-made ceramic rock materials. These products do not breakdown like bark does and help oxygen and moisture surround an orchid's root structure. New Zealand spagnum

moss is another popular medium for orchids that like moisture, but it must be kept fresh as it will eventually go stale. Some orchids love this moss like phalopsis, draculas and masdevallias. They show their preference for this mix in robust root growth. Ask to look at our mixes when you attend the tour.

My greenhouse is on this year's tour and I look forward to sharing my hobby with all of you.

Carolyn Salmon, cargie@yahoo.com

October Goodies Providers

Helping Ellie Mamon with the August refreshments were: Janette Ford, Deric Wenzler, Cecilia Loleng, Ophelia Antonio, Gerda Chavez, and Diane Seelbacher.



Volunteering for the October meeting are:

- Emelita Harvey
- Howard Straus
- Rosemary Ullmann
- Lindsey Brandon
- Tom Bremser

Thank you all for supporting your society.



(Continued from page 2)

maximum number of new growths before crowding the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots. Firm the medium around the roots. Keep humidity high and the potting medium dry until new roots form. Equitant and mule-ear oncidiums, as well as other fleshy-leaved or large-rooted plants, can be grown on slabs of cork bark or tree fern or in pots filled with a coarse, well-drained medium such as charcoal. This allows the drying between waterings that these types need.

American Orchid Society

16700 AOS Lane, Delray Beach, Florida 33446-4351
Tel 561-404-2000 Fax 561-404-2100
E-mail TheAOS@aos.org, Web site orchidweb.org

Sherwood Orchids Relocation Sale

Rob and Peggy Terry, of Sherwood Orchids, will be liquidating the majority of their stock due to a planned relocation out of state. Sale starts September 24-25, 2005, 10 am - 6pm each day. We can only take a part of our collection with us; thus, hundreds and hundreds of plants will be available!

We have paphs, phrags, miltonias, mini-cats and other assorted genera. Plants will be available in a variety of sizes, from flasks to blooming size divisions. Our website, has a listing of the majority of our collection. All plants will be at least 50% off the listed price.

See the COS Directory web site for address and directions... See you there!
www.sherwoodorchids.com



MayFaire Collage
Don Eastman
Pebble Beach, CA