



# The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

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## October Speaker Scott Collins

Scott Collins is the owner of Echo Valley Orchids, in Salinas Ca. The nursery has been growing, showing and breeding Phalaenopsis, Miniature Cattleyas and many other genera for 20 years. Over the years they have received over 80 AOS flower quality and cultural awards for their plants. Many of Scott's hybrids have also received recognition by the American Orchid Society, as well.

Scott is an accredited orchid judge of the American Orchid Society and has held the position of Vice Chairman of the Pacific Central Judging Region.

Our October program covers *"Understanding What Makes an*

*Award Quality Orchid"*, as seen through the eyes of an orchid breeder and AOS judge. Scott will look at and discuss the various attributes that make award quality orchid flowers. We will also look at what it takes to become an AOS judge and the American Orchid Society flower quality awards.

Scott has had the great opportunity to speak about Phalaenopsis and other orchid subjects to a very wide audience including programs at all the local northern California societies, British Columbia, The International Phalaenopsis Alliance meetings in New York and Los Angeles, as well as the World Orchid Conference in Vancouver, B.C.

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**Christmas Party Alert!**  
**Mark Your Calendars for**  
**December 11**  
**Monterey Beach Hotel**



## AOS Awards

**Editors Note:** *Since our program this month deals with awards I thought that a general review of AOS awards, might help set the stage for Scott's presentation. Several of the pictures in this issue are award winners from Mayfaire 2005 and this should help explain the codes.*

The American Orchid Society grants awards to encourage and recognize meritorious achievement in all fields of orchid endeavors in accordance with the established rules set out in the *Handbook on Judging and Exhibition*. There are awards for flower quality, excellence of culture, advancements in hybridizing, botanical interest and other recognition-worthy aspects. There are also prestigious specialty awards granted annually for exceptional plants singled out as the best of the best from each year's awards.

**AD (Award of Distinction) and AQ (Award of Quality)** These awards for breeding recognize worthy new trends and improved quality, respectively.

**AM (Award of Merit)** A flower scoring 80 to 89 points on a 100-point scale. This flower-quality award is a fine though lesser achievement than the FCC.

**CBR (Certificate of Botanical Recognition)** Awarded to rare and unusual species with educational interest. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending the exhibitor's supplying full taxonomic verification by a taxonomist acceptable to the AOS. The AOS Web-site provides information regarding AOS-approved taxonomists, which also includes instructions on obtaining taxonomic verification.

**CCM (Certificate of Cultural Merit)** The beginning orchid grower may hope to attain this award because it recognizes the grower, rather than flower quality. The CCM/AOS may be given more than once if

the plant continues to thrive and increase in both the size and number of flowers.

**CCE (Certificate of Cultural Excellence)** This award further distinguishes growers of plants that exhibit an extreme degree of skill in cultivation, having received 90 point or more on the scale that has been used for the Certificate of Cultural Merit (CCM).

**CHM (Certificate of Horticultural Merit)** Awarded to a well-grown and well-flowered species or natural hybrid with characteristics that contribute to the horticultural aspects of orchidology, such as aesthetic appeal. This award is granted provisionally and filed with the judging center Chair pending the exhibitor's supplying full taxonomic verification by a taxonomist acceptable to the AOS. The AOS Web-site provides information regarding AOS-approved taxonomists, which also includes instructions on obtaining taxonomic verification.

**FCC (First Class Certificate)** The highest flower-quality award, given to flowers scoring 90 points or more on a 100-point scale.

**HCC (Highly Commended Certificate)** The HCC is granted to a flower scoring 75 to 79 points on a 100-point scale. The great majority of awarded orchids receive this award, which implies that, while the flower is outstanding, there is room for improvement.

**JC (Judges' Commendation)** Given for distinctive characteristics that the judges unanimously feel should be recognized but cannot be scored in the customary ways.

### **American Orchid Society**

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Epidendrum escobarianum 'Hanging Gardens'  
AM 81  
Exhibited by Hanging Gardens / Dan Newman  
Photo by Walter M. Shinn

## Treasurer's Report July, 2005



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

**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**

<b>Membership Type</b>	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, October 17, 2005, at 7:30pm  
The meeting will be held at the home of  
Jim Nybakken's.

#### Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, October 11, 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



Kefersteinia tolimensis 'Beta'  
HCC 77

Exhibited by James Nybakken  
Photo by Walter M. Shinn



Pleurothallis excentrica 'Beta'  
CBR

Exhibited by James Nybakken  
Photo by Walter M. Shinn





## Orchid Growing Tips

By Carolyn Salmon

I thought I would share some orchid buying tips for you this month. Tropical Orchid Farm in Maui, Hawaii is having their fall sale. You can email them off their website to request their sales catalog. I got mine in just a few days and they have great prices and some unusual orchids. Their phone is 866-572-8569. Their website is [www.tropicalorchidfarm.com](http://www.tropicalorchidfarm.com).

Another good sale is from J & L Orchids in Connecticut. They have an online catalog and sales flyer at 20% savings. Their website is [www.jlorchids.com](http://www.jlorchids.com). Both of these orchid companies are very well respected and you may trust their plants. They carry orchids you will not find in the grocery store!

I've located another informative orchid website both for photos and cultural information from Merkles Orchids. Their website address is [www.merklesorchids.com](http://www.merklesorchids.com).

If you live on the peninsula, you may wonder when summer is coming, but the plants and trees are telling us that fall is in the air. If we have a cool Sept and Oct, you will want to cut down or eliminate the nitrogen in your fertilizer for your cymbidiums. Time to switch to a bloom booster fertilizer like 0-10-10. If we get a long heat wave, you can try and get some more growth out of them before spiking begins. Check the cym now though. I have 2 or 3 showing spikes already.

Our nighttime temperatures will start to cool off now too as we have lost 2 hrs of daylight. For those of you with greenhouses, don't turn on the heat too soon. Those cool nights may stress out your plants a little bit. That can be a good thing as it will trigger some plants to put up spikes, especially the phalenopsis orchids. Right now my peninsula greenhouse is going down to 54 degrees at night. At about 48 de-

grees, I will have to turn the heat on. There will be some sticker shock if you use a natural gas heater this winter. Natural gas prices are already up 140% over this time last year. Katrina has crippled production, so they are predicted to go higher this winter. Fortunately there are many cool growing orchids like cymbidiums that can stay outside and take the cold. There are some successful orchid growers in our society who have unheated greenhouses year round.

So it can be done without supplemental heat if necessary. Hope you all had a great time at the greenhouse tour. This hobby is that much more fun when you get to share it with each other.

*Carolyn Salmon*, [cargie@yahoo.com](mailto: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 Segelbacher.



Volunteering for the October meeting are:

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

Thank you all for supporting your soci-



## Greenhouse Tour Big Success

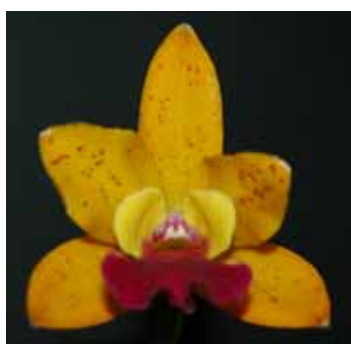
The weather was great, the food was great, and the greenhouses were all spiffed up. More than 60 people turned out for the Annual Greenhouse Tour. Special thanks to:

- Jim and Betty Nybakken
- Bill and Ida Hale
- Carol and Bill Easton
- Carolyn and Jeff Salmon
- Pat Landee & Jud Grubbs

For opening their homes and greenhouses for us all to view.

The Barbecue was prepared by Ken Ashton and Bill Hale. Susan Segal and Julian Bills helped with the serving.

A very special thanks to Jim and Betty Nybakken for making their home available for the Barbecue.



**Images from the  
Greenhouse Tour BBQ Plant Table**

