



The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 48, Number 12

December 2005

Christmas Party Parking Details

The Monterey Beach Hotel has erected a gate to control their parking lot. When you enter take the ticket and be sure to bring it with you to the party. At the end of the party a hotel representative will be available to validate your ticket.

You will then need to go to the parking ticket dispenser located on the 2nd floor (Lobby Floor) near the eleva-

tors and next to the ATM machine to complete the second step.

Put your ticket in the machine to be re-validated, and the ticket will be dispensed back to you. Insert this ticket in the gate as you leave, you will not be charged for parking. The ticket will be good for 15 minutes from the time you get it out the machine, so don't chat too much on the way out.

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January Speaker

William Mathis, PH.D.

[The Wild Orchid Company](#)

Topic: Terrestrial Orchids

Christmas Party
6:00 to 10:00 PM, December 11
Monterey Beach Hotel
More Details on Page 6



Neofinetia falcata (Thumb) HH. Hu Culture

AKA: Orchis falcata Thunb., eceoclades falcata (Thunb.) Lindl., Angraecum falcatum (Thunb.) Lindl., Aerides thunbergii Miq., Angraecaopsis falcate (Thunb.) Schltr., Finetia falcata (Thunb.) Schltr., Nipponorchis falcate (Thunb.) asamune, Holcoglossum falcatum (Thunb.) Garay & Sweet. In Japan, *N. falcata* has been known as Fuki-ran (Rich and Noble Orchid), and is known in some localities as Fu-ran (Wind Orchid).

ORIGIN/HABITAT: Northeast Asia. Originally detected by Thunberg in southern Japan, plants were growing on hills near the port city of Nagasaki on Kyushu Island. It is now known to be more widespread in Japan where it grows on the islands of Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu. Plants are also found on the small islands of Yakusima and Tanegasima off the southern coast of Kyushu, on Okinawa in the Ryukyu Islands, and in China and Korea. *N. falcata* may grow on rocks, but is usually found growing epiphytically on rather small branches of deciduous trees where strong light is received in winter and early spring. Plants normally grow at an angle on the branch so that water drains away and does not collect at the base of the leaves. A grower in Japan reported that *N. falcata* does well mounted on the coarse bark of a persimmon tree in his garden in Yokohama.

LIGHT: 2000-3600 fc.

TEMPERATURES: Summer days average 78-87F (26-31C), and nights average 66-74F (19-23C), with a diurnal range of 12-13F (7C).

HUMIDITY: 80-85% in summer, dropping to near 75% during the remainder of the

year.

WATER: Rainfall is moderate to heavy throughout the year with the wettest season occurring from spring into autumn. Heavy water should be provided for cultivated plants when they are actively growing, and they should never be allowed to dry out completely.

FERTILIZER: A balanced fertilizer, mixed at 1/4-1/2 recommended strength, should be applied weekly during periods of active growth. Many growers use a fertilizer with lower nitrogen and higher phosphate in autumn. This improves blooming the next season and encourages new growths to harden before winter. Pots should be leached every few weeks to prevent salt buildup, especially when fertilizer is being applied most heavily. Plants should first be watered normally to dissolve any accumulated salts. An hour or so later, the medium is flushed with

water equal to about twice the volume of the pot. Year-round leaching is important in areas with heavily mineralized water.

REST PERIOD: Winter days average 53-56F (12-13C), and nights average 37-40F (3-4C), with a diurnal range of 16F (9C). The actual winter temperatures are probably not that critical since average winter minimums on Okinawa are 50-55F (10-13C), while in Yokohama the lows are 32F (0C) or below for 3 months. Conditions are even colder for a longer period in Korea. Winter rainfall is lower in the habitat, and water should be reduced for cultivated plants during this time. Even less water should be given plants that are grown in very cool conditions. Even these plants should not be allowed to become completely dry, however. The necessary conditions may be met in most



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2006 Dues

Isn't it amazing how fast the time to pay your dues rolls around. We are going to have the same deal again this year, if you pay your dues by the Christmas Party you will be eligible for a special drawing of a REALLY nice plant at the Christmas Party. And I know its nice because I was the winner last year.

If you joined the Society during the fourth quarter of 2005, your dues are paid for next year.

Treasurer's Report October, 2005



Checkbook Balance on Oct 1	\$7,820.89
Oct Income	251.00
Oct Expense	(1,735.00)
Checkbook Balance on Oct 31	\$6,336.07
CD balance on Oct 15 was	\$7,774.17

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

Next Regular Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Monday, January 2, 2006 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, January 16, 2006, at 7:30pm
The meeting will be held at the home of Pat Landee.

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 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) 663-3953.

Carmel Orchid Society Christmas Party

December 11, 2005, 6 to 10 pm. Monterey Beach Hotel See Pages 1 and 6 for more details.

OrchidMania South Florida Benefit Sale

Hurricane Wilma severely damaged OrchidMania South Florida's greenhouses in October. Repairs will cost thousands of dollars and without the repairs, OM South Florida will no longer be able to raise money for Grassroots AIDS groups in the Miami/South Florida region.

Dec. 11, 2005; 11am-3pm, 717 Paris, cross street Italy, San Francisco, CA
www.orchids.org

Fordyce Orchids Closing

Fordyce Orchids will be Closing early next year, as the Orchid Ranch property is being sold. They will be having their final sale Jan.14 and 15th, 10 am to 5 pm. Lots of bargains in Cattleyas of all sizes, primarily hybrids. Call 925-447-1659 or visit www.fordyceorchids.com for more details.

You're invited! **ORCHID**
Angelic's
Open Greenhouse
 Saturday December 17th, 10 to 3
 Many Cymbidiums & Greenhouse Orchids
 ~ a wide variety of orchids, and supplies ~
 1361 Plum St, San Jose 95110
 (by Alma DMV, near 280 & 87)
 408-947-0486 • ORCHIDesign@aol.com

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New Board of Directors

At the November meeting the New Board of Directors, proposed by the nominating committee was approved by the general membership.

First we would like to thank Kathy Apocada for her long service to the society and wish her well in her new adventure. Welcome Lori Siegmund as a new Director. Carolyn Salmon, Carol Easton, Susan Segal, and Shirley West continue on the Board, but with new responsibilities. The society thanks them for their past service and wishes them well in their new posts.



Orchid Growing Tips

By Carolyn Salmon

I hope our November meeting was helpful to all of you who were able to attend. I want to highlight a couple tips given to us by Derek Wenzler. This time of year we tend to get more yellowing leaves and black spots on our orchids as the cool, moist conditions foster bacterial and fungal infections on orchid leaves. Derek suggested including some soft soap like Ivory liquid in your watering solution. If you use a fertilizer proportioner, he suggested one half cup in your five gallon bucket. This application will keep your plants clean, and keep those black spots from developing so easily. Remember to cut back on any fertilizer and water in general this time of year. Water in the morning only to avoid condensation of your plants when the temperature drops after sunset.

You can bring your cymbidiums that are in bud or bloom inside the house to enjoy. The buds will blast if they get too warm or if sunlight hits them through the window. There is usually a slug or two inside the mix, and they will sometimes go exploring during the night hours. One trick I learned by accident is to spray the top mix in the pot with Raid a day or so before you bring the cym inside. When the slug comes into contact with the Raid residue they die. They did that once all over my family room floor---very messy, so outside is best!

Some of the leaves on my masdevallias are yellowing or drying up this time of year. Be sure to remove those regularly. You will prevent further leaf drop, as masdevallias are particularly fussy about being kept clean. Miltonias like to be kept clean as well, or they like to rot. Those little brown leaf parts around the pseudobulbs should be removed regularly as well. I also cut off the bud sheaths and stems from my cattleyas because I see that water gets trapped in there where rot can occur. To summarize,

take extra care with plant hygiene this time of year.

The Royal Horticultural Society of the UK has a very extensive website that includes information on orchids. Check it out at www.rhs.org.uk You can go shopping at their site too. The San Francisco Orchid Society has a good website at www.orchidsanfrancisco.org Their links page can connect you with many well known orchid vendors with whom you may order online. I sometimes enjoy reader newsletters from other orchid societies for the interesting info they may contain. A couple examples are the Malihini Orchid Society in Cupertino at www.malihini.org and the Five Cities Orchid Society out of Arroyo Grande at www.fcso.org.

There are so many more if you go exploring the internet. We have a fabulous plant table for the Christmas party. I hope to see you there. Happy Holidays.

Carolyn Salmon, cargie@yahoo.com

Goodies Providers

Helping Ellie Mamon with the November refreshments were: Geva Areanin, Elizabeth Coelho, Joanie Linares, Imogene Speiser and Marilyn Uribe.



Goodies are on hold for December, there should be plenty at the Christmas Party. Thank you all for supporting your society.



Christmas Party Menu

The High Tide Buffet

Mixed Organic Greens with a choice of 2 dressings
Chief's Four Assorted Seasonal Salads
Fresh Seasonal Fruit and Cheese Display
Charbroiled London Broil with Wild Mushroom Demi-Glaze
Chicken Breast with Papaya Relish
Grilled Filet of Salmon with Citrus Ginger Soy Glaze
Chief's Seasonal Vegetables & Starch
Bakery Fresh Rolls and Butter
Chief's Desserts
Coffee, Decaf, and Tea

Dinner will be served from 7:00pm to 8:30pm
No Host Bar will operate from 6:00pm to 9:00pm

Plant raffle will follow dinner.

(Continued from page 2)

growing areas by occasional early morning misting, with a light watering given every two weeks or so. Water is especially beneficial during bright, sunny weather. The clearest, brightest weather in the habitat occurs in autumn and winter. Light is highest in winter, so for cultivated plants, shading should be removed from the growing area and as much light as possible, short of burning the foliage, provided during this time of year. Fertilizer should be reduced or eliminated until conditions become warmer and watering is increased in the spring.

GROWING MEDIA: Plants may be mounted on slabs of cork or tree-fern fiber, with a small pad of osmunda or sphagnum moss. If grown on slabs, high humidity must be maintained, and water must be applied at least once daily during the summer. If potted, small pots and a very open, fast draining medium should be used. Hawkes recommends osmunda or shredded tree-fern fiber tightly packed in small pots. In his American Orchid Society Bulletin article,

Kichigoro Suzuki reported that this species loves moving air across its roots and must have a well-aerated medium. He recommended repotting in late winter or early spring, using fresh sphagnum moss. The roots should be wrapped with sphagnum and then screwed gently into a pot. The base of the plant should be left above the rim of the pot. While potting, the roots are easily broken. Never cut or tear off the broken or damaged roots because they are still alive. However, all dead or diseased roots should be removed before potting.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES: The bloom season in the table based on cultivation reports. In nature, *N. falcata* usually blooms summer-autumn. Cultivated plants are very susceptible to rot if grown in a vertical position. It is preferable to mount or pot the plant at an angle so that water on the foliage is able to drain away.

Thanks to Carolyn Salmon for identifying this new culture sheet. This is an extract of a much larger sheet by Charles Baker. Follow the following link for complete details.
www.orchidculture.com/COD/FREE/FS344.html