



# The Backbulb

[www.carmelorchidsociety.com](http://www.carmelorchidsociety.com)

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 49, Number 2

February 2006

## February Speaker Dr. James Nybakken

Our guest speaker for the February general meeting is one of our society's long time members, James Nybakken. James is a true academic in the field of Marine Biology where he has a PhD from the University of Wisconsin. He traveled the globe as a research scientist. He is a Professor Emeritus of the Biological Sciences at Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. Throughout his career he has published many books and papers too numerous to mention.

He retired in 1998 as a professor at the Moss Landing Marine Laboratories. Somehow he found time to pursue a love of orchids beginning in 1970. He joined the Carmel

Orchid Society in 1973. He has served on the Board of Directors since 1978 as Treasurer, Vice President and President and currently as one of the Directors. He is co-owner of a nursery and orchid rental business known as Bakkahelle Orchids with Bill and Ida Hale. He has six greenhouses full of a variety of orchids including a large cymbidium collection. His true love has been orchids of the pleurothallis family. Some of his favorites include Masdevallia, Dracula and Pleurothallis orchids. His newest interest has been in the collection and culture of orchids in the Maxillaria family. This will be the topic of his talk on February 6th.

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## 2006 Annual Dues—2nd Notice

Isn't it amazing how fast the time to pay your dues rolls around. Dues are due January 1 and are delinquent if not paid by Mayfaire or the first weekend in May. Delinquent members will **NOT** be listed in the Annual Roster, printed in June.

If you joined the Society during the fourth quarter of 2005, your dues are paid for 2006.

**Bill Hale  
Paphiopedilum  
Potting  
Demonstration  
starts at  
6:45pm**



## Maxillaria Gallery

Jim's talk this month is about Maxillaria's. We have featured their culture many times, last was September 2005, so I thought some additional pictures, not included in Jim's talk would help provide some additional insight into Maxillaria.

Not every orchid is a beauty queen and Maxillaria friedricsthalii will most likely never win a prize. Known throughout much of Central America as "Pico de Pava" (turkey beak) Flowers, 1-1/4 inch, singularly from the base of the pseudobulbs in the autumn. The flowers have an unusual fragrance and extremely thick substance and will last for several weeks.



Max. friedricsthalii (Turkey Beak)  
Photograph by Greg Allikns



Max. hedwigiae  
Photograph by Eric Hunt

Max. acutifolia, shown below, is only 1¼ inches across .



Max. augustae victoriae  
(Augusta Victoria's Maxillaria)



Max. acutifolia  
(Pointy Leaf Maxillaria)  
Photo by Dale Borders



## Treasurer's Report November, 2005

Checkbook Balance on Nov 1	<b>\$6,336.07</b>
Nov Income	1,705.00
Nov Expense	(477.50)
Checkbook Balance on Nov 31	<b>\$7,563.57</b>
CD balance on Nov 15 was	<b>\$7,791.76</b>

## Treasurer's Report December, 2005

Checkbook Balance on Dec 1	<b>\$7,563.57</b>
Dec Income	1,788.53
Dec Expense	(3,618.02)
Checkbook Balance on Dec 31	<b>\$5,724.08</b>
CD balance on Dec 15 was	<b>\$7,807.34</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

### Next Regular Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Monday, February 6, 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, February 20, 2006, at 7:30pm  
The meeting will be held at the home of  
Carol Easton.

### Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 14, 2006 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.

### Santa Cruz Orchid Society Show

February 4-5, Soquel High School, 401  
Old San Jose Rd., Soquel, CA. Contact:  
Bridget Binko, PO Box 54, Boulder  
Creek, CA 95006; (831) 338-4220;  
bbinko@cruzio.com.

### Sonoma County Orchid Society Show

March 4-5, Veterans Memorial Building,  
1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA.  
Contact: Marilyn Bucher, PO Box 21,  
Pointe Area, CA 95468; (707) 882-2415;  
mbucher@mcn.org.

### Malihini Orchid Society Show

March 10-12, Vallco Fashion Park, Cu-  
pertino, CA. Contact: Teresa Cho, 12336  
Lolly Dr., Saratoga, CA 95070; (650)  
941-1352; tmmcho@yahoo.com.

### Five Cities Orchid Society Show

March 11-12, Arroyo Grande Regional  
Center, 800 Branch St., Arroyo Grande,  
CA. Contact: Eric Holanda, 1690 Prima-  
vera Ln., Nipomo, CA 93444; (805) 929-  
5749; cbh@charter.net.

### Santa Barbara Intl Orchid Show

March 24-26, Earl Warren Showgrounds,  
3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA.  
Contact: Sandra Svoboda, PO Box 5814,  
Santa Barbara, CA 93150; (805) 969-  
5746; sborchid@west.net.



### Pacific Orchid Exposition 2006

Feb 17-19, 2006, Fort Mason, San Francisco Annual San Francisco Orchid Society For more information contact: Dennis Westler, (510) 339-826; email: denniswestler@aol.com

### Napa Valley Orchid Society Show and Sale

March 25-26, Napa Senior Activity Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa, CA. Contact: Fredia Lloyd, (707) 255-6233; fredialloyd@aol.com.

### Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society Show

March 31-April 2, Westgate Mall, 1600 Saratoga Ave. Suite B2, San Jose, CA. Contact: Tim Culbertson, 1357 Phelps Ave. #4, San Jose, CA 95117; (301) 641-2556; twculber@hotmail.com.



## Orchid Growing Tips

*By Carolyn Salmon*

It is hard to imagine that in January, spring is just around the corner in central California. Soon your orchids will detect the lengthening days and initiate new active growth. When you see these signs with your orchids, it is a good time to re-pot these plants where needed.

Orchid growers are always looking for the next new plant mix in which our plants will thrive. We are constantly trying various combinations of bark, perlite, lava rock, tree fern fiber, spagnum moss, charcoal and the list goes on. Well, there is a newer mix called Diatomite. Maidenwell Diatomite is mostly made up of the fossilized remains of fresh water diatoms found on the continent of Australia. This material is inert, so it will not decompose. There are many deposits of Diatomite around the world including Lompoc, California. Most of these deposits are from salt water diatoms, so they are not suitable for horticulture. Heating this material

to 800 degrees Celsius causes it to aggregate. Then it is broken up and graded into 3 sizes from small to large.

Maidenwell Diatomite is high in silica, highly absorbent, free of weed seeds and pathogens, pH neutral and non organic. It won't compact over time and maintains porosity of the overall orchid mix. You can experiment with adding Diatomite in different proportions to your orchid mixes. You won't easily find Diatomite at your local nursery. However one source is Sunset Valley Orchids in Vista California.

It costs \$22.00 for a 2 cu ft bag. Remember not to over pot your orchids. They like to be pretty crowded.

The website for Sunset Valley Orchids is the same name. Just add .com

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

## February Clean Up

There is an old adage that "The jobs not done till the paperwork is done!" Well in our case the meetings not over until the hall is clean. So in addition to the Goodies sign-up at each meeting there will be a clean up sign-up as well.

The first volunteers are:

- Lori Siegmund
- Tom Bremser

## February Goodies Providers

The Board of Directors, with ample guidance from Ellie Mamon, did well in January. Goodies for the February meeting will be provided by:

- Mirtha Thomas
- John Poulos
- Jody & Dan Clark
- Art & Kathy Apodoca





## In Memoriam

### **Ruth Klinka Kalmbach**

Ruth Klinka Kalmbach, a resident of Pebble Beach for 55 years, died peacefully at Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula on January 10, 2006. Ruth was born and raised in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and received her degree in Chemistry from the University of WI in Madison. Ruth married Sydney H. Kalmbach, a career Navy officer and Physics Professor, and together they went to Annapolis and later traveled with the faculty when the Naval Postgraduate School moved to Monterey in 1951.

Ruth gave willingly to the charitable organizations that she loved and volunteered for, including the Maritime Museum and Community Hospital, where she volunteered for 19 years. Ruth could be found regularly at activities sponsored by the Navy League and the American Association of University Women. Ruth and Syd both enjoyed playing bridge and were members of several bridge groups. They both played French horn for the symphony orchestra in Milwaukee, and were regularly in attendance at the Monterey Symphony. Ruth was a long-term member of the Carmel Orchid Society and the Carmel Foundation, and was known for her beautiful orchids and Samoyed dogs.

Ruth's husband, Sydney, and their son, John Kalmbach, preceded her in death.

### **Lucerne S. Beal**

Lucerne S. Beal, age 83, passed away with dignity and grace on Monday, November 14, 2005 due to complications associated with congestive heart failure. She was born in Alberta, Canada on July 22, 1922. In Tucson, Arizona, she graduated from Tucson High School and later earned her Master's degree in Music from the University of Arizona. She became a music teacher and was an accomplished piano player.

For the last 25 years, she worked in Real Estate, most recently at Sotheby's International in Pacific Grove. Mrs. Beal lived in Pacific Grove for the past six years and was a former resident of Menlo Park, where she lived for 30 years. From 1952 to 1958, one of her greatest accomplish-

ments was her work as a medical missionary in Côte d' Ivoire (formerly the Ivory Coast) West Africa, where she helped her husband, Dr. Charles Beal, to build a hospital.

Survivors include her son, Timothy M. Beal of Stockton, CA; daughter, Marcia L. Cody of Pacific Grove; brothers, Duane Smith (Jacqueline) of Corte Madera, CA and Lawrence Smith of Texas. grandsons, Conyal Cody, III of Pacific Grove, Timothy C. Beal of Naples, Italy, and Jeremy S. Beal of Stockton; granddaughter, Jazzmyn D. Cody of Pacific Grove.

### **Frederick Capen**

Longtime Pebble Beach resident Frederick Capen died peacefully in his sleep at home October 15 with his family by his side. He was 86 years old.

Known to one and all as Fred, he lived his life on his own terms. A noted photographer, his passion for documenting the natural world on film took him and his family to the American Southwest, Europe, Africa, and Central and South America. To all who knew or met him, he was unfailingly gracious and kind.

A Mayflower descendant and native of Port Arthur, Texas, Fred attended Salisbury School in Connecticut and the University of Southern California. Shortly after earning his Bachelor of Science degree, world events took him to the battlefields of W.W.II. A First Lieutenant in the 30th Infantry, he survived the terrors of the Ardennes and the Rhine.

Moving to the Monterey Peninsula in 1951, he volunteered his time at the Pacific Grove Museum of Natural History, the Carmel Foundation and other organizations. He also generously supported the Peninsula's local artists.

Fred Capen is survived by his wife of 52 years, Dorothy (Lovey) Capen, his sons, Peter, Tracey and Bruce Capen, his daughter, Christine Capen-Frederick and three grandchildren, Tilden, Kendra and Jason.