



The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 49, Number 11

November 2006

November Speaker Fred Clarke

This meeting starts at 7:00 and there will be no "show & tell". The presentation begins at 7:30 lasting 90 minutes and is guaranteed to be very interesting.

Fred Clarke created Sunset Valley Orchids in 1995 as a natural outgrowth of a hobby he began 25 years earlier. Sunset Valley Orchids, located 60 miles south of Los Angeles in Vista, CA, is a "Boutique" style nursery where the plant offerings are

unique to the breeding lines developed there.

Fred has 22 years of experience in the horticultural industry as a professional grower and manager, he applies these skills to produce robust and unique orchid hybrids.

Orchid breeding is Fred's passion and he is currently working in several lines; Cattleya, Paphiopedilum, Catasetinae, Bulbophyllum and hybrids for cool to intermediate growing.

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Page 6 has New Board of Directors to be voted on at November meeting.

Christmas Party

6:00 to 10:00 PM, December 10

Monterey Beach Hotel

Details on Page 6

Pay 2007 Dues with sign-up for Special Drawing



Catasetum Culture

Catasetum

kat-ah-SEE-tum

This unusual group of orchids offers fascinating, waxy flowers that often have the peculiar habit of discharging their pollen masses (pollinia) onto pollinators. Almost always deciduous, the pseudobulbous plants have strict growing and resting periods. Most flower before entering a dormant period when they drop their leaves.

LIGHT should be strong, especially near the end of the growth period. Early in the annual growth cycle, plants will tolerate less light, from 1,500 to 3,000 foot-candles. Plants grow best with light levels of 3,000 to 6,000 foot-candles, or one-half to three-fourths full sun. As pseudobulbs mature, harden them by giving slightly more light.

TEMPERATURES reflect the fact these orchids are native to hot tropical areas and grow during the rainy summer months. During this growing period, day temperatures of 80 to 100 F and night temperatures of 60 to 65 F are beneficial. After growths mature, temperatures can be reduced to 55 F at night, with day temperatures of 70 to 85 F.

WATER is a critical factor for the production of large pseudobulbs that result in best flowering. A great quantity of water must be stored by the plant in a relatively short growing season. Water heavily as new leaves are forming. As the pseudobulb matures, gradually reduce watering frequency. Leaves will yellow and drop. At this time, watering should be stopped completely until new growth begins. Water during this dormant period only if the pseudobulbs shrivel severely.

HUMIDITY should be 40 to 60 percent. This can be provided in the home by placing the plants on trays of gravel, only partially filled with water so that the plants do not sit in the water. Air should always be moving around the plants to prevent fungal or bacterial disease, especially if high humidity or cool temperatures exist. In the greenhouse, the humidity is best increased by use of a humidifier. Evaporative cooling increases humidity while cooling the air.

FERTILIZE and water regularly to produce strong pseudobulbs. Use a high-nitrogen formula-

tion (such as 30-10-10) while plants are in active growth, slowly tapering off as pseudobulbs form. A blossom-booster formulation (such as 10-30-20) should be used in the autumn, except for plants that normally bloom in the spring. Frequent applications of a dilute concentration of fertilizer are more effective than occasional applications of strong concentrations.

POTTING should be timed to coincide with the initiation of new growth, usually in the spring. New roots will be produced quickly at that time, and plants will experience minimal setback. These plants have vigorous root systems and require a rich, moist potting medium during the growing season. Many growers bare-root their plants during the resting period to ensure dryness at that time. Fine-grade media are common for smaller pots; medium-grade media are used only in larger pots. Sphagnum moss is used successfully for plants in many areas, as it provides tremendous water- and fertilizer-holding capacities. Some plants can be grown on slabs of tree fern or other material, which makes it easier to keep them dry during dormancy; however, it is harder to keep them moist while growing. When well grown, these orchids can be divided down to one mature pseudobulb and will then flower on the next mature growth. Spider mites are a common pest of these orchids when in leaf. Control spider mites by keeping humidity high or spraying with recommended miticides.

The American Orchid Society is the world's leading provider of information about and related to orchids. We invite you to join us and learn about the world's most fascinating flowers and plants. Your membership entitles you to our monthly award-winning magazine *Orchids*, a free copy of our cultural guide *Your First Orchid* and the *AOS Orchid Source Directory*, a 10 percent discount on items purchased through The AOS Book Shop and Orchid Emporium, and free admission to the International Orchid Center in Delray Beach, Florida.

American Orchid Society

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E-mail TheAOS@aos.org



2007 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 in person or by mail **before November 15th** you will be eligible for a special drawing of a REALLY nice plant at the Christmas Party.

If you have not yet paid your 2006 dues, it must be paid before you will be able to attend the Christmas Party at the member price.

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

Treasurer's Report September, 2006

Checkbook Balance on Sept. 1	\$9,018.15
Sept. Income	1,576.00
Sept. Expense	(1,860.61)
Checkbook Balance on Sept. 30	\$8,733.54
CD balance on Sept. 15 was	\$8,013.86

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.

2007 Membership Application

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

Carmel Orchid Society—Membership
c/o Lori Siegmund
180 Alta Mira Court, Aptos, CA 95003-4903

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter via E-Mail	Receive Newsletter via US Mail
Single	\$20.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00 <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	\$30.00 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35.00 <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 (NOTE TIME CHANGE)

Monday, November 6, 2006 at 7:00pm
We will not be having a "show & tell" at this meeting. The presentation will begin at 7:30, lasts 90 minutes and is guaranteed to be very interesting. We will be joined by the Monterey Bay Orchid Society. (First Monday of every month)

The First Presbyterian Church
501 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA 93940

Carmel Orchid Society Board of Directors Meeting

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

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, November 7, 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) 375-6871.

Carmel Orchid Society Christmas Party

December 10, 2006, 6 to 10 pm. Monterey Beach Hotel, See Page 6 for sign-up.

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Annual Fall Open House & Sale

Saturday Nov. 4, 2006 8am-5pm
Sunday Nov. 5, 2006 9am-5pm (Special Open House Hours) featuring:
The Silent Auction ~ Laelia anceps Parade ~ Cymbidium Kickoff ~ \$7.50 Specials www.sborchid.com.

A Harmony of Orchids

November 11 & 12, 10 to 5. Presented by The Orchid Society of CA at Lakeside Garden Center (Lake Merit) 666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA.

Christmas Party Note

Your Board and the Chairperson of the Christmas Party, Sharon Ashton, have been working hard to make sure we have another great event. Unfortunately, this year the Monterey Beach Hotel has had to increase their prices and we are not able to absorb the full price increase. We will, as in past

(Continued on page 5)

THE ORCHID SOCIETY of CALIFORNIA Presents A HARMONY OF ORCHIDS



Artist: Jane Tsushima

FREE ADMISSION
69TH Annual Orchid Show & Sale

For information log onto: www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com

Saturday, November 11 & 12, 2006 – 10 am to 5 pm

Lakeside Garden Center (Lake Merritt) 666 Bellevue, Oakland, CA

Culture supplies and Information - Orchid Displays
Orchid Doctor - Notable Growers and Hobbyists

BONUS: BUY ONE RAFFLE TICKET (\$1) AND GET ONE FREE WITH THIS AD!

Other Newsletters

Many of the other orchid societies in the Bay Area have monthly newsletters that are available on the web. There is a list of these societies in our web site, www.carmelorchidsociety.org, click on **Reference** and then on **Links** and look for societies that have a web site referenced.



From Our President

First, I would like to remind everyone that the November meeting will be starting promptly at 7:00 pm. We will be voting on the Amendment of the By-laws as well as the election of 2007 Board of Directors. Please note that the nominee for the Director position that was to be filled by Tom Bremser will be filled by Ida Hale. The speaker's presentation will begin at 7:30 and last until 9:00.

Over the past several years the Board of Directors has dreaded the time when the Crossroads would no longer be available for our May Faire, well that time has come. The Board has chosen the American Tin Cannery in Pacific Grove to be the location for the 2007 May Faire. May Faire is the society's only fund raising event and it is expected to generate \$3,000 to \$4,000 each year which, together with the annual dues, is used to fund all of the other activities throughout the year.

The cost of having the level of speakers that we regularly have has seen an increase over the past couple of years and we feel that it will only continue to increase in the future. With the change of location of May Faire will come higher advertising costs and a reluctance on the part of the vendors to participate. All of these things combined have prompted the Board to reevaluate our annual dues structure. This has resulted in the Board increasing the dues starting with the 2007 dues that is payable now, the increases are reflected in the "2007 Membership Application" on page 3.

Our annual Christmas Party will be here

before we know it; the sign-up is on page 6. Unfortunately we have had to increase the ticket price to cover the increased cost for the meal; this is explained more completely elsewhere.

Thank you for your understanding.

Ken Ashton, *President*

Christmas Party Note (Continued)

(Continued from page 4)

years, have a wonderful plant table with lots of great plants for the raffle. For those members paying their membership dues for 2007 by November 15, there will be a raffle for a special plant. The ticket price for the party this year will be \$30.00 per member and \$45.00 per guest. Keep in mind that the Monterey Beach Hotel's actual cost to COS is almost \$52.00 per person. Please see the registration form on page 6.

November Goodies Providers

Goodies for the November meeting will be provided by:

- Geva Arcanin
- Elizabeth Coelho
- Carol Easton
- Ida & Bill Hale
- Frances Richardson

Thank You to those who supported last month.



Officers of the Carmel Orchid Society for 2007

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following slate of officers to the Society.

Office	Term Limit	Elected	Name
President	3 Terms of 1 Year	2006	Carol Easton
VP Program	3 Terms of 1 Year	2005	Carolyn Salmon
Recording Secretary	3 Terms of 1 Year	2006	Joanie Linares
Treasurer	3 Terms of 2 Years	2006	Ken Ashton
Membership Coordinator	3 Terms of 1 Year	2006	Lori Siegmund
<i>The Backbulb</i> Editor	3 Terms of 2 Years	2006	(interim) Ken Ashton
AOS Representative	5 Years	2005	Shirley West
May Faire Coordinator	3 Terms of 1 Year	2006	Susan Segal
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2001	Sharon Ashton
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2006	Elizabeth Coelho
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2004	Jim Nybakken
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2005	Ida Hale

Christmas Party Sign-up Coupon

Please sign me up for the COS Christmas Party on December 10th, 6:00pm - 10:00pm at the Monterey Beach Resort.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Number of Members _____ (\$30 each)

Number of non-members _____ (\$45 each)

Please return this coupon with a check made payable to the Carmel Orchid Society **no later than December 1, 2006** to:

Sharon Ashton
The Carmel Orchid Society
26966 Laureles Grade Road
Carmel Valley, CA 93924-9244

Pay your 2007 Dues now and get in the Special Plant Drawing



November Speaker (Continued from page 1)

Plants are selected on strict criteria of robust growth and ease to flower. His flasking lab produces 1,000 replant flasks annually, representing 100 hybrids. Fred is a certified American Orchid Society Judge, in the American Orchid Society's Pacific South Judging Region. Orchids from

Sunset Valley Orchid have received many AOS awards, including 4 'First Class Certificates', the highest honor. We have invited the Monterey Bay Orchid Society to join us for this unique presentation. Please note the earlier meeting start time of 7:00 pm.

Proposes Changes to Society By-Laws

Proposed changes are underlined.

ARTICLE IV. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

Section 1. THE BUSINESS OF THE SOCIETY shall be transacted by the Board of Directors composed of a President, Vice-President, Recording/Corresponding Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Coordinator, Back Bulb Editor, four directors, AOS representative and the May Faire Coordinator.

Section 2. (No Change)

Section 3. THE FOUR ELECTED DIRECTORS the Treasurer and the Back Bulb Editor shall hold office for a term of two years. Two of the four directors will be elected each alternating year. All other offices shall be elected to a term of one year.

Section 4. (No change)

Section 5. (No change)

Section 6. DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS shall be as follows: The President is responsible for conducting the general business of the Society; the Vice-President is responsible for the non-event regular monthly programs of the Society and shall preside in the absence of the President and succeed in that office if it becomes vacant; the Recording/Corresponding Secretary is responsible for the keeping of the minutes

of the Board meetings and handling the Society's official correspondence; the Treasurer is responsible for conducting the financial business and keeping the financial records of the Society; the Membership Coordinator is responsible for maintaining the active roster, collecting annual membership dues and coordinating the publishing of the Society annual roster; the Back Bulb Editor is responsible for collecting articles and publishing the monthly Back Bulb electronically as well as printed, the mailing shall be the joint responsibility of the Recording/Corresponding Secretary and the Back Bulb Editor; the May Faire Coordinator is responsible for coordinating the efforts of the May Faire Committee. All officers and directors may have other duties assigned by the President with the approval of the Board of Directors.

Section 7. (No change)

Section 8. DISBURSEMENT OF MONEY shall be by checks in the name of the Society, signed by a signatory designated by the Board of Directors. Business matters which relate to the purchase, sale or encumbrance of property of the Society involving amounts in excess of \$1,000 must be approved by the general membership at a regular meeting.



Orchid Growing Tips By Carolyn Salmon

For many of us, our cattleyas have been in bloom this past month with more buds opening during the next few weeks. You may notice that some cattleyas do not form their new roots until they bloom or after this bloom is finished. These cattleyas live in areas where the rainy season comes during October-December and these new roots time themselves to capture the new rain. This is when you may wish to repot these particular catts. This is in stark contrast to those catts that form new roots on their new growths prior to the bud and bloom time. Those catts you typically repot in late spring or summer. If you repot catts at a time when there is no active root growth, they have about a 50% survival rate. The frustrating part is they take 2 or 3 years to die after all the tender loving care you gave them.

Some of my cymbidiums are spiking now. Some are one or two inches long and growing horizontally. An easy solution is to put a wine cork underneath it to encourage the spike to grow upright. As it bends upwards just add more wine corks.

Over these next couple months, it is a good time to cool down your phalaenopsis orchids to encourage them to spike. You may place them outside or in the garage at night for a few weeks. The goal is to get them down below 60 degrees which is difficult in our houses.

Fall is a great time for our paphiopedilums to bloom. They seem to do great in our homes for months at a time. One danger for any orchid is bud blast, especially when you are moving a plant from one environment to another. One trick is to wait and move the plant only when the buds are showing the flower color. It's not fool-proof, but it lessens the chance of bud blast. Even my cymms will tolerate the house environment for a couple weeks if I want to enjoy their flowers.

Plant hygiene becomes even more important this time of year. Cut off old yellow and brown leaves. Hunt for soft, brown bulbs and cut them out. You can then disinfect with hydrogen peroxide and cover major cuts with neosporin. When I repot a plant that has had some rot, I soak it in Physan 20 diluted in water for about 15 minutes to kill all the bad bacteria and fungus.

Check out Fred Clarke's website, our November speaker, at www.sunsetvalleyorchids.com.

Carolyn Salmon, cargie@yahoo.com