



# The Backbulb

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

The Carmel Orchid Society

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## February Speaker Nick Tannaci

Nick has been growing orchids since 1973. For graduation from U. C. Davis his Mother gave him an orchid in bud, it turned out to be a Paphiopedilum fairreanum. It bloomed and he was hooked.

He borrowed every orchid book that his local libraries had and started building his first greenhouse. He later started hybridizing and soon focused on Brachypetalums and Parvisepalums.

For the past 33 years he has been hybridizing and wholesaling disease-resistant Brachypetalums and Parvisepalums.

His presentation will be based on the whole life cycle of a Paphiopedilum. He will pollinate a flower, deflask seedlings into a compot and then remove seedlings from a compot which members will transplant into 2" pots. The participating members will be given the seedling that they transplanted.

## From Our President

### VOLUNTEERING AT THE 2007 MAYFAIRE

Last month we talked about members volunteering at the May-Faire but because volunteers will be integral to the success of the MayFaire we thought it was worthwhile to talk about "volunteering" again this month. Because of the change in venue of the MayFaire from the Crossroads to the American Tin Cannery we are facing more challenges not just in advertising the change but also during the show.

This year we will not be asking volunteers to bring food to feed the vendors as we have in the past. There is a committee work-

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## Paphiopedilum

Paphiopedilums, the lady's-slipper orchids, originate in the jungles of the Far East including Indonesia. They are semiterrestrial, growing in humus and other material on the forest floor, on cliffs in pockets of humus and occasionally in trees. They are easy to grow in the home, under lights or in the greenhouse.

**LIGHT** is easier to provide for paphiopedilums than many other types of orchids. They require shady conditions, as in the home in an east or west window, or near a shaded south window. In the greenhouse, shade must be provided. Give about 1,000 to 1,500 foot-candles. In the home, fluorescent lighting is excellent; suspend two or four tubes 6 to 12 inches above the leaves.

**TEMPERATURES** for paphiopedilums cover a considerable range. Paphiopedilums are traditionally separated into two groups: the warm-growing mottled-leaved types and the cool-growing green-leaved types. A third, increasingly popular group is the warmer-growing strap-leaved multifloral paphiopedilums. Warm-growing types should be kept at 60 to 65 F during the night, and 75 to 85 F or more during the day. Cool-growing types should be kept at 50 to 60 F during the night and 75 to 80 F during the day. However, many growers raise all plants in the same temperature range with excellent results. The plants can stand night temperatures in the 40s if necessary (as when grown outside in mild climates), as well as temperatures to 95 F. Care must be taken to protect the plants from rot when cold (keep humidity low, and avoid moisture on leaves or in the crowns of the plants), and also to protect from burning when hot (shade more heavily and increase humidity and air movement around the plants).

**WATER** must be available at the roots constantly, because all plants in this genus have no pseudobulbs. All of these plants need

a moist medium — never soggy, but never dry. Water once or twice a week.

**HUMIDITY** for paphiopedilums should be moderate, between 40 and 50 percent, which can be maintained in the home by setting the plants on trays of gravel, partially filled with water, so that the plants never sit in water. In a greenhouse, average humidity is sufficient. Using an evaporative cooling system in warm climates can increase the humidity. Air movement is essential, especially when humidity is high.

**FERTILIZE** on a regular schedule, but care must be taken to avoid burning of the fleshy, hairy roots. High-nitrogen fertilizers (such as 30-10-10) are recommended when potted in any fir-bark mix. In warm weather, some growers use half-strength applications every two weeks; others use one-quarter strength at every watering. It's important to flush with clear water monthly to leach excess fertilizer, which can burn roots. In cool weather, fertilizer applications once a month are sufficient.

**POTTING** should be done about every two years, or as the medium decomposes. Seedlings and smaller plants are often repotted annually. Mixes vary tremendously; most are fine- or medium-grade fir bark, with varying additives, such as perlite (sponge rock), coarse sand and sphagnum moss. Moisture retention with excellent drainage is needed. Large plants can be divided by pulling or cutting the fans of the leaves apart, into clumps of three to five growths. Smaller divisions will grow, but may not flower. Spread the roots over a small amount of medium in the bottom of the pot and fill with medium, so that the junction of roots and stem is buried 1/2 inch deep in the center of the pot. Do not overpot; an average plant should have a 4- to 6-inch pot.



## 2007 Dues

**Isn't it amazing how fast the time to pay your dues rolls around. Dues are required by January 1st 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 2006, your dues are paid for 2007.**

## Treasurer's Report December, 2006



Checkbook Balance on Dec. 1	\$8,544.83
December Income	1,765.00
December Expenses	<3,700.62>
Checkbook Balance on Dec. 31	\$6,609.21
CD Balance on December 15	\$8,089.02

**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  
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	<b>\$20.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$25.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	<b>\$30.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$35.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	<b>\$30.00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>\$35.00</b> <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

##### NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME

**Monday, February 5, 2007 at 7:00pm**

(First Monday of every month)

The First Presbyterian Church

501 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA

93940

#### Carmel Orchid Society Board of Directors Meeting

##### NOTE THE CHANGE OF TIME

**Monday, February 19, 2007, at 6:00pm**

The meeting will be held at the home of Carol Easton.

#### Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, February 13, 2007 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.

#### Sonoma County Orchid Society Show

March 3-4, Santa Rosa Veterans Building, 1351 Maple Ave., Santa Rosa, CA.

Contact: Marilyn Bucher, PO Box 21, Pointe Area, CA 95468; (707) 882-2415; mbucher@mcn.org.

#### Five Cities Orchid Society Show

March 31-April 1, Arroyo Grande Regional Center, 800 Branch St., Arroyo Grande, CA. (805) 489-9046

info@fcos.org.

#### Pacific Orchid Exposition 2007

Feb 16-18, 2007, Fort Mason, San Francisco Annual San Francisco Orchid Society For more information contact: Dennis Westler, (510) 339-826; email: denniswestler@aol.com

#### White Oak Orchids Open House Saturday March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007 from 11 am to 4 pm

25,000 square feet of high tech orchid paradise. Well grown plants from miniature to massive. Kitties, too! For more information: **650-355-8767**

[www.whiteoakorchids.com](http://www.whiteoakorchids.com) 1204 Linda Mar Blvd. Unit A, Pacifica CA 94044



*Panarica prismatocarpa, Watercolor by Sally Robertson*

## ORCHID FANTASIA

SAN FRANCISCO ORCHID SOCIETY'S 2007  
**PACIFIC ORCHID EXPOSITION**

**FEBRUARY 15 - 18**  
FORT MASON CENTER  
SAN FRANCISCO

**GALA BENEFIT PREVIEW**  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 6:30 - 10 PM

**SHOW & PLANT SALE**  
**FRI, SAT & SUN**  
**FEB 16 - 18**

[WWW.ORCHIDSANFRANCISCO.ORG](http://WWW.ORCHIDSANFRANCISCO.ORG)  
415-665-2468

A CALIFORNIA NON PROFIT 501 (c)(3) CORPORATION

## COS 2006 & 2007 Budgets

Our 2006 budget projected a \$420 loss based on \$6,600 in income and \$7,020 in expenses.

The actual year end netted a gain of \$821.81 based on income of \$7,923.23 and expenses of \$7,101.42. MayFaire had income of \$7,373.70 and expenses of \$1,905.78 for a gain of \$5,467.92.

The Board has agreed on the 2007 budget. The projected income is \$6,110 and the projected expenses are \$7,810 which will net a loss of \$1,700. This is due largely to the relocation of our MayFaire and the advertising involved. May Faire is projected to have \$8,369 income and \$5,448 expenses for a gain of \$2,948.



## Orchid Growing Tips

*By Carolyn Salmon*

The coldest of the cold is over, but there are lots of unhappy orchids out there. Despite my dish heater, my greenhouse got down to 41 degrees and even now, goes down to 48. While the Pleurothallids are putting on new growth, the Cattleya type orchids are turning yellow. Don't prune the dead portions from your outdoor orchids or other plants too soon. Those dead leaves help protect the living part of your plants against further cold damage.

We have passed the winter solstice now and the days are gradually lengthening. Your plants begin to sense this, so they will begin putting out new roots and leaves. This can be a good time to begin repotting crowded plants that are not due to bloom for a couple months. I soak many plants in Physan 20 for a few minutes during the repotting process. You can spray the roots with Superthrive too before placing them into new mix. Place the plant in lower light and at the warm range of its temperature range to encourage new roots. You may also begin fertil-

izing all your orchids with a bloom booster if you have not been feeding them during the winter. This is an especially good time to repot orchids in the Pleurothallid family like Draculas, Masdevallias etc. You want them well established before heat stress comes in late spring and summer.

I have been doing more reading about fertilizers in my quest to put a little more science into my orchid culture. Orchids use NPK in a ratio of 3 to 1 to 2. So a 20-20-20 fertilizer is not truly a balanced food. The harder your water, the less fertilizer you may use, so as not to burn your orchids. It may be worth it to invest in a \$50.00 conductivity meter to use to test your fertilized water. You may read the same article I did authored by our next Nov speaker at <http://members.cox.net/lmlauman/osp/html/odontoglossums.html> Hope to see you at our paph culture workshop next meeting.

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

## February Clean Up

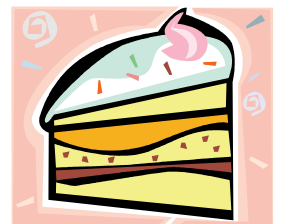
There is an old adage that "The jobs not done till the paperwork is done!" Well in our case the meetings not over until the hall is clean. So in addition to the Goodies sign-up at each meeting there will be a clean up sign-up as well.

Volunteers will be posted in the Back Bulb.

## February Goodies Providers

Goodies for the February meeting will be provided by:

- Emelita Harvey
- Teri Hernandez
- Ellie Mamon
- Susan Phillips
- Mirtha Thomas





## From Our President (Continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

ing on preparing breakfast for the vendors each morning and after that the vendors and volunteers will have to visit one of the local restaurants in the ATC for food or the Nob Hill Grocery Store.

Our show will be in the back part of the ATC which may or may not be out of the usual traffic pattern and we will need volunteers to circulate in the area to make sure that the visitors find their way to show and vendor booths and to generally welcome them. We will also be having vendors put a sticker on each plant sold and we will need to have people on the doors checking to make sure that plants going out the door have the sticker in place. We would also like to take informal polls of people you talk to by asking how they heard about the show. This will tell us whether our advertising dollars were spent in the right places.

As in past years volunteers are also needed, usually in 4 hour shifts, in the

following areas:

- Setting up and draping tables.
- Assisting with preparing the plants for display and setting up the display.
- Working on the Society Plant Sales Table.
- Relieving vendors so they can go to lunch.
- Generally helping out where needed.
- Helping to tear down the displays and table and cleaning up on Sunday.

Please sign up beginning at the February Meeting for your favorite way of participating in volunteering or call Carolyn Salmon at 375-3748. Remember – you will have fun volunteering, you will also get involved in your organization and you will meet many new friends. Look at what happened to me!

*Carol Easton*

## Officers of the Carmel Orchid Society

President	Carol Easton	<a href="mailto:eastonce@aol.com">eastonce@aol.com</a>
VP Program	Carolyn Salmon	<a href="mailto:carie@yahoo.com">carie@yahoo.com</a>
Recording Secretary	Joanie Linares	<a href="mailto:linares55@aol.com">linares55@aol.com</a>
Treasurer	Ken Ashton	<a href="mailto:carmelorchidsociety@msn.com">carmelorchidsociety@msn.com</a>
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May Faire Coordinator	Susan Segal	<a href="mailto:susansegal@comcast.net">susansegal@comcast.net</a>
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Director	Jim Nybakken	<a href="mailto:jnybakken@redshift.com">jnybakken@redshift.com</a>
Director	Ida Hale	<a href="mailto:imaryhale@aol.com">imaryhale@aol.com</a>