

The BackBulb

C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y

July 2014



July Greenhouse Tour

Saturday July 19th.

There will be no regular meeting in July, The next meeting will be **August 4th**

It is a bit ironic that this area produces more orchids for sale than almost anywhere else in the US, but there is almost nowhere to buy an orchid except Costco or Trader Joe's. This is because all of the big orchid growers in the area (Mitsui, Baybreeze, Rocket, OZ) are wholesalers, \$300-\$500 minimum order and a tax number just to get in the door. Now you have your chance to see and buy from two of the best growers in the area.

We will visit **Baybreeze Orchids** in the morning, 10-12AM. You may never have shopped there, but you are familiar with the orchids from Baybreeze. Many familiar of the vendors at our show and other central California shows buy their orchids from Baybreeze. When the COS sells orchids at a show (like the Smart Gardener Fair) or we need a plant table (like for the Christmas party) we buy the plants from Baybreeze.

In the Afternoon we will make a trip to **OZ, the Orchid Zone** is a world famous supplier of award winning slipper orchids (Paphs and Phrags) as well as many other species and hybrids.

After OZ, **John will host an Orchid Happy Hour** at his house, Wine cheese, crackers and a much smaller greenhouse. Oh, it's John's birthday so there may be cake involved too.

Baybreeze Orchids: 10-12AM, 145 Zabala Rd. Salinas

Orchid Zone: 1-3PM, 15819 Del Monte Farms Rd Castroville

Orchid Happy Hour at John's House: 1697 Luzern St. Seaside, CA

You can do any combination of the three. Bring a lunch or pick up lunch in Salinas on the way over to OZ. If you would like to car pool, or follow someone who knows the way, meet at the Park and Ride lot at the bottom of Laureles Grade Rd. at **9:15AM.**

1
July Greenhouse
Tour

2
Upcoming Events
President's Corner

4
COS Board minutes

COS Officers

President

Kathie Ritter

**VP Program,
BackBulb Editor,
Webmaster**

John OConnell

Recording Secretary

Janette Ford

Treasurer

Daniel Bellem

Directors

Carol Easton

Lesley Olsen

Jeanette Brown

Lory Schluenz

P.O. Box 223462
Carmel
CA 93922-3462

Upcoming Events

July

No Regular meeting in July

7/11-13 Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Summer Open House.

7/19 Local Greenhouse Tour: Baybreeze: 10-12AM, OZ 1-3PM, Orchid Happy Hour at John's place 4-6PM.

7/19 Orchid Happy Hour John's house after the OZ visit.

7/19-20 D&D Flowers Gran Opening at their new location in Daly City.

August

8/2 CA Sierra Nevada Speakers Day, Sacramento

8/4 Monday 7PM COS meeting.



President's Corner

It is July and summer is in full swing on the Central Coast. Unpredictable daily, hourly, weekly shifts from foggy to full-on sunny days are here again. The chance of the temperature dropping below 50 degrees is minimal. That means most of the intermediate to warm orchids many of us grow indoors on window sills can be transitioned to a protected place outside for a summer vacation. They will love the brighter light - a little bit of sun bathing please - too much and the leaves will burn. They'll thrive on the foggy days too - nothing like mist to moisturize and cleanse. The trick is to find the right spot with just enough protection against direct hot sunlight and strong winds.

Which begs the questions how much is too much or too little sunlight? The prescribed lighting requirements for most of the

orchids we grow are somewhere between 500 foot-candles and 3,500 foot-candles. I don't know about you, but I haven't a clue as to how much light either 500 or 3,500 foot-candles represents. Ask anyone "How much light does my cattleya need?" and invariably the answer is:

"Bright light." Ask about masdevallias and you will be told: "Low light". Ask about why a plant is not blooming and the first answer will be: "It probably needs more light". Great, so we get the point, light is important to plant growth. The intensity of light is the primary driver of photosynthesis and each species of orchid has its own optimal light requirement, usually somewhere between 500 and 3,500 foot-candles. So, what does a foot-candle represent? For openers, imagine a bright sunny day in a spot with unobstructed sunlight. The intensity of light under that condition will measure in at about 10,000 foot-candles - way beyond the level of tolerance for most orchids. On an overcast day, a foot-candle measurement probably would be around 1,000 - hello, think draculas and masdevallias.

A foot-candle has everything to do with how much illumination exists (how bright the light is) one foot away from a candle in a dark room. Each candle you add to a spot increases the amount of illumination one foot away from the candles by one foot-candle.



Theoretically, if you could tightly bind 100 birthday candles together and light them, you would have 100 foot-candles of light one foot away from the candles. Sounds like a pretty crude way to measure light, but "google" foot-candle and you'll quickly see this concept is

just the beginning of a complex set of measurements - you'll be led off into candelas, lumen's and lux and a whole lot of ways of thinking about and understanding light which are fascinating but will not help a lot when it comes to growing orchids.

If I've got the concept right and picked up the correct formula ($\text{Watts} = \text{foot-candles} \times .01609696$), 500 foot-candles is approximately the light under a lamp with an 8 watt light bulb and 3500 foot-candles is close to the light under a 56 watt light bulb - not that I am going to drag a 65 watt light bulb to a window sill to see if it brightens up the cats more or less than the sunlight does, well then again, maybe I might.

Hope to see you on our Greenhouse Tour on Saturday the 19th of July. It should be a lot of

fun. And it is always informative to check out the lighting, humidity and temperature of the greenhouses, particularly noting how each greenhouse is designated -- cool, intermediate or warm.

Kathie

COS Board of Directors Meeting

June 16, 2014

Members Present: John O'Connell, Kathie Ritter, Janette Ford, Daniel Bellem, Carol Easton, Jeanette Brown and Lory Schluentz. Meeting called to order at 7:15 p.m. at Jeanette's house.

Previous Minutes: Daniel moved, Jeanette seconded to approve minutes from the May meeting. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Balance at the beginning of May was \$9554.22; at the end of the month balance was \$9738.28. Daniel reported that we made about \$200.00 this month at the CVGS and the auction at the regular COS meeting. Carol moved, Janette seconded to accept treasurer's report.

VP Report: John has been lining up nurseries to visit on July 19. He has arranged to go to Bay Breeze and has tried to contact Matsui. Kathie suggested that we may be able to visit Orchid Zone. There will be no regular meeting in July. In August, Dean Hung is to be with us. In September we will have the BBQ at Carol's house. The October meeting is when we are to have AOS judging. Kathie suggested that we make sure nearby orchid societies know about the judging. She will put it on the COS Facebook page.

Other Business:

Fall Show - Carol reported that we have had confirmations from three orchid vendors: Sue Hamilton, Asbells and D & D. She has not heard yet from Dean Hung. The scarf and jewelry vendors will return. It was suggested

that we try to find a vendor(s) to sell soil and fertilizers. Jeanette Brown does not want to organize the silent auction this year. Kathie suggested that we try to make the auction a bit smaller. Carol will check with Evelyne Anzini and Susan Holmes to see if either of them would like to work on the auction. Carol will check with Marilyn Uribe and Elizabeth Coelho to see if they can help with refreshments. John will work on poster fonts to prepare for advertising cards, etc. Kathie will contact Event Brite about submitting information on their website for the show.

The July board meeting (14th) will be at Carol's house. The August meeting (18th) will be at Kathie's.

Daniel moved to adjourn the meeting. Adjourned at 8:28.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Ford



Stelis sp. (as so many of them are)

More on Light

Kathie is right, light is important to how well, or poorly, your orchids grow. I would rank it right behind watering in importance. Our eyes are fantastic instruments, but they are lousy at objectively determining light brightness. A brightly lit room look bright to our eye, but a light meter (< \$20 at greenhouse supply stores) would only show a couple of hundred foot candles (fc.). My light meter says that full sun is 7500 fc. My greenhouse runs 3000-6000 with shade cloth. Only the dim corners are under 3000 fc. The 400w metal halide grow light I used before the greenhouse produced around 3000 fc 3 feet below the light, most florescent lights, compact or tubes, will only get close to that figure inches from the tubes. Frequently you will see descriptions of light intensity like "sharp shadows" or "soft shadows" which is a description of how diffuse the light is not how bright it is. The light in my greenhouse is very diffuse and very bright, the plants seem to be able to handle brighter light if it is diffuse rather than more direct. The bottom line, if in doubt buy or borrow a light meter.

John

C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y 2014 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Carmel Orchid Society** and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership c/o Carol Easton, P.O. Box 223462 Carmel CA 93922-3462

Please print

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

If you were referred by a current member, please provide

his/her name _____

Renewal New Member

Member of the American Orchid Society

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter	
	Via E-Mail	Via US Mail
Single	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>

July 19 & 20, 2014 9:00 am to 3:00 pm

D&D Flowers Grand Opening
at the new location
169 First Avenue
Daly City, CA 94014

(D & D FLOWERS IS NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC EXCEPT DURING THE OPEN HOUSE)

Directions 280 South from San Francisco: Take the Eastmoore Avenue exit and veer to the left onto Sullivan Avenue. At the stop light, make a right onto Washington Street, go over the freeway to San Pedro (Catholic church at the intersection). Make a right onto San Pedro and continue through Misson Street between Bank of America and Wendy's Burger. At the stop sign, make a left onto First Avenue. Greenhouse is on the left hand side of the 3rd house with the red garage and a sign reading Demattei Nursery. Enter the gate of the chain link fence with red lattice to the left hand side of the red garage.

Directions 280 north of South City: Take the Eastmoore Avenue exit and eventually you would like to be on the 2nd to the left hand side lane at the stop light. Make a left hand turn onto Junipero Serra Blvd and at the stop light make a right hand turn onto San Pedro Road. Continue through Misson Street between Bank of America and Wendy's Burger. At the stop sign, make a left onto First Avenue. Greenhouse is on the left hand side of the 3rd house with the red garage and a sign reading Demattei Nursery. Enter the gate of the chain link fence with red lattice to the left hand side of the red garage.

Limited street parking so please car pool. Do not park within the chain link fence.

Mahalo for your cooperation!!!!!!

CALIFORNIA
SIERRA
NEVADA
JUDGING
CENTER



Presents

**California Sierra Nevada
Speaker's Day**

Saturday, August 2, 2014
9am to 5pm
Odd Fellows Building
1831 Howe Avenue at Alta Arden
Sacramento, CA

Featuring:

Jim Rose
Cal-Orchid

The Laelias of Mexico, their hybrids and how to grow them

Theresa Hill
Hillsview Garden

Complex Paphiopedilums

Carlos Fighetti
President of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance
Phalaenopsis Species, Their Habitat and Culture

Vendors:

Hillsview Gardens
Paphiopedilums

Cal-Orchids
A Variety of Orchids

Gold Country Orchids
Mini-cattleyas that bloom 2 – 3 times a year

Carlos Fighetti
Phalaenopsis

D & D Flowers
Dennis will have whatever the others do not

\$10 advance
\$20 at the door for Sponsoring Societies or AOS members
\$25 general admission

CSNJC is a 501 c 3 organization. Visit our website at csnjc.org
All talks subject to change