



The Backbulb

www.carmelorchidsociety.com

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 50, Number 11

November 2007

November Speaker Bob Hamilton

Born in Berkeley, California in 1946, I attended Berkeley Public Schools and the University of California with a major in Physics. I am a career employee at UC Berkeley and work as Principal Engineer in the Department of Electrical Engineering/Computer Sciences' Micro fabrication Lab, a 10,000 sq. ft. cutting-edge semiconductor research facility used by more than 360 researchers.

My interest in orchids began in 1975. I specialize in cool growing oncidinae hybrids, specifically

odontoglossums. I grow in two greenhouses, a home-hobby glasshouse in Berkeley shared with my partner of 32 years, John Leathers and a cooperative greenhouse in Pacifica, California. I hybridize and do my own plant propagation.

In addition to orchids, I enjoy classical piano, swimming and trekking.

Orchid Propagation & Endangered Hybrids Orchids have captured the interest of hybridizers and the passion of growers since the end of

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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 9
Monterey Beach Hotel
Details on Page 6**

Pay 2008 Dues by Nov. 15th for Special Drawing



Odontoglossum Culture

Odontoglossum

oh-don-toh-GLOS-sum

These high-altitude orchids from the New World Tropics flourish where cool temperatures prevail year round. Odontoglossums are known for their striking sprays of flowers. Culture is similar for hybrids in this group, some being *Odontonia*, *Odontioda* and *Vuykstekeara*.

LIGHT should be bright. In a greenhouse, levels from 2,000 to 5,000 foot-candles are acceptable as long as heat levels can be kept down. If summer day temperatures are high, light levels can be reduced to cool the growing area. While these are not generally considered to be good houseplants, they may succeed at an east window or a shaded south window; western exposures are usually too warm in most climates.

TEMPERATURES must be exacting for these plants. Day temperatures below 75 to 80 F are almost essential year round. Night temperatures of 55 to 58 F are best. Short periods of warmer day temperatures may be tolerated, especially if humidity and air movement are at optimal levels, nights are cool and the plants have healthy root systems.

WATER should be plentiful, coupled with perfect drainage. The potting medium should just begin to dry before watering. This may mean watering every two to seven days, depending on weather, pot size and material, and type of potting medium. Accordion-pleating on leaves is a symptom of insufficient water or humidity. As with other orchids from high-rainfall areas, odontoglossums are particularly sensitive to poor-quality water, which will give poor roots and leaf-tip burn.

HUMIDITY coupled with moving air, should be ideally 40 to 80 percent. Evaporative cooling in a greenhouse increases humidity while cooling the air and is highly recommended for these orchids in most climates. Fogging the air or dampening the floor with water also helps cool and humidify. In the home, set the plants on trays above moist pebbles, with the pots resting above the water.

FERTILIZE regularly with a dilute solution while plants are actively growing. Applications of 30-10-10 formulations twice a month are ideal for plants in a bark-based potting medium. A 20-20-20 formulation should be used on other media. If weather is overcast, applications once a month are sufficient. Some growers use a high-phosphorus 10-30-20 blossom-booster formulation as plants approach flowering to increase flower count and substance.

POTTING should be done as new growth becomes about half mature, which is usually in the spring or autumn. These plants need to be underpotted, so when repotting leave only enough room for one to two years of new growth. Underpotting also enables the grower to provide the more frequent watering these plants need as the smaller pots dry more quickly and evenly when filled with roots. A fine-grade potting medium with excellent drainage is required; because the medium is kept moist, annual or biannual repotting is normal. Spread the roots over a cone of potting medium and fill in around the roots with more medium. Firm the potting mix around the roots. Keep humidity high and the pot dry until new roots form.

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.

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2008 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 2007 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 2007, your dues are paid for next year.

Treasurer's Report September, 2007

Checkbook Balance on Sept. 1	\$5,117.38
Sept. Income	1,560.00
Sept. Expense	(1,566.32)
Checkbook Balance on Sept. 30	\$5,111.06

MM balance on Sept. 30 was **\$10,284.58**

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.

2008 Membership Application

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

Carmel Orchid Society—Membership
c/o Shirley West
P. O. Box 2454, Monterey, CA 93942

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter via E-Mail	Receive Newsletter via US Mail
Single	\$20.00 ☐	\$25.00 ☐
Couple	\$30.00 ☐	\$35.00 ☐
Vendor	\$30.00 ☐	\$35.00 ☐

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

Monday, **November 5, 2007 at 7:00pm** (First Monday of Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., Jun., Jul., Aug., Oct. & Nov.) The First Presbyterian Church
501 El Dorado Street, Monterey, CA 93940

Carmel Orchid Society Board of Directors Meeting Monday, **November 19, 2007, at 7:00pm** The meeting will be held at the home of Sharon & Ken Ashton, 26966 Laureles Grade Road, Carmel Valley 93924(659-7387)

Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, **November 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.

Santa Barbara Orchid Estate Annual Fall Open House & Sale Saturday **Nov. 3, 2007 8am-5pm**
Sunday **Nov. 4, 2007 9am-4pm** (Special Open House Hours) featuring: The Silent Auction ~ Laelia anceps Parade ~ \$7.50 Specials ~ \$15.00 Cymbidiums in spike www.sborchid.com

Orchid Society of California Show and Sale.

November 10-11, 2007 Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Avenue, Oakland. Hours are 9am – 5 pm. For more information, visit the OSC website: <http://www.orchidsocietyofcalifornia.com>.

Orchid Society of Santa Barbara Fall Show

December 8-9, 2007 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History, 2599 Puesta del Sol Rd., show free with museum admission. More info to come in November!

Carmel Orchid Society Christmas Party

Sunday **December 9, 2007, 6 to 10pm.** Monterey Beach Hotel, See page 6 for sign-up.

Hale Greenhouse Orchid Sale

December 10 to 15, 2007, 10am to 4pm. See page 5 for details.

Peninsula Orchid Soc. Annual Show & Sale

Jan. 5 & 6, 2008 Redwood City, CA.

November Speaker

(Continued from page 1)

the 19th Century. With the advent of clonal propagation orchids have changed from plants accessible to the rich to a commodity. Many orchid hobbyists have reacted with a switch from a preference for hybrids to a greater interest in the species.

The gene-pool embodied in modern hybrids was derived from superb species orchids, mostly collected at the beginning of the 20th Century -- the best of the best from nature. Species with these superior qualities are now rarely if ever found. Mass-market orchid producers, catering to the commodity market, care little about the orchid legacy or the gene pool contained therein. Simply stated, a very precious, irreplaceable gene pool will soon be lost.

My talk introduces plants of my interest, their history and their propagation. My talk discusses the history of orchid propagation and concludes with the laboratory work required for propagation. I do my best to present the science entertainingly avoiding the rigor many find boring.

Proposes Changes to Society By-Laws

Proposed changes are underlined.

ARTICLE III. DUES

Section 1. ANNUAL DUES of the Society shall be for the calendar year. They are payable from November 1st of the preceding year and become delinquent after March 1st of the current year. If dues are not received by May 1st the membership will be terminated and the member dropped from the roster.



2007 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. Fortunately, this year the Monterey Beach Hotel has not had to increase their prices significantly and therefore we will be able to keep the same ticket prices as last year. We will, as in past years, have a wonderful plant table with lots of great plants for the raffle.

For those members paying their membership dues for 2008 by November 15, there will be a raffle for a special plant. The ticket price for the party again 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.

This years menu will most likely be:

Organic Romaine & Baby Greens, with House Vinaigrette & Ranch Dressings, House-Made Croutons & Assorted Toppings, Chef's Selection of Three Seasonal Salads; Fresh Seasonal Fruit & Cheese Display; Chef's Fresh Seasonal Vegetables and Starch; Fresh Rolls and Butter; Penne Pasta Primavera, *Fresh Seasonal Vegetables with a light Crème Sauce*, Charbroiled London Broil *with Forest Mushroom Demi-Glaze*; Assorted Dessert Display, Coffee, Decaf & Iced Tea.

We are also trying to add Fresh Salmon Filet, *Ginger Citrus Soy Glaze*;

Sharon Ashton

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 holding the election of 2008 Board of Directors. Please note that the list of nominees that was presented at the October meeting are on page 6. The speaker's presentation will begin at the conclusion of the business and "Show and Tell".

I would like to thank Carolyn Salmon in advance for filling-in for me at the November meeting as I will be out of town.

Our annual Christmas Party will be here before we know it; the sign-up is on page 6.

Thank you for your understanding.

Carol Easton

President

November Goodies Providers

Goodies for the November meeting will be provided by:

- Joe Glennon
- Shelly Glennon
- Joy Zelinski



Thank You to those who supported last month.

Hale Orchid Sale

Bill and Ida Hale will be selling many of their orchids from their greenhouse which is just off Carmel Valley Road at Meadows Road. They are planning on being at their greenhouse on December 10th through the 15th, between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. They will be at the Christmas Party on the 9th and you can make arrangements with them then or by calling (831) 224-3755.



Officers of the Carmel Orchid Society for 2008

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	2007	Marilyn Uribe
Membership Coordinator	3 Terms of 1 Year	2007	Shirley West
<i>The Backbulb</i> Editor	3 Terms of 2 Years	2006	Ken Ashton
AOS Representative	5 Years	2007	Sharon Ashton
May Faire Coordinator	3 Terms of 1 Year	2007	Ken Ashton
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2007	Geva Arcanin
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2006	Elizabeth Coelho
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2007	Jaclyn Kinney
Director	3 Terms of 2 Years	2007	Mimi Schramm

Christmas Party Sign-up Coupon

Please sign me up for the COS Christmas Party on December 9th, 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, 2007** to:

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

Pay your 2008 Dues now and get in the Special Plant Drawing



October Meeting Pictures





Pictures from the 2008 Linares Harvest



Can you pick out and name the seven COS members in this picture who helped with the second Linares' Vineyard Harvest? One other COS member who was not in this picture is in the center picture below.

