



# The Backbulb

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

The Carmel Orchid Society

Volume 51, Number 4

April 2008

## April Speaker Ken Jacobsen

Ken was first introduced to orchids by his uncle in the 1960's and has been growing Cymbidiums himself for over 35 years. Over time, he has added the Odontoglossum alliance plants and several other genera. Since his wife Amy joined in his orchid addiction, they have added Cattleyas, Laelias, Lycastes, Encyclias, Vandas and Masdevallias. Together they even have a few Disas! Their collection now numbers about 2,800 Cymbidiums and about another 2,500 of other Genera.



Ken is a probationary judge in the AOS judging program as well as an accredited judge with the CSA judging program. He has also written over a dozen articles for the CSA Journal.

He'll be doing a presentation on Cym. goeringii and it's hybrids. Most people think of cymbidiums as requiring lots of room to grow and bloom well, but one of the advantages of Asiatic cymbidiums and their hybrids is that they are far more compact than standard cymbidiums.

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## From Our President

The Carmel Orchid Society's annual Orchid Show and Sale will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> and May 4<sup>th</sup> 2008 at the American Tin Cannery Mall. Ken Ashton is the Coordinator for the event and is assisted by a busy committee. Our Orchid Show has become a tradition in our community and attracts several thousand visitors. It is an important time for members to participate in a variety of ways – displaying your prize orchids, preparing food for the vendors, working the COS sales table, hosting our visitors and, of course, helping in setting up and cleaning up! We will be asking for volunteers from the society to staff the May Faire at our April meeting. If you would like to volunteer, please attend the April meeting and sign

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## Cymbidium Culture

**T**hese orchids are prized for their long-lasting sprays of flowers, used especially as cut flowers or for corsages in the spring. There are two main types of cymbidiums — standards and miniatures. Where summer nights are warm (above 70 F), only miniatures can be recommended, because many are more tolerant of heat and able to flower in warmer weather.

**LIGHT** is important for growing cymbidiums. Coming from cool and bright areas in Asia, they need high light but cool temperatures. In many southern climates, high summer temperatures, especially at night, may prevent the plants from blooming. The maximum amount of light possible, short of burning, should be given to the plants. This means only light shade during the middle of the day, or about 20 percent shade. In cool areas (such as coastal California), full sun is tolerated. Leaves should be a medium to golden green in color, not dark green.

**TEMPERATURES** are another critical factor in flowering standard and miniature cymbidiums. During the summer, standard cymbidiums are usually grown outside in semi shade, where day temperatures should be 75 to 85 F (or more), but night temperatures in the late summer to autumn (August to October) must be 50 to 60 F to initiate flower spikes. Optimum temperatures in winter are 45 to 55 F at night and 65 to 75 F during the day. When plants are in bud, temperatures must be as constant as possible, between 55 and 75 F. Miniatures can stand temperatures five to 10 degrees higher than standards and still flower. Most cymbidiums can tolerate light frosts and survive, but this is not recommended. Bring them inside when temperatures dip to 40 F. In mild climates, they can be grown outside year round. A bright and cool location inside is best for winter months.

**WATER** to provide a constant supply of moisture to cymbidiums, which are semi terrestrial plants. They generally produce all their vegetative growth during the spring and summer and need the most water during that period. Water heavily during the

growth season, keeping the potting material evenly moist. Reduce water when the pseudo bulbs complete growing in late summer. Keep barely moist during the winter.

**HUMIDITY** outdoors is usually sufficient during the summer, except in dry climates, where evaporative cooling in a greenhouse is necessary. Keep humidity at 40 to 60 percent during the winter, especially if plants are in bud. Keep the air moving to prevent fungus (*Botrytis*) from spotting the flowers.

**FEEDING** at the proper time to help cymbidiums flower. During the growth season (spring through late summer), high nitrogen fertilizer (such as 30-10-10) is used. In late summer, use a high-phosphorus, blossom-booster fertilizer (such as 10- 30-20), to help form bloom spikes. Fertilize at full strength every week to two weeks. In winter, fertilize once a month.

**POTTING** is usually done in the spring after flowering, usually every two years or when the potting medium decomposes. Shake all of the old potting mix off the roots, dividing the plant if desired. Pick a water-retentive potting mix; medium-grade fir bark with peat moss and perlite is a common mix. Select a pot that will allow for at least two to three years of pseudo bulb growth before crowding the pot, while planning on placing the active growing pseudo bulb(s) of the division farthest from the side of the pot. Spread the roots over a cone of the mix in the bottom of the pot and fill the container with medium, working it among the roots, tamping firmly. Single backbulbs need not even be placed in mix until new growth and roots are noted. Keep shaded and warm until new growth sprouts, and pot as above.

American Orchid Society  
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Delray Beach, Florida 33446-4351  
Tel 561-404-2000 Fax 561-404-2100  
E-mail [TheAOS@aos.org](mailto:TheAOS@aos.org)  
Web site [orchidweb.org](http://orchidweb.org)



## Member Plant Sales

Plants for sale must be clean and free of pests and disease (the COS reserves the right to reject sale plants it deems to not meet these requirements).

Each plant must have attached to it a COS tag which give the pertinent information about the plant and the price.

Tags for the member sales plants will be available at the April meeting. If people cannot make it and need tags then they should contact Ken Ashton at 659-7387 to arrange getting them.

*Jim Nybakken*

## VOLUNTEERING AT MAYFAIRE

This year we are going to ask volunteers to put in 4 hour shifts instead of signing up for 2 hour shifts. We will have a volunteer coordinator who will assign you to the area that most needs help when you arrive at the American Tin Canery. We feel that this approach will help our vendors and Society in a more beneficial way. Of course, if you are not able to do a specific duty we understand.

### On Friday we need help in:

1. Setting up and draping tables.
2. Assisting with preparing the plants for display and setting up the display.
3. Helping the vendors.

### Saturday and Sunday we need help in:

1. Working on the Society Plant Sales Table.
2. Relieving vendors so they can go to lunch.
3. Generally helping out where needed.
4. Working at the plant hotel.

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## *Carmel Orchid Society, Inc.*

### 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

Single

Couple

Vendor

Receive Newsletter via E-Mail

**\$20.00** ☐

**\$30.00** ☐

**\$30.00** ☐

Receive Newsletter via US Mail

**\$25.00** ☐

**\$35.00** ☐

**\$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

**Next Regular Carmel Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Monday, April 7, 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**

**Thursday, April 17, 2007, at 6:00pm (this is going to be a dinner meeting)**

The meeting will be held at the home of Carol Easton, Loma Del Rey, Carmel. (831) 625-1565

**Monterey Bay Orchid Society Monthly Meeting, Tuesday, April 8, 2007 at 7:00pm** (Second Tuesday of every month), At the Lincoln Ave Presbyterian Church, 536 Lincoln Ave, Salinas, CA. (831) 663-3953.

**Napa Valley Orchid Society Show & Sale, March 28-30**, Napa Senior Activity Center, 1500 Jefferson St., Napa, CA., FREE Admission. [www.NapaValleyOrchidSociety.org](http://www.NapaValleyOrchidSociety.org)

**Santa Clara Valley Orchid Show, March 29-30**, Westgate Mall, 1600 Saratoga Ave., San Jose, CA. (408) 355-4745 [www.santaclaravalleyorchidsociety.org](http://www.santaclaravalleyorchidsociety.org)

**Golden Gate Cymbidium Society's 2008 Orchid Show & Sale, April 19**, 10am-4pm at San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA. [www.Geocities.com/GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers](http://www.Geocities.com/GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers). Info: (408) 741-2882

**Sacramento Orchid Society's "Orchid Fiesta" Show & Sale, April 19-20**, Sat 10-5, Sun, 10-4 at Scottish Rite Masonic Center, 6151 H St., Sacramento, CA. Info: 916.489.3263 [www.sacramentoorchids.org](http://www.sacramentoorchids.org)

**Orchid Society of California Mother's Day Show & Sale, May 9-11**, Lakeside Garden Center, 666 Bellevue Drive, Lake Merritt, Oakland, CA. FREE Admission. [www.OrchidSocietyOfCalifornia.com](http://www.OrchidSocietyOfCalifornia.com).

**D & D Flowers Spring Open House, May 17-18**, 9am - 4pm, Half Moon Bay, 1/3 mile east of Main Street off Hwy 92. Just east of Spanish Town on Hwy. 92 there is a house and firewood business. Turn onto the street between the house and firewood business and go over the bridge into the greenhouse complex. D & D Flowers is the first greenhouse on the right. If you go beyond the large dinosaur statues in front of the house and Spanish Town and you are at Main Street, you've gone too far.

## SELLING ORCHIDS AT MAYFAIRE

This is a good time of year to decide which plants you would like to sell at the MayFaire. Perhaps you have more than one of a specific plant or you need to downsize your collection so that you can buy more during the MayFaire. Members (only members) of the Carmel Orchid Society may sell their orchid plants at the COS Sales Table during the May Faire. Plants, which are presented for sale, must be disease and pest-free *and* attractive. A good rule-of-thumb is to ask yourself.... ***Would I buy this plant?***

**James Nybakken is in charge** of the Plant Table again this year - thank you James. He has asked us to remind members to....

1. **Fill out the sales tag as completely as possible.** A plant with appropriate name and references will sell much easier than one with little identification.
2. **Attach the sales tag with masking tape or string to the pot.** This way it can be removed and you will receive credit (\$\$) for the sale. Scotch tape sticks to the tags and tears them and creates problems in reading the tags.
3. **Bring the plants on Friday afternoon, May 2<sup>nd</sup> between 12noon and 5pm.**

(Continued on page 5)



## SELLING ORCHIDS AT MAYFAIRE *cont.*

*(Continued from page 4)*

There is storage space and the plants will be displayed as they are received. Plants may also be brought in on Saturday by 9 pm or Sunday morning by 10 am and shall be put on the sales table as space is available.

4. **Plants that don't sell must be picked up at 4:00pm on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> or they will be discarded or donated.** The Society can not be responsible for plants not picked up at the designated time.

Plants that have flowers or a picture to show what the flower looks like sell first! Plants with references – pedigree – are sold readily. Plants with appropriate pricing sell well. The volunteers at the Society Sales Table are not allowed

to alter the price on your plant, therefore, you might want to come by several times during the sale and check on your plants. That way you can adjust prices if it seems warranted.

A portion (10%) of each sale goes to COS and is one of our primary fund-raisers during the year. If you have questions about the Sales Table or would like to help during the May Faire, please sign up at the April meeting. If you need assistance in pricing your plants, please ask a member for help when you bring them in.

*Carol Easton*

*President*

## From Our President *cont.*

*(Continued from page 1)*

up. If you cannot attend the meetings but would like to volunteer, please call Ken. We are going to need a lot of help this year.

We have fewer vendors this year and therefore our show will be smaller than previous years but that doesn't mean it won't be a successful show. In order to be successful, we need your help. You, our Society members and volunteers make the entire event possible. We will have lunch available for our vendors and their assistants only. Elizabeth Coelho and her Committee will be calling to ask for donations of salads, desserts, etc. We will not need to provide breakfast for the vendors this year as all will be staying at Susan Segal's Carmel Wayfarer Inn where they are provided breakfast.

I look forward to seeing you at the April meeting and at the MayFaire.

*Carol Easton*

## Treasurer's Report February, 2008



Checkbook Balance on Feb., 1	\$ 4,416.78
February Income	432.50
February Expenses	<998.57>
Checkbook Balance on Feb., 29	\$ 3,850.71
Vanguard Money Market Balance on Feb., 29 was	\$ 10,481.14

## April Goodies

Goodies for the April meeting will be provided by:

- Lindsey Brandon
- Richard Demming
- Ellie Mamon
- Susan Phillips
- Tempest Weis



Large Spigot Style Bottled Water will be provided by:

- Susan Jones



## THE BIG MAYFAIRE DISPLAY

One of the major attractions at the MayFaire Orchid Show and Sale has always been the members display. This year, as last year, we will have a very special display of many varieties of blooming orchids in the center of the American Tin Cannery. In order to create the splendor of orchids for which the MayFaire is famous, we need your contributions!

The display will be assembled on Friday afternoon and plants **should be brought to the American Tin Cannery in the area near the foot of the escalator anytime between 12-4 pm on Friday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>**. The show opens at 9am on Saturday morning, May 3<sup>rd</sup> and the display must be in place!

Members are requested to bring their plants in an attractive container or basket. The plants must have the leaves cleaned and free of pests as the volunteers will not be able to do this. The Society volunteers will place moss around the base and place a sign on the plant stating its name, lineage, etc. If you cannot bring the plants in yourself, please contact another COS member to assist you. Last minute additions may be accepted before 9am on Saturday if space is available.

### 2008 Officers of the Carmel Orchid Society

President	<a href="#">Carol Easton</a>
VP Program	<a href="#">Carolyn Salmon</a>
Recording Secretary	<a href="#">Joanie Linares</a>
Treasurer	<a href="#">Marilyn Uribe</a>
Membership Coordinator	<a href="#">Shirley West</a>
<i>The Backbulb</i> Editor	<a href="#">Ken Ashton</a>
AOS Representative	<a href="#">Sharon Ashton</a>
May Faire Coordinator	<a href="#">Ken Ashton</a>
Director	<a href="#">Geva Arcanin</a>
Director	<a href="#">Elizabeth Coelho</a>
Director	<a href="#">Jaclyn Kinney</a>
Director	<a href="#">Mimi Schramm</a>

At the conclusion of the show the display will be disassembled, moss removed and the plants will be available from where the Plant Sale table was located during the show. **No plants are available until 4:30pm on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>**.

The Guidelines that have been adopted for the MayFaire include:

- 1. All plants are pest and disease free.**
- 2. The leaves are to be clean and attractive.**
- 3. Plant is blooming to display its special attributes.**
- 4. Pot is provided with an outer container.**
- 5. Moss covers the base of the plant (provided by COS).**
- 6. Plants should be staked and secured appropriately.**

**Members must pick up their plants promptly at 4:30pm on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** because there is no storage or security for plants that are left after the show is concluded. We hope that members will be available at that time anyway to help in closing the show and assisting with clean up. Many hands make light work for all! See you there!

### VOLUNTEERING AT MAYFAIRE cont.

#### Sunday we need help in:

1. Helping to tear down the displays and plant table.
2. Assisting the vendors.
3. Cleaning up.

Please sign up beginning at the April Meeting to help make our Annual MayFaire a success. 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*

# Orchid Sale 2008



**MOTHER'S DAY weekend**

**ORCHID SOCIETY of CALIFORNIA**

**FREE ADMISSION**

Fri., May 9, 12noon to 6pm  
Sat. & Sun., May 10 & 11, 10am to 5pm

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

Plant Doctor ☼ Potting Demonstrations ☼ Educational Display

Information: [www.OrchidSocietyofCalifornia.com](http://www.OrchidSocietyofCalifornia.com)

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[www.santacalarvalleyorchidsociety.org](http://www.santacalarvalleyorchidsociety.org)

**Golden Gate Orchids**  
415.487.5737 [goldgate@earthlink.net](mailto:goldgate@earthlink.net)

**Gold Country Orchids**  
916.646.8800 [www.goldcountryorchids.com](http://www.goldcountryorchids.com)

**Seed Engei**  
Samurai Orchids-Japanese Imports  
[seed@helen.com.jp](mailto:seed@helen.com.jp) [www.seed-engei.com](http://www.seed-engei.com)

**SUNSET CELLARS**  
415.566.2910 [www.sunsetcellars.com](http://www.sunsetcellars.com)

**MIRASSOU**  
VINCEY  
[www.mirassou.com](http://www.mirassou.com)

**Orchids Now**  
Morgan Hill, CA  
817.292.1624 [www.orchidsnow.com](http://www.orchidsnow.com)

**GODIVA**  
Chocolate  
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2846 Stevens Creek Blvd.  
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The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites-San Jose International Airport  
In Collaboration with The Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society Proudly Presents the

## Express Orchid Exhibition<sup>3</sup>

Wine Tasting • Orchid Sales • Culinary Sampling

**Saturday & Sunday**  
**May 31 & June 1, 2008**  
**9 AM - 5 PM**

**Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites**  
1350 N. Fourth St., San Jose, CA 95112



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**Show Information 800.731.9995**  
**FREE ADMISSION**  
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**FREE Orchid Skill Sessions** taught by expert growers will teach you how to grow orchids successfully for your growing conditions. Each skill session features a full presentation and Question & Answer session.

**Win Orchids & Prizes!**

**Directions**

**FROM I-880 North:** Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit - LEFT onto N. First St. - RIGHT onto East Rosemary St. - LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

**FROM I-880 South/East Bay:** Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit - RIGHT onto N. First St. - RIGHT onto East Rosemary St. - LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

**FROM US-101 North:** Take I-880 South toward Santa Cruz - Take the Downtown N. First Street Exit - RIGHT onto N. First St. - RIGHT onto East Rosemary St. - LEFT onto N. Fourth St., RIGHT into hotel driveway.

San Jose's  
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promoting  
conservation & education

**Andy's Orchids**  
888.614.2839 [www.AndysOrchids.com](http://www.AndysOrchids.com)

**Cal-Orchid**  
805.987.1512 [www.calorchid.com](http://www.calorchid.com)

**Vito's Trattoria**  
90 Skyport Dr. Ste. 170, San Jose, CA 95110  
408.463.1000 [www.myliveto.com](http://www.myliveto.com)

**Sushi Coast**  
1516 N. 4th St., San Jose, CA 408.292.9613  
[www.sushicoast.com](http://www.sushicoast.com)

**Jalapeno**  
1769 Technology Drive  
San Jose, CA 408.458.4884

San Jose International Airport  
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**OCA**  
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**Bid on Special Silent Auction**  
to help fund the preservation of  
endangered orchid habitat.

Because of OCA more than 100  
hectares of endangered habitat in the  
Ecuadorian Andes have been  
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sanctuary for rare orchid species and  
the endangered flora and fauna that  
share their world.

"OCA is Literally Saving Plant and  
Animal Species That We Don't Even  
Know Exist Yet!"  
[www.orchidconservationalliance.org](http://www.orchidconservationalliance.org)

You Can Stop Extinction  
FIND OUT NOW

**Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers**

## 2008 Orchid Show & Sale

**Saturday, April 19, 2008 10 AM - 4 PM**



See some of the most  
beautiful cymbidium  
orchids in Northern  
California on display!

Unique & rare orchid  
plants available for  
purchase for 1 Day Only!

**San Mateo Garden Center**  
605 Parkside Way  
San Mateo, CA 94403

(From Hwy 92, turn South at the  
'Alameda de Las Pulgas' exit.  
Drive about .7 miles &  
turn right on Parkside Way)

Website [www.Geocities.com/GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers](http://www.Geocities.com/GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers)  
Questions? Email [GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers@yahoo.com](mailto:GoldCoastCymbidiumGrowers@yahoo.com)  
Or phone Audrey at (408) 741-2882

*Carmel Orchid Society Presents*

# May Faire

## Orchid Show & Sale

*Saturday May 3rd 9am - 5 pm*  
*Sunday May 4th 10 am - 4 pm*

### AMERICAN TIN CANNERY

125 Ocean View Blvd., Pacific Grove  
across from the Monterey Bay Aquarium

**Free Admission . Validated Parking\***  
**15 Vendors . Potting Demonstrations**  
**Orchid Display . Orchid Supplies**

For More Information Contact Carol Easton 831-625-1565  
[www.carmelorchidsociety.org](http://www.carmelorchidsociety.org)

**\*2 Hour Validated Parking in the  
American Tin Cannery Parking Lot  
with Plant Purchase**