

The BackBulb

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

October 2009 ■



October Meeting: Flea Market, Auction and Ice Cream Social

The October meeting is about selling "stuff" and socializing. There are two ways in which you can participate. You can rent a table to sell your wares or offer an orchid related item for our live auction. We encourage you to do both. Here are a few guidelines

The October meeting is on **Monday October 5th, 7PM** At the **Community Church of Monterey Peninsula**, 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.

- ❖ The rent for a table is \$10.
- ❖ You can sell anything! Items do not need to be orchid related, how about plants, and cuttings from your non orchid collection?
- ❖ Only orchid related items can be offered for auction. Please provide as much information about the item as possible, informed bidders bid higher.
- ❖ The society has some new fans from Jim's greenhouse along with a bunch of cork mounts that will be part of the auction.
- ❖ The society keeps half of the auction proceeds, this is a fundraiser for your society.
- ❖ All sellers will receive a COS apron or two COS wine bottle bags.

We will have ice cream available to help the socializing along. There will certainly be other goodies too.

And as an added attraction, one or more of the societies wise sages will be available to dispense orchid related wisdom (non orchid related wisdom is not guaranteed).



1	October Meeting
2	Carol's Commentary
3	Upcoming Events
	AOS Fall Convention
4	Divide and Conquer
6	Membership Renewal Time
7	A Word From Our Sponsors

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Carol's Commentary

Our second BBQ, Potluck and Silent Auction at the Carmel Valley Community Center is now history. It was another great success and if you didn't attend you missed a fun afternoon. It was hot, as it was all over the Peninsula that day, and so we moved everything indoors. Some decided it was cooler to sit outside and enjoy the breeze and each other's company. Cold beer was the beverage of choice. Ken Ashton did a wonderful job cooking the chicken and tri-tip on an open oak wood fire in the 100 degree heat and he didn't complain or accept any offers of help. Many thanks Ken from all of us – the chicken and beef tasted delicious and worthy of your efforts. We had a great selection of orchids, some from the James Nybakken collection and some that we purchased for the event. There was spirited bidding in the silent auction and some of us won the orchids we bid on, some of us didn't and will have to wait until the next time.

Our next big Society event is our Christmas Party at 5 PM on December 13th at Rancho Canada Golf Club. I know it is early to start thinking about Christmas but we want to make sure that everyone puts the date on their calendar. You will find a reservation form elsewhere in the BackBulb. We will have another great Party and more great orchids for our raffle.

Our October meeting will have something different for the program – we are going to have a live auction instead of a plant table and speaker. Members are invited to bring orchids from their collections to put in the auction. There is more information on the specifics elsewhere in the BackBulb. See you all at the October 5th meeting at the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula at 7PM.

Carol

Silent auction
at the Summer
Orchid Fest



Upcoming Events

October

Monday 10/5 COS Monthly Meeting 7PM, board meets at 5.

10/11-12 Hanging Gardens Open Greenhouse Sale 11AM-5PM (details page 6)

10/14-18 AOS Fall Convention, Southland Orchid Show. Huntington Gardens

10/17-18 Diablo View Orchid Show and Sale

November

Monday 11/2 COS Monthly Meeting

December

Sunday 12/13 COS Christmas Party

Christmas Party Sign Up

Please sign me up for the COS Christmas Party on December 13th, 5:00pm - 10:00pm at the Rancho Canada Golf Club on Carmel Valley Road.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Number of Members @ \$30 each _____

Number of non-members @ \$45 each _____

Non-member name _____

Please return this coupon with a check made payable to the Carmel Orchid Society to:

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

Divide and Conquer



In the beginning...

Wow! A seriously overgrown *Cirrhopetalum* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry', FCC/AOS on a 12x18" cork mount. My mission; divide this monster from Jim Nybakken's greenhouse for 2 grateful people. I was given this mission at the last COS board meeting when the assembled decided, with Solomon like wisdom, not to saw the baby in half.

On close inspection it was obvious that the *Cirrhopetalum* had been overgrown with some sort of *Miltonia* or *Miltoniopsis*. The mission became more difficult, now I would have to separate the 2 plants then divide and remount them. Since the *Miltonia* was growing over the top of the *Cirrhopetalum*, it was the one that had to go. The first step was to soften it up, water boarding was out, so I had to be satisfied with hosing it down and waiting. Half an hour later with as

much persuasion as I could muster, and brute force when persuasion failed, I pull the *Miltonia* free of the mount. The result was not two equally sized pieces, since the customers wanted roughly equal sized plants and didn't care if I combined pieces, I decided to mount the large piece by it's self and combine three of the medium sized pieces for the second one. Now what to mount them on? I didn't have any mounts large enough, and I was



The *Miltonia*, removed from the mount.



The *Cirrhopetalum*, on the original mount.

on deadline, so I didn't have time to acquire large enough pieces of cork. Home Depot to the rescue, I found a 12" wide Redwood fencing board from which I could cut a couple of 18" pieces that would work. Redwood is perhaps not the most ecologically sound choice, but it is the most rot resistant wood they stock (cedar would be another top choice). Two smaller leftover pieces I mounted on some treefern and a branch.

Now for the hard part, the *Cirrhopetalum* has a long rambling rhizome that was mostly attached to the left side of the mount. Since the mount already had a significant vertical crack in middle of the cork I decided to split the mount there and cut the rhizome where it



The Cirrhopetalum, on the split mount.

crossed the split. With that done, it was just a matter of wrapping the dangling ends up onto the mounts and tidying up a little.

In the end I like the Miltonias better, both new plants of equal size and are spectacular with 6-7 spikes and plenty of room to grow. The Cirrhopetalums were a little messy, the way the plant was attached to the mount, and my reluctance to pull the whole thing off and start again, meant that one was going to be bigger and more established than the other, and the larger one will soon grow off the top of it's mount.

Maybe a little job security, this plant will need to be either divided or remounted in a few years. So with a little luck, it's mission accomplished, I think everyone will be happy.

John



A bloom from the Miltonia.



The Miltonia's on the new mounts.

P.S. A week or so later the Miltonia buds started opening, the flowers look a lot like Miltonia spectabile.

I do not want to know what this man does for Halloween.

Ken at the Summer Orchid Fest, all of us made it home alive.



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

2009 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Carmel Orchid Society** and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership c/o Jaclyn Kinney 1381 Boles Ct. Seaside, CA 93955

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	\$25
Couple	\$30	\$35
Vendor	\$30	\$35

It's Membership Renewal Time!

It's that time again. Renew now and enjoy all our great speakers, fabulous orchid opportunity tables, and this elegant newsletter!

Hanging Gardens Open Greenhouse Sale

Saturday & Sunday, October 10 & 11 - 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

* Many orchid species, in and out of bloom * Cool to intermediate/warm growers * Mature plants, seedlings, established and bare-root divisions * Orchid companion plants * Orchid growing supplies

Shelldance Nursery site, Coast Highway, Pacifica - east side of the highway, 3/10 mile north of Reina Del Mar Avenue

Take the Highway 1 Pacifica exit from Highway 280. Follow the long curve down the hill, then make a U-turn at Reina Del Mar Avenue, the first traffic light you come to on Highway 1. Turn right into the driveway marked by an orange sign saying "Orchids", and go up the hill to the unpaved parking lot. Park to the right of the fenced construction storage area. My greenhouse is the first one on the right side, just before you get to the parking lot. For more detailed directions, email hgardens@earthlink.net or call 415-305-8355. Come to shop or just to browse - everyone is welcome!

Dan Newman

AOS Fall Convention

It is Fall Orchid Convention time – or at least time to plan to go the Fall Orchid Convention! The Southland Orchid Show Committee and the Huntington Botanical Gardens, outside Los Angeles, invite you to Arcadia, California on October 14 – 17, 2009. You can get the details from the AOS web site: www.aos.org under “Events” and then ‘Members Meetings” although you do not have to be an AOS member to attend. All orchid people are welcome! You can also call Simone Friend at 562-431-1247 for a registration packet. This is a great orchid show at a fabulous botanical garden where you will be able to listen to orchid lectures as well as tour the gardens. The Huntington has 150 acres with 12 specialized gardens so it is worth going for the gardens alone but even better when there is an orchid show. If you are an AOS member you will want to attend the AOS Town Hall Meeting on Saturday morning.

Advertise in the BackBulb

If you have a business, or just want to advertise your yard sale, this may be the place. The COS is now accepting advertising in the BackBulb. Circulation is mainly to our members and visitors, around 100 copies per month. The rates are: \$5 quarter page, \$10 half page, and \$20 for a full page. If you are interested contact the BackBulb editor, John OConnell johnnoconnell19@att.net.

And now a word from our sponsors...



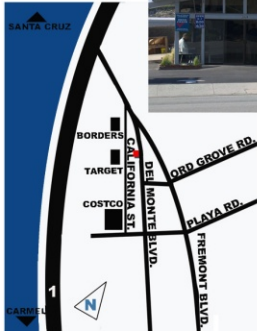
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