

The BackBulb

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

September 2014



COS Fall Potluck and BBQ

There will be no regular meeting in September, The next meeting will be **October 6th**

This year the Potluck/BBQ will be at Carol & Daniel's home in Carmel Valley. We promise you good food, a great plant table & wonderful conversation. Please RSVP Carol or Daniel so we will have enough brisket, chairs and tables.

When: Saturday September 13th from 12-4PM

Where: Carol's house. From Hwy 1 go 5.4 Miles East on Carmel Valley Rd. Turn Left on Loma Del Rey (First Left after the Chateau Julien Winery) Make the first Right (less than 100 yards), Carol's house is the first house on the right.

Bring: Food, The Society is providing smoked beef brisket and bottled water, so bring a side dish. Feel free to bring non-water beverages too.

Orchids: Of course! Bring \$\$ for the raffle table.

RSVP: Please! Carol or Daniel at 625-1565



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COS Officers

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Kathie Ritter

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BackBulb Editor,
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Janette Ford

Treasurer

Daniel Bellem

Directors

Carol Easton

Lesley Olsen

Jeanette Brown

Lory Schluez

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Upcoming Events

September

9/13 Saturday COS BBQ

9/20 The Jacobsen's & Pierre Pujol Open Greenhouse

October

10/4 California Orchids Fall Sale, Bolinas Ca.

10/6 Monday COS meeting. AOS judging.

November

11/3 Monday COS Meeting. Final Preparations for the show.

11/7-8 Friday-Saturday Fall Orchid Festival

Calling All Carmel Orchid Society Members...

Please pull together silent auction items for the Fall Orchid Festival. November is almost upon us. To continue to provide speakers and opportunity tables for meetings, we need to raise funds. The auction items that seem to do best are restaurant gift certificates and bottles of good wine. Your help with the collecting auction items as well as with the event is a great benefit to COS - i.e. to all of us. Many thanks for all you do.



President's Corner

In the spirit of "cleaning out" I've been going through old Orchids and Orchid Digest magazines - keep/throw away, keep/throw away. You know the drill. The cover photos of Orchid Digest are so brilliant it is hard to let them go - perhaps I could take up decoupage to re-purpose them.

While skimming through them I landed on Tom Mirenda's Monthly Checklist in Orchids, the Bulletin of the American Orchid

Society. The advice given in the 2011 and 2012 columns was almost identical. For the obvious reasons that should not be surprising, however I asked myself, "Why should he keep repeating himself?" and thought, "What a bore to have to think up a new way write a checklist every month". Finding a new way of saying the same thing is Tom's problem but his monthly reminders help to reinforce behavior we know we should be practicing.

The check off list for September emphasizes preparations for winterizing, including "bringing them in", cutting back on water and shifting to a balanced fertilizer. He also reminds us that while the average temperatures

may go down, the danger of leaf burn still exists.

In 2011 he reminded us to: "Keep careful watch of your plants this month. Even though they are still growing, with the gradual shortening of day lengths, some photo-period-dependent plants are starting to slow down and spikes may start to appear on several popular groups, among them catasetums, phalaenopsis, labiata-type cattleyas and standard, hard cane-type dendrobiums. When these signs come into view, plant growth has often suspended and reduced watering will be necessary." Reading this, I was reminded that blindly following prescriptions may work, but thinking about why the prescription makes sense can help us to be even better growers.

Kathie



Slippers from OZ. Ooh! look a ruby slipper!



AOS Judging, Here at a COS Meeting?

Does this sound familiar?

You go to an orchid show and see two lovely orchids side by side that look the same to your eye and wonder why one got an American Orchid Society award and one didn't? Did you ever go to an orchid meeting and see folks in another room peering intently at one orchid on the table, sometimes using a magnifying glass and talking about things like texture, substance, arrangement on an inflorescence, floriferousness, etc.? Wonder just what is an AM or an HCC anyway?

I am willing to bet that those who are honest will admit to something like that with their first exposure to AOS judging. We have all been there, even me in the beginning. I remember doing exactly that at my first Pacific Orchid Exposition in San Francisco at Fort Mason way back when.

Now is your chance to 'demystify' the happenings in that room with the odd lingo and behaviors-learn about the good stuff of AOS judging and not too much about the bad or the ugly. The AOS judges and students of the Pacific Central Judging Region will be judging plants during the October Carmel

meeting. You will be able to ask questions of the judges as they do their evaluations. And we will be projecting the database, OrchidsPlus, that contains the history of past awards upon which a given plant is evaluated that is consulted during the judging process.

The emphasis during this program will be judging as it happens and the questions that are asked as assessments are generated and balanced against prior awards for that particular orchid. We hope everyone will bring in plants for evaluation. Everyone that brings in a plant for judging will be considered and if the time is growing short, we will continue judging outside of the meeting room in the room where the skill sessions are held.



John's claim to fame: *Cymbidium lancifolium* 'Cammie' CCM from back in 2009.

AOS judging can be slightly different from ribbon judging. Both do evaluate flower quality however the AOS judges and awards to a national/international standard that has been developed throughout the AOS history of judging and awarding orchids. Judges take into account parentage characteristics as well as the general impression of the orchid in question. Not only are awards given for flower quality but they can be given to the owner of the orchid for spectacular growth.

Do judges know everything there is about orchids? Absolutely not. Do judges disagree with each other? Certainly. Do personalities come into play?-sadly sometimes.

Judges are humans and fallible; we hope the process of AOS judging in a group evens out inconsistencies, personality conflicts, even errors in judgments.

There is another part of the judging that we won't be demonstrating and that is the administrative side. For

plants that are awarded there are forms to complete-lots of paperwork that has measurements, descriptions and photographs that are taken and submitted for incorporation into the national database. That is not the most interesting aspect of judging so we will do that behind the scenes for this program-don't worry. Anyone who wants to know more about that aspect of it is welcome to observe after the program.

Carol Zoltowski

COS Board of Directors Meeting

August 18, 2014

Members Present: John O'Connell, Kathie Ritter, Janette Ford, Daniel Bellem, Carol Easton, Jeanette Brown and Lory Schluez. Meeting called to order at 7:08 p.m. at Kathie's house.

Previous Minutes: Minutes of July meeting were approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report: Balance at the beginning of July was \$9403.43; at the end of the month balance was \$9102.49. Treasurer's report accepted by acclamation.

VP Report: The BBQ on Sept 13 will take the place of the regular monthly meeting. In October we will have AOS judging. There is no speaker scheduled as yet for November. The Christmas

party will be in December.

Other Business:

BBQ – at Carol's house from 1:00 to 4:00 on Saturday, September 13. Carol would like to have an RSVP note sent out separate from the Backbulb so she can have an approximate idea of how many will attend, and what side dishes folks will be bringing. COS will provide bottled water, but no other drinks.

Carol, Kathie and Janette will try to contact former members of COS to see if they would like to come. Carol and Janette will go to Baybreeze on Thursday before the BBQ to purchase plants.

Fall Show – Carol prepared a project plan for the show. Jeanette Brown offered to help prepare/serve food for workers and vendors. John offered to be in charge of the orchid display. Carol will contact Cammie to see if she would organize the silent auction. She also

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said Tracy, Daniel's daughter-in-law might be able to help with the auction. All members need to participate to procure items for the auction. We do not have a chair as yet for volunteer help. The vendors are the same as last year. Carol will contact Napa Valley Orchids to see if she would like to come, and will also re-contact Yuriko's son (Baybreeze) to see if he would sell potting supplies and non-orchid plants

from their nursery; they are hesitant to come sell orchids if other vendors are there. Carol has postcard size advertising cards ready to distribute. The September board meeting (15th) will be at Carol's house.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Janette Ford

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"/>

Open Greenhouse! Ken and Amy Jacobsen & Pierre Pujol

On **Saturday, September 20 from 10:00 AM until 3:30 PM**, Ken and Amy Jacobsen, together with Pierre Pujol, will have an orchid sale at their greenhouse. There will be divisions of many quality exhibition cymbidiums and perhaps even some unbloomed seedlings. Some of these are Australian plants imported for exhibition and breeding, while others are first release divisions of very select plants raised from seed. Amy is also relenting and (perhaps) now willing to part with some of her cattleya, anceps and masdevallia divisions, many highly prized and awarded!

The greenhouse is in the T&E Pastorino complex on Hwy 92 (San Mateo Rd) about 1.5 miles East of Hwy 1 in **Half Moon Bay** at 12511 San Mateo Rd. Note that this is after Pastorino Farms and Lemos farm as you head west, so don't get confused by the similar sounding name. The best way to enter is from the East end of the property through a large portal near the Teak shop and the 'Orchids for Sale' business. Drive on a dirt road between these two businesses to the back of the property where you'll see a small parking area, or park up at the front of the property where there's plenty of space and walk to our greenhouse. (Simple directions: Pastorino Greenhouses on the left after Lemos farm - we're just behind the 'Orchids for Sale' business. If you get lost, Ken's mobile number is 650.704.5239 and Pierre's is 650.255.9012). Ken or Pierre might have a partial list of available plants if you contact them by email.

Please do not arrive at the greenhouse before 10:00 AM! We won't be ready for you until then.

California Orchids Fall Sale!

Saturday October 4th 9am-4pm



Huge variety of Orchid plants

Seedling to Specimen sizes
Ferns, Tillandsias, Bromeliads
Supplies and Sound Advice

California Orchids 515 Aspen Rd. Bolinas, Ca. 94924

www.californiaorchids.com (415) 868-0203 info@californiaorchids.com