The BackBulb

April 2015

April Speaker: Scott Collins

True Modern Odontoglossum Hybrids

Recently the RHS (Royal Horticultural Society) has lumped all of the

Odontoglossum alliance genera together into the Oncidium genus.

This month's meeting is on Monday April 6th, 7PM at the Community Church of Monterey Peninsula. 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.

We will be focusing on the cool growing section of hybrids from the higher altitude cloud forests of South America. These brightly colored, long lasting flowers are perfect for outdoors or unheated greenhouses in the Monterey Bay.

Scott has been growing Orchids for over 30 years. His nursery, Echo Valley Orchids is in the rolling hills of north Monterey County. There, he grows mainly Odontoglossums, Lycastes, Cattleyas and Paphiopedilums. His plants over the years have been granted over 80 AOS quality and culture awards. He had a successful Phalaenopsis breeding program in the 1990's where many of his hybrids garnered AOS (American Orchid Society) awards. Currently, his breeding efforts are with Odontoglossums and Lycastes.

Scott has been involved in the AOS judging system for 28 years and is currently a Senior Judge affiliated with the Pacific Central Judging Region of the AOS.

When not involved in orchids, Scott enjoys rambling through the deserts of California with his son rock collecting. He also spends time playing in a Bluegrass band which has played together for 30 years.

April Meeting

Upcoming Events
Divide and
Conquer

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In order to provide a selection of treats at our meetings, we are asking members with last names that start with the letter **S thru Z** to **bring refreshments** to the next meeting.

COS Officers

PresidentKathie Ritter

VP Program, BackBulb Editor, Webmaster John OConnell

> Recording Secretary Janette Ford

TreasurerDaniel Bellem

Directors
Carol Easton
Lesley Olsen
Jeanette Brown
Lory Schluenz

Susan Holm

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Frances Richardson

Upcoming Events

April

4/4 Smart Gardeners Fair, Crossroads Carmel. 9AM-3PM 4/6 Monday COS April Meeting

4/18 Gold Coast Cymbidium Show & Sale 10-4 Redwood City Community Activities Building.

May

5/2-3 D&D Flowers Open House Daly City

5/2-3 Carmel Valley Garden Show

5/4 Monday COS May Meeting

Divide and Conquer

You may remember that last year we visited OZ (The Orchid Zone) and several of us brought back some hidden treasure in the form of specimen sized Laelias. Last Saturday we divided some of them. We started out with 4 large out of control plants

that had grown until there was more plant outside of the pot then in it, we ended up with at least 3 dozen divisions. Here are a few pictures.



Above: L. autumnalis after removing the pot. Right: Daniel wielding the serrated knife to cut through a dense root ball



President's Corner

Busy time!

First of all, Saturday, April 4th, once again we are going to be selling orchids and answering "orchid questions" at the Smart Gardening Fair. The Fair is open to the public at 9 AM and closes at 3PM It is located at the S.E. intersection of Highway 1 and Rio Road in Carmel.

Any member who would like to sell some of their own orchids at the show must have them there by 8:30 AM on the 4th and come by to pick up unsold plants at 3PM. The plants must be priced (COS will get 25% of the sale price), clean, labeled and if not in bloom a picture of the flower will help to make the sale.

Take time out for Easter on Sunday the 5th and then scoot on down to the regular monthly COS meeting on Monday, April 6th at 7PM. Our own Scott Collins will provide the presentation and the plant table. As you know, he grows some fabulous plants so you will want to bring some extra bucks for the raffle.

Next, if you are like me you are behind in potting. It is time to quit thinking about it and get to work.

A check of windowsills and the greenhouse makes me smile – stuff starting to bloom – even some cymbidiums and kingianum dendrobiums that live under a big old oak are about to show their colors. My guess is you are making the rounds daily too – just to see what sprouted overnight.

Also time to think about moving a lot of

house orchids outside and getting extra vigilant about slugs, snails, ants and any other pests that could come your way.

Before you take a breather, remember we will be doing the Carmel Valley Garden Club show in May. As usual, it is a 2 day event. At our April 6th meeting we will be asking people to sign up to help with the show. You will be able to sell your plants at this show too.

If you are on Facebook, please take a look at the Carmel Orchid Society page and, of course, give it a "thumbs up". We are becoming a popular spot for orchid lovers. Hope you like it too! Anyone who would like to add to the page can send me an email at mine7233@comcast.net. I would love to see more photos of member orchids on the page.

Kathie



Carol's take, potted up.

COS Board of Directors Meeting

Mar. 16, 2015

Members Present: John O'Connell, Kathie Ritter, Janette Ford, Jeannette Brown and Lesley Olson. Meeting called to order at 7:06 p.m. at Kathie's house.

Previous Minutes: Minutes from February meeting read. Accepted by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report: Kathie presented a copy of report from Daniel. Balance at the beginning of February was \$10,527.76; at the end of the month it was \$10,274.82. Report accepted by acclamation.

VP Report: Scott Collins is scheduled to speak in April. John has talked to Dan Newman about scheduling the bus tour to the greenhouses in Pacifica on July 18. He will confirm that date with Dan, and Kathie will check to see if any members of the Carmel Foundation would like to go with us. Kathie also mentioned that she talked with Dean Hung at POE and he is willing to speak at one of our meetings later this year.

Old Business.

Kathie reported that we purchased \$200.00 in plants and netted \$176.00 from sales at the Home Expo Show. We got about 30 new email addresses and one new membership at the show. The Master Gardener's Show is April 4 at Hwy. 1 and Rio Road. We have reserved a booth for \$50.00. We plan to purchase \$200.00 in plants and will also have COS member's plants for sale. COS will keep 25% of member's sale price. Jeanette and Lesley have

offered to come early and help set up the tent. The Carmel Valley Garden Show is May 2-3. We plan to pay \$50.00 booth fee and will again have orchids for sale.

New Business:

Kathie reported that Daniel received notice that the Quick Books software he is using will require an upgrade in a few months at a cost of \$200.00 - \$250.00. His concern is that we will not have access to previous reports if we do not buy their upgrade. It was the consensus of the members present that our society is not as large as is was in the past and that we could have financial reports written with Excel or another more widely used software program that will not cost as much. However, we will try to find a way to make hard copies of past reports. Kathie will check with Lory Schluenz and John will check with Cammie, who keeps financial records for her business group, to see if either of them can help us find a way to preserve our financial records.

Next meeting is scheduled for April 20 at Kathie's house.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48.

Respectfully submitted, Janette Ford



John's take, awaiting pots or mounts.





May 2nd & 3rd , 2015
9:00 am to 3 pm
D & D Flowers Spring Open-house
At the new location on
169 1st Avenue
Daly City, CA 94014

(D&D Flowers is not open to the public except during the spring and fall scheduled open houses)

Directions 280 South from San Francisco: Take the Eastmoore exit and veer to the right onto Sullivan Avenue. At the stop light, make a right onto Washington Street (service station on the right and Krispy Kream Donut at opposite corner). Go over the freeway, through Junipero Serra Blvd to San Pedro (Catholic Church at intersection). Make a left onto San Pedro and continue through Mission Street between Bank of America and Wendy's. At the stop sign, make a left onto 1st Avenue. Greenhouse is on the right 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 on the left hand side of the red garage.

Directions 280 north of Hicky Blvd.: Take the Pacifica/Eastmoore Avenue exit and veer to the right to the Eastmoore Avenue exit. At the stop light, you would like to be on the 2nd lane to the left. Turn left onto Junipero Serra Blvd and at the stop light; make a right turn onto San Pedro Road. Then continue through Mission Street between Bank of America and Wendy's. At the stop sign, make a left onto 1st Avenue. Greenhouse is on the right 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 on the left hand side of the red garage.

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

Mahalo for your cooperation!!!!!!