

# The BackBulb

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

February 2019



## February Speaker: Scott Collins

### Parvisepalum Paphiopedilums: An enchanting group from Southern China and Vietnam

We will take a look at the species in this section of Paphiopedilums and the wonderful hybrids that have been made to date with them.

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.

***Paphiopedilum micranthum*** at POE last year. A species in the Parvisepalum subgenus.

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A Contest...

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

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## BackBulb Editor & Webmaster

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### Membership

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### Show Chairman

Frank Baptista

## Upcoming Events

### February

#### 2/3 Monday, COS February Meeting

2/21 Thursday POE Gala

2/22-24 POE! Pacific Orchid Exposition, County Fair Building,  
Golden Gate Park 9th Av. at Lincoln Way.

### March

3/2-3 Santa Cruz Orchid Society Show, Cabrillo College  
Horticultural Center, Aptos

3/4 Monday, COS March Meeting

3/15-17 Sant Barbara International Orchid Show, Earl Warren  
Showgrounds, 3400 Calle Real, Santa Barbara



Two Mexican Laelias (*L. autumnalis* and *L. albida*) in John's greenhouse

## Games to Play at an Orchid Show

I love going to orchid shows, but even my eyes start to cross after looking a few thousand orchids in full tourist mode ("Ooh, pretty flower" snap picture). One way to add some more interest to your next orchid show visit is to play some simple games (any resemblance to license plate spotting games played during childhood car trips is entirely intentional) .

- **Paper search.** If you have been to an orchid show before you will have seen many flowers with award ribbons, this game is looking for a different, rarer, award, AOS paper. The American

Orchid Society (ASO) runs a world renowned judging program where plants are judged on objective criteria against past awarded plants. Plants good enough to get an award get a paper certificate. While there may be dozens of ribbons awarded at a large orchid show, there will probably be only a hand-full of AOS awards, so finding them can be a bit of a challenge. Look for AMs and FCCs the highest flower quality awards and CCMs and CCEs, awards for exceptional growth and flowering. Any plant with an AOS award is worth a good look.

- **Who's the best?** There is a hierarchy to all of the ribbon madness. Generally shows register plants in categories like bifoliate Cattleyas, or miniature cattleyas, regular ribbons are awarded to the low level category. Lower categories roll up into a bigger category like Cattleya alliance where the best plants gets a fancy ribbon and eventually up to best of show with an even fancier ribbon or trophy. Some shows give out some nice trophies (etched glass is a favorite) and some shows, like Santa Barbara, have permanent trophies that the winners name is engraved on. The challenge here is to find all of the fancy ribbons and try to figure out what made these plants the best.
- **Art, or just a collection?** All orchid shows have exhibits, that is what a show is after all, an event to show off nice plants. Most shows require vendors to put up an exhibit, and then invite local orchid societies to

exhibit plants from their members. Exhibits vary widely, some are a just a collection of plants, some are truly artistic, designed to express the shows theme. Santa Barbara has great exhibits, large and elaborate with sometimes huge props (Cal-Orchid had some 10 foot dinosaurs in it's exhibit last year). Exhibits are judged on artistic merit, expression of the theme, and overall flower quality. Search out the awarded exhibits. Better yet, note the exhibits that impress you and if it is a vendors exhibit go to the sales area and complement them on it, the good exhibits can take many hours of planning and instillation so show your appreciation.

- **Shop 'till you drop.** This doesn't need much explanation. See who in your car pool buys the most plants or



John's favorite: *Laelia superbians* in John's greenhouse



finds the most interesting orchid. You may want to take cash for this one, most vendors take credit cards these days and you could do some serious damage to your budget if you are not careful and disciplined.

- **Let's make a deal.** To play this one you should show up late Sunday afternoon when the vendors are thinking about going home, especially the overseas vendors at POE and Santa Barbara. The local vendors will probably pack up their unsold inventory and take it home with them. Vendors that fly in, especially from other countries, frequently do not want to ship plants home it costs money and the

paperwork... so make an offer haggle, maybe you can get a great deal on a whole flat of whatever strikes your fancy and is leftover.

- **Find the most unusual orchid you can realistically grow.**

Unusual is quite subjective, and nobody will know the results for at least six months, so this is mainly a competition against yourself.

The real game here is to have some fun and take in all the different aspects of a show beyond just looking at the pretty flowers and buying whatever the budget will allow.

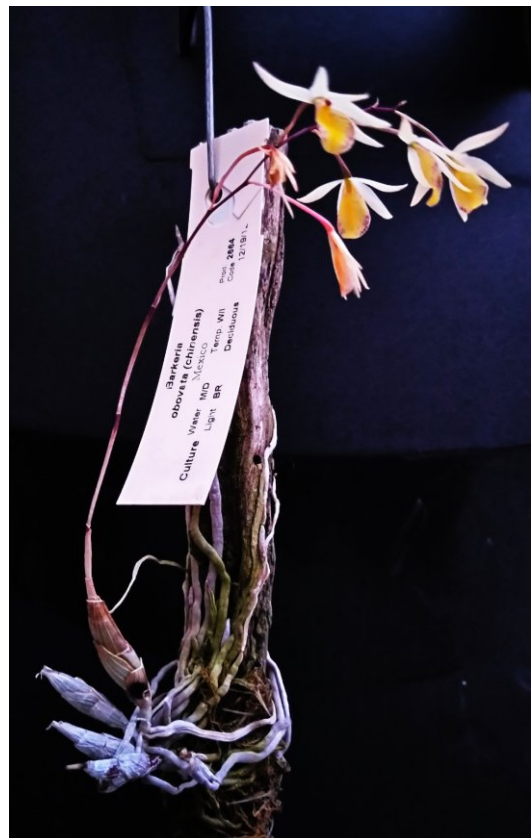
John

## A Contest...

As an incentive to go to either POE or the Santa Barbara show, we will award raffle tickets to bring back photos of the following:

- AOS award certificates. There should be half a dozen of these awarded at each show, bring pictures of the plant and certificate up to a maximum of 4 tickets.
- Best of category winners. POE awarded 43 "best of" category winners last year, so it shouldn't be hard to find them. Maximum of ten.
- Your favorite and least favorite exhibit.

Bring the pictures, simple pictures taken with your phone are fine, to the March (for POE) or April (for Santa Barbara) meeting and show them to me (John OConnell) and I will award the tickets. Board members are not eligible.



**Barkeria obovata** in John's greenhouse, a gift from his sister, but definatly something he would have bought at a show.

## Car Pooling to POE

If you can either potentially drive up to POE (any of the three days) or would like a ride, please contact me and I will try to match riders to drivers. I will be going up early Saturday and have room for 2 riders. Talk to me at the meeting Monday or email me at: [johnnoconnell19@att.net](mailto:johnnoconnell19@att.net)

John

## C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y 2019 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

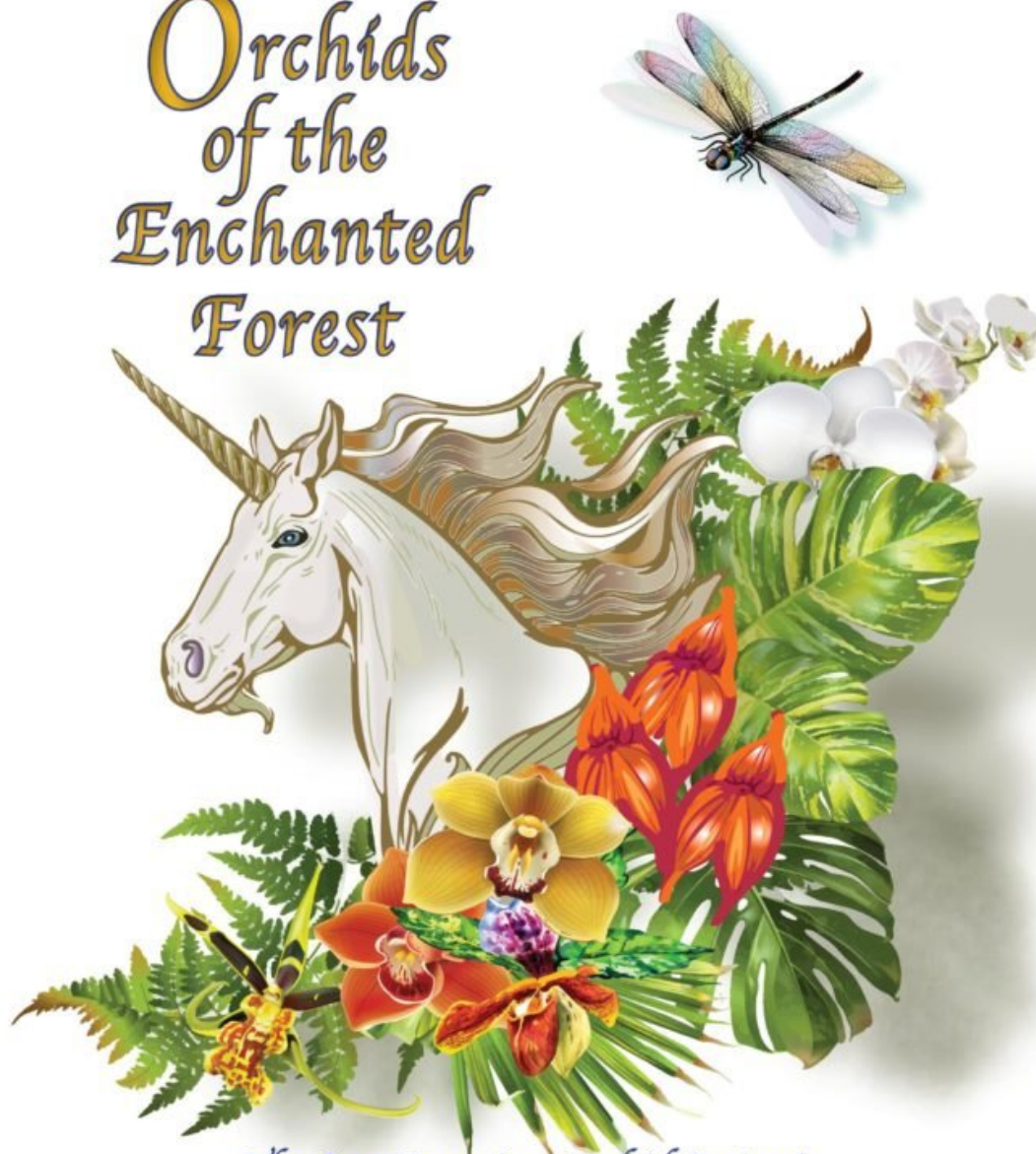
his/her name \_\_\_\_\_

Renewal ☐ New Member ☐

Member of the American Orchid Society ☐

Membership Type	Receive Newsletter	
	Via E-Mail	Via US Mail
Single	\$25 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/>
Couple	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40 <input type="checkbox"/>
Vendor	\$35 <input type="checkbox"/>	\$40 <input type="checkbox"/>

# Orchids of the Enchanted Forest



## *The San Francisco Orchid Society's 67th Annual Pacific Orchid Exposition*

### **Gala Preview**

**February 21, 2019, 6:00 - 9:30 pm (Must be 21 or over)**

### **Show & Plant Sale**

**February 22 & 23, 2019 ♦ 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**February 24, 2019 ♦ 10:00 am - 5:00 pm San Francisco**

**County Fair Building "Hall of Flowers"**

**9th Ave. at Lincoln Way**

**Golden Gate Park, San Francisco**





**Santa Cruz Orchid Society**  
**2019 Orchid Show & Sale**  
Co-sponsored by Cabrillo Horticulture

American Orchid Society judged show  
Orchid Vendors, Member Sales, Demonstrations

**Free Admission!**

Cabrillo College  
Horticulture Center  
6500 Soquel Drive  
Aptos, CA 95003

Sat. Mar. 2 9am-5pm  
Sun. Mar. 3 10am-4pm

To show your plants:  
Register your entries on Fri. Mar. 1, 5-7pm  
[f santacruzorchidsociety.org](https://www.facebook.com/santacruzorchidsociety.org)

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