

The BackBulb

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

September 2025



September: COS Fall Potluck

With all this sunshine in PG,
we are looking forward to
a warm afternoon for
the annual COS BBQ.

Please come and talk
orchids and all things growing
with us and enjoy everyone's
best dishes for the potluck.

The BBQ is **September 13th, 1-4pm** at the Patton home, **1188 Jewell Ave, Pacific Grove**. Park on the street, bring your favorite beverage and your best pot luck dish. We will have a nice plant table and lots of orchid talk. Stay for wine around the firepit afterwards. Show and Tell items always welcomed. If you are bringing a guest or a new member, they are also welcome. Irene's phone: 831-521-0511.



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CARMEL ORCHID SOCIETY

FALL ORCHID MARKET

Friday - Saturday Nov. 7th & 8th, 9am-4pm



COS Officers

President

Amanda Nixon

VP Program

John OConnell
Carolyn Salmon

Recording

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Irene Patton

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Janette Ford

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Peter Janick
Anna Narvaez-Helms
Kathie Ritter
Albert Satterfield
Chris Thomas
Cathy Walmsley
Sonya Weininger

P.O. Box 223462
Carmel, CA
93922-3462

BackBulb Editor

John OConnell

Membership

Peter Janik

Upcoming Events

September

9/13 Fall BBQ 1-4

2025 COS Events

Meetings:

Saturday October 4th, 2 pm

Other Events

Fall Market: Friday, Sat. Nov. 7-8
Holiday Party: Sat. Dec. 6th

All meetings are at the
Community Church of the
Monterey Peninsula next to
Palo Corona park, Carmel
Valley Road



Above: It took eight years but John was finally able to get this *Dendrobium faciferum* to bloom



Left: *Mexipedium xerophyticum*, a slipper orchid from Mexico, blooming in John's greenhouse. The flower is tiny, only half an inch across.

2025 West End Celebration

The annual West End Celebration in Sand City (Aug. 23-24) turned out to be a bit of a celebration for the Carmel Orchid Society, too! We had lots of interest from the festival attendees, and added several dozen names to our list of folks who want to receive monthly emails about our meetings and events.

From tall, stunning papahs to purple Laelias, the baskets of Carolyn Salmon's beautiful plants in bloom couldn't help but attract attention. (Thanks, Carolyn!) So many people took photos of them. We answered a variety of questions about orchid care – how to water, when

to repot, which plants can be grown outdoors, how to fight pests, etc. We also handed out samples of Nutricote slow-release fertilizer and explained how to use it.

But by far, the most enthusiasm we saw was for the upcoming Show & Sale, Nov. 7-8. We really talked it up! It's clear there are many orchid-lovers who either didn't know about the Carmel Orchid Society – or hadn't been to a meeting in years and are glad to see we're still going strong.

Thanks to everyone who volunteered at the booth. If the West End crowd is any indication, we should have a great turnout for the November show!

Chris Thomas



Carolyn, Irene, and Cathy having a blast at the West End Celebration.
Photo by Chris Thomas

Member Plant Sales at the Fall Market

Our Fall Market is 2.5 months away. It is not too soon to plan and organize what plants you would like to sell this year. Our member sales appear to feature plants from six or seven of our members. We are always looking for new participants and a wider variety of plants and related items to entice the public to our table. It gives you the

opportunity to make room for those new additions as you shop with our show vendors. It is time for last minute divisions, so they can establish themselves before November. Grooming and pest control is an important part of this preparation. We strongly encourage you to bring plants for sale to help support the Carmel or Orchid Society. For questions please feel free to contact Carolyn Salmon at: cargie@yahoo.com or 831-917-3386.



From top left: Show and tell at the August meeting: Cathy shows her **Howeara Lava Burst**, Albert shows off a mounted **Phal**, Kathie with her **Cattleya purpurata**, Derek explains about **Nageliella purpurea**, and John gives the history of his **Encyclia tampensis**. Photos by Irene.

Minutes of the COS BoD meeting August 20, 2025

The meeting was called to order at Kathie Ritter's home by Amanda Nixon, president. Present at the meeting besides Amanda were: Chris Thomas, Peter Janick, Kathie Ritter, Cathy Walmsley, Albert Satterfield, Anna Navarez-Helms, Carolyn Salmon, Irene Patton, Sonya Weininger and Janette Ford. John Oconnell was present via Zoom (thank you Peter).

The minutes from the June meeting of the Board were read and approved.

The Treasurer reported the checkbook balance and income from our CD's for the year. We gained a new member from the Marina Tree and Garden talk and had both a donation and plant sales from John's auction. Expenses were: \$210 for raffle plants, \$200 contribution to conservation in lieu of Roberta Fox's speakers fee and church rent.

The Vice President's report was given by Carolyn who asked members for any plant donations for the BBQ plant table in September. She is scouting out orchid sales to back up the table. She announced that Brandon from Santa



A cute little **Paph. helenae**, grown and photo by Chris

Cruz Orchid Society would be the speaker at our October meeting. She thinks he will speak on cool

growing orchids and reminded us that he is a knowledgeable plantsman. We enjoyed meeting him last year at the Greenhouse Tour and again at the SCOS show and sale this summer.

Kathie Ritter reported on the progress of planning for the Fall Market. She wants the website to have the landing page to be the Society ad for the Market with dates and times. She and Peter will get the ad to John for the Back Bulb. She discussed the schedule of advertising to be done by month and by week before the Fall Market on November 7-8. She is looking for 2 more vendors and is arranging places for people to stay over the weekend.

Kathie spoke with Albert and Chris about his demo of mounting orchids as art at the Market. We explored many ideas about charging admission for an orchid talk and ended up deciding it might be fun to do a separate event involving wine and orchids with general admission charged. Other short talks and demos at the Market by Society members and vendors have been planned by Chris. Dennis Olivas will be contacted about his topic for his talk.

Cathy Walmsley reported that Terri Zabala would make sandwiches for lunches at our Fall Market and everyone was appreciative.

Amanda discussed the schedule for the West End Celebration table we are hosting in Sand City this weekend. She reminded the volunteers of items to bring, where to park, times to work. Carolyn will put together a basket of blooming orchids from several of us.

Irene mentioned the importance of the Society website to people looking for information to join us. The website will be updated by Peter with a transfer

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from John. Thanks to John for years of maintenance. She mentioned the new contacts which we made at the Marina lecture by Chris and also at the MPC presentation. Several of these people will be attending our BBQ in September.

Amanda asked about serving on next year's BOD. She will be resigning as president after a busy 3 years and Cathy Walmsley has agreed to run for the position. John will resign but continue to do the Back Bulb. Chris has to resign also but will be able to do her Power Point presentations when we are invited. Irene and Janette and Carolyn will continue in their same volunteer jobs. Peter is stepping up to do Mail Chimp, the website and membership. We will ask the membership if anyone wants to run for an office.

The Fall BBQ will be at Pattons' home on September 13th from 1-4 in the afternoon. It is a potluck and the hosts will provide a meat dish, tea, coffee and

water. Bring your favorite dish to share and a beverage of your choice, if desired. There will be a short business meeting to encourage members to grow and bring plants for the member plant table at the Fall Market in November. A plant table and Show and Tell will also be at the BBQ. Anyone who wants to stay after is invited for wine around the firepit. We are expecting several guests and some new members.

Sonya spoke about the importance of involvement of members in our activities and about sharing with Santa Cruz Orchid Society. We agreed that a meeting of both Boards might be a good thing since we have so much in common with Santa Cruz.

The next Board meeting will be September 24th at Carolyn's house at 4 pm.

Irene Patton, Secretary

C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y 2025 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the Carmel Orchid Society and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership, 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

Single **\$35** _____

Couple **\$50** _____

Vendor **\$50** _____

Student **\$15** _____

Add an additional **\$10** to
receive the newsletter via
USPS



FALL ORCHID MARKET

SEE, BUY, & LEARN ABOUT:
Orchids • Succulents • Carnivores
Ikebana • Tillandsia

Friday - Saturday
Nov. 7th & 8th, 2025
9am-4pm

Located at 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.
Carmel, CA

SPECIAL EVENTS:
Culture Talks
Potting Demonstrations

presented by the
Carmel Orchid Society
CarmelOrchidSociety.org/Events
(831) 626-1120

