

# The BackBulb

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

August 2014



## August Speaker: Dean Hung

### Why Phragmipediums are Superior to Paphiopedilums

"Like most orchid enthusiasts, we started with one plant (a store-bought Phalaenopsis), and the collection grew along with our orchid fascination. Lila grew up in Hawaii exposed to exotic tropical plants, developing an eye for the rare, stunning, and expensive. She can quickly spot the most expensive plant in bloom in a bench covered with plants. D.Y. had a brief fling with plant molecular biology while working on his Ph.D. in genetics, but apart from getting a pure-bred Pembroke Welsh Corgi to observe the breed's inherited herding abilities, practical application of genetics didn't start until we tried breeding orchids (unless you count our two kids).

The long-petaled slipper orchids wrapped themselves around us in a serious way, and enticed us to grow more and more plants from the Paphiopedilum and Phragmipedium genera. We started Paphiness Orchids & Laboratory to provide more of these lovely plants to fellow orchid enthusiasts. We have sold orchids on eBay under the name "carsonchase" and have a 100% positive feedback score, with many repeat customers."

This month's meeting is on **Monday August 4th, 7PM** at the Community Church of Monterey Peninsula, 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.



v.s.



1 August Speaker

2 Upcoming Events  
President's Corner

4 COS Board minutes

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.

## COS Officers

### President

Kathie Ritter

VP Program,  
BackBulb Editor,  
Webmaster

John OConnell

### Recording Secretary

Janette Ford

### Treasurer

Daniel Bellem

### Directors

Carol Easton

Lesley Olsen

Jeanette Brown

Lory Schluenz

P.O. Box 223462  
Carmel  
CA 93922-3462

## Upcoming Events

### August

8/2 CA Sierra Nevada Speakers Day, Sacramento

8/2-3 Orchids in the Park, Golden Gate Park San Francisco

8/4 Monday 7PM COS meeting.

### September

9/13 Saturday COS BBQ



### October

10/6 Monday COS meeting. AOS judging.

Non-slipper in OZ.

Thanks to Katy Peterson for this picture and the left hand one on the first page

## President's Corner

About 15 of us went on an adventure one Saturday in July. We joined together to trek through two of Monterey County's finer commercial greenhouses - Bay Breeze and Orchid Zone. We had a fine time!

We first visited Bay Breeze which is just south of the City of Salinas. This has been flower growing territory for a long time. Carnations, roses and poinsettias have been replaced by orchids which is great for us. Yoriko and Tat greeted us with snacks and an open welcome to prowl through their several green house rooms - ranging from very cool growing to warm and humid. After a bit we all learned that a bit of poking about would garner us a real gem or two. I don't think anyone came away empty handed.

From Bay Breeze we traveled north and back toward the

coastline to the legendary Orchid Zone which sits up above Highway 156 about half way between Highway 101 and Highway 1. Orchid Zone (OZ) has been the hybrid cultivation center of paphs and phrags by Terry Root and Sobrellias by Bruce Rogers. Traditionally, entry to OZ was harder to come by than a winning mega lottery ticket. After its recent sale to John Chant, the opportunity to visit has become a tad less restrictive. Clearly he keeps a watchful eye on visitors. Doors are carefully locked and the star plants are not within easy reach. John is a hobbyist turned professional grower who definitely knows orchids and who relies on Terry Root to keep on hybridizing for him. The primary client for OZ remains the Japanese hobbyist. Not too many years ago Terry sold one of his plants for \$24,000. His plants regularly win best of show etc. at Japanese orchid shows.

Knowing this, none of us was sure we would be financially able to walk away with a plant. Turns out the price range began around \$20 for a beautiful plant even if not a prize winning contender. Have to admit, the ones that caught my attention tended to be \$300 plus which means I have to save up my pennies plus become a better grower.

Speaking of which, becoming a better grower that is, if you have not visited the American Orchid Society's web page recently, please take a look at their new format. The great info on culture etc is still there. Don't forget they have a "Monthly Checklist". For example, the July and August Checklist includes a reminder that Cattleyas need extra attention. To insure robust growth

in the high light and temperature conditions of summer, more fertilizer is required. Always more to learn and the American Orchid Society is there to help.

Look forward to seeing you at the August meeting.

## Kathie



Above: We're not in Kansas anymore.

Below: In the promised land



## COS Board of Directors Meeting

July 14, 2014

**Members Present:** John O'Connell, Kathie Ritter, Janette Ford, Daniel Bellem, Carol Easton, Jeanette Brown and Lory Schluenz. Meeting called to order at 7:05 p.m. at Kathie's house.

**Previous Minutes:** Minutes of June 16 meeting were approved by acclamation.

**Treasurer's Report:** Balance at the beginning of June was \$9738.28; at the end of the month balance was \$9403.43. Treasurer's report accepted by acclamation.

**VP Report:** Nursery tours (Baybreeze and Orchid Zone) on Saturday, July 19. Dean Hung is to be with us on August 4th. The BBQ is scheduled for the second Saturday in September, and in October we are to have AOS judging at our regular meeting.

Other Business:

**Fall Show** - Carol reported that no more vendors have responded other than what was reported last month: Sue Hamilton, Asbells and D & D. She has not heard yet from Dean Hung. The scarf and jewelry vendors will return. It was suggested that Carol or Kathie see if Yuriko's son (from Baybreeze) would be interested in coming as a vendor to sell soil and fertilizers. Kathie suggested that since the event will be two days that we might have a "buy now" option for the silent auction items. She also thought we should ask vendors for item(s) for the display and for the silent auction. John is to redo

the layout for the roadside advertising signs (so they do not have so much wording) and send new layouts to Carol and Kathie so we can order advertising materials. Kathie suggested that for the next meeting we have a project plan worksheet to work with.

**New board** - we need to form a nominating committee at next meeting.

The August board meeting (18th) will be at Kathie's house.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Respectfully submitted,

**Janette Ford**



Roots dragging the floor? Just tie them up.

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"/>

## Orchids in the Park. Aug 2-3, 2014



County Fair Building (Hall of Flowers)  
9th Ave and Lincoln Way  
San Francisco  
10 am-5 pm

Admission \$5, Seniors \$4, Children under 16 free

Thousands of orchids on sale, skill seminars, displays, door prizes, 15 vendors!

**Present this page for \$1 off admission**

More info: [orchidsanfrancisco.org](http://orchidsanfrancisco.org)

The San Francisco Orchid Society is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization

Photos by Ron Parsons

CALIFORNIA  
SIERRA  
NEVADA  
JUDGING  
CENTER



*Presents*

**California Sierra Nevada  
Speaker's Day**

Saturday, August 2, 2014  
9am to 5pm  
Odd Fellows Building  
1831 Howe Avenue at Alta Arden  
Sacramento, CA

*Featuring:*

Jim Rose  
Cal-Orchid

*The Laelias of Mexico, their hybrids and how to grow them*

Theresa Hill  
Hillsview Garden

*Complex Paphiopedilums*

Carlos Fighetti  
President of the International Phalaenopsis Alliance  
*Phalaenopsis Species, Their Habitat and Culture*

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*Vendors:*

**Hillsview Gardens**  
Paphiopedilums

**Cal-Orchids**  
A Variety of Orchids

**Gold Country Orchids**  
Mini-cattleyas that bloom 2 – 3 times a year

**Carlos Fighetti**  
Phalaenopsis

**D & D Flowers**  
Dennis will have whatever the others do not

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**\$10 advance**  
**\$20 at the door for Sponsoring Societies or AOS members**  
**\$25 general admission**

CSNJC is a 501 c 3 organization. Visit our website at [csnjc.org](http://csnjc.org)  
All talks subject to change