

The BackBulb

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

April 2009 ■



April Meeting:

Dr. Wang from Matsui Orchids speaks on Fragrant Orchids

Dr. Yin-Tung Wang was born and raised in Taiwan. He earned his bachelor's degree in horticulture there and his M.S. and Ph.D. in plant physiology at Oregon State University in 1984. He joined the

faculty of the Dept. of Horticultural Science at Texas A&M University. He was a professor of floriculture and plant physiology until his early retirement in 2008. Dr. Wang remains on the graduate faculty at Texas A&M.

During the early years of his professional career, Dr. Wang studied the cultural requirements, physiology, and postharvest handling of floral and tropical foliage plants. He is the world's expert on aloe vera production and is often consulted by growers and processors.

Since 1990, Dr. Wang shifted his research to focus on potted orchids, particularly *Phalaenopsis*. He has done numerous studies to learn the nutritional requirements, media, light, growth regulation, and postharvest handling.

Dr. Wang has published numerous scientific papers and articles in practical professional journals. He was a member of the American Orchid Society's Research Committee for nine years and is currently on the AOS Publications Committee and the advisory Board of *Orchids* magazine, answering the Q&A column, writing articles for *Orchids* and contributing to the Q&A column.

At the invitation of Andy Matsui, Dr. Wang took early retirement from Texas A&M University in 2008. Dr. Wang is currently the Director of R&D/Production at Matsui Nursery, Salinas, California. Matsui Nursery produces 50% of all orchids being produced in California (more than the value of all orchid nurseries in Hawaii combined) and about 25% of the overall value of orchids in the United States.

The April meeting is on Monday April 6th. At the First Presbyterian Church of Monterey, 501 El Dorado St. Monterey, CA.

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Goodies For the April Meeting

Elizabeth Coelho, Kathie Ritter and Susan Phillips, will provide the goodies for your culinary pleasure (and raffle tickets!).

Carol's Commentary

If you weren't able to make it to our last meeting your missed a good one. Paul Storm, from Florida, spoke about Schomburkias and was a very knowledgeable and an entertaining speaker. He has promised to come back.

We have a **NEW MEETING PLACE**. Your fellow members decided, by vote, at our February meeting, to change our regular meeting place to the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula which is 1 mile East of Highway One on Carmel Valley Road, This venue has promised all we have at the Presbyterian Church and more for only \$40.00 per month. We will have a kitchen!!! We all thought it was worth the effort to change.

The change will take place at our June meeting. There will be another notice in the next Back Bulb. Please mark the change on your calendar – the June meeting will be June 1, 2009 at 7 PM at the new location, the Community Church of the Monterey Peninsula, 1 mile East of Highway One on Carmel Valley Road. There will be more information in the May BackBulb as well as a map.

Our Annual MayFaire is on the horizon. If you haven't done so, please sign up to volunteer, Our volunteers are what make our shows successful and fun. We depend on you, our members.

Thanks.

Carol



Scenes from the March meeting. Left to right. Paul Storm and a customer. Some of Paul's Schom's. The raffle table.

Upcoming Events

April

4/6 Monday 7PM COS April Meeting. Dr. Wang talks about fragrant orchids.

4/18 Saturday, Gold Coast Cymbidium Growers: Cymidium Show and Sale, San Mateo Garden Center 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo

4/25 Saturday, Santa Clara Valley Orchid Society Greenhouse Tour. Six greenhouses, plants for sale.

May

5/4 Monday 7PM COS May Meeting.

5/8,9 Orchid Society of California Mothers Day Weekend Orchid Sale & Show. Lakeside Garden Center 666 Bellevue, Oakland CA

5/17 Sunday, May Faire!

5/30,31 Express Orchid Exhibition at the Holiday Inn Express Hotel and Suites 1350 N. Fourth Street San Jose (9am-5pm)

From This Years Pacific Orchid Exposition



MayFaire Update

Since our last BackBulb, we have had two additional meetings with our show partners. Each meeting, we make key decisions to expand our two show into one seamless GREAT show. There will be lots of good food and shopping. Bonsai and orchid potting demos will enhance our skills for success. There will be plenty of seating to take a load off, enjoy a plant lecture of two and take your kids or grand kids to the children's garden where they can experience gardening hands on.

Carmel Valley Flower & Art Show



Carmel Orchid Society MayFaire

Our new artwork and logo was developed by Julie More of juliemoredesign.com. We are lucky to have her professional expertise.

us know. We also need green astro turf - two 12ft x 8ft rolls. If there is a member with a business or connection who can donate some astro turf towards our efforts, we would certainly appreciate it.

This article builds upon the MayFaire article in the March BB. Please refer back to that article to catch up on all the committees and chair people involved. They will be talking to many of you asking for your willingness to volunteer. About 30 of our members come regularly to our general meetings. If you cannot come to sign up, please contact me or the committee chairs to inquire about volunteering. We will have sign up sheets again at our April General meeting. I am happy to answer any of your questions to the best of my ability. This show is still evolving and we meet every three weeks with the show partners.

There will be a Saturday night party on May 16th at 6:30 pm. There will be food, wine and live music. The donation will be \$25.00 /person going to the Hidden Valley Institute for the Arts. Later I will provide a phone number to make your RSVP with your credit card. You will be able to preview the flower and orchid displays and see the results of the flower judging.

I hope you are as excited about this year's show as I am. We are working with a great group of folks with whom we have many interests in common.

Carolyn Salmon

There are wonderful changes to our orchid display this year. It will encompass an area approx 20ft by 8ft. The theme is The Secret Garden, based upon the book of the same title. Marilyn Uribe and Elizabeth Coelho are working hard to make this display special. We have most of our supplies already except for a couple of items. We need a beautiful robin red breast. Pottery? Stuffed? If you have one we can borrow, please let

The Big Display, MayFaire 2009

One of the major attractions at our past Mayfares have been the members display. This year promises to be even just as special as we will have a display with our partners the Carmel Valley Garden Club and Hidden Valley Music Seminars. In order to create the splendor of orchids for which the MayFaire is famous, we need your contributions!

- ✓ All plants are pest and disease free.
- ✓ Make your plants as attractive as possible:
 - ✎ Clean your leaves.
 - ✎ Stake any spikes that need it.
 - ✎ Cover pots with an attractive basket or decorative pot.
- ✓ Tag your plant. We need to know the Genus, species, Grex or lineage. The Volunteers will create a display tag from your tag, so your tag must be legible.
- ✓ Plants should be brought to the Hidden Valley Music Seminars at 88 w. Carmel Valley Road, Carmel Valley Village at the corner of Ford Road between 12 – 4 on Friday, May 15.
- ✓ If you cannot bring your spectacular plants by that time, please call a Board Member or myself to facilitate getting your plants to the show.
- ✓ We must have all the plants in place before Saturday morning.
- ✓ At the conclusion of the show the display will be disassembled, moss removed and the plants will be available to be picked up after 5:00 PM on Sunday, May 17th .

Thanks so much – we are looking forward to having another great show because of all your help.

Carol

MayFaire 2009 Volunteers

Thank You to our COS members who have signed up to volunteer at our 28th annual MayFaire this year. We need all available members to participate to make our new show venue a success. Sign up sheets will be available at our April and May members meeting or contact Joanie Linares winecow@gmail.com or 595.4456 to sign up. We need volunteers for Friday May 15th, Saturday May 16th, and Sunday May 17th. For those of you who have already signed up, Thank You, Thank You.

Evelyne Anzini, Kathie Ritter, Susan Phillips, Susan Segal, Rick Rosenbaum, Lori Siegmund, Mateo Robertaccio, Deric Wenzler, John Poulos

It's 2009, Don't Let Your Membership Wilt

We need your dues by May 1 So you can enjoy all our **great** speakers, **fabulous** orchid opportunity tables, and this **elegant** newsletter!

CARMEL ORCHID SOCIETY

2009 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Carmel Orchid Society** and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership c/o Jaclyn Kinney 1381 Boles Ct. Seaside, CA 93955

Please print

Date _____

Name _____

Address _____

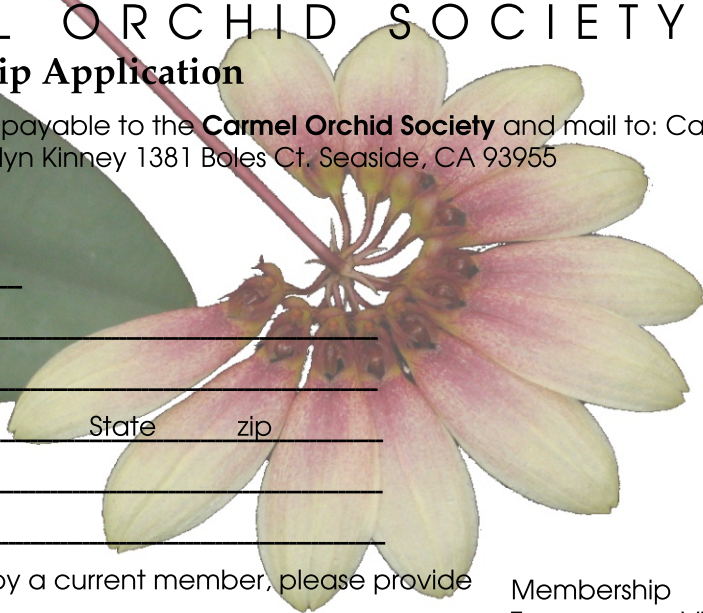
City _____ State _____ zip _____

Telephone _____

Email address _____

If you were referred by a current member, please provide his/her name _____

Renewal <input type="checkbox"/>	New Member <input type="checkbox"/>	Membership Type	Receive Newsletter
Member of the American Orchid Society <input type="checkbox"/>		Single	Via E-Mail <input type="checkbox"/> Via US Mail <input type="checkbox"/>
		Couple	\$20 <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 <input type="checkbox"/>
		Vendor	\$30 <input type="checkbox"/> \$40 <input type="checkbox"/>



Here's lookin' at you, Kid!

Are you a new member? Was your picture missing from the last Roster? If so, here's a chance to have your smiling face in the 2009 Roster. Shirley West and Jackie Kinney will be taking pictures of members for the Roster at the March and April meetings, as well as at the MayFaire. This is a great way for members to put faces with names. It's especially helpful to new members!

A new electronic Roster is on the way!

The board has decided to provide members with an electronic version of the Roster this year. We believe this will not only save our society money, but it will save trees and time! It will come to your email inbox just like the BackBulb does...in PDF format. Don't worry - if it gets lost or deleted, I can always email you another one. For those of you who receive the BackBulb in the mail, you will receive a printed Roster with member names and phone numbers. The new 2009 Roster will be coming out in June for everyone who has paid their dues.

Jackie Kinney, Membership Coordinator

Orchid Talk

As I write this column, today is the first day of spring. Despite the blast of cold air from Alaska, joy fills my heart. The sun's angle is changing rapidly now. The shade cloth should be back up for many of our greenhouses. The wide temperature variations are causing many of our budding orchids to blast. Move plants around to minimize extreme heat or cold. If you like to bring budding orchids indoors to enjoy - wait until the bud shows the flower color. It will be less likely to blast. For those indoor orchids, it is time to move them further away from the window or shade them as the sun is stronger now. If your leaves take on a purple cast, or turn too yellow, they are trying to reflect too much light. If the leaves feel warm to the touch, they are burning. Your plant needs enough water to keep their leaves cool as well.

Is anyone else in our orchid community having trouble with their Hozon fertilizing tool? I must own five of them of various ages and they choose when or if they want to work. They rely on water pressure to suction up the fertilizer concentrate. I notice drops in our water pressure, especially during the summer months. Joanie Linares told me that Orchard Supply Hardware sells a sprayer by Hudson that attaches to the end of your hose. Works well for approx \$8.00.

Joanie was also telling me about pelletized compost. If you add water to it, let it dissolve until it becomes a tea. Then fertilize your orchids. In the past I have had another fertilizing tip. Brew regular tea. Cool and feed it to your plants once a month or so. His plants were beautiful!

Your cymbidiums are spiking and showing new growth now. Begin feeding with the high nitrogen fertilizer. They are heavy feeders. The object is to get the new growths to mature by Aug or Sept when it will set buds for the next flower season. Repotting should begin as soon as flower are finished. May is typically the busiest month for cym repotting chores. At our May general meeting, we will demonstrate repotting methods for cym and other orchids for you.

The tiny, tiny slugs are showing up now along with the aphids, so bait and spray. Several of us still buy the Bayer 3 in 1 Rose and Garden systemic in the liquid concentrate available at Home Depot. I prefer a granular slug and snail bait myself. The aphids seem to love tender new growths and they will hide in or under the new leaves. They go after the buds too. Ants will follow the aphids. They are annoying, but technically do not harm your orchids. They go after the honey secreted following the aphids sucking the life from your plants. They are responsible for spreading those dreaded plant viruses we've heard about.

I have been too caught up with MayFaire preparations to browse the Internet for websites or read any new orchid books. So no tips this month on these subjects. I will look and read when I can in the future.

Carolyn Salmon

Participate & Earn Free Raffle Tickets

Your COS Board wants to reward members with free plant raffle tickets for participating in society activities.

1. Participate in Show Tell & Sell. It is not necessary for your plants to be blue ribbon specimens. You may have a plant that is not thriving and would like feedback from members. We are in this society to admire and expand our knowledge of orchids. Every plant brought to the meeting helps us to achieve that goal.
2. Sign up to bring "goodies" or water. Pick up your ticket when you arrive at the meeting with your refreshment.
3. Email a picture of an orchid with a brief description to John O'Connell johnoconnell19@att.net and if they post it in the back bulb, you earn your ticket.
4. Bring a guest to a meeting and you and your guest earn a free raffle ticket. If that guest signs up as a member that night, you receive another 4 tickets for a total of 5 raffle tickets.
5. COS members all share a love of orchids but it would be nice to learn more about our members. Email a brief bio on yourself with some pictures to John O'Connell johnoconnell19@att.net and earn a free raffle ticket.



Cool Flowers from the POE. From the top: *Cymbidium goeringii*, *Masdevallia caudivolvula*, *Trichoglottis pusilla*, *Oerstedella (wallisii x caligaria)*

Advertise in the BackBulb



If you have a business, or just want to advertise your yard sale, this may be the place. The COS is now accepting advertising in the BackBulb. Circulation is mainly to our members and visitors, around 100 copies per month. The rates are: \$5 quarter page, \$10 half page, and \$20 for a full page. If you are interested contact the BackBulb editor, John O'Connell johnoconnell19@att.net.



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