

The BackBulb

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

June 2010



June Speaker: Dr. Wang from Matsui Orchids

The Taiwan International Orchid Show.

The June meeting is on **Monday June 7th, 7PM** at the **Community Church of Monterey Peninsula**. 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.

New members come at 6:30 to learn more about the COS and get your orchid questions answered.

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. 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

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This *Angraecum magdalenae* bloomed too late for the show.

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Orchids magazine, answering the Q&A column, writing articles for Orchids and contributes 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.

Upcoming Events

June

6/5-6 San Jose Orchid Exposition www.realorchidgrowers.com

6/5 San Jose Orchid Exposition, Orchid Conservation Alliance Benefit Reception www.realorchidgrowers.com

6/7 Monday COS June Meeting

6/12 Orchid Digest Speaker's Day. Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens, San Marino

Maplethorpe Orchids "Open House Event"

6/12 Maplethorpe Orchids Open House. 3300 Maplethorpe Lane, Soquel CA. 95076, 10AM - 3 PM. All plants at discounted prices. For information: 831-462-0257

July

7-9-11 Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Orchid Fair, Earl Warren Showground Santa Barbara
<http://www.orchidfair.com/>

7/17-18 D&D Flowers Open House, Half Moon Bay

August

8/7 CA Sierra Nevada Judging Center Speakers Day Sacramento
<http://www.csnjc.org/>

Carol's Commentary

Another great orchid show and it could not have been accomplished without the work and sacrifices of the Committee Chairs and ALL of the volunteers. Carmel Valley Garden Club and COS had a Co-chair for all the sections of the Show. I have listed ours and all of our volunteers below. I want to personally thank each and everyone who participated - you worked wonders!

Committee Chairs: Show Coordinator: Joanie Linares, Budget: Ken Ashton, COS Member Sales: Janette Ford, Demonstrations/Lectures: John O'Connell, Field of Flowers: Joanie Linares, Orchid Exhibit: John O'Connell & Norma Walch, Food: Joanie Linares, Gala: Elizabeth Coelho, Logistics: Ken Ashton, Membership: Ken & Sharon Ashton, Plant Acquisition: Bill & Mimi Schramm, Plant Hotel: Leslie Olson, Orchid Judging: Jackie Kinney & John O'Connell, PR/Advertising: Carol Easton, Signage: Ken Ashton, Raffle: Amanda McLean, Sponsors: Kathy Ritter, Vendors: Carol Easton, Volunteers: Marilyn Uribe.

Other Members & Member's Family Members who volunteered were: Emilita Harvey, Roberta Singer, Jim Guy, Evelyne Anzini, Carolyn Salmon, Deric Wenzler, Lyle Linares, Susan Phillips, Sylvia Langland, Cammie Jones, Jeanette Brown, Cathy

Rossing, Robin Larsen, Dennis Riffenburg, Geva Arcanin, Tom Greer, Kim & Lynn Wright, Stacy & Kimber Johnson, and Diane Faria.

The treasurers from both organizations are busy tallying the bottom line and this will be announced at the general meeting if possible or the July BackBulb. We are still waiting for some of the expenses and/or income.

If you did not attend, you missed a wonderful event. A big thank you to all members who brought orchids for our the Plant Sales and the COS display, a Monterey Orchid Growers Back Yard, which was brought to life thanks to John O'Connell and his Committee. It was another great exhibit and I have heard a rumor that my C.

Guatemalensis will not be allowed to be entered into the judging next year!

Many thanks to all,

Carol



Carol's Best of Show (2nd year in a row) C. guatemalensis.

Orchid Talk

I think it's spring....the days are longer. It's hard to tell because it has been so cold and windy near the coast. A few months have passed since I wrote to you'all, so I will tell you my orchids had a tough winter. It was the perfect storm in my greenhouse. We had a cool, wet winter. I had lots of plants new to my greenhouse causing serious overcrowding. Not to mention lots of spots and dots and critters who made themselves at home with my collection. I tell you this, because I think we all learn from each other's mistakes. It is only natural to collect lots of different orchids initially, but over time, it is appropriate to focus on what grows well for your conditions. Be picky about what you purchase if you plan to keep them long term. I have so many one and two leaf wonders that, if they live, will take YEARS to become an attractive plant much less bloom. I joke about being the plant hospital. Throw away those plants that refuse to thrive. It makes room for the NEW. Spend a little more money and buy a larger, healthy, well established orchid. Andy's Orchids establishes his plants for two years before they come up for sale, and yes, they cost a little more. As one grower told me " buy a big enough plant so that by the time it acclimates, you

have something left."

So, I hope most of you had a chance to enjoy our show and do a little shopping. Check for pests and spray new plants before they enter you collection. When finished blooming, repot them into your own mix. You will notice that most 'commercial' orchids



It took John over 3 years to get this Bulbophyllum echinolabium to bloom. Spectacular flower, gastly fragrance!

are seriously rootbound. Remove the peat or moss plug in the very center and cut off the dead roots. Pot up in a slightly larger pot. If it had a heavy bloom, feed it very lightly, place in lower light and let the plant rest to build up new energy reserves. Orchids can bloom themselves to death. I know we are always talking about fertilizers. At our show, I purchased Cranford's pelletized organic compost. I have added pellets to plants as I repot them. I have also made a compost tea to use on the masdevallias. I am diluting the directed amounts by at least half. In future, I will share the results.

May was the best month to repot your cymbibiums, but June is okay. Most blooming is done and new growths have started.

When they mature in Aug or Sept, they will set spikes. Do the heavy feeding now and don't delay the repotting. If you need to divide them try to keep divisions in groups of four or five bulbs if you want blooms this

Continued next page

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

Continued from previous page winter. Some species will wait two years anyway. I found a new orchid-oriented website that appears to be very useful. It is www.backbulbs.com. It illustrates the dividing of different orchids with step by step pictures and instructions. The site has a nice photo gallery too. www.pleurothallids.com has completely renovated their website. Again useful and informative with many photos.

Please take note - If you have picked up or will pick up one of the donated paphs at our next meeting, REPOT it immediately. The mix is mud and the paph will soon drown. The exception is a flat that Derek Wenzler has kindly repotted for us. Just look for the fresh bark on top. A big 'thank you'to Yoriko at Bay Breeze Orchids for her kind donation to our society.

Carolyn Salmon

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

2010 Membership Application

Please make checks payable to the **Carmel Orchid Society** and mail to: Carmel Orchid Society - Membership c/o Sharon Ashton 26966 Laureles Grade Road Carmel Valley, CA 93924

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Ribbon Winners from the CVGS

Best of Show

Cattleya guatemalensis - Carol Easton - This plant is huge and beautiful.

Excellence in Orchid Culture

Leptotes bicolor - Emelita Harvey - This award could well have applied to the two *Dinema polybulbons* that she brought.

Best Miniature in Show

Masdevallia Winter Blush - Jaclyn Kinney - Electric colors and lots of blooms.

Cattleyas (Cattleya species and hybrids)

1. *Cattleya guatemalensis* - Carol Easton
2. BLC Zul - Susan Phillips
2. LC Solo Flight - Susan Phillips

Cattleyas (Cattleya alliance other than above)

1. *Leptotes bicolor* - Emelita Harvey
2. *Dinema polybulbon* - Emelita Harvey
3. *Sophronitis cernua* - John OConnell
3. *Encyclia bractesens* - John OConnell

Cymbidiums

1. *Cymbidium* unknown - Geva Arcanin
2. *Cymbidium* Else Sandersen - Norma Walsh
2. *Cymbidium* Mavy Green - Norma Walsh

Paphiopedilum

1. *Paphiopedilum hirsutissimum* - Susan Phillips
2. *Paphiopedilum Avalon Mist* - John OConnell
3. *Paphiopedilum liemianum* - Susan Phillips

Phalaenopsis

1. *Phalaenopsis* unknown mini - Norma Walsh
2. *Phalaenopsis* unknown - Geva Arcanin

Vanda (other than Sarcochilus)

1. *Aerangis citrata* - Emelita Harvey
1. *Holcoglossum subulifolium* - John OConnell



Mounted plants at the show including Emelita's award winning *Leptotes bicolor*.

Jackie's *Masdevallia Winter Blush*, Best Miniature in Show.



2. *Sedirea japonica* - Carol Easton

Sarcochilus

1. *Sarcochilus Fitzhart* - Jaclyn Kinney

1. *Sarcochilus hartmannii* - John OConnell

1. *Sarcochilus hartmannii* - Emelita Harvey

Oncidium alliance

1. *Oncidium* sp. - Carolyn Salmon

2. *Oncidium Living Fire* - Deric Wenzler

Pleurothallids (large)

1. *Masdevallia Fraseri* - Jaclyn Kinney

2. *Masdevallia coccinea* - Carolyn Salmon

Pleurothallids (small)

1. *Masdevallia Winter Blush* - Jaclyn Kinney

2. *Dryadella edwellii* - Carolyn Salmon

3. *Masdevallia wendlandiana* - John OConnell

Other

1. *Epigeneium cymbidioides* - John OConnell

1. *Bulbophyllum sulawesii* - Carolyn Salmon

1. *Polystachya ottoniana* - Jaclyn Kinney

1. *Bletilla striata* - John OConnell



The fog filled aquarium for minatures.



The COS orchid exhibit.

In Memory of Frank C. Larsen Jr.



Frank C. Larsen, Jr, fellow COS member and fiance of Carol Easton, our President, died May 6, 2010 of pulmonary fibrosis, at his and Carol's home in Carmel. Frank normally didn't come to the regular meetings - he didn't really know much about orchids but he knew that Carol loved them and that was all that counted. He did attend and enjoy our special events and meeting new people. This year, due to his illness, he was not able to attend the CVGS and the Gala, but he was there in spirit. There will be a Celebration of His Life held at Dinah's Shack, at the Dinah's Garden Hotel in Palo Alto on June 12 from 11:30 - 4:30 - if anyone wants to attend, please call Carol at 625-1565 for more information.

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 OConnell johnoconnell19@att.net.

And now a word from our sponsors...



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