

The BackBulb

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

July 2011



July Speaker: Larry Moskovitz

Bizarre Species, Fascinating Pollination Strategies

Larry Moskovitz combines his interest and expertise in photography with his interest in horticulture. He developed his curiosity about plants as a child after a visit to the Florida Everglades and through frequent visits to the Missouri Botanical Garden. Today he maintains a nursery in southern California named Orchidanica and frequently gives lectures on orchid culture. He particularly likes to help beginning and intermediate orchid growers find success in keeping their plants alive and blooming, whether on a windowsill, outside or in a greenhouse. He will speak on "Bizarre Species: Orchids that are pollinated in unusual ways"

The next meeting is on **Monday July 4th, 7PM** at the Community Church of Monterey Peninsula. 4590 Carmel Valley Rd.

Orchid Culture Skill Session

There will be a beginners orchid culture session before the meeting. We will start at about 6:30. Topic to be decided.

Refreshments

In order to provide a better selection of treats at our meetings, the board is asking members with last names that start with the letters A thru F to bring refreshments to our July 4 meeting (patriotic red, white and blue treats get an extra raffle ticket).

Pleurothallis endotrachys, and don't you want to know what pollinates this?



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Upcoming Events

July

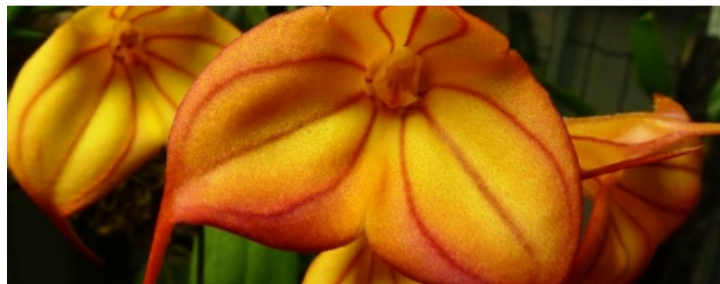
7/4 Monday COS meeting. Larry Moskovitz will speak about "Bizarre Species: Fascinating Pollination Strategies".

7/9 Saturday Orchid Happy Hour and repotting clinic at John's house. 3-5PM

7/8-10 Santa Barbara Orchid Estate International Orchid Fair.
Santa Barbara

August

8/13 Saturday Bus trip to Hanging Gardens and White Oak Orchids.



Masdevallia
Rise 'n Shine
'Mountainside'

August Bus Trip and Greenhouse Tour

What: Two great green houses in Pacifica: White Oak Orchids and Hanging Gardens.

When: Saturday, August 13th 9AM to 5PM

Where: We will meet at the Marina Shopping Center (home of REI, Target, etc.)

How Much: \$20 for members, \$40 for non members and you get a membership "free"!

Food: Bring your own sack lunch. White Oak Orchids will provide a place and chairs.

White Oak Orchids has cool, intermediate and warm greenhouses with more than a thousand varieties in thousands of square feet. Dan Newman at Hanging Gardens primarily features species orchids. You can go to their websites to put together a list of what you want to look for:
www.whiteoakorchids.com and www.hanginggardens.org .

Progress Report

We are half way through the year and much has happened since last year and we have a lot more to come. The last few years were rough for membership, we were losing members for several reasons. So membership was my main priority for 2011, and membership is what makes me smile now. Attendance at our meetings once as low as a dozen or so is now averaging above thirty. Paid membership is up to over 80. It has taken a lot of work to get us here, good programs (Kathie), publicity (Wendy), follow-up (Ken, Sharon and myself), outreach (myself and others), a good show (see below...), and small social events (Carol & myself). But we are only half way through the year and we have a lot of great events to come, including:

I would like to thank the following people for their help with the Carmel Valley Garden Show:

Joanie Linares, Elizabeth Coelho, Marilyn Uribe, Ken Ashton, Sharon Ashton, Carol Easton, Daniel Bellem, Kathie Ritter, Carolyn Salmon, Jeff Salmon, Jackie Kinney, John O'Connell, Cammie Jones, Deric Wenzler, Roberta Singer, Susan Phillips, Susan Segal, Julian Bills, Janette Ford, Evelyn Anzini, Amanda McLean, Ken Nixon, Leslie Olson, Norma Walch, Bob Walch, Shirley West.

Some of you spent uncountable hours (Joanie) and others were there for part of a day, but without your time and talent we could have never put the show on.

Thank you to Carol for remembering you all, if we missed someone, I am sorry we couldn't remember your name but thanks for your help.

John



(Deric) I you look right here you can see...

Beyond the Windowsill

Everybody starts by putting their first orchids on a windowsill. But if you stick with it a while the windowsills start to get a bit crowded. You could stop acquiring orchids... not likely, or you could start growing under lights. It's a lot cheaper and a lot less work then jumping right into a greenhouse.

There are dozens of options when it comes to lights: florescent, LED, metal halide, sodium, with different sizes, configurations and fixtures. Incandescents and quartz-halogen though are not suitable, both create too much heat and not enough light for good orchid growing.



My first lighting setup. Ten orchids, two clip-on lights with compact florescent bulbs, and one windowsill.

Step one: Give your window some extra help with a couple of clip-on light fixtures with some largish (100+w incandescent equivalent) compact florescent lamps. Use a lamp timer to give your baby's 12-16 hours of light a day.

Step two: If you grow orchids of moderate light needs (A little less than Cattleya light) then a bank of florescent lights will provide adequate light. Look for T5 or T8 bulbs (T5 is 5/8ths on an inch in diameter, T8 is 8/8ths, 1 in in diameter). A florescent light needs to be fairly close to your plants to provide adequate light so watch out for tall flower spikes.



My current indoor growing area. 150 (approximately) orchids, a 400w metal halide HID light, one clip-on with a compact florescent and one 24" T5 2 bulb florescent fixture in the garage.

Step three: HID (High Intensity Discharge) lights provide almost sun like intensity. This is as close to sunlight as you can get inside. A 400 watt light will provide light for an 8' square growing area. For best results overall look for Metal Halide lights that include the words "warm" or "red" in the description rather than "blue". Bluer light promotes vegetative growth rather than blooming. Sodium lights are quite red and promote blooming but produce spindly vegetative growth. Warmer (red-r) metal halide or cooler (blue-r) sodium lights provide the best of both worlds.

So for a little as \$20 you can give your windowsill plants a little help or for around \$300 you can grow a modest sized collection under lights

John

Show Off Your Green Thumb & Beautiful Blooms this year at the Monterey County Fair!

Show off at the 75th Annual Monterey County Fair this year which will be held August 31-September 5, 2011! We are very interested in displaying a wide array of entries in our Flower and Garden Display area which will be revamped by Fair-time!

The garden area will be receiving a much needed upgrade with the garden plots being redone with stone surrounds, filled with new soil and additional lighting! This area is going to be a lovely retreat for fair patrons to sit back and admire the wonderful gardens while enjoying a corndog.

Here's the perfect opportunity for professional and non-professional gardeners to showcase their floral talents and there are many opportunities for competitors to enter. Additionally, there will be many knowledgeable garden related exhibitors in the Fair's Garden Area. Fair attendees can also see exhibits of new and unusual gardening techniques.

The Water Awareness Committee of Monterey County, Inc. will host its 7th annual Water Wise Landscape Design Awards at the 2011 Fair, sponsoring additional awards. We have something for everyone with some of our garden divisions including Club Gardens, Commercial Gardens, and Wheelbarrow Gardens now with larger garden plots.

The Monterey County Fair's Floriculture and Garden Departments welcome your entries between May 1 and August 8, 2011. Detailed simple entry instructions will be available on the website, www.montereycountyfair.com or exhibit entry guides will be available at the Fair office at 2004 Fairgrounds Road, between 9 AM - 5 PM (closed Noon to 1 PM) during the week.

Call (831) 372-5863 if you have any questions! We very much appreciate your support of the Monterey County Fair!



Top: (Amanda) It's not potted in a snail shell, but it's still a neat plant.

Bottom: (Carolyn) I had real trouble with this, but it doesn't matter, I have a fist full of raffle tickets and I feel lucky!

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Branch Manager

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Accepting Entries for the
Monterey County Fair's
Floriculture & Garden
Departments
MAY 1 - JULY 31, 2011
www.montereycountyfair.com



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CARMEL ORCHID SOCIETY

2011 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

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	\$25
Couple	\$30	\$35
Vendor	\$30	\$35

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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