

The BackBulb

C A R M E L O R C H I D S O C I E T Y
January 2022



January Speaker: John OConnell & Carolyn Salmon

Orchid Mania: From Novice to Expert

On our path to orchid addiction we all start out as novices with a few common, easy plants. But eventually the common plants don't satisfy us anymore and our growing obsession overtakes our knowledge and before you know it the bodies are stacking up. Cool interesting plants are so easy to buy and so hard to keep alive, let alone bloom. We all remember our first Dracula, it probably lasted a month before expiring, wrong plant, wrong conditions.

What we need is a good mentor to stand by our elbow and tell us when we are getting in over our head, or are about to make a foolish purchase.

Unfortunately most mentor types are obsessed themselves and can't remember being a novice, and will probably tell you to buy that cool, tiny, cloud forest dwelling, bare root plant with spectacular flowers (probably won't last a month in on your windowsill). We are here to give you some tools to guide you in that difficult transition from novice to expert. The process takes some education, some self assessment, and a few tips on orchid acquisition.

This program is not about growing orchids, but rather



Try and try again. This is John's third *Angraecum leonis*, and the first one he has bloomed, or kept alive for more than two years

1
January Meeting

2
Upcoming Events

In order to provide a selection of treats at our meetings, we are asking members with last names that start with the letter **G thru L** to **bring refreshments** to the next meeting.

COS Officers

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John OConnell

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Carolyn Salmon

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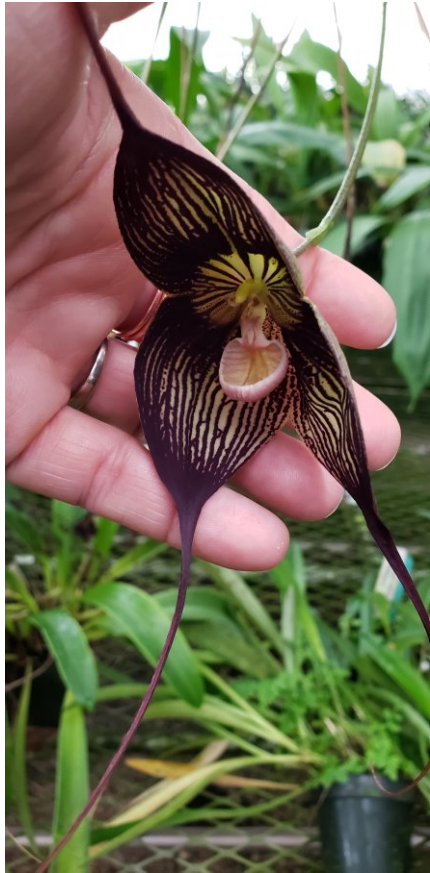
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**BackBulb Editor &
Webmaster &
Membership**
John OConnell



about figuring out what you can grow and what you should buy. There will be plenty of time for questions and a great plant opportunity table to test your new skill on.

John and Carolyn have both been growing orchids for a long time and have probably made most of the mistakes that it is possible to make. Both now grow in greenhouses but started off with a few plants on a widowsill.

There are almost always treasures to be found when you visit a vendors greenhouse. John's sister Ann found this Dracula (but didn't buy it)

Upcoming Events

January

1/3 Monday 7PM **COS January Meeting**

1/22 Gold Coast Cymbidium Society Auction, San Mateo Garden Center, 605 Parkside Way, San Mateo, CA

~~1/28-30 Peninsula Orchid Society Show, Redwood City~~
Canceled

February

2/7 Monday 7PM **COS February Meeting**

2/24-27 POE, County Fair Bldg. Golden Gate Park

March

3/7 Monday COS March meeting

~~3/11-13 Santa Barbara International Orchid Show~~ **Canceled**



Laelia autumnalis
blooming in John's
greenhouse

Gold Coast Cymbidium Society, Inc. 2022 Cymbidium Orchid Auction



Saturday, January 22, 2022

Auction starts: 1 PM

Buyer Registration & Preview: 12:30 PM

**San Mateo Garden Center
605 Parkside Way
San Mateo, CA 94403**

Beautiful Cymbidiums and
companion plants, including plants
in spike, species, and rarely
available Show & Award winners!

- 150 Plants
- No buyer premium (no fee to register)

Any questions email: auction.gccs@gmail.com

Auction Catalog & Plant Photos
available in mid-January at:

www.GoldCoastCymbidiumSociety.org/auction



Cym. Mount Vision "Hallelujah" HCC/AOS, JC/AOS
Photo by Audrey Young-Tarter



The 69th Annual Pacific Orchid Expo

Orchid Masquerade

Dates: Feb 25-27, 2022

Preview Night: Feb 24, 2022

County Fair Building

1199 Ninth Avenue San Francisco, CA



Ticket sales online at:
www.orchidsanfrancisco.org





Food and flowers at the COS 2021 Holiday party



CARMEL ORCHID SOCIETY 2022 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 **\$25** _____
 Couple **\$35** _____
 Vendor **\$35** _____
 Add an additional **\$5** to receive the newsletter via USPS