



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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April 2014

NEXT MEETINGS

April 6, 2:00 First United Methodist Church
**** 1:30 Show Committee Meeting ****

April 26/27 STOS Annual Orchid Show!
May 18, 2:00 First United Methodist Church

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss our April meeting, Pre-Show planning and
**** ORCHID AUCTION !! ****

Come one and all! Please bring your friends!

Meeting NOTES

This meeting will be dedicated to our Annual Orchid Show preparation; our STOS Orchid Show at the Mall on April 26-27 (and set-up on Friday, April 25).

*We will also have an ORCHID AUCTION!! Any orchids purchased at the auction **may be used** for our STOS Display and also entered for judging at our Orchid Show (except for cultural awards)!

EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed. Contributions must be submitted by the 5th day of each month to the editor.

If you have difficulties with the electronic format of this newsletter, please contact the webmaster at:
southerntierorchidsociety@gmail.com

We then moved to the regular location for our scheduled meeting, at which time our President called the meeting to order and asked for acceptance and approval of last month's meeting minutes. When the minutes were accepted and seconded, Linda moved forward. According to Jane Trey, Treasurer, we have \$7,234.00 in the bank. We were reminded that our April meeting will be held on Sunday, the 6th of April instead of the third Sunday of the month, due to our Show on the 26th and 27th of April. Reminder: Plant re-potting at May meeting.

Anne Tinker, our Program Chair Person for the Show, informed the general membership of the details discussed at our committee meeting, earlier in the day. Members were asked to consider providing overnight accommodations to those vendors in need of lodging. Please help if you can.

Louis Matienzo gave the membership helpful details for those who would be willing to help with our display at the Mall site. Several people can work together. A desire to be of assistance is needed. We can, indeed, with a meeting of willing minds (and hands), put a display together that we can be proud of. Please help! Volunteers are needed to work together!

At the conclusion of old business, we took a break to sell tickets for the raffle while refreshments, supplied by our members, were enjoyed. While we partook of "goodies", the members who brought their orchids for the "visual consumption" of other members had the floor. They were: John Zygmunt, Jane Trey, Linda Mandeville and Greta DeRocher.

Lastly, Peter O'Connell, provided members with a delightfully informative screen presentation. Graham, of "Lehua Orchids" in Hawaii narrated and walked us through his Orchid Nursery. His love of orchids was evident in his caring and sometimes, "orchid-type" sensuality. While always a gentleman, our presenter, made us laugh while describing, sometimes poetically, the gallant efforts of...trying to change the genetics of a species....which sometimes provides interesting results. While touring the "maternity ward", we learned that once a seed strives for fruition, nine months pass and then it takes about two years for his babies to make their way to be ready for sale.

We heard the "Story of Bulldog Paphs"....complex red, and so named for Winston Churchill. Also available in red, yellow and green, white. In trying to perfect the paphs, round... became its' shape (with a miniscule stem), when in fact, the 12 to 15 generations of breeding failed to produce a "big, tall, thick stem". Moral of the story: "Mother Nature is a hard task master"!

The formula for growing the above mentioned beauties is four parts bark to one part perlite....and his secret is water, water and water! They need loose debris in pots and lots of fresh air circulating. Our nursery speaker said mealy bugs are also a problem, and when attacking fungal problems, keep the air moving. Many times fungicide is in order. Graham also noted that the best way to assure a red paph is to buy one in bud or flower! (It will take about 6 years from fertilization to flower"!)

The owner of the Lehua Orchids ended our tour with a note: Winston Churchill is in its 7th generation.....and STILL breeding!

With our thanks to Peter O'Connell, we ended our meeting of March 16th around 3:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Browne

