



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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Carol Bayles

Web Page

<http://www.storchidsociety.com/>

October 2019

NEXT MEETINGS:

October 20, 2:00 First United Methodist Church
(*Note: Board Meeting immediately following regular meeting!)

November 17, 2:00 First United Methodist Church

IN THIS ISSUE

- Don't miss our October 20th meeting - Luis Matienzo will be speaking on the *Art and Craft of Orchid Growing!*

Meeting NOTES

Meeting location: October 20th, we will meet upstairs in the First United Methodist Church:

[First United Methodist Church](#)

53 McKinley Ave.
Endicott, NY 13760

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

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Minutes-September Meeting

Ben Cabot, STOS President, called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made and accepted to approve the May 2019 Meeting Minutes

New Business:

- Ben Cabot thanked Anne (and John) Quain for hosting our Annual Picnic on August 25th! Anne mentioned that we typically hold the picnic on the last Sunday in August, but she would be willing to move it to another date, if it would be more convenient for members. Many people take vacation the end of August. Something to keep in mind...
- Ben stated that the STOS By-Laws were sent out with the September Newsletter. He intended to send out an updated copy of the By-Laws, but this was the original By-Laws, and did not include the updates. He will send the updated copy with the October Newsletter.
- Ben suggested that the club perhaps should consider a possible bus trip to the New York City Botanical Gardens in the spring; we can look into it, if members voice an interest.
- Ben stated that he received an email from Carol Bayles (who was unable to attend the meeting today); Carol asked members their thoughts on holding our STOS Orchid Show at the Roberson again next spring, and consider it being an AOS judged show this time; Carol has offered to act as Show Chair again. Anne mentioned that a minimum of three judges are required for an AOS-sanctioned show.
- Glen Decker of Piping Rock Orchids will be our speaker for November!
- Bernice Magee brought in copies of the AOS magazine, and are available for members to check-out, along with any other books/magazines from our library.
- Central New York Orchid Society (CNYOS) Show will be held the weekend of October 5-6, with setup on Friday, October 4th. Jane Trey has graciously offered to do the setup on Friday, but will need plants from members to use for the display. An email will be sent out to member to coordinate plant drop-off/pick up arrangements. *NOTE: Plants purchased at today's auction are eligible (and encouraged!) to be used for our display!
- At next month's meeting (October), we will need a nominating committee for our 2019 elections. The offices are: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Board Representative.

Old Business: None

Show Table:

- There was no Show table this month, due to the auction being held.

Refreshments:

- We then we broke for some delicious, light refreshments

Auction:

- After a short refreshment break, we conducted our September Auction. Pete O'Connell did a great job in providing us with some beautiful orchids for auction. Jane Trey spent a great deal of his time and effort keeping them healthy, and getting them ready for sale. Luis Matienzo and his assistant, Lisa Letcher did a fabulous job as auctioneer(s)!! A big "thank you" goes out to Peter, Jane, Luis, and Lisa for all their hard work in making the auction such a great success! Every plant was sold!! ☺ Most members went home with at least one nice orchid to add to their collection!

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Mandeville, Secretary

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CNYOS Orchid Show -- Feedback

A very special thanks goes out to Jane Trey, Carol Bayles, and Dominick Ponzi who did a fantastic job setting up our STOS Display at the Central New York Orchid Society (CNYOS) show the weekend of October 4-6! According to Jane, our club was awarded several ribbons, many of them 1st place ribbons. Two of the plants from our auction even won a Special Award rosette ribbon!

We had more than 20 plants from Luis, Grant, Colin, Geoff, Carol, Bernice, Lori and Jane. Grant Lindhorst, being our "inside man" at Ye Olde Country Florist, graciously supplied us with "filler plants" and moss, which gave our display that final, special touch!!

Grant Lindhorst and Dominick Ponzi generously offered to take care of teardown on Sunday. We truly appreciate all those who helped make our STOS Display a great success!

**STOS Display at CNYOS - 10/5/19-10/6/19**



STOS Display with Awards at CNYOS - 10/5/19-10/6/19

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THE ART AND CRAFT OF ORCHID GROWING

The distribution of orchids is quite extensive and varies throughout the world; however, little is known of those orchids that are not frequently seen because they may not have immediate commercial value. Orchids as plants are easily recognized by some specific characteristics, but some exceptions to these rules exist. Orchid fascination is not a new phenomenon and many legends and folk tales are known from different parts of the world. As the knowledge of nature developed through the centuries, classification methods for living organisms have also evolved from cumbersome formats to more accurate descriptions. These approaches are illustrated with some time-lines along with the use of current schemes to name and classify plants. This presentation will also try to explain why certain types of orchids exist in some areas of the world and the environmental factors leading to these results. Because many hybrids and species are known in our current population of orchids, examples of hybridization will also be presented to provide the audience with a flavor of time required for hybrid production. Finally, a series of orchid habitats, lesser known orchid species, and the future of orchids and orchid collecting will close this discussion.

Luis J. Matienzo, Ph.D. has been involved with orchids as a hobby for the past 43 years and has served in many positions in the Southern Tier Orchid Society of New York and he is a virtual member of the Peruvian Orchid Club. As an avid orchid grower, he has special interest in orchid species, miniatures and lady slipper orchids and he raises many plants under lights. He has visited and photographed orchids in their natural habitats in North

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Cattleya

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.



October 2019

Dendrobium

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

Rhynchostele bicktoniensis

Both *Rhynchostele bicktoniensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchostele bicktoniensis*, formerly known as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: *sulphureum* (green with white lip), *album* (brown with white lip) and *roseum* (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in *Odcdm*. *Bittersweet* and *Odm. bicross*) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for *odontoglossum* beginners and advanced alike.

Paphiopedilum

Standard, green-leaved *paphiopedilums* begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

Phalaenopsis

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.



Rossioglossum grande shows off its large, dramatic flowers.

Rossioglossum grande

Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

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Upcoming Meetings

October 20 ~ Luis Matienzo
November 17 ~ Glen Decker

December 15 ~ Holiday Party
January 19 ~ TBA

Please remember that these are tentative and subject to last minute change.

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