

Southern Tier Orchid Society

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Show Chair 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 <u>upstairs</u> 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 5^{th} 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

October 2019

President Message

Happiness is a blooming Orchid,

The best day is when the beauty of blooms are happening.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nRd9NgUfb_4 < a great video for beginners tips for orchid growing.

From the Internet; In ancient Greece, **orchids** were associated with virility and male fertility, the belief being that if women ate **orchid** flowers, they would bear a son to continue the family

tradition. The Aztecs were known to drink a mixture of vanilla **orchid** flowers and chocolate to give them strength.

Photo below is from the September 2019 Auction



The September Auction was a great success and 76 homeless orchids were rescued. Great ordering by Pete O'Connell, with orchids also donated by Luis Matienzo. And an entertaining auction by Luis.

At 2PM Sunday, October 20th

Endicott, NY.

meeting

It will be in the regular upstairs room. Enter from the McKinley Ave door. First United

A board meeting will be held after the regular

Methodist Church, 53 McKinley Ave,

In the last newsletter I sent the wrong file relating to the updated bylaws. With this newsletter is the current one the board hammered out at the March board meeting. My apologies. We can discuss it at the October meeting and the approval process.

Financial changes. Our previous bank account at M&T bank was charging us \$4.00 per month service fee. We have changed to Empower Federal Credit Union which has no monthly fees.

Because of our account balance we are actually making \$4.00 +/- in interest per month. Zach Majka said, that anyone that is a member of our organization, they too can become credit union members. Credit unions usually provide better rates and convenience. Information included.

The current officer terms are up in December, and opportunities are available for new people to take over. I have taken on responsibilities as a trustee for the Johnson City Elks lodge, and must trim my time in other things. The STOS organization shares the love of orchids and that kind of love last forever. No matter the random timing of blooms.

Looking forward to an enlightening presentation at our October meeting by our resident expert Luis.



May the best be yours Every day. Ben Cabot



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!

Meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Linda Mandeville, Secretary

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

October 2019



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

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

and South America and has presented lectures to orchid societies and other organizations in the U.S. and overseas.

Monthly Checklist for September and October

Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

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.

This is the month for purples derived from Cattleya labiata breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

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.

Cycnoches

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.

Cymbidium

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.



Dendrobium Burana Stripe is a popular and easy phalaenopsis-type hybrid.

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 bictoniensis

Both Rhynchostele bictoniensis and its hybrids bloom in this season. Rhynchostele bictoniensis, 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.



Upcoming Meetings

October 20 ~ Luis Matienzo November 17 ~ Glen Decker December 15 ~ Holiday Party January 19 ~ TBA

<u>Please remember that these are tentative and subject to last minute change.</u>