



Southern Tier Orchid Society

MAY 2006

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President's Message

Our most recent show was a success and I would like to personally thank the show committee and all of those that lent a hand to set up some superb exhibits. Many members of the club were willing to work as volunteers in spite of sudden and challenging assignments. It is pleasure to see and get collaboration to make a group effort shine as it did. Without a doubt, I can venture to say that this help will be present in other functions we do and your valuable volunteering time is always highly appreciated. I am also glad to inform that we have incorporated some new members into our organization and the next meeting is dedicated to all of you.

On May 21, our meeting will focus on handling seedlings and other orchid plants. The seedlings will be separated from compots (community pots) and repotted into fine bark medium provided by the club.

We will also demonstrate the division of large plants that some members have graciously donated for this occasion. Since many growers are fascinated with plants and seedlings mounted on driftwood branches, tree fern plaques and pieces of cork, we will also demonstrate these techniques. If your larger plants need to be divided and repotted, please bring an appropriate pot or pots and growing medium (medium size orchid bark, preferably, pre-soaked). A member of our organization will be selling potting media and supplies during this hands-on demonstration so you can repot your plant or division. We advise you to bring a container to pre-soak your medium -- better for your repotted orchids. If you prefer, you can purchase your own supplies from a garden center and bring them to the meeting for your use.

A group of experienced growers will be available to show you the steps on orchid repotting. We look forward to seeing you there.

Luis J. Matienzo, STOS President

April Meeting Minutes

Southern Tier Orchid Society of New York
Sunday, April 9, 2006

Meeting was opened by President Luis Matienzo.

March Minutes were read by Secretary, LuAnn Myers.

Treasurer Peter O'Connell gave his report. He had received the insurance certificate for the Show. Also that STOS had been in 1992 incorporated as a non-profit organization.

If anyone does not want their name, phone #, address, or e-mail address on the member list, which will be available to members only, please contact Vice President Anne Tinker at (607) 797-1383 or:
Atinker@cortlandhospital.org.

Show Chair, Paula Matienzo gave her report. Last minute details were discussed such as the theme for our exhibit which was suggested by Dick Lambertson, deadline to Geoff Gould for artwork, and deadline for plants, Friday's lunch, Judge's dinner, and schedules for helpers.

If you would like to volunteer for refreshments for May's or September's meetings please contact Newsletter Editor, Roxanne Shank at (607)786-9409 or:
gentlelake@juno.com.

Meeting was adjourned.

We broke for refreshments and raffle.

The following presentations were given: by Luis Matienzo "What goes on at the Show", by Peter O'Connell "How to manage the

Data for the Show" and by Bob Rudin "How to groom your plants for the Show". They were very informative and should be mentioned in a newsletter preceding next years Show.

Secretary, LuAnn Myers

STOS Treasurer's Report

April 9, 2006

By: Peter O'Connell

Current Balances are as shown below. Total Funds available are \$4,488.77.

Income in the last month included \$.09 in interest, \$25 in raffle proceeds, and \$250 in vendor table receipts for the show. Expenses were a speaker's fee of \$200, Newsletter postage of \$7.80, Newsletter printing of \$32.81, plant donation to Sister Cities program of \$15, Show ribbons of \$243.65, Show poster printing of \$9.05, Show supplies of \$3.20, and Wildcatt update of \$34.95.

Regarding the motions accepted in February:

Open a one year CD fro not less than 3% APR for an amount of \$2,000 from Money Market Funds. This has not been completed due to change in Mall leadership and my need for assurance that the \$2,000 would be coming in for the show. Now confirmed, so will purchase this month. Rates have gone to 4.5% + so should be better. Still awaiting Mall donation.

Close Money Market account. Tied with above.

March Show Table

Due to an error, the March Show table listing was omitted from last month's Newsletter. It follows here.

We've been most fortunate to have Iris Cohen of the CNYOS offer to review, update and correct the names of the orchids on our show table according to current taxonomic nomenclature.

If you display a plant at one of our meetings, please check the following newsletter and note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or complete your records, including parentage and new registrations.

Members are encouraged to put the parentage & registered names on their label & the show table report, so they don't have to be looked up again.

Additional notes provided by Iris on plants marked with an asterisk follow the listing. Many thanks to Iris for providing this valuable service.

Please note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface and correct or complete your records, including parentage and new registrations.

DAVE CLEMENS

Lc. Fire Dance (*C. aurantiaca* x *Lc. Fire Island*)
C. intermedia
Den. aphyllum Dendrobium
Den. Montrose (Ainsworthii x Thwaitesii) "
Paph. Saeftinge
 (Greenstede x Winston Churchill) Cyp.

LUIS MATIENZO

Sns. Fragrans Vandaceous
Asctm. Ampullaceum "
Phal. Memoria Audrey Meldman
 (Black Lion x Brother Precious Stones) "
Den. Maiden Charlotte
 (*rhodostictum* x *aberrans*) Dendrobium
Den. Peng Seng (*cruentum* x *tobaense*) "

CHARLES UFFORD

Paph. hirsutissimum 2 plants Cyp.
Phrag. Ecu-Bess (*ecuadorensis* x *besseae*) "

JOHN ZYGMUNT

V. Unknown Vandaceous
Ascda. Tubtim Velvet
 (Jenny Donald x *V. Kultana Gold*) "
Masd. l rinces ('Select' x 'Makawao') Pleurothallid
 Iris Cohen

April Show Table

(Editors' note: In the shuffle of rearranging furniture so that I could have ceilings replaced in my home, I inadvertently forgot to send the April show table list to Iris for updates and corrections. The list that appears below is as the plant owners recorded them. If there are any updates or corrections, I'll publish them in the next Newsletter. R.S.)

DAVE CLEMENS

C. skinneri
Leptodes bicolor

GEN DOWNS

Onc. Aloha Iganawa 'Canary'

CHRISTINE GUIDELLI

Den. Green Lantern
Phal. Hybrid
Den. hybrid

ROXANNE SHANK

Phal. Gallant Beau
Lc. Rojo
Odcdm. Eildcat
Cym. Tiny Tiger "Jeanne" X *Cym. pumilum*

SUSAN & TIBOR UJSZASZI

Den. Oriental Smile
Onc. Orchid Dancer
Slc. Wendy's Valentine Jane

2006 STOS Orchid Show Notes

Each year when the STOS hosts our annual Orchid Show, the event is graced by a virtual rainbow of exquisite orchids in bloom, and this year was no exception. Even amid the splendor, though, there are some orchids that stand out above the rest. Space only permits us to list of the Special Awards and Best in Class granted to truly superior entries, but you can be assured that there were many fine plants were bedecked with ribbons in tribute to their loveliness.

A complete listing of winners and photos of the show can be seen on our website at www.storchidsociety.com.

Phrag. *Inti's Tears v. Nuala* AM/AOS – Paul Sheetz
AOS award – 82 points at show
Best in Group Classes 17 - 26

Lc. *Park Ridge* – Mariane Garceau
Best in Group Classes 6 – 13

Chsch. *lunifera* – Luis Matienzo
Best in Group Classes 57- 65

Phal. Timothy Christopher – Donna Coleman
Best in Group Classes 27 - 39

Den. *chrysotoxum* – Judi Witkiin
Jim Kie Award (Best Grown Under Lights)
Best in Group Classes 40 - 43

Pths. *powellii* – Judi Witkin
Best in Show – Species
Best in Group Classes 51 - 56

Paph. Mem. Albert Eickhoff – Joe Kunish
Best in Show - Hybrid
Best in Group Classes 17 - 26

Tolu. Loveable 'The Hallow' AM/AOS – Joe Kunish
Best Grown Greenhouse Plant
Best in Group Classes 44 - 50
AOS Award – 87 points at show

Cym Tiny Tiger 'Scottsville Spots' – Jim Marlow
Best in Group Classes 14 - 16
AOS Award – 81 points at show

Orchid Display—Central New York Orchid Society
Best Exhibit in Show
AOS Award for Excellent Display

REFLECTIONS ON THE SHOW

APRIL 27-30, 2006

by Paula Matienzo, 2006 Show Chair

Surprise! That's the unavoidable element in putting on a big event like our show, which most of us feel was a great success. When it comes to planning for the STOS exhibit, the greatest uncertainties arise from not really knowing which members will be contributing orchids in flower, how many plants will be brought in, or what size these plants will be. You individual growers face the same uncertainties when deciding which plants to enter: Will Phal. Little Steve 'Brother' AM/AOS, for example, have enough flowers open? Should I bring my phrag on which leaves have been left in shreds by a gourmet feline? Will the single flower on my one and only Drac. Café Mocha drop on its daytime journey to Oakdale Mall? Those of you who entered your treasured orchids in flower, no doubt, have unique stories to tell.

Despite all of these uncertainties, the final combination of ideas, props, and plants became our exhibit, entitled "This or That?" or "That? or This?" (depending on your point of view). From the germ of the idea against the slashing and burning of the rainforest evolved the notion of protection and preservation of these vanishing habitats, and on to general plans for our exhibit. We were striving to provide a contrast -- dark, death and destruction vs. light, vitality, and growth -- with orchids highlighting the latter. It was only through sheer determination of so many of you that our exhibit finally took shape -- and grew, and grew, and grew! By the time you put the finishing touches on the exhibit, it was the only entry in Class 1 (75 square feet or more) in our show's list of exhibit and plant classes. The final size and scope of the exhibit dwarfed the blue ribbon awarded by the judges. A less tangible, but more meaningful tribute, I believe, goes to the tremen-

dous collaborative effort so many of you displayed in the process of creating artistic form from a random assortment of plants, props, and fabric.

Likewise, the exhibit of artwork and photography expanded further than anticipated.

About a week before the show, Geof Gould reported that the 29 entries he had received would be fewer than last year's. By Thursday, the day of setup, the number of entries had grown to 42. You will find the list of awards among these entries on our website: www.storchidsociety.com.

Show activities behind the scenes in the storefront – this year in the former Petite Sophisticate – are not apparent to the public, but crucial to an AOS-sanctioned show like ours. This is the place where your plant entries were entered into the Orchid Show Management System, a recently purchased software program on which a few STOS members were trained in March. How well would the program perform in real time at the show itself when judging forms and awards reports had to be produced very quickly? Was there some little unforeseen quirk in the program that might delay or prevent accomplishing these vital tasks? Although these uncertainties nagged me as we moved forward with show plans, I'm happy to report that this aspect of the show proceeded on schedule and, with minimal complaint, according to our expectations.

Evident to all of us involved in the show and even to many visitors until Saturday morning were the empty tables behind the information table in Center Court. For those of you who may not be aware, these were supposed to have been occupied by Main Street Orchids, a previous participant in our show. But on Thursday morning, owner Michael Kauffman called to inform us that his wife had been hospitalized, and by late Friday she had not

improved enough for him to come here from the Philadelphia area... This was an unfortunate circumstance for both Main Street and STOS, but we have since heard from Michael that he has added our show to his calendar for next year.

In all other aspects of the show for which we could plan, we were very successful. Most impressive of these was the turnout of volunteers who pitched in to help out with virtually all facets of the show in addition to those mentioned above. From setup through judging, then coverage of the information table and interaction with visitors, and the final thrust of activity during teardown and cleanup, your dedication to these tasks was most commendable.

On behalf of our organization, I have already expressed gratitude to Oakdale Mall for their willingness to provide both excellent facilities and support for our annual show again. We have already obtained approval from both Oakdale Mall and AOS's Northeast Judging Center for our **2007 show: April 26-29.**

And on behalf of the Show Committee, it is my privilege to thank each of you for dedicating both time and effort and working together so conscientiously with fellow STOS members in bringing about the success of the show.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

May Meeting

Date: May 21, 2006- 2:00 p.m.

Place: Vestal Public Library

(Continued on next page)

This meeting is our long awaited welcome for new members and annual repotting session. Experienced STOS members will demonstrate techniques for repotting and dividing orchids, as well as potting orchid seedlings. All new and current members are invited to attend. If you have plants that need repotting, see Luis' guidelines in the President's Message on page 1 of this newsletter.

Don't forget to bring your blooming plants for the show table! And since no one has signed up for refreshments for this meeting, contributions from any and all members will be most welcome.

Refreshment Volunteers

Following is the current list of refreshment volunteers. More than one person may sign up for an individual meeting so that the cost and work can be shared among members.

Please note that volunteers are still needed for several upcoming meetings.

No one has signed up to bring refreshments for the May meeting, so we would like to ask all of our established members to contribute a small item for the table to welcome our new members.

May – pot luck

September – *volunteers needed*

October – Pat Cotter & Donna Coleman

November – *volunteers needed*

Please sign up at the next meeting for the open slots and/or to assist those who've already signed up.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Orchid Books Online

4 Species of Cypripedium - Salisbury (10MB)
<http://www.sendspace.com/file/5yioo5>

The Orchid-Grower's Manual - Williams (102MB) <http://www.sendspace.com/file/gbveek>

Cypripedium Selenipedium & Uropedium Monographie - F. Desbois
<http://www.sendspace.com/file/jcmpd4>

Longwood Gardens Exhibit

Longwood Gardens, near Kennett Square, celebrates the orchid by showcasing hundreds of ... orchids...in Longwood's Orchid Room....also...an exhibit of work by botanical artists.

The exhibit, "Orchids in Contemporary Botanical Art" by the American Society of Botanical Artists, features 50 fine works depicting...orchids....The show...runs...through Sunday, May 21.

The international juried exhibit showcases the works of artists from across the United States, as well as Canada, India and South Korea.

There will also be a display of historic documents and memorabilia from the American Orchid Society and Longwood's collection. An album of photos of Longwood's first orchids will also be on display, as well as information on the history and development of the collection.

source:

http://www.poonorecord.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060430/NEWS01/60_4300315

Taiwan to Increase Its Orchid Exports

Taiwan is looking to...increase its orchid exports to the US, Japan and Europe. Overall sendings have already surged by 22% over the last year alone and in 2005 reached a record value of approximately US\$62 million.

However within this there have been highs and lows. For example, sendings to the US jumped by 42% in 2002, from 308,000 tonnes to over 437,000 tonnes, but dipped 6% in 2004. Last year saw recovery reflected in a rise in revenue to a high of US\$9million.

Currently exports to the United States account for 30% of total volumes. Most are first shipped wholesale to a partner nursery where they are grown to maturity and then distributed to the retailer. Taiwan producers are trying to establish a more economically efficient supply chain where the grower has more control. This includes plans to build a number of nurseries in New Jersey for east coast distribution....

Taiwan ranks as a global leader producing 25% of the world harvest. This position is being boosted by Taiwan authorities, which have invested money, land and resources to fuel expansion of the industry.

At present, orchid production in Taiwan spans 460ha. Emphasis is on Phalaenopsis, which represents 90% of both the volume and revenue of orchid exports to the US.

source:

http://www.worldgrower.com/news/news_story.ehtml?o=178

Orchids. . . As a Hobby, Industry

An entire greenhouse at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center... is dedicated to it.

Yin-Tung Wang... is the only faculty in the United States with a dedicated orchid research program...

The world-renowned expert said that the United States Department of Agriculture didn't deem orchids as a viable crop until 1996, when the industry was worth \$47 million. By 2004, the 17.2 million pots grown in the US were valued at \$128 million.

Wang arrived at the center in 1984 and refocused his research in 1990. Commercial growers in the United States were then raising orchids from scratch and selling cut blossoms for corsages or bouquets.

The high costs and the tedious process of growing orchids from the almost microscopic seeds... helped shift the focus to "finishing" plants started abroad....

The U.S. industry now centers on potted orchids, most of them imported from Taiwan, the world's leading supplier. Older plants are closer to blooming and therefore more costly, Wang said....

Wang's research is aimed at and partly funded by commercial growers, such as Matsui Nursery in California, which accounts for 25 to 35 percent of U.S. potted orchids. The Tip of Texas Orchid Society...also donates to the center.

In studying the nutritional needs of orchids, Wang and his students have learned that very little fertilizer applied in a timely manner yields more flowers and more growth..."We use less fertilizer this way and we protect the environment," he said.

source:<http://www.themonitor.com/SiteProcessor.cfm?Template=/GlobalTemplates/Detaiils.cfm&StoryID=12849&Section=Valley%20Life>

