



# Southern Tier Orchid Society

[www.geocities.com/orchidovation](http://www.geocities.com/orchidovation)

NOVEMBER 2005

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## President's Message

Thanks to John Dunkelberger for his talk on cymbidiums, and the very nice plants he had for sale. This month's talk will be on judging criteria. This will give us a good idea for our own show in the spring. Speaking of our show, it's never too early for people to volunteer to help out. Volunteers are needed in all aspects of the club.

Thanks,  
Paul Crumb

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## November Meeting

**Date:** November 20, 2005

**Place:** Vestal Public Library

**Speaker:** John Sullivan

**Topic:** An Overview of the American Orchid Society Judging Program

**Abstract:** This presentation will highlight various major genera as listed in the judging ballot (Cattleya, Dendrobium, Cymbidium, etc.). A slide presentation will be used to discuss what makes a flower awardable according to the AOS judging standards. Examples on awards given to species and also cultural awards will also be illustrated.

All are welcome.

## Central New York Orchid Society Orchid Show



Photo by Dave Clemens

Once again this year, the STOS entered a table at the Central New York Orchid Society Orchid Show on October 21 – 23. Quite a few ribbons were awarded to STOS members. The big news was an AOS award earned by Ken Lattimore's Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice, which won the Andy Myers Memorial Award, First, Best Hybrid and HCC/AOS.

Congratulations to all our members who earned awards and ribbons!

Other STOS winners were:

Wilma Baumgartner	C. Chocolate Drop 'Kodama', AM/AOS	Third
Dave Clemens	B. Aristocrat	Second
	Paph. Pine Glow	Second
	Den. Jaquelyn Thomas x Muang Thai	Second
Genevieve Downs	Masd. Imposter	Third
Ken Lattimore	Phrag. Sorcerer's Apprentice	Andy Myers Mem. Award, Best Hybrid, First, HCC/AOS
Luis Matienzo	Paph. Pacific Magic x Black Stallion	Second
	Phal. Penang Girl	Second
	Brsdm. Kenneth Bivins	First
	Bulb. guttulatum	Second
Pete O'Connell	Hknsa. Koolau Sunset 'Hawaii', AM/AOS	Third
	Lc. Mini Purple x L. Pastoral Symphony	Margery & Fred Ummer Memorial Award, First
	Lc. Mini Purple x L. Pastoral Symphony	First
	Paph. Deperle	Third
	Brs. Eternal Wind 'Summer Dream'	Second
	Z. Alexis Linder	Second
Bob Rudin	Lc. Long John	Second
Roxanne Shank	Lc. Garrett Collins	Third
Charles Ufford	Phal. violacea	First, Best in Section
	Phal. equestris	Third
	Phal. equestris	Second

## October Meeting

The October Southern Tier Orchid Society meeting was held on Sunday, Oct. 16 in the Vestal Library. President Paul Crumb opened the meeting followed by the Treasurer's Report from Ellen O'Malley.

In new business, Newsletter Editor Roxanne Shank requested that all members present update their contact information, and Paula Matienzo, Show Chair, asked for volunteers to help with recordkeeping and registration for the 2006 show in April. Bob Rudin announced the Holiday Party in December, and President Paul Crumb solicited volunteers for a Nominating Committee to select candidates for a new slate of officers to be elected at that meeting.

A silent auction was held with plants left over from the annual auction in September and winners were announced. The regular monthly raffle was also conducted at this time. Members presented their orchids in bloom for the show table (list of plants follows).

After breaking for refreshments, guest speaker, John Dunkelberger, presented a talk and slide show entitled "Cymbidiums - History and Modern Breeding."

### Show Table

Wilma Baumgartner

C. Chocolate Drop 'Kadoma'  
Prostheahen (Eve x chochleata)

Genevieve Downs

Den. Somkiat Blue  
Masd. Imposter

Luis Matienzo

Cyc. Loddigesii  
Enc. Radiate forma Belize  
Phal. Penang Girl

Epi. Lanipes

Brsdm. Kenneth Bivens 'Sta.  
Barbara' AM/AOS  
Paph. Pacific Magic x  
Black Stallion

Pete O'Connell

Lc. Mini Purple 'Blue Hawaii' x  
L. Pastoral Symphony 'Blue'  
Zygo. Lindar 'Dazzler'  
Brassia cavdata  
Brsdm. Langlen  
Hknsa. Koolau Sunset 'Hawaii'

Roxanne Shank

Den. Phalaenopsis hybrid  
Lc. Garrett Collins  
Pot. Hisako Akatsuka 'Volcano  
Queen' x Lc. Mem. Robert  
Strait 'Carmela'

Charles Ufford

Pleurothallis myslax

Sharon Voorhees

Masd. (descoides x ayabacana)

John Zygmunt

C. maximum

### Guest Speaker

We were fortunate to have AOS judge and Cymbidium grower John Dunkelberger as our guest speaker. John has been growing orchids since the 1950s and an AOS judge since the '70s. Visiting us from State College, PA, John considers himself a hobby breeder of orchids, growing and hybridizing Cymbidiums, Zygopetalums and Oncidium alliance.

John presented us with a very informative slide show and talk on Cymbidium culture and breeding and offered a sampling of the hybrids he's developed for sale.

In addition to a handout entitled "Cymbidium Culture and Cultural Calendar" (reprinted with permission below), John furnished us with many valuable tips for successfully growing and flowering Cymbidiums.

Many thanks to John and his wife Shirley for making the trip to visit us.

## *Cymbidium Culture and Cultural Calendar*

Cymbidiums more so than most other orchid genera, are very seasonal in their growth and flowering. Vegetative growth is initiated in late winter or early spring during or slightly after flowering in the Indian species.

Vegetative growth occurs at the same period in the Chinese and Japanese species and their hybrids, however flowering is usually through the summer and fall. During growth these plants should be fertilized regularly with a fertilizer, which will provide high nitrogen levels – 30-10-10. In addition I top dress with one teaspoon of bone meal – analysis 6-12-0 – about three times, for example April 1, May 1, and June 1, in pots six-inch or larger in diameter.

As growth matures in July nitrogen must be reduced and no nitrogen provided after August first. If used in August and September, 0-20-20 will encourage flowering.

Cool nights are essential to flowering the Indian species and hybrids. These plants will tolerate night temperatures as low as 30° F, if they have been kept dry.

In fall and winter I try to maintain temperatures of 55° F to 65° F during the day and temperatures of 40° F to 55° F at night. At these temperatures plants must be kept rather dry. When flower spikes start to elongate and reach four to six inches in length the plants can be moved to normal greenhouse temperatures and water slowly increased. Temperatures over 80°F can cause spikes/bud to abort.

Although the Chinese and Japanese species and their hybrids are late spring and summer bloomers, they also demand a cool dry rest period in the winter. Their fertilizer schedule should be the same as described above.

Another section of Cymbidiums is Australocymbidiums. These include *Cymbidium chloranthum*, *Cymbidium hartianum*, *Cymbidium madidum*, *Cymbidium canaliculatum*, *Cymbidium suave*, and *Cymbidium elongatum*. These are truly tropical and probably grow throughout the year as rainfall permits. They like very high light levels and are seldom seen the northern half of the United States.

	<b>Water</b>	<b>Temperature</b>	<b>Light</b>	<b>Fertilizer</b>
<b>Summer</b>	Do not allow to dry out. Good drainage required.	Less than 90° F if possible. Mist on hot days.	As bright as possible without leaf burn.	30-10-10 before August first. No nitrogen after August first.
<b>Fall</b>	Reduce watering.	Nights down to 32° F.	As bright as possible without leaf burn.	No nitrogen. 0-20-20 OK in September and October.
<b>Winter</b>	Keep relatively dry.	35° to 45° F at night. 40° to 55° F by day.	Phalaenopsis light levels adequate.	None
<b>Spring</b>	Increase water as flower spikes start to elongate.	Increase temperature as flower spikes start to elongate. Avoid temperatures above 80°F	Increase light after flowering.	30-10-10 until July 15.

**DO WE HAVE CURRENT CONTACT INFO ON YOU – NAME(S), HOME ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER, AND E-MAIL ADDRESS?**

Many of you already helped us by providing the above information at the October meeting, and most of you opted to receive the newsletter via e-mail. We thank those of you who made this choice since newsletter distribution via e-mail is both more efficient and cost effective.

If you have not yet provided us with current information on the above, please contact me and let me know whether we may e-mail the newsletter to you. You may send updated to my home address: 1211 Cafferty Hill Road, Endicott, NY, 13760. Or you may call me at home at (607)-754-5702, or e-mail me -- pmatienzo@stny.rr.com.

Thanks for your cooperation.  
Paula Matienzo

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**2006 ANNUAL SHOW - APRIL 28-30,  
OAKDALE MALL  
COMPUTER HELP NEEDED WITH  
PLANT REGISTRATION AND  
JUDGING DOCUMENTATION**

If you have attended our annual show in April and/or others away from our area, you may have wondered how judges decide what plants get what ribbons and on what criteria prestigious AOS awards are made. John Sullivan, guest speaker at our meeting this month, will discuss several examples of criteria used by AOS judges in making awards. We're hoping that John's presentation piques your interest enough to want to learn more about orchids as show entries and how they are classified in preparation for the judging process.

The 2006 Show Committee is requesting the help of those members who have an interest in gaining more detailed knowledge about the process of judging and awards and who have some familiar-

ity with computers. We are greatly in need of volunteers to participate in the recordkeeping process of the show, from preregistration of plant entries, to forms needed during judging, to final lists and tabulations of award. Those who have familiarity with creating documents on computers would be a genuine asset in planning for the show.

Please see me or Luis at the meeting on Nov. 20, call me at home at (607)-754-5702 or send e-mail to pmatienzo@stny.rr.com to help us organize this portion of the show early in advance.

Thanks for your assistance.

Paula Matienzo, 2006 Show Chair

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**December Meeting**

Our December meeting, scheduled for December 18, is the annual holiday party. The party will once again be potluck style, with members asked to bring a dish to share.

Annual election of officers will also be conducted at this meeting.

Also, as per our new bylaws, STOS dues are payable at the meeting in December. Delinquent memberships will have no vote in membership decisions. Memberships delinquent after May 1 will be dropped from the rolls, including newsletter and other mailings, until full annual membership is paid.

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**Many Thanks . . .**

To John Zygmunt for designing the letterhead used for recent issues of the newsletter.

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**Refreshments, anyone?**

We need volunteers to provide refreshments for upcoming meetings. Please consider signing up at any meeting to bring snacks for future gatherings. Thanks!

