



Southern Tier Orchid Society

FEBRUARY 2007

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In spite the cancellation of our regular meeting this past month, quite a few members brought in plants for the show table. A discussion of these plants preceded an important meeting of the Show Committee. As in previous years, we hope that you will offer your help to the enthusiastic and hard-working group of people. Your participation will ensure that this venue will again be very successful. We encourage you to get involved and to learn about the aspects of the show by joining us at our next committee meeting an hour before the general meeting on February 18.

For many years, STOS has maintained a monthly publication with information relevant to our hobby and other activities. This effort was carried out mainly by the usual means of communication -- i.e., printed and mailed copies. However, in the past year, our effort has concentrated in making this publication more accessible through the use of electronic communication. As a matter of fact, the majority of our current newsletters are delivered electronically now. Perhaps in the future, this will be the only means of delivery since the next generation of hobbyists has grown with personal computers and these facilities were unavailable during our college days.

I want to offer a sincere thanks to Roxanne Shank who has served as our previous newsletter editor and has helped to have a well-organized publication in spite of other personal commitments. Roxanne will continue contributing to the newsletter and she will

serve as a backup to our new editor, Genevieve Downs.

The personal computer and the Internet have influenced information gathering in a variety of fields, including those related to orchids. It was not long ago that the only way to document the name of an orchid hybrid was through the use of Sander's List of Registered Hybrids after spending some time with several of these volumes. In contrast, this information can be obtained now in a matter of seconds by electronic means. These new resources do not require the purchase of a personal computer since many places -- among those, local libraries like Vestal- allow the use of this equipment free of charge to their patrons.

This month's presentation will feature some members of STOS illustrating the power of the computer and the Internet. First, John Zygmunt will demonstrate the uses of a new software program called Orchid Wiz[®] that provides you with the provenance on orchid hybrids, images and also information on the original species used to make these plants. Second, Son Tran and yours truly will discuss the layout of our website, its links, and approaches to get some desired information in a matter of seconds. We will illustrate this with some examples in real time and you will see how we work with local and distant sources without physically visiting them. We hope the presentations we are featuring will serve as a motivator for you to try to use this new medium in the near future. Remember that computers only know yes and no answers. In reality, we make them seek what we hope to find.

Luis J. Matienzo, STOS President

SHOW COMMITTEE NEWS

**NEXT MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18 – 1 P.M.
SMALL MEETING ROOM, VESTAL LIBRARY**

REMINDER OF SHOW DATES AT OAKDALE MALL

**SETUP: THURSDAY, APRIL 26, JUDGING: FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 10:30 A.M.
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: FRIDAY, APRIL 27, AT 4 P.M. THRU SUNDAY, APRIL 29, 5 P.M.
WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

UPDATES

Since the last Show Committee meeting on January 21, contracts have been mailed to the same five orchid vendors who were invited to last year's show: Black Meadow Orchids, Bloomfield Orchids, JustPat Orchids, Main Street Orchids, and Marlow Orchids. I had already heard via e-mail from three of these vendors that they plan to participate and am hopeful that the other two are still willing, but we won't know for certain until February 28, the due date for contracts and registration fees to be returned to me.

As for other vendors, both Floral Images by Pat Bonamo and KMB Orchids, both of whom participated in last year's show, have given us the nod for this year. Contracts to them and Gentle Lake, who we hope will have orchid prints for sale, have been sent. The deadline for return of contracts and registration fees are the same date requested of orchid vendors.

With the help of Dave Clemens, invitations have been sent out to AOS judges.

MEETING AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY 18 – ALL WELCOME TO ATTEND

The Show Committee is always willing to have new people participate. Even if you are

not sure in what aspect of the show you would like to be involved, you are welcome to come and just listen to our discussion.

The following topics will be the main focus of this meeting:

The STOS exhibit or exhibits?
What will the emphasis or theme be?
Who will join a group to plan the exhibit?
Hospitality for the judges
Accommodations
The Judges' Luncheon
The Judges' Dinner

If there are other topics you wish to add to the agenda, please let me know by e-mail pmatienzo@stny.rr.com or phone: (607)-754-5702. Looking forward to seeing you then.

Paula Matienzo, 2007 Show Chair

JANUARY MINUTES

January general meeting was cancelled due to unavailability of large meeting room at library. An executive meeting was held followed by a Show Committee meeting.

President Luis Matienzo called Executive Meeting to order. Treasurer Peter O'Connell gave year-end treasurer report. Request was made to make report as of 1st of every month for ease of year-end totals. Motion to accept the year-end report and change of report date was made and carried. It was suggested having Luis initial checks for P. O'Connell.

Luis Matienzo suggested changes to our by laws.

Article 1 should be changed to incorporated society as Not for Profit. Ann Tinker will get list of paid members by April 1st and list in newsletter. Add Programs Committee as official committee. Article 10 misspelled. It

was suggested calling non-attending board member to see if she was still interested in participating. Luis will call.

LuAnne Myers will add plant list on Club's PC to ease newsletter work. It was also suggested to bring digital cameras to meetings to take unofficial pictures of plants to add to our newsletter.

All motions carried and changes in by laws will be sent to Peter O'Connell who has original.

The Show Committee meeting was opened by Paula Matienzo with discussion of contract for vendors. Contract needs to be signed and sent back with fee by February 28, 2007. Changes in contract voted and accepted.

Dave Clemens will contact judges with invitations. Help is needed with show; please contact Paula at home by phone (607-754-5702) or by e-mail pmatienzo@stny.rr.com for any one wishing to assist.

Meeting was adjourned.

Flowering plants discussed.

Next meeting will be February 18 at 1pm

Secretary, Genevieve Downs

TREASURER'S REPORT

Current balances are as shown below. Total funds available at **year-end** are \$4194.27, plus 07 dues of \$240, plus a CD of \$2000 for a total of **\$6434.27**. This compares favorably with last year's ending total balance of **\$5889.60**.

The budget income exceeded expenses by \$504.67 and exceeded expected cash balances by \$2135.67, mostly due to a lower cost for the STOS laptop than expected.

Treasurer's reporting periods will be each first day of each month to finish with a yearly report of December 31.

The books have been closed out at the end of the year and the final year-end figures are available. A proposed balanced budget for 2007 was approved.

A REQUEST

If you have been a member of STOS or want to join our organization, it is time to pay for your dues for the present year. You can do so by either using our standard form (see website) or by bringing payment to our next meeting. This is the only way we can continue offering exciting programs, some hands-on sessions, paying for our Website and offering you timely newsletters. STOS annual memberships are \$15 per individual or household, for which we ask you to complete our form to update our membership and mailing lists for the newsletter. Payments are accepted as check or money order (made payable to: Southern Tier Orchid Society). Please send your payment to:

Pete O'Connell, STOS Treasurer, 3718 West Road Cortland, NY 13045 or Anne Tinker, STOS Vice-President, 163 Crary Avenue, Binghamton, NY 13905.

Please indicate if you would like to receive the newsletter as an electronic document or via mail. Forms are available at our website.

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.

Current refreshments list includes:

February – Susan Gal
March – Martha Birch

April- Open
May - Open

JANUARY SHOW TABLE

Onc. *nanum*
Paph. *concolor*
Paph. Lunacy "Moon Dance" AM/AOS
Paph. Honey Plume "Halo" AM/AOS
Paph. (Hampshire Gem x Hellas)
Paph. (White Knight x Saint Ouens Bay)
Paph. Strawberry Fields
Grown by L. Matienzo

Phal. (Brother Pepride x Brother Sara Gold)
Grown by L. Myers

Vanda hybrid (unknown)
Paph. Faire-Maud
Paph. Rosy Dawn
Paph. (White King x Saint Ouens Bay)
Masd. Pixie Shadow
Dtps. Taisuco Valentine x self
Den. Somkiat Blue
Grown by G. Downs

Masd. Geneva Spots
Grown by J. Zygmunt

Blc. Hybrid (unknown)
Grown by L. Richards

EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed, however, in order to meet publication deadlines, articles must be submitted by the first day of each month.

