



Southern Tier Orchid Society

Board of Directors

President

Anne Tinker
607-797-1383
atinker at cortlandhospital dot org

Vice President

- vacant

Treasurer

Peter O'Connell
607-423-1202
pete_oconnell at pall dot com

Secretary

Carol Browne
607/724-8015
cbrowne at stny.rr dot com

AOS Representative

Pete O'Connell
607-423-1202
pete_oconnell at pall dot com

Members-at-large

Bob Rudin - 12/10
607-748-6036
rrudin at stny.rr dot com

Bob Howe - 12/11

607-729-2852
bob1howe at verizon dot net

John Zygmunt - 12/12

607-798-1861
ziggy798 at msn dot com

Immediate Past President

Luis Matienzo
lmatienzo at stny.rr dot com

Newsletter & Membership

Dee Janis
607-372-2024
deejanis at yahoo dot com

Show Chairs

Anne Tinker
Lin Richards

Web Page

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

November 2010

NEXT MEETINGS

November 21, 2010 ~ 2:00 Vestal Library

December 19, 2010 ~ 2:00 Vestal Library

IN THIS ISSUE

- What in the World is S/H?
- Auction Report

PROGRAM NOTE

Paul Sheetz has been growing orchids for over 30 years. He bought his first white cattleya at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 1976. Paul has been active in local orchid societies for the past 25 years and is currently Vice President of the Greater Philadelphia Orchid Society.

Paul is an accredited American Orchid Society judge and chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Region and is also active in show table judging for several local orchid societies.

Paul is the owner of JustPat Orchids and has been exhibiting at orchid shows for the last 25 years and has been an orchid vendor at the Philadelphia Flower Show since 1996. He recently moved from Philadelphia to Honey Brook, PA (45 miles west) and built a new 30' x 48' greenhouse (which is now full in less than five years!).

www.justpatorchids.com is in development.

Paul Sheetz / JustPat Orchids

1260 N Manor Rd (Route 82)

Honey Brook, PA 19344

610-942-0981

Topic: Zygo... What?

We will explore *Zygopetalum* species & hybrids, as well as, hybrids made with *Zygosepalum*, *Promeneia*, *Aganisia*, *Neogardneria*, *Mendocella*, *Pescatorea*...etc

EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed. Contributions must be submitted by the 25th 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

~ * ~ *

President's Message

Sadly, this past month, our club lost a long time member and supporter of our club - Carol Clemens. Carol was a lovely person and will be missed by all. Our heartfelt sympathy goes out to Dave Clemens and his family.

This month, we are looking forward to having Paul Sheetz with us to give a presentation on Zygodilums and related species. Paul has been growing orchids for over 30 years. He bought his first white cattleya at the Philadelphia Flower Show in 1976. Paul has been active in local orchid societies for the past 25 years and is currently Vice President of the Greater Philadelphia Orchid Society.

Paul is an accredited American Orchid Society judge and chairman of the Mid-Atlantic Region and is also active in show table judging for several local orchid societies. He is one of our judges for our Southern Tier Orchid Society show each year, so many of you may have met him.

Paul is the owner of JustPat Orchids and has been exhibiting at orchid shows for the last 25 years and has been an orchid vendor at the Philadelphia Flower Show since 1996. He recently moved from Philadelphia to Honey Brook, PA (45 miles west) and built a new 30' x 48' greenhouse (which is now full in less than five years!).

Paul will be bringing plants to sell so please come, learn about Zygos and pick up some beautiful plants for your collections!

Anne Tinker, President

~ * ~ *

Minutes

The October meeting of the Southern Tier Orchid Society was held on Sunday, the 17th. Our president, Anne Tinker, called the meeting to order at 2:10pm. Peter O'Connell was not able to be present so Anne gave us his Treasurer's Report. A Board Meeting was held prior to today's STOS meeting and several topics were discussed.

It was mentioned that those of us who live in Broome County may want to get in touch with our county representatives because funding for the library system is in question. Colin is willing to be our librarian. We still need help with our newsletter. It was suggested that a group of people may want to act as a team to get things moving. A statement was made that we are "only as good as our members make it".

It was noted that a wealth of information is available in our previous AOS Orchid bulletins. Suggestions were made about indexing actions and keeping a yearly index on hand.

We still need another Show Chair. We need a nominating committee for next year's officers. Paula Matienzo, Pat LaPierre and Jo Shalkey volunteered to work on it. We also need a way for our members to know the names of people they see at our meetings. This needs to be accomplished without compromising the privacy (i.e. members phone numbers and personal information) of our members.

It was suggested that Harry O'Connell be given life membership The body of members agreed on the proposal. Dave and Carol Clemens were also suggested for the same benefit. Membership agreed. (Editor's note: Unfortunately, Carol Clemens passed away on October 19, 2010. Her obituary is elsewhere in the newsletter.)

Our Annual Orchid Show will be in May 2011, due to Oakdale Mall's scheduling issues. The question was asked if we wanted a meeting during that month. A suggestion was made by Luis that perhaps a June meeting with a re-potting session might be in order. Times, dates and possibility of a Saturday might be

on the horizon. Several members offered the possibility of using their home(s) for the meeting. It was decided that we would, indeed, work on a June meeting, in lieu of two (2) orchid oriented events for the month of May.

We then proceeded to the Show Table: Anita, Luis John, Betty and Greta showed us their orchid plants and sometimes questions were asked and answered about their beauties.

Colin then sold raffle tickets for the nine plants that were available. We broke for refreshments that were lovingly supplied by our members.

Last, we were treated to a stupendous slide show by our guest speaker. Mr. Ken Hull answered questions about his photos, while mentioning that we have 63 species of wild orchids in New York State. He has photographed 57 of them. Three of the species are also native to Hawaii. His presentation included "asides" of his adventures and problems he encountered while pursuing these treasures. Mr. Hull mentioned that we should NEVER pick wild orchids, for many reasons; one of which is they are so rare and picking may critically damage the plant and we may never be graced with their beauty, again.

Our meeting ended about 4:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Browne, Secretary

~ * ~ *

Treasurer's Report

I apologize for not being at the October Meeting.

Current balances are as shown below. Total funds available are **\$8754.04** plus CD of **\$2290.63**. Last year we had a total balance of **\$9,550.43**, plus CD of **\$2227.12**. The CD renewed in June at 1.188% for 15 months. Interest for the year was \$45.05, for the period was \$63.51.

Income since the September meeting was \$2430 from the Auction, \$7.50 in dues.

Expenses were as detailed below. I purchased the projector approved last year for \$1137.98, accounting for the drop from last year. Without this expense, the checking would have been \$9892.02, which is ahead of last year.

We sold all the plants at the auction. Income from the Auction was \$2430 and expenses were \$995.50.

Overall the Auction went very well. There were lot of great plants and we got through them all in good time. There were 31 people present. We are \$524.44 below where we budgeted in net proceeds, to be expected as we had 60 less plants this year. Thanks to everyone for the great effort, especially the recorders who were right on again this year. There are 5 copies of the results if anyone wants one.

Overall we averaged 58.8% profit over income. We try to make at least 50% (double our expenses).

Pete O'Connell, Treasurer

~ * ~ *

SHOW TABLE SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2010

On this month's show table, we had a lovely display of orchids, thanks to the following growers. Parentage is given based upon information provided by the grower.

John Zygmunt	Paph. Green Horizon
	Brassia Rex 'Pajaro" AM/AOS x Starry Knight 'Highland'

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| | Cattleya maxima
Mtssa. Pelican Lake 'Everglades' |
| Luis Matienzo | Macroclinium aurorae
Paph. sukhakulii
Paph. charlesworthii
Paph. barbigerum
Paph. Barbie Doll |
| Greta De Rocher | Phal. Ignatius
Phrag. Sedenii 'Robb'
Mtdm. Red Brick Road 'Arbec'
Alcra. Pacific Nova 'Butter Buds'
Paph. Saigon Pearl (Ho Chi Minh 'Pink Bubbles' x Avalon Mist 'Sunshine')
Slc Hazel Boyd 'Debbie'
Hksra. Kat Golden Eye (Ctr. Jamaica Red x Slc. Mahalo Jack) |
| Betty Bunnell | Phal. Beauty Sheen 'LinLin'
(per RHS - Dtps. Beauty Sheena)
Bllra. Marfitch 'Howard's Dream' AM/AOS
Paph. Avalon Love Stone (Stone Lovely 'Butter Puff' x Avalon Mist 'Sunshine') |
| Pat Lapierre | Haraella odorata |

~ * ~ *

What in the World is S/H?

Semi-Hydroponics (S/H)

I've been experimenting with semi-hydroponics for about a year now and have had quite good luck with most kinds of orchids. Cattleyas particularly seem to like this form of culture, especially in hot weather. The more consistent moisture seems to allow them to survive the summers in much better shape than those grown in other media. Phals also seem to appreciate the medium, although to a lesser extent, but still better than most others. This technique was originated by Ray Barkalow, {www.firststrays.com/} who maintains a wonderful website with a great deal of information on both orchid culture in general and S/H.

Semi-hydroponics is the use of a porous medium in a pot with a reservoir of water at the bottom of the pot which wicks moisture up through the media allowing for constant moisture as the plant uses up the water. Most pots sold for this culture are plastic with drainage holes approximately one inch or three centimeters up the side of the container. Water is poured into the pot to flush all the media at the time of watering so that there is less chance of mineral buildup. Since the plant has a reservoir to draw from it is necessary to water less often, usually when all the water at the bottom of the pot is gone. Fertilizing is recommended at each watering using approximately one-quarter recommended strength or you can use timed release fertilizer to save time.

The small, short pots have not worked well for me and I don't recommend them. The media stays wet all the time and I found a lot of rot on the roots of plants grown in them. Even with additional holes to reduce the water level failed to dry out the media adequately. Taller pots will dry toward the top and the plant roots will grow down to the bottom. The roots that grow naturally down into the water do not seem to have a problem with being wetter since they will dry out as the water evaporates between waterings.

Repotting is very simple with this method and the plants will come out of the pots without a great deal of trouble. The media is inert so there is no waste of materials that might have started to decompose. All you have to do is pour half the old media into the new, larger pot position the plant and pour in the rest of

Upcoming Meetings

Nov. 21 ~ Paul Sheets, Zygotatum orchids & crosses

December 19 ~ Holiday party

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

~ * ~

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 2011 meetings, so be sure to sign up if you haven't already. Just let Anne Tinkers know if you can help. Her contact info is on the front page.

Current refreshments list includes:

November 21 ~ Donna Coleman & Monica Kot

December 19 ~ Holiday party - Everybody!

~ * ~
~ * ~