



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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Web Page

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

May 2012

NEXT MEETINGS

May 20, 2:00 First United Methodist Church of Endicott

***May 20: Annual Repotting Session!**

****Note:** Show committee mtg @ at 12:45 p.m, prior to our repotting session!

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May Program Note

This month's meeting will be our annual repotting clinic, where members will be demonstrating how to repot, mount and divide orchids of all types!



EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed. Contributions must be submitted by the 5th 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

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President's Message

A very big "Thank you" to each and every one of you who helped out in any way at our annual show!!! Once again, the show was a success because of all of you and your generous contributions of time and effort. Congratulations to everyone who was awarded ribbons on their plants and a special congratulations to Peter for his cultural award.

NOTE: We will be having a show committee meeting at 12:45 p.m., just ahead of our repotting clinic this month. It is important that we have a wrap up meeting to our show this year and also discuss changes that may be needed for our show next year. Please plan on attending this very important meeting if you are interested in helping with our show next year or have feedback on the show this year!

This meeting is our annual repotting clinic, where members will be demonstrating how to repot, mount and divide orchids of all types. There will be pots and planting materials available to purchase, as well as some for demonstration. We will have some young orchids for you to pot and take home. Please bring any plants you may have that you would like to learn how to divide or repot and we can help you.

This will be our last formal meeting before we take a break for the summer so we hope to see everyone at the meeting!

Anne

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Minutes for April 15, 2012

The Southern Tier Orchid Society conducted a Committee Meeting at 1:25 PM. At this time members finalized plans for the show commencing on the weekend of April 20th, 21st and 22nd. John Zygmunt, our Vice President, offered displays he made for the STOS Show for our purview. The 3'x4' displays will be for table top.

Peter O'Connell handed out and explained the fine points of the Exhibitor Map. Gary Stensland will set up our display. Other members offered their time and expertise to photograph the event, collect supplies and set up the tables for the show. Some members will bring orchid-related gifts, of all types, to sell to interested buyers at the show. Plans were discussed related to security in "off hours".

Change of pricing, for yearly STOS membership dues, will be discussed at the meeting following. All members present will vote on the projected price increase.

Bob Howe was instrumental in supplying FREE advertising for our Show from: Thirty Six (36) newspapers and PennySavers across a wide area. He also spoke with six (6) Radio Station representatives and seven (7) Television Station Department Heads. Bob also asked several businesses in our area to display informational flyers for the event. Lowes and Agway were among those that were willing to let us advertise at their stores. The Press & Sun Bulletin will be charging us \$400 for a display ad.

The Committee Meeting concluded their business and we moved to the regular meeting area for our regular monthly meeting.

Anne Tinker, our President called the meeting to order around 2:10 PM.

There is NO empty store space for our use this year. While we are using the central part of the Mall for our show, we will be allowed to use the old bank space across from Ruby Tuesday's for our store front.

We welcomed a new member from the Wyalusing, Pennsylvania area to our membership. Peggy Hufton, we are pleased to count you among our members!

Next month a new member will be taking over as our hospitality coordinator. Bob Howe will be helping Jane Trey adjust to the new responsibility. Our thanks to both Bob and Jane for their past and future generosity, respectively.

We need help with set up from 2:00PM on the Thursday afternoon before the show. Members were asked, once again, to please help.

Peter O'Connell spent some time going over details for registering plants for those members who want to enter their orchids. Luis Matienzo gave us some tips for best ways to "show" our orchids to their advantage. Helpful information followed, with some "hands-on" help.

Discussion with regard to new membership fees was voted on and seconded. The new fee will be a \$20 membership, yearly. People who sign up at the show will be given a discount rate of ONLY \$10 for the rest of the year.

We broke for refreshments and the Show Table. At that time Linda Mandeville and Carol Vargason spoke about their orchids. Questions about where and how they were grown were asked and answered.

The meeting was concluded, after it was mentioned that the next meeting on May 20th will be housed downstairs. Access through the parking lot in the back of the church will be the ONLY way in the building for this meeting. Next meeting will be a re-potting session. Bring in a plant, if you need some help from our "resident experts".

Agenda concluded about 3:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol Browne, Secretary

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Treasurer's Report

There was no treasurer's report this month.

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Show Table

SUNDAY, April 15, 2012

Thanks to all of you who shared your lovely orchids in flower in our exhibit at the show, especially to Linda and Carol, who gave us a preview on our April show table. Because of all of you and Gary Stensland's artistry, the STOS exhibit was granted the Show Trophy by the AOS judges.

Just as in previous years, our show has been a learning experience for me regarding orchid taxonomy. Changes in the names of genera seem to be a bane not only to people like me who are trying to get a grip on what a plant should be called, but also to experienced judges. From now on, I'll refrain from indicating a change in genus name unless something seems to be in error.

Entries in **boldface** indicate corrections to hybrid names found on the RHS International Orchid Hybrid Register website. If you wish to check names yourself, just google **RHS Orchid Hybrid Register**, and follow search instructions. Paula

LINDA MANDEVILLE Oncidium (Onc.) Sharry Baby 'Sweet Fragrance'
 Colmanara (Colm.) Sphacetante x Onc. ornithorhynchum
 (this hybrid not registered with RHS)
 Miltoniopsis (Mltmps.) Kelly 'Bulls Eye'
 Paph. **Lynleigh** Koopowitz (delenatii 'Powder' x
 malipoense 'Raspberry')

CAROL VARGASON Den. Nora Tokunaga
 Phal. *Green Star* not registered with RHS but Phal. **Kung's**
 Green Star is.
 Phal. Daniella not registered with RHS,
 but Phal. **Daniella Ter Loak** is.

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OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST TO ORCHID ENTHUSIASTS

[June 9, 2012](#) -- The Northeastern PA Orchid Society has chartered a bus going to the Shore Orchid Fest at Silva Orchids on June 9, 2012. The cost is \$27.00 per person transportation only. There is no admission to this event. Each person will get a \$5.00 coupon redeemable at any of the vendors. For more information on the Shore Orchid Fest go to <http://www.silvaorchids.com/> . The bus will be leaving from the Pittston PA Park & Lock on Rt. 315. Time to be determined. For further information, please contact Jack Buziuk, 570-824-2961 or email sibion@verizon.net.

A request from STOS members: If you attend any of these shows, talk to vendors and others involved to find out whether they present programs on topics pertaining to orchids. Obtaining business cards from these contacts would be useful for planning our own programs. This is the way we have located many speakers in the past. (Don't forget to take pictures and share them with us in the Newsletter!)

6) The pot you use should have room for 2-years' growth, which you can estimate from the plant size. If the plant has 1" between pseudobulbs, and you have four bulbs with a total length of about 3 inches or so, then a five- or six-inch pot will do. Try not to overpot, as that can sometimes delay the reestablishment of the plant. For monopodial plants, select a pot that is about one- to two inches in diameter smaller than the total leaf span of the plant. (For some reason, overpotting does not appear to be as much of an issue with Semi-Hydroponics, but it still pays to stay within those guidelines.)

7) If you are using a traditional bark-based medium (even if that "bark" is coconut husk chips), place some crockery in the bottom of the pot for drainage. Those shards of the broken flower pot will work great. If you are using sphagnum, that is also a good idea, but if you're going into Semi-Hydroponics, do not add any filler to the bottom of the pot.

8) Presoak your medium. For bark, submerge it in hot water and let it stand overnight. I premoisten moss with hot water, and then wait until it cools before use. Moss must be damp, but not sopping. PrimeAgra gets soaked overnight as well, although hot water is not necessary. In all cases, I add one tablespoon per gallon of Dyna-Gro K-L-N and ten drops of SuperThrive per gallon of the soaking/wetting solution to spur on root growth.

9a) For sympodial plants going into bark, place and tamp down a mound of medium to the side of the pot, so it's deep at the side and shallow toward the middle. Place the "back end" of the plant right up against the side of the pot on top of the medium, with the newest growth toward the center of the pot. Add more medium to the pot, being certain to fill the spaces in-, around- and between the roots, tamping gently as you do. Continue adding medium until the rhizome is sitting right on top of it.

For monopodial plants, center a mound of medium in the pot, making it tall enough that the plant can be placed right on top of it. "Fan" the roots down and around the mound, and add and tamp medium until it's level.

Water the plant thoroughly, and let it drain. If you added stuff like K-L-N to your presoaking solution, use that for this initial watering.

9b) If using sphagnum, I prefer to fill the spaces between- and surround the roots before putting it in the pot, keeping the same up-against-the-wall or centered positioning, as appropriate for the plant. Make the whole "ball" about the size of the pot, and then stuff it in. The moss should be packed firmly enough to provide support, but not so tightly that it restricts air flow to the roots. Assuming you moistened the moss adequately, no "watering-in" is needed.

9c) If you are moving into Semi-Hydroponics, hold the plant in position and pour medium into the pot, shaking it gently to move the particles of the medium in between the roots. Keep adding until full. Fill the pot with water and let it drain, leaving the reservoir full.

10) Place the newly-repotted plant in "mild" conditions - shady, humid, and warm - and do not water it again until you see that the new roots are taking hold. Sometimes it is a good idea to place a plastic bag over the plant and pot to simulate a mini-greenhouse, if you feel that it will be difficult to provide the right conditions otherwise. If you prepared your medium correctly, and the plant is in a proper location, watering should not be needed for a few weeks, by which time your plant should be established and ready to go back to its normal growing conditions. If the medium does dry out in the interim, water sparingly, dampening, but not soaking the medium.

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Upcoming Meetings

May 20 ~ Repotting!

June-August ~ Summer hiatus

September 16 ~ Our Annual Auction!

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

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

Current refreshments list includes:

May 20 ~ We need your help!

July ~ Summer break

June ~ Summer break