



# Southern Tier Orchid Society

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### Show Chair

Anne Tinker

### Web Page

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

## November 2012

### NEXT MEETINGS

**November 18, 2:00** First United Methodist Church  
of Endicott

**December 16, 2:00** First United Methodist Church  
of Endicott

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Don't miss our November meeting! *Orchids as Houseplants* by Luis Matienzo

### NOVEMBER PROGRAM NOTE

**Luis J. Matienzo, Ph.D.** has been involved with orchids as a hobby for the past 35 years and he is the immediate past president of the Southern Tier Orchid Society (STOS) of New York. He is currently member of STOS, virtual member of the Peruvian Orchid Club and the STOS representative to the American Orchid Society. As an avid orchid grower, he has special interest in orchid species, miniatures and lady slipper orchids and he raises many plants under lights. He has visited and photographed orchids in their natural habitats in North and South America and has presented lectures to orchid societies and other organizations in the U.S. and overseas.

In his professional career, Luis holds degrees in chemical engineering and chemistry and has worked for several corporate research centers. He has also served as a visiting professor of graduate studies at several domestic and foreign universities.

### EDITOR'S NOTE

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed. Contributions must be submitted by the 5<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto:southerntierorchidsociety@gmail.com)



Raffle tickets were sold next. We had our drawing. Lucky members went home with a new orchid to add to their collections(s).

Show table was next. The participants were:

- Bob Rudin
- John Zygmunt
- Greta DeRocher
- Carol Vargason
- LuAnn Myers

Mr. Glen Decker, owner of Piping Rock Orchids, Galway, New York was our guest speaker. The director of Orchid Digest Corporation has won numerous AOS awards gave us an a fascinating tour through the jungles of Peru. His "Hike from Hell" presentation was witness to his endurance, stamina and love for his chosen profession. Needless to say, when we speak of the beautiful and sometimes, illusive "Phragmipedium Kovachii" and its Hybrids we will smile and think of Mr. Decker's "great adventure". The beautiful Kovachii was discovered in the mountains of Machu Picchu in Peru in 2001. Located in the northern part of Peru, Machu Picchu was an arduous hike. A purported 45 minute trip took more than 4 1/2 hours.

We learned from our speaker, that seedlings need LOW light. As plants grow, they will need LOTS of light. The average flower of the phrag is 6 1/2 inches; but, he has seen a 9 inch flower on a phrag. Mr. Decker spoke of the costs involved when a new species is discovered, as well as "country to country" legal exporting criteria. We then saw, through the benefit of beautiful video -slide presentation, tips for growing, fertilizing and formulas for healthy mixes for phrags. (Bone Meal promotes healthy root growth). We thanked Mr. Decker for his presentation. Our meeting ended at 4:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Browne, Secretary

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### Treasurer's Report

We presently have a STOS balance of \$9,058.22. Further details will be provided at our November meeting by the Treasurer.

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### Show Table

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2012

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.

#### GRETA DE ROCHER

- 1. Paph. fairrieatum 'Green Giant' x Hilo Jewel #10
- 2. Paph.Makuli-curtisii x Makuli 'Napa Valley' HCC/AOS x sibling

#### LUANN MYERS

- 1. Haraella retrocalla\*

**BOB RUDIN**

- 1. Lc. (Flirtie x Chocolate Drop)

**CAROL VARGASON**

- 1. Paph. Macabre Lady
- 2. Paph. Memoria Richard Allen Davidson
- 3. Bc. (Brassocattleya) Hoku Gem 'Sunspots'

**JOHN ZYGMUNT**

- 1. Pot. Hawaiian Charisma 'Hawaii'
- 2. **C. Christian Starr** -- hybrid registered with RHS Orchid Hybrid Registry from this parentage:  
C. Caudebec x C. Memoria Robert Strait
- 3. Alcra. (now Gombrasiltonia per RHS) Hilo Ablaze 'Hilo Gold
- 4. Amesiella monticola\*
- 5. Saphosepalum microdactylum\*
- 6. Bulbophyllum Jersey
- 7. Stelis hirtella\*
- 8. Specklinia alata\*

\*Accepted name per recognized authority on species: WCSP (2012) World Checklist of Selected Plant Families. <http://apps.kew.org/wcsp/Retrieved> 11/3/2012

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**ORCHIDS AS HOUSEPLANTS**

These fascinating and exotic plants that hail from different corners of the world have attracted and mystified people for many years. Since their initial arrival to Europe from South America in the eighteenth century, they were considered to have growing conditions only provided by extremely hot growing environments, however, they were found to quickly die without yielding their expected beautiful flowers.

Orchids as house plants can be successfully raised if one is aware of some of their requirements, even without the use of a greenhouse.

This presentation will provide some description on raising orchids as house plants through rewarding and disappointing experiences gathered over a period of thirty-five years. A selected group of plants with different characteristics will be described to illustrate plants that may be recommended to expand your interest as a house-orchid grower.

Luis Matienzo

**\*\*\*NOTE:** Luis will have a limited selection of orchids available for sale at the meeting!!

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Geof Gould: The 'Big Red Catt'

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**Upcoming Meetings**

**November 18** ~ Luis Matienzo - Orchids as houseplants

**December 16** ~ Annual Holiday Party

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:

**November 18** ~ We Need Your Help!

**December 18** ~ Everyone!!!!