

Orchid Ovation

newsletter of the southern tier orchid society
february 2006

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President's Message

With the start of the new year we are beginning to plan events for the next several months. So far our programs have been exciting and we have learned a lot from the experienced speakers we have hosted since October 2005. Our effort will continue to provide the membership of STOS with a variety of programs that may answer many of your questions about orchids. In order to continue offering a series of lectures, demonstrations and show exhibits both locally and elsewhere, your participation as a member of one of our committees or teams is always welcome. It is only through the combined efforts of its members that a society like ours manages to succeed and grow. Our show committee group also welcomes your help and I ask you to pay special attention to the message posted by our show chair in this newsletter.

During the cold and often dreary months of winter in the Southern Tier, it is refreshing to see something in flower. For this reason, I encourage you to bring flowering plants to our monthly meetings, where all of us may discuss and admire those plants of such great interest to all of us. Questions about the origin, habitat and growing conditions of the plants that you carefully transport to the month's show table help to stimulate discussions that may help us understand the requirements of certain plant types.

This month's presentation will focus on semi-hydroponics and the characteristics of this technique applied to orchid growing. By observing and discussing these experiences, the speaker will illustrate advantages and disadvantages of this approach. We hope you find this topic of interest and of practical use to your specific needs.

Once again, we ask for your cooperation in renewing your membership contact information since our organization is in the process of updating our mailing list. A form for this purpose is included in this newsletter.

Luis J. Matienzo, President

January Meeting Minutes

Sunday, January 15, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Luis Matienzo. He noted that this is the 20th anniversary of STOS.

Treasurer Pete O'Connell gave his report. The 2006 dues are due and that members should please fill out the form for the email/ mailing list that will be given to Vice President Ann Tinker. Ann has been compiling our membership list.

AOS Representative Dave Clemens gave his report. If anyone is interested in joining the OAS or receiving *Orchid Digest* please contact Dave at 570-879-4244 or cclemens@starband.net.

Bob Rudin informed us that Shaffer Bus Tours is scheduling a bus trip to the NY International Orchid Society Show on Friday, April 21st. More information will be included in the newsletter and on the website www.geocities.com/orchidovation.

Our meetings are scheduled on the third Sunday of the following months: January, February, March, May, September, October, November and December. Please note that the April meeting will be the *second* Sunday of the month. We do not meet in June, July or

ship for 2006 and in providing us with your

August, but there usually is a picnic at a location ad date to be announced.

Show Chair Paula Matienzo gave her report. Setup for the Show will be Thursday, April 27th starting at 2:00 p.m. Judging will be on Friday, April 28th starting at 10:30 a.m. Take down will be Sunday, April 30th starting at 5:00 p.m. Anyone interested in helping with the plant registration entry or being a clerk for the judges please contact Paula at 607-754-5702 or pmatienzo@stny.rr.com.

We broke for refreshments.

The Show Table was discussed.

Our speaker, Kenneth Hull, gave a wonderful slide show and discussion on the many native orchids of New York State. I'm eager to find some of the native species as soon as the weather and blooming period permits.

Meeting was adjourned.

Secretary, LuAnn Myers

Dues Are Due!

If you haven't yet updated your 2006 membership, please be advised that dues are now payable. A membership form with rates and mailing instructions is included at the end of this newsletter.

We're currently in the process of updating our membership information and the newsletter mailing list will be compiled from the current membership. So be sure to send in your dues and information if you want to continue receiving the newsletter.

Thanks!

January Show Table

We've been most fortunate to have Iris Cohen of the CNYOS offer to review, update and correct the names of the orchids on our show table according to current taxonomic nomenclature.

If you display a plant at one of our meetings, please check the following newsletter and note especially all names and abbreviations in boldface, and correct or complete your records, including parentage and new registrations.

Additional notes provided by Iris on plants marked with an asterisk follow the listing.

Many thanks to Iris for providing this valuable service.

Colin Dimon
Zelemnia* (*Zlm.*) Midas
(*Tolu. Red Belt x Zel.onusta*)

Luis Matienzo
Cym. Showgirl
(*Sweetheart x Alexanderi*)
Cyc. peruviana
Den. lichenastrum var.
prenticei
Ddc. formosanum
Drac. mopsus
Phal. Memoria Audrey
Meldman (*Black Lion x Brother*
Precious Stones)
Phal. venosa
Phal. celebensis

Pete O'Connell
C. unknown
C. Pua Liilii x Blc. Miami
Bc. *Roman Holiday (C.*
Chocolate Drop x B. nodosa)
C. loddigesii
Den. spectabilis
Paph. spicerianum (three
plants)
Paph. Psyche x kolopak-
ingii var. ***topperi***
Paph. gratixianum

Roxanne Shank

Mtssa. Charles M. Fitch
(*Brs. verrucosa x Milt.*
spectabilis)
Onc.* *Hawaiian Sunset*
(*Pupukea Sunset x fuscatum*)

John Zygmunt
Lc. Drumbeat (Bonanza x C.
Horace)
Masd. patriciana
Onc. Twinkle (cheirophorum
x ornithorhynchum)
Paph. spicerianum
Paph. Sioux (Winston Chur-
chill x Gigi)
Paph. gratixianum
Triaristellina* *trigloch*

Iris's notes:

Zelemnia* (*Zlm.*) *Midas (Tolu. Red Belt x Zel. onusta)*

The genus *Oncidium* was too inclusive and confused. There were several groups that did not belong there. There were other genera with the same problem.

Oncidium onustum was changed to *Zelenkoa onusta*.

The equitant *Oncidium*s definitely did not belong there. Years ago, Rafinesque proposed the genus *Tolumnia*. However, there was a problem because *Onc. variegatum* (now *Tolumnia variegata*) was the type species for the genus *Oncidium*. I think they got around it by bringing in a species that was older than variegate and belonged in *Oncidium*. Finally, all those cute little Caribbean species are now *Tolumnia*. *Tolumnia Red Belt* is an old hybrid from that group. Consequently, *Tolumnia Red Belt x Zelenkoa onusta* = *Zelemnia Midas*.

Onc.* *Hawaiian Sunset (Pupukea Sunset x fuscatum)*

There used to be a *Miltonia warscewiczii*, which was widely used in hybridizing. However, further research determined that it was not a *Miltonia* and belonged in *Oncidium*. The name was changed to *Onc. fuscatum*. Therefore, a lot of popular crosses that used to be called *Miltonidium* are now *Oncidium*. *Onc. Hawaiian Sunset* is a backcross of *Pupukea Sunset* back to *fuscatum*.

NEWS ON OUR ANNUAL SHOW AT OAKDALE MALL

FRIDAY, APRIL 28: 4-9 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29:

10 a.m.- 9 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30: 11 a.m.- 5 p.m.

ORCHID VENDORS

All four of the following orchid vendors who have participated in our show for a number of years will again be involved in this year's show: JustPat Orchids, Main Street Orchids, Marlow Orchids, and Black Meadow Orchids. We'll be adding another orchid vendor – Bloomfield Orchids of Pittsford, NY – who specializes in paphiopedilums and phragmipediums.

A SPECIAL REQUEST

Joe Kunisch, owner of Bloomfield Orchids, has requested that we ask whether anyone in our organization would be willing to host him from Thursday through Sunday. If anyone is willing to provide hospitality to Joe, please contact Paula or Luis Matienzo (e-mail pmatienzo@stny.rr.com or home phone (607)-754-5702).

OTHER VENDORS

We are pleased that two other vendors have asked to participate in this year's show. Floral Images by Pat Bonamo will feature Pat's photographs of orchids available as unmatted 8x10s and cards. KMB Orchids, owned by Kim Boronczyk, will be selling a variety of orchid-growing supplies, such as potting medium, diatomite, mounts and pots. We have requested that Kim provide us with a list of what she plans to sell so that we can let you know in advance.

Please help us to spread the word to friends, neighbors, and relatives that our show takes place at a most appropriate time – two weeks before Mothers' Day. All of you can expect to see a vast array of colors, shapes and sizes of orchids in bloom in the exhibits artistically arranged by vendors and members of our own club and other societies. Complementing the exhibits of live flowering orchids will be exhibits of artwork and photography, some of which will be for sale.

Please join us!

A Request for Your Help at Our Annual Show

SETUP, THURSDAY, APRIL 27: 2 p.m.

JUDGING, FRIDAY, APRIL 28: 10:30 a.m..

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

FRIDAY, APRIL 28: 4-9 p.m.,

SATURDAY, APRIL 29: 10 a.m.-9 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The 2006 Show Committee has already made great progress in planning for our annual show, and we will be relying on the participation of all of you -- STOS members, relatives and friends -- to bring about our biggest event of the year. From the information below, please select which aspect(s) of the show are of most interest to you and in which you plan to be involved.

We are in particular need of volunteers with computer skills, first to help with registering plants during the week before the show, then compiling judging forms when all plants are registered. After

judging on Friday, April 28, tasks consist of entering data on ribbons and awards from judging forms and generating reports for our exhibitors.

PLANT REGISTRATION – Both people and plants needed here.

We are looking for volunteers with some computer skills and plan to train these people to make entries into the Orchid Show Management System program

Orchid plants in flower are needed for our club's exhibit*. We urgently request that you *pre-register* your plants during the week before the show by using the plant registration form (to be furnished in the March and April newsletters and at the March and April meetings).

SETUP OF TABLES FOR VENDOR SALES AND EXHIBITS AND PANELS FOR ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS begins at 2 p.m. on Thursday, April 27.

***OUR CLUB'S EXHIBIT** – We'd like to form a group of volunteers who enjoy planning for and then setting up this display of club members' orchid plants in flower.

ART AND PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITS require the entries of original work. For further information on this, please contact Geof Gould via e-mail: ggould@binghamton.edu or by phone (607)-757-0499.

JUDGING -- Our judges, certified by the American Orchid Society, require the assistance of clerks, who perform the tasks of spotting plant entries in exhibits, recording the place (1st, 2nd, 3rd) given each plant selected, and placing ribbons on the corresponding plants. We encourage those of you whose schedules

allow you to report at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, April 28 to participate as judging clerks. The head judge will begin to organize judging teams at this time in preparation for the official start of judging at 10:30 a.m.

Immediately following judging, the assistance of volunteers with computer skills in recording ribbons and awards and producing reports of awards for exhibitors is needed.

HOSPITALITY TABLE -- Volunteers will be scheduled in 2 hour shifts on Friday and Saturday, April 28 and 29 from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m., and Sunday, April 30 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please see Bob Rudin, or call him at (607)-748-6036.

TEARDOWN begins promptly on Sunday, April 30 at 5 p.m. with the dismantling of exhibits, folding of tables and chairs and cleanup of the Center Court and the storefront. At the end of the show we need many volunteers to speed up the process. Unless other arrangements are made, plant owners must pick up plants included in the club's exhibit.

We'll have sign-up sheets at the next meeting for you to let us know in what area you'll be able to help.

If you are unable to attend the meeting or need further information, please feel free to e-mail or call me or Luis. You'll find our contact information on the first page of this newsletter.

Thanks for your help.

Paula Matienzo, 2006 Show Chair

 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

February Meeting

Date: February 19, 2006 - 2:00 p.m.

Place: Vestal Public Library

Speaker: Ray Barkalow

Topic: Semi-Hydroponics

Ray Barkalow of First Ray Orchids (<http://www.firstrays.com/>) will give a presentation on "Semi-Hydroponics," the single pot culture utilizing an inert ceramic growing medium. Mr. Barkalow comes with a background as a ceramics engineer and 30+ years experience growing orchids. He will also bring hydroponic supplies for purchase.

Refreshment Volunteers

We all enjoy breaking for a bit of food and drink during our meetings, but refreshments at our meetings are provided on a volunteer basis. In order to continue offering these goodies, we need people who are willing to supply them, so please sign up at the meetings to contribute to the refreshment table.

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.

February – John Zygmunt

March – Roxanne Shank

April – the O'Connells and L. Richards

May – *volunteers needed*

September – *volunteers needed*

October – *volunteers needed*

Please sign up at the next meeting for the open slots and/or to assist those who've already signed up.

Upcoming Event: January Speaker

March 19, 2006

Dr. William Mathis of The Wild Orchid Company (<http://www.wildorchidcompany.com/>) will give a presentation entitled "The Best Kept Secret in the Gardening World: Hardy Perennial Orchids."

GNYOS Show Bus Trip

Friday, April 21, 2006 * \$40 per person

Arrive at Rockefeller Plaza, home of the 23rd Greater New York Orchid Society's International Orchid Show. Thousands of vivid and exotic orchids will be on view under a tent floating over the Rockefeller Center Rink! There are workshops and walking tours. Before you leave, stop by the Show Boutique and pick up an orchid from one of many vendors.

Package includes round trip transportation, snacks, refreshments, taxes and gratuities. It does not include the entrance fee to the show (approximately \$5.00).

For Sale

Dave Moody, of the late Fernwood Manor Orchids, has several bags of pot-

ting media for sale. Available are one 4 cu. ft. bag of #4 perlite and four 2 cu. ft. bags of small Douglas fir orchid bark. This can be purchased by the bag or divided. Contact Dave at 607-754-6236 for details.

Item of Interest

The 18th Annual Delaware Valley Orchid Council Speakers' Forum will be held on April 1, 2006 in Mt. Laurel, NJ. The forum will feature three speakers, as well as panel discussions, a continental breakfast, hot buffet lunch, plant raffle and vendors of quality orchid plants.

“Australian Orchids for April Fools” is the title of Kevin Hipkin of Royale Or

chids talk, William Goldner, PhD of Woodstream Orchids will talk on orchids of Panama, and Jason Fischer of Orchids Unlimited will speak about native orchids of Japan.

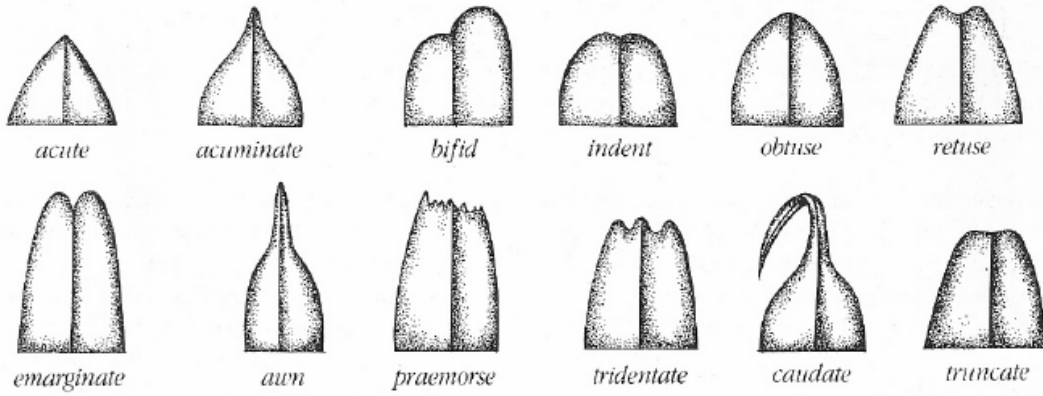
The fee for the event is \$35 per person with advance registration required. Contact Lois Duffin, 7411 Boyer St., Philadelphia, PA 19119.

Some Little Mentioned Facts about Parts of Plants

With *orchidaceae*, we typically admire the shape, color and diversity of flowers but usually, we are at a loss when we attempt to describe plants that are not flowering. In the scientific classification of plants, the petals and leaves can also be used for a more precise description of plant material. The diagram shown below presents some of the descriptions used for this purpose and they can serve as aids to distinguish different types of material. This information can help you to describe one of your plants to someone else or narrow down the identification of an unknown plant in your collection.

Luis J. Matienzo, February 2006

LEAF AND PETAL TIPS



Source: *A Guide to Orchids of the World* by Margaret Hogson, Roland Paine and Neville Anderson, Angus & Roberston, Australia (1991).

**SOUTHERN TIER
ORCHID SOCIETY**

PRESENTS

**Orchid Show
2006**

**Friday, April 28, 4pm to 9pm
Saturday, April 29, 10am to 9pm
Sunday, April 30, 11am to 5pm
at**

**The Oakdale Mall
JOHNSON CITY, NY**

EXHIBITS/PLANT SALES/ADVICE

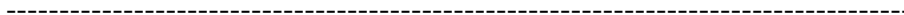
**PLEASE PRINT OR COPY THE ATTACHED
SHOW FLYER AND POST IN YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD.**



2006 Membership

Starting at the January 15, 2006 meeting, your STOS membership is up for renewal. The dues are \$15 per household, for which we ask you to complete the following form to update our membership and mailing lists for the newsletter. Please bring this form and your payment (either cash or check made payable to: Southern Tier Orchid Society) with you to the meeting. If you are unable to attend on January 15th, please send the form and your payment to:

Anne Tinker
163 Crary Avenue
Binghamton, NY 13905



Name: _____

Address: _____



Telephone: _____

E-mail address: _____

I would like to receive the newsletter (please check one): by mail _____
by e-mail _____

