



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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May 2018

NEXT MEETINGS:

May 20, 2:00 First United Methodist Church
****Meeting is Downstairs for repotting!****

**** June-August: Summer hiatus**

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss our May meeting:

**** REPOTTING CLINIC! ****

****Note: we will meet downstairs for the repotting clinic, so please use the rear entrance and parking lot!**

Meeting NOTES

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!

Meeting location: May 20th, we will meet **DOWNSTAIRS** in the First United Methodist Church (please use rear parking lot and rear entrance):

[First United Methodist Church](#)

53 McKinley Ave.
Endicott, NY 13760

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

include in the display. Plants bought at today's auction can be entered for judging at the show (but not cultural award)

- Set-up will begin at 2:00 Friday
 - Register your plants before the show is recommended; forms are available on the STOS Website; otherwise, all plants must be registered by 7pm on Friday.
 - We still need information table workers for Saturday and Sunday; please see Jane Trey to sign up
 - Pizza and drinks will be provided for Member's helping with the set-up on Friday evening. Judges breakfast will be at 9am on Saturday (judges only please!). Members working at the Show may partake of the Phil's Chicken luncheon on Saturday at noon.
 - Sunday: Raffle will be at 4pm, with tear-down and clean-up at 5pm.
- Plant Auction Committee:
 - John explained that Auctions are our main source of income, along with member's dues
 - By request of the membership, miniatures were ordered for the auction
 - Decision was made to have 50 plants at the April auction: 20 miniatures and 30 regular-sized
 - John already received some of the miniatures, and has repotted/mounted them all! They're off to a good start!
 - Special thank you to John and Peter for all their hard work in obtaining and caring for some extra-special plants for today's auction!
 - Program Coordinator:
 - Wade Hollenbeck is scheduled for November; Krum is interested in speaking also
 - Website Committee: Pete O'Connell and John Zygmunt
 - Newsletter and Membership: Linda Mandeville
 - Facebook: Ben Cabot and Marissa Cuthbertson
 - Library Committee: Jnx. The library "procedure" needs to be updated. Currently requires a "3-day notice" to check out a book. Should update to allow borrowing during meetings.

Old Business: None

Show Table:

- Because of today's auction, there was no Show Table for today's meeting.

Raffle and Refreshments:

- We then we broke for some delicious, light refreshments

Auction:

- After a short refreshment break, John explained the "rules" and procedures for the auction. He, with the help of Luis, conducted the auction. Thanks to Jane Trey and Lori Cabot, also, for tracking and tabulating the all the sales! Every plant was sold, and members went home with some lovely, flowering plants! Big thanks to John and Peter, who went above and beyond to make this year's Spring Auctions such a great success!



Jane Trey & Linda Mandeville's display

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 pre-moisten 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.

Courtesy of [First Ray Orchids](#)

