



Southern Tier Orchid Society

Executive Board

President

John Zygmunt
607-798-1861
ziggy798@msn.com

Vice President

Carol Bayles
607-275-9090
cjb4@cornell.edu

Treasurer

Jane Trey
607-724-5358
jtrey@stny.rr.com

Secretary

Linda Mandeville
607-227-1563
lrmandeville@stny.rr.com

AOS Representative

Pete O'Connell
607-423-1202
petermoconnell@yahoo.com

Members-at-large

Anne (Tinker) Quain
607-797-1383
anneetinker@yahoo.com

Sharon Voorhees
607-739-7898
sassvoor@gmail.com

Ben Cabot
607-723-1746
bcabot@gmail.com

Newsletter & Membership

Linda Mandeville
607-227-1563
lrmandeville@stny.rr.com

Show Chair

Anne Quain

Web Page

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

March 2018

NEXT MEETINGS:

March 18, 2:00 First United Methodist Church

April 15, 2:00 First United Methodist Church
**** SPRING AUCTION!! ****

IN THIS ISSUE

Don't miss our March meeting! We will have a pre-show meeting, followed by a member's Q&A session!

Meeting NOTES

****Note:** In the event of a weather emergency, please check your email the morning of the party! If nothing is received from STOS, the party is on. Likewise, those who receive the newsletter by regular mail will receive a call from one of us. If any questions, members may also call one of the Board Members.

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

- Program Coordinator:
 - Next month—no speaker as of yet; we could do a question and answer session
- April Auction:
 - We'll have our Spring auction during the April meeting before our Show. Pete O'Connell will not be here for the auction, but will be ordering plants, and will coordinate with John to receive and bring them to the meeting. Luis agreed to help John conduct the auction in April in Peter's absence.
 - Auctions are our main source of income; it was suggested that we have smaller/miniature orchids offered for sale; John agreed to discuss with Pete to order a mix of 30% miniatures, 30% compact, and 30% regular-sized orchids for the auction.
- Membership: We need to sign up new members at the Show!
- Facebook: Ben & Marissa were asked to add our Show and Auction to facebook;
 - Members—please be sure to "Like" and "Share" the STOS Facebook posts!

Old Business:

- Ben Cabot will 'resurrect' the Member's Survey that we conducted a few years, and will present the results to the members to see areas where we can improve our meetings and make them more beneficial to members, and hopefully, attract new members to join.

New Business:

- Jane Trey indicated that the Cooperative Extension will be sponsoring a Bus Trip to the Philadelphia Flower show in March (\$80), if anyone is interested.

Treasurer's Report:

- Jane reported that we currently have \$9499.00 in our STOS account.

Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made and accepted to approve the December 2017 Meeting Minutes.

Show Table:

- Members showed some of their flowering beauties.

Raffle and Refreshments:

- Before proceeding into our featured program, we broke for some delicious, light refreshments and conducted our member raffle. There were many wonderful items in the raffle this month; thanks to many of you members for so generously bringing in plants/items to raffle!

Featured Presentation:

We were fortunate to have a wonderful presentation by Kim Feddersen from Fair Orchids, on Slipper Orchids. Kim discussed the 5 different groups:

1. *Cypripedium* - protected orchids; cannot pick—require very specific growing environment/soil
2. *Selenipedium* - genus which grows up to 15' tall
3. *Mexipedium* - from Southwest Mexico; sequential on the same spike, with $\frac{1}{2}$ " flower
4. *Paphiopedilum* - popular lady-slipper type, with "pouch"
- *Pragmipedium* - genus native to South America. and resemble *Paphiopedilum*s in flower form and plant habit. Phrags grow naturally in humid, boggy environments in fast draining media. They require medium high light and good air movement.



When flowers have a white lip with magenta splotch in the middle, they are often called "semi-alba" or erroneously, var. *randii*.

Many consider the large showy flowers of *Encyclia cordigera* to be the finest in the genus. They have an intoxicating fragrance that varies slightly from plant to plant, but some say the pink-lipped flowers smell like roses. Flowers can last for well over a month. The species has received over 40 AOS awards, both for quality and for culture. The best flowers have a broad, flat, skirt-shaped lip with saturated color for the pink-lipped form, and a well-defined magenta central splotch for the semi-albas. *Encyclia cordigera* has been used as a parent both within the genus and with other members of the *Cattleya* alliance to create intergeneric hybrids such as the legendary *Epicattleya* (syn. *Catyclia*) Florida, registered by Lewis Vaughn in 1965 (*C. dowiana* x *Enc. cordigera*).



Lindena's plate in *Lindenia* depicts the Brazilian species, *Encyclia randii*.

Encyclia cordigera is easy to grow under a wide range of conditions. Its natural habitats are low-elevation oak forests that are fairly dry and bright. It can be grown in the intermediate temperature range but will do equally well in warmer conditions. The best flowering will occur if plants are grown bright but they will grow and flower under as little as 2000 foot candles. Plants can be potted in a coarse open media but if

