



Southern Tier Orchid Society

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September 2017

NEXT MEETINGS:

September 17, 1:30 Annual AUCTION!!

****MEMBER AUCTION!!****

(*Note: Earlier time!)

October 15, 2:00 First United Methodist Church

IN THIS ISSUE

- Don't miss our September 17th meeting:
**** ORCHID AUCTION!! ****
- Flowering plants are needed from members for CNYOS Orchid Show September 30th!!!

Meeting NOTES

September meeting is our Orchid Auction, and will be held downstairs at the church, so please park in the rear parking lot and use the back entrance of the Church:

Meeting location:

[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

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President's Message

Happy Autumn everyone!

First, thank you to Anne and John for once again providing an excellent setting for our annual summer get-together.

Well, it's that time of year when summer surprises us with its brevity. The warm weeks may be over for now, but the fall colour show is just starting. The first of the sugar maples have decided to turn, and that delicious crispness is in the air.

The seasonal change also signals that our summer hiatus is at an end, and it's time for our fall auction. I hope everyone is looking forward to it as much as I am! Collection additions are always necessary, right? I hope to see everyone there!

While summer may be ending, it's the time of year many orchid enthusiasts look forward to, as the temperature difference prompts buds, and the orchids put on their own autumnal colour show. It's time to move the flowers indoors and prepare for a winter of orchids in bloom!

--Jnx

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Minutes for April (last meeting)

Jnx brought the general meeting together following the Committee meeting. March meeting notes were approved by the members.

Treasurer's report: Jane Trey reported we have \$9,560.00.

Old business:

- We still need some housing for the judges. Let Anne Quain know if you are able to house a judge.
- Tee shirts are still available to order. Still need an order of six.
- There will be 2 vendors at the show.

New business: The upcoming orchid show was discussed.

There is an orchid plant sale in Philly.

There will no May meeting.

The picnic will be the last Sunday in August - the 27th at Anne Quains' house starting at 1 pm. Food will be provided and members are asked to bring a dish to pass.

Pete was thanked for providing the orchids for the auction.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:25 PM and the auction proceeded.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Brunnabend, Secretary

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Treasurer's Report

Jane Trey presented the treasurer's report, stating that we currently have an account balance of \$9,560.

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Annual STOS Auction

September is time for STOS's annual Orchid Auction. This year the date is Sunday, September 17th. We will start at 1:30 PM, as we need to allow enough time to have a meeting prior to our auction, in which we will sell as many plants as possible.

This year's sources will include a variety of growers. Of course there may be plants from our own members as well, many of which are specimen size. If you wish to have some of your plants in the auction, please see the guidelines for this below.

If you have any questions about the auction, please contact Pete O'Connell at 607-423-1202.

Member Plants Auction Policy

STOS members who want to donate or sell orchid plants in the Auction are invited to do so. All plants must be in good shape and free from pests and diseases. Plants must be registered with Pete O'Connell by listing the following information:

- Owner Name
- Plant genus and species or given name and clonal name if given
-example *Phal Summer Beach 'Sandy'*
- Any Awards give the clone such as AM/AOS
- Size of the plant and pot
- Any description of the flower you have
- A suggested starting bid

Send the list of plants to Peter O'Connell (petermoconnell@yahoo.com), or SouthernTierOrchidSociety@yahoo.com. The list must be received by Tuesday, September 12.

The Auction committee will confirm the receipt of your list and reserves the right to limit the quantity.

Reimbursement: the member can ask for reimbursement for up to 50% of the proceeds of the sale of the plants, if desired. The first plant listed will not be subject to reimbursement (first plant donated).

The auction committee reserves the right to sell purchased plants first. Any plant that is not sold due to time restrictions or no bids must be taken back by the owner or given away as they see fit. No member plants will be held over for the next month's silent auction to sell remaining purchased plants.

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CNYOS (Syracuse) Orchid Show

The [Central New York Orchid Society](#) (CNYOS) Orchid show (Syracuse) is scheduled for the last weekend in September: Sept 30th thru October 1st, with setup Friday afternoon, Sept. 29th. (See their flyer, attached). We are planning to participate in the show by setting up an exhibit to represent our organization. We will need members to begin collecting flowering plants that we can use for our display. It is important that STOS participates in this year's show! So please keep this in mind, and help by providing flowering plants and perhaps offering your time and assistance. We will need volunteers to transport plants and set up on Friday, set up the display, and also tear down on Sunday. We will discuss details at our next meeting in September; please help if you can!

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Monthly Checklist for September and October

Cattleya

Despite the shortening days and lowering angle of the sun, September can still be one of the hottest months. Water and fertilizer need to be in balance with heat and light. The alert grower will notice, however, that his or her plants are beginning to slow down a bit. Growths are maturing, and the sheaths are giving the promise of the next six-months' bloom.

Check plants for potting needs for the last time this season. Any in dire need should be potted, even some that may be on the cusp, as there is just enough of the growing season left to allow the plants to establish before the days start to get really short and cold.

This is the month for purples derived from *Cattleya labiata* breeding to flower. If you are short on flowers, look into this group. There is nothing that can quite match this type for beauty and fragrance. They are easy to grow, too.

Plants summered outdoors should begin to be prepared to be brought back into the winter growing area. Clean the plants up and be on the lookout for any pests they may have picked up during the summer. Treat as necessary.

Cycnoches

This little-known and under-appreciated genus, which can have male or female flowers, is at its best in the autumn. Two of the spectacular varieties are *Cycnoches loddigesii*, with its large brown flowers resembling a prehistoric bird, and *Cycnoches chlorochilon*, the swan orchid. This last one has large, fragrant green flowers. The biggest problem, culturally, will be red spider mite infestations that require immediate attention. Plants are quite seasonal, requiring heavy watering in the growing season and then a drier dormant winter season.

Cymbidium

Summer can be the most rewarding season for cymbidiums. Growths should be coming strong now. The leaves of the new growths are best when they are broad and fairly stiff. The color should be a light green to nearly yellow. Early flowering varieties should be showing flower spikes, so move the plants into a cooler area with lower light. For mid-season varieties, lower the dosage of nitrogen to assist in spike initiation.

Dendrobium

This is a good season for hybrids of the *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* and *Dendrobium canaliculatum* types. Both are capable of putting on tremendous shows of long-lasting flowers. Fertilize with a low-nitrogen formula to promote the best flowers. *Dendrobium phalaenopsis* can get tall and top heavy, suggesting an attractive and heavy container would be appropriate for this type.

Rhynchostele biconiensis

Both *Rhynchostele biconiensis* and its hybrids bloom in this season. *Rhynchostele biconiensis*, formerly known as *Lemboglossum*, *Odontoglossum*) is a showy species from Mexico that has three different color forms: sulphureum (green with white lip), album (brown with white lip) and roseum (brown with a pink lip). It is a vigorous grower with tall inflorescences of many flowers, and imparts to its progeny (as seen in Odcdm. Bittersweet and Odm. bicross) ease of culture, warmth tolerance and eye-catching patterns. They make a prime candidate for odontoglossum beginners and advanced alike.

Paphiopedilum

Standard, green-leaved paphiopedilums begin to show their bloom sheaths this month. Late-season heat waves can blast these early sheaths, so be observant about proper cooling and air circulation. As with the rest of your plants that may have been summered outdoors, it is time to prepare for their move inside. Clean each plant and implement pest-control practices. Repotting, if necessary, is appropriate.

Phalaenopsis

The bulk of this season's growth is being ripened this month, with growers in cooler climates seeing the first emerging inflorescences. Some night heating may be necessary in the cooler areas. Begin to watch watering more carefully, and reduce feeding proportionately with reduced watering needs. An extra dose of phosphorus and potassium, such as a bloom-booster or high-acid-type fertilizer, is beneficial.

Rossioglossum grande

Once known as *Odontoglossum grande*, this is a spectacular orchid with six to eight flowers up to 8 inches across. Often known as the tiger orchid, it has bright golden yellow flowers heavily marked with chestnut brown barring. The plants are beautiful with a grey-green cast to the foliage, which is borne on succulent pseudobulbs. It prefers hot and wet summers with cooler, even down to 40 F, dry winters. Grow under filtered light. Watch for snails and slugs that eat the flowers, pseudobulbs and leaves.



Rossioglossum grande shows off its large, dramatic flowers.

Courtesy of AOS, with thanks to Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

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Upcoming Meetings

September 17 ~ Orchid Auction!	November 19 ~ Speaker to be announced
October 15 ~ Speaker to be announced	December 17 ~ Annual Holiday Party

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

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