



# Southern Tier Orchid Society



## Board of Directors

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### Newsletter & Membership

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### Show Chair

Anne Tinker

### Web Page

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

## December 2013

\*\*\*HOLIDAY PARTY\*\*\*

### NEXT MEETINGS

**December 15, 2:00** First United Methodist Church  
of Endicott (downstairs)

**January 19, 2:00** First United Methodist Church  
\*\*1:00 Board/Show Committee Meeting

## IN THIS ISSUE

- HOLIDAY PARTY!!!

## DECEMBER PROGRAM NOTE

Please bring a covered dish to the annual holiday party on Sunday, December 15, with a serving spoon. Dessert, main or side dishes are all welcome! Each family who attends will get a FREE raffle ticket for an orchid plant. Please bring any in-bloom plants to decorate the tables, to make the party more festive!!

**\*\*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 listed on the side of the page.

## 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)



## President's Message

Our final meeting of the year will be our Holiday Party on December 15. Please bring a dish to pass. If you have an orchid in bloom feel free to bring it to decorate the food table which will become the show table. The Society will provide cold cut platter, rolls, drinks, plates, plastic ware, cups. All who attend will receive a free orchid (one free raffle ticket per paid up member family). Any left over orchids will be auctioned off to help defer the cost of the free orchids. A special thanks to Pete O'connell who is arranging for plants. The meeting will be held downstairs. Feel free to come early to help set up. Also, on the agenda will be election of candidates for office for next year. Dues for 2014 can be paid at the meeting. We are modifying the member form to allow members to choose whether or not they wish their contact information to be released to other members.

Yes, the cold, depressing days of winter are here and the tropical orchids in my greenhouse are not happy. But remember, after December 21 the days start getting longer, Spring is on the way and we can start preparing for the 2014 Oakdale Mall Orchid Show!

Here's wishing you Happy Holidays.

John Zygmunt



## Membership Dues

It's that time of year - membership renewal time! The 2014 membership form is included in the newsletter below and, for your convenience it is also available on our website:

[Southern Tier Orchid Society](#)

Annual membership dues of \$20.00 for 2014 is payable now. If you have not turned in your membership for 2012 or 2013, please take this opportunity to do so. January 1st is the due date and dues need to be paid no later than May 31st. We need you! The STOS is a great organization, full of camaraderie and people who are willing to share of their orchid knowledge.

**\*\*NOTE:** Those who have not paid their 2012 dues will be dropped from the active membership list and will no longer receive the Newsletter. If you did not pay dues in 2012, you may renew your membership now in order to continue receiving the Newsletter in January.





## SOUTHERN TIER ORCHID SOCIETY 2014 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Southern Tier Orchid Society (STOS) annual memberships are \$20 per individual or household, and we ask you to complete the following form to update our membership and mailing lists for the newsletter. Payments are accepted in cash at the meeting or by check or money order, made payable to **Southern Tier Orchid Society**.

Please send this form and your payment to:

Jane Trey-Treasurer  
62 Lincoln Ave or  
Binghamton, NY 13905

Linda Mandeville-membership coordinator  
1515 Walker Rd.  
Endicott, NY 13760



NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE CHECK ONE:

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM A NEW MEMBER (PLEASE COMPLETE FORM BELOW).

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP AND MY CONTACT INFORMATION IS THE SAME AS LAST YEAR'S.

\_\_\_\_\_ I AM RENEWING MY MEMBERSHIP AND AM UPDATING MY CONTACT INFORMATION BELOW.

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Please indicate if you would allow your contact information to be released to other members: (Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_)

**I would like to receive the newsletter (please check one). \*Please help us conserve – if you have email, please let us send your newsletter to your email:**

By e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

By mail \_\_\_\_\_

**Please note:** This form can also be found on our website ([www.storchidsociety.com](http://www.storchidsociety.com))

Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

By: \_\_\_\_\_



## Minutes for November 17, 2013

The second to the last meeting of 2013 STOS commenced at approximately 2:10 PM. Our president, John Zygmunt brought the meeting to order. Last month's minutes were accepted and approved. Treasurer, Jane Trey announced that we have a balance of \$8,458.00 in our account. We have a few expenses that will change the balance. The January 2014 meeting will allow for members to vote on and have a better feel on what the treasury will reflect for 2014.

John Zygmunt suggested that the board meet at 1:00 PM on Sunday, January 19th, an hour before the regular monthly meeting.

Dawna Cole gave us an update on the progress for garnering officers for 2014. The people interested in serving as officers will be voted on by the membership at our December meeting and Holiday Party. That date is December 15, 2013. Please come with a dish to pass and enjoy the joy and friendship of the season. Our party will be at 2:00 PM in the downstairs of the church. You may use the parking lot for easier access. Each paid-up member attending, will receive a free orchid.

Reverend Leon H. Frank, Jr. recently passed. Luis Matienzo shared the news during the meeting. The Reverend was a 15 year member in good standing. He joined our society and came to collect some 5,000 plants. He was known to "liven-up" any gathering of friends and family.

We then took a break to purchase raffle tickets and partake in the marvelous variety of goodies so graciously supplied by our generous members. Thank you one and all!

After our social break and raffle, we enjoyed some orchid lovers "food" for our soul! Mr. Tom Purviance and Mr. John Salventi presented a talk and slide show of "Roots, It's all about the Roots!" With a well thought out and expertly prepared presentation, the gentlemen proceeded to fill us with tried and true procedures, both "to do" and "not to do" in our endeavors to become better at orchid growing.

Mr. Purviance said orchid culture is "not difficult, just different"! He stated that the central orchid root system anchors the plant to the soil. Some orchids grow on trees. In nature, orchids are surrounded by other plants. Some attach to trees in their natural habitat (phalaenopsis). Roots, of course, gather the water and nutrition. A demonstration, using a sponge and water, made clear why it is important to thoroughly water your plants. Further information via a short video, showed us "hands on" what proper watering amounts look like. Velamen is a tissue-like paper in the orchid. So the roots do not rot, they must dry out thoroughly between watering's. It is well worth noting that orchid roots **MUST** be exposed to air.

The root structure was explained: Epidermis, cortex and vascular bundles. We saw a close up example of this structure and it was explained how the roots "do all the work". Mr. Purviance mentioned that orchids, which are the largest plant family on the planet, would benefit from annual repotting. Old roots take less water than new roots. When asked questions about fertilizing our plants, it was stated that "feed for three weeks and don't for one" might be a formula to try.

Both Mr. Purviance and Mr. Salventi shared with STOS answers to and concerns for, care and feeding of our orchids.....with of course, emphasis on "Roots, it's all about the Roots"!

We thanked our guest speakers profusely, with the help of our Program Director, Mr. Robert Howe leading the way, by asking the membership if we'd like the gentlemen to return for another engagement. Of course, the answer was a round of approving applause!

Our meeting ended around 4:00 PM.

See you in December for our party, STOS!

Respectfully submitted,  
Carol Browne, Secretary



### Treasurer's Report

Jane Trey presented the treasurer's report, stating that we have a balance of \$8,458.00 in our account. We have a few additional expenses that will change the balance, and will be presented at January meeting.



### JOIN US FOR THE 2013 STOS HOLIDAY CELEBRATION!

**DATE: Sunday, December 15**

**PLACE: First United Methodist Church of Endicott (Downstairs)**

**TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

Please join us in celebrating the holidays! Bring your spouse, significant other, and other family members to this enjoyable gathering. The holiday party will be downstairs in the church, so please park in the back parking lot and use the rear entrance. A short business meeting will precede our chance to socialize and enjoy the holiday spread.

The holiday party relies on the active participation of its members, and we ask you to bring a dish of your choice to share and the utensil needed to serve whatever you decide to prepare. We, in turn, will provide plates, cups, napkins, flatware, and beverages.

Because we need some help in organizing the tables and the goodies, we ask some of you to come a little bit earlier (1:30P.M.) to help with the set up. We would also appreciate your bringing your lovely flowering

plants, which will serve as table decorations on this festive occasion. We'd also appreciate your help with cleanup afterwards.

We're looking forward to seeing everyone at our party. If you can't come, our best wishes for a happy holiday season to you and your loved ones.



### Show Table

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2013

This month's show table was a lovely display of orchids, thanks to the following members:

**PETE O'CONNELL**

Masd coccinea 'Crestwood'  
Paph Avalon Pearl  
Paph Mamie Wilson  
Paph Saigon Pearl  
Dendro chilom wenzedii (yellow)

**JOHN ZYGMUNT**

C. Caudebec x Lc. Robert Strait  
Terrarium  
Paph. Primulinum x Paph. Rothschildianum 'Hilo Sunset"  
Stelis microchilia  
Miltonia roezlii x self  
Platystele ortiziana

**GRETA DeROCHER**

Paph fairrieianum Green Beret x Paph Hilo Jewel  
Paph CherylAnn Boyde  
Paph Saigon Pearl  
Paph macula Curtisii Maudiae x Paph macula 'Napa Valley'





### Upcoming Meetings

**December 15** ~ Annual Holiday Party  
**February 16** ~ To be announced

**January 19** ~ To be announced  
**March 16** ~ To be announced

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



### 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 Jane Trey know if you can help.

Current refreshments list includes:

**December 15** ~ Everyone!!  
**February 16** ~ We Need Your Help!

**January 19** ~ We need your help!



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL!!!!**

