



Holiday Party

Dish-to-pass **Vaccinations required**

Free Orchid

President's Message

Hello STOS Members.

Yes! We are going to have our regular dish-to-pass Holiday Party on Dec 19. 2-4 pm, along with a free orchid for all members.

I realize that some of you are nervous about the increase in Covid cases and the new omicron variant. But we are requiring full vaccinations (not the booster) and we will wear masks when not eating and will practice social distancing.

Please bring a dish to pass or a beverage to share, the club will provide cold cuts and rolls. Also, please bring table service, to reduce our paper waste. We will have paper plates, cutlery, etc if you forget.

I hope many of you will at least stop by to visit for a short time, even if you don't want to stay to eat. See you there!

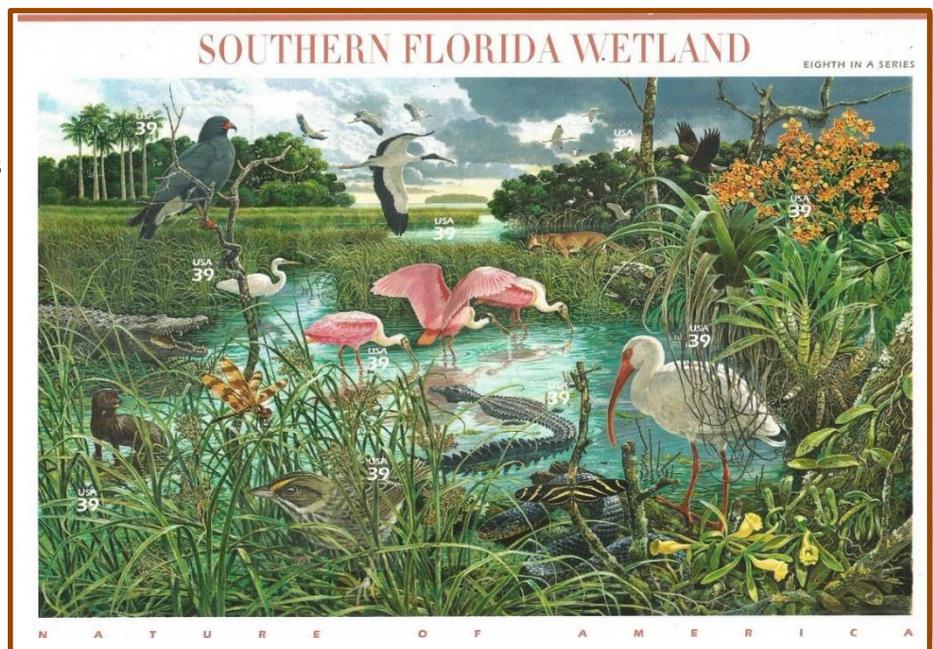
--Carol Bayles

U.S. South Florida Wetlands
(2006) Full Sheet

Contains two different
orchids. Try to find them.

--Luis J. Matienzo

Also look for orchid
ornaments in this
newsletter!



Member Info

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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Carol Bayles

Vice President

Gail Gunsalus

Treasurer

Jane Trey

Secretary

Ben Cabot

AOS Representative

Bernice Magee

Members-At-Large

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Carol Bayles

Web Master Carol Bayles

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Librarian Paula Palmer

Show Chair Carol Bayles

Program Coordinator Jean Mint

Auction Committee Pete O'Connell

Web Site:

<http://www.southerntierorchids.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthernTierOrchidSocietyNY>

Email address:

STOSorchids@gmail.com

STOS Calendar

Meetings may be via Zoom until the threat of Covid-19 has passed. If on Zoom, the link will be emailed to members within 1-2 weeks of the meeting. **Meetings are 2-4pm.**

December 19, 2021 Holiday Party

January 16, 2022 May be in person meeting, Speaker TBA

February 20, 2022 May be in person meeting, Speaker TBA

April 23-24, 2022 Orchid Show (tentative)

Feel free to share the link with family, friends or other interested folks but please do not share on open social media platforms.

Regional Orchid Events

2022

February 4-6, Susquehanna Orchid Society's "For the Love of Orchids," Milton and Catherine Hershey Conservatory at Hershey Gardens, 170 Hotel Road, Hershey, PA; Contact: Lorna Deibert, 717-825-7827; lornadeibert@aol.com

March 26-2 The Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society's 55th Annual Orchid Show, Penn State University, Ag Arena, University Park, PA; Contact: Wade Hollenbach, 570-837-9157; wadeh@ptd.net

Membership Dues (\$20)

for 2022 can be paid via cash or check at the holiday party, via PayPal on our website, or a check can be mailed to our Treasurer. New members can fill out the form on the website and are welcome to come to our holiday party. We encourage you to pay your 2022 dues by the end of February.





Orchid Conservation Alliance

Conserving Orchids by Conserving Orchid Habitat

The OCA conserves orchids by funding habitat preservation. Since inception in 2005 we have helped with the purchase of over 3000 acres of orchid habitat, protecting hundreds of orchid species in Brazil, Ecuador and Colombia. Many species of rare birds, trees, frogs, mammals also find refuge in these reserves.



Dracula gigas (L), *D. trigonopetala* (R)
Dracula Reserve, Ecuador

Dracula lemurella (L), *Lepanthes escifera* (R)
La Selva de Ventanas Reserve, Colombia

We hope you will join us in promoting this important work. We invite you to become a member of the OCA, to make a donation, to take a trip with us to see Orchids in the Wild®, and to purchase merchandise through our website. Since we have no paid staff, all proceeds support orchid conservation. The OCA is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation.

For more information: www.orchidconservationalliance.org

Register NOW for the 2nd Orchid Culture Speakers Day! Coming up January 29th, 2022



The AOS is proud to announce that we have four distinguished speakers on selected aspects of the Aeridinae and Angraecinae (commonly referred to as the Vanda and Angraecum Alliance) which follows our ORCHIDS magazine supplement on the Aeridinae.

Please join **Kim Fedderson** of Fair Orchids: Yes, you can grow Vandaceous Orchids at home, **Jason Fischer** of Orchids Limited who will talk on the culture and history of *Neofinitia falcata* (now *V. falcata*), **Bob Fuchs**, Pres. of RF Orchids on the latest trends in Vanda hybridizing and **Brenda Oviatt** from Botanica Ltd., talking on Angraecoids: Conservation and Culture. Come with your coffee and snacks! Enjoy a day with these delightful speakers and learn lots about the Vanda Alliance, history, hybridizing and of course CULTURE!

[Click here to register today!](#) The registration fee is \$30.00.

(Note, Kim Fedderson is one of our regular show vendors and has given talks to STOS)

Meeting Minutes

Southern Tier Orchid Society - Minutes of Sunday November 21, 2021

The meeting was an internet meeting on ZOOM, due to the world wide pandemic

Called to order by President Carol Bayles 2:09 PM 14 people in attendance

- Approved minutes of the October meeting as printed in the newsletter.
- Treasure report Jane Trey –gave a financial report. Noted that dues for 2022 are payable by the end of December. We made \$905 profit on the recent auction
- AOS Rep Bernice – The current issue is already taken for this month. A supplement about Vandaceous orchids was included and that is available to anyone requesting it. Bernice has a stamp Coelia from Honduras. She suggested that if anyone has any other orchid stamps to send a photo of them to Carol for the newsletter.
 - Reminders that anyone who received requested magazines return them once we are meeting together again.

New business:

- Carol noted that the board should have an executive zoom meeting in the second week of January. Discussing the budget, future plans and directions of the society. Payments for website are coming due, Carol has pricing.
 - We are planning to do the holiday party December 19th, in person at the church. It's always a dish to pass. The club will provide a cold cut plate and rolls. Colin will pick up the luncheon tray. Jane will bring the paper products from our current supply, but encourage everyone to bring their own table service for a less disposable, "green" meeting. Ben will get plastic for table cloths. There is some concern that the stored sodas have expired and should be discarded. It is encouraged that everyone bring their own beverage too. Some indicated a reluctance to gather because of Covid. Vaccinations will be required.
 - Dues payment will be expected before or at the meeting. Free orchids will be available for paid up membership. Members must come to the party to pick up their plant.
 - April show is still in consideration. Judges are being assembled, and the Roberson Museum is willing to host us again accepting our payment from 2 years ago. AOS show fee registration was sent in 2020 and never returned for the cancelled show. Several vendors are arranged for the 2022 show. Pending Covid incident escalation.
 - Comments from attendants about the extraordinary newsletter Carol did. GREAT JOB, WELL DONE
- Business meeting ended 2:45 pm

Sara Hurdel guest speaker gave an excellent informative presentation. Zoom guest presentation ended 4:07 pm. Recorded for temporary viewing.

Submitted by Ben Cabot, Secretary.

Orchid Stamps



A cancelled stamp from Honduras of the orchid *Coelia bella*. The orchids in the genus *Coelia* form huge colonies and have a strong, sweet fragrance. From Bernice Magee.



Peruvian stamp (2001) showing an unnamed *Stanhopea sp.*
From Luis J Matienzo



Prostechea cochleta
This species hails from Belize and it is the national flower of the country and has been featured in a stamp emitted by Belize in 1970. From Luis J Matienzo



Stenoglottis longifolia issued by Republica Saharaui (south of Morocco) in 1991. From Luis J Matienzo

A ‘stunning’ discovery: Fragrant orchid found near Onondaga Lake, 350 miles from nearest known site

By Glenn Coin

Published: Oct. 12, 2021. Syracuse.com.news

Joseph McMullen first spotted a batch of slender plants with small white flowers in September 2014, in a mucky, shaded tract near Onondaga Lake. He knew they were orchids but couldn’t distinguish the species, so he shot some photos and snipped a small piece of flower.

McMullen, a botanist and environmental consultant, emailed the photos to experts. The reply from Charles Sheviak, the former botany curator at the New York State Museum, piqued McMullen’s interest: The plant was likely *Spiranthes odorata*, an orchid with a strong vanilla scent that had never been confirmed north of Delaware.

“It is a remarkable, and in my experience, unique, population,” Sheviak wrote back.



Researchers have discovered the first known population in New York of an orchid named *Spiranthes odorata*, or fragrant ladies' tresses. The plant, spotted in a shady swamp near Onondaga Lake, had never before been spotted north of Delaware. The flowers are about a half-inch in diameter and smell like vanilla. Photo by Michael Hough

Orchids in the News

The plant, also known as fragrant ladies' tresses, is so closely related to another orchid species that only a detailed genetic test can differentiate them. McMullen couldn't find anyone to do the genetic work in 2014, so he was left with a pair of mysteries: Could the plant found in snowy Syracuse really be *odorata*, whose native range lies in the hot, humid Southeast? And if this was *odorata*, how did it leapfrog 350 miles from Delaware to Geddes?

To get answers, McMullen needed to find the plant again. Late each summer, when the half-inch flowers bloom, he returned to the same spot and looked among the green ashes and silver maples. Each time, he came up empty handed. His persistence paid off on Aug. 29, 2020, when he finally stumbled upon the plants again. During several visits over the next few weeks, McMullen and local botanists found nearly 30 plants, in bloom and, true to their species name, emitting a strong scent.

"You could smell them from probably 200 feet away," said Michael Hough, a SUNY Cortland botanist who walked the site with McMullen last year. "It was a very, very strong kind of vanilla fragrance." The vanilla in your spice cabinet is also a member of the orchid family.

Hough prepared the dried sample from McMullen – about 1 one-thousandth of an ounce – and shipped it to Cornell University. The lab in Ithaca confirmed the find: *Spiranthes odorata*. Scientists say it's a major discovery. "It had never been recorded in the state, and it's so far removed from its native population," said McMullen, who lives in Liverpool. "That alone makes it significant."

Even more significant was detecting the flower so close to Onondaga Lake, a Superfund site, said Catherine Landis, a SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry researcher. "To find it on Onondaga Lake, which has had years of being considered the most polluted lake in the world, is really kind of stunning," said Landis, who co-discovered the plant with McMullen during a 24-hour [ESF census marathon](#) called a "Bioblitz."



Researchers have discovered the first known population in New York of an orchid named *Spiranthes odorata*, or fragrant ladies' tresses. The plants, which can be 30 inches tall, were found near Onondaga Lake, had never before been spotted north of Delaware. Photo by Joseph McMullen

Orchids in the News

But McMullen's second mystery remained: How did *odorata* get here? The seeds are microscopic and generally spread on the wind, but a breeze wouldn't convey seeds 350 miles, especially against prevailing winds. The seeds must have hitched a ride. On whom or what?

"Our hypothesis is that Onondaga Lake used to be a major stop for migrating birds, and probably still is," Hough said. "We think that probably they're the ones that brought it up there. In water, seeds would stick to the feet of waterfowl." A bird's journey from Delaware to Syracuse would take just a few days, Hough said.

While the plant's seeds are tiny, the stalks can rise to nearly 3 feet, a giant among the *Spiranthes* genus. One plant near Onondaga Lake was nearly 31 inches high. "The striking morphological trait of the plants in this population is their size, with observers often saying: *they are huge*," said the article announcing the discovery, in the June issue of the *Native Orchid Conference Journal*.

The white, bell-shaped flowers grow in a spiral around the stalk; that's where the genus name *Spiranthes* comes from. They look like overgrown lilies of the valley. Researchers aren't revealing the exact location of the find for fear people might trample the plants or pick the flowers.

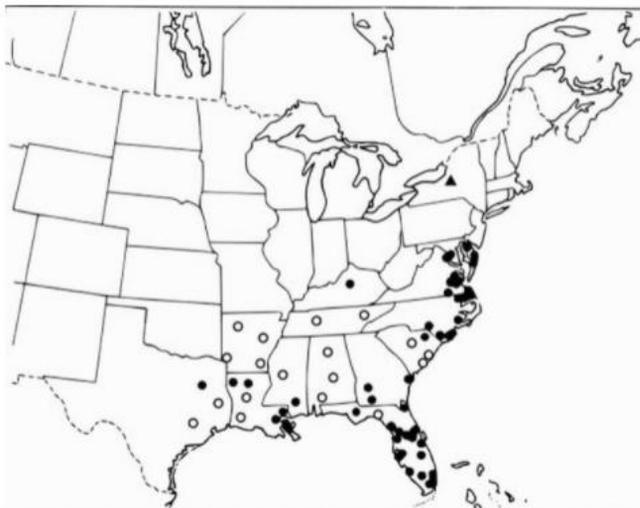
While this is the first confirmed sighting of *odorata* in the Northeast, it's possible the plant has established undiscovered outposts between Delaware and Central New York. The plants grow in seldom-visited wetlands, they don't bloom every year, and they're hard to identify, Landis said. "It's very possible that there are more between here and Delaware," she said.

Global warming has extended northward the range of many plants, and *odorata* could be among them, Landis said. "With a longer growing season, warmer temperatures and warmer nights, and with winters where we don't have the really deep freezes we used to have, I think that's very possible," she said.

For Landis, the *odorata* discovery suggests a small reversal of the damage humans have wrought on native plants. The Erie Boulevard corridor, she said, covered over a cedar swamp that was home to at least six native species of orchids grew. "That's all gone and paved over," Landis said. "It's just nice to find some positive news about our local flora."

The triangle in the middle of New York state denotes the recent discovery of *S.odorata*. The circles represent previous confirmed sightings of the plant.

Many thanks to Jane Trey for alerting me to this article.



Show Table



Vanda Ho-Kin Ng, first bloom, from Motes Orchids
-- Sam Reichler



'Paph. Venustum album 'Pippin' x 'Limey,' from STOS auction 2018. I nearly killed it but now it blooms for the first time. --Carol Bayles



Masdevallia guttulate. This is a division of Pete's plant that I got at the 2015 repotting clinic. It has bloomed several times and even won a ribbon at the 2017 CNYOS show. Since it blooms repeatedly on the same spike, it stays in bloom for a very long time.—Jane Trey



Show Table – Geof Gould



Dendrobium Love Memory 'Fizz'



Burrageara Francine 'Fran's Jewels'



Miltonidium Bartley Schwartz 'Highland'

Show Table – John Zygmunt’s Miniatures



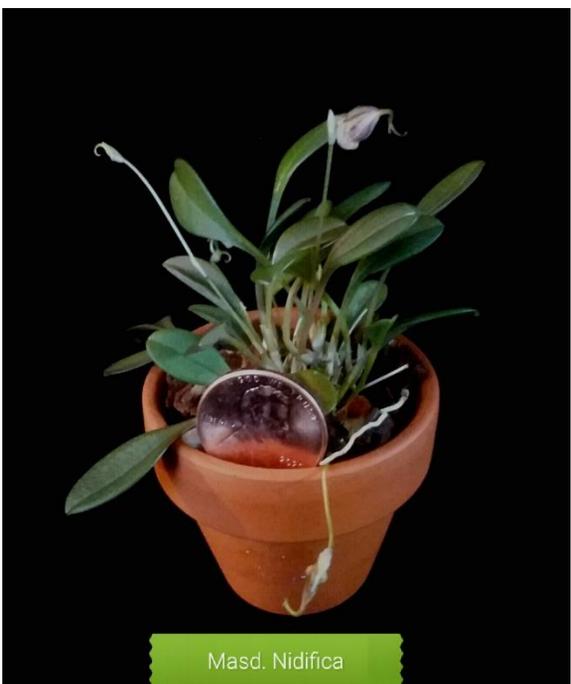
Masd. ventricosa

Masdevallia ventricosa: it likes shade, cool to warm, moist, Ecuador, a miniature species



Stelis microchila

Stelis microchila another miniature, likes dappled light, warm to hot, native to South America, species



Masd. Nidifica

Masdevallia nidifica, getting ready to open, likes shade, cool, moist, cloud forests Costa Rica to Peru



Paph. gratixianum

Paph. gratixianum, a nice species Paph, it likes cool to warm, from Laos- Viet Nam, has been in bloom for about a month.

Show Table -- Laurel Schaefer



Oncidium Hilo Firecracker 'New Year'



Cahuzacara Hsinying Pink Doll 'Hsinying'

Mormodes Wild Rainbow 'Priscilla'
x Morm. Nitty Gritty 'Red & Gold.'



Catasetum Tigrinum 'SVO' x Cstm Kleberianum 'SVO'



Oncidium 'Dancing Lady'

Show Table – Jean Mint



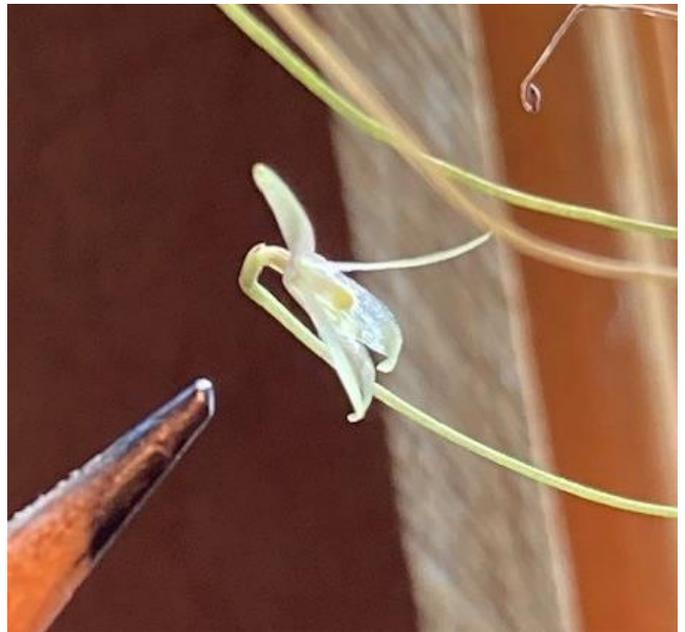
Pinguicula 'Gina' - Not an orchid but lives with my orchids, carnivorous and eats gnats



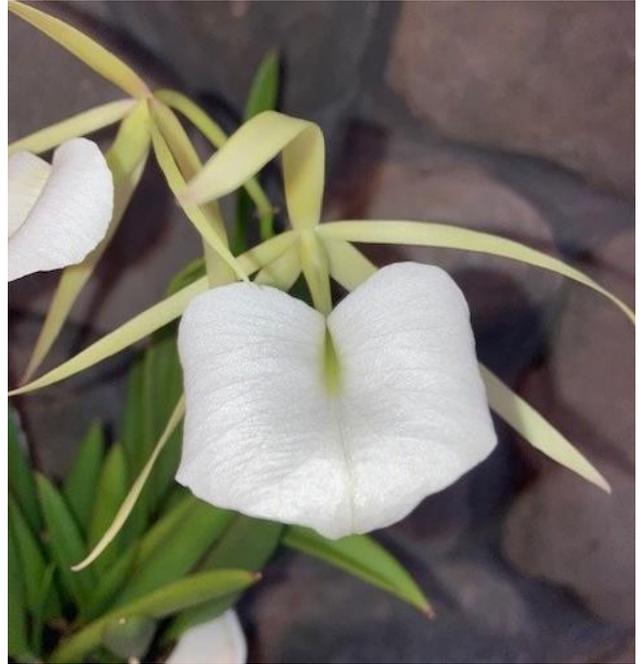
Paph henryanum X *Paph henryanum*



Barbosella dusenii - given to me by John years ago



Show Table – Jean Mint



Brassavola nodosa X *nodosa* 'mas major' AM/AOS



Pleurothallis lorahtophylla green

Show Table – Luis Matienzo

A VIRTUAL DISPLAY OF FLOWERING PLANTS AT OUR HOME

SPECIES AND INTERGENERIC:



Prostechea cochleata 'Luis'
(Flowering since August 2021, 14 flowers so far)



Dendrobium Miva Abracadabra
(*Den. polysema* x *atroviolaceum*)



Pleurothallis stricta
(Ecuador and Colombia, flowers are 2mm across)



Pleurothallis acestrophylla
(Peru and Ecuador, flowers are 2 mm across)

Show Table – Luis Matienzo

COMPLEX PAPHIOPEDILUMS:



Paph. In-Charm Topaz 'Inca Gold'
(*Paph. helenae* x *Paph. Pacific Shamrock*)



Paph. St. Margaret Bay
(*Paph. Margaret MacCaul* x *Paph. St. Ouens Bay*)



Paph. Dottie McDowell 'Hampshire' AM/AOS
(*Paph. Freckles* x *Paph. Green Mystery*)



Paph. Danella 'Chilton' AM/AOS AM/RHS
(*Paph. Hellas* x *Paph. Dalla*)

Show Table – Luis Matienzo

NEARLY PRIMARY PAPHIOPEDILUMS:



Paph. Elsa de Matienzo
(*Paph. tranlienianum* x *Paph. In-Charm Topaz*)
(I registered this hybrid with RHS in 2020 in honor of my mother)

SPECIES AND HYBRID PHRAGMIPEDIUMS:



Phrag. besseae v. *d'alessandroi*



Phrag. Peruflora's Cirila Alca 'Matienzo'
(*Phrag. besseae* *Phrag. kovachii*)

Show Table – Luis Matienzo

Paula and I want to share some of our Christmas ornaments that contain orchids:

The two shown below were designed in 2001 by our friend and well-known botanical illustrator Carol Woodin for AOS and we treasure them:



Lycaste skinneri "Kate" AM/AOS



Disa uniflora 'Sarah' AM/AOS

A glass ornament of a *Paphiopedilum* hybrid given to us by a friend of ours:

