



May 2024

Southern Tier Orchid Society

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STOS Orchid Show - A Huge Success



This STOS display won first place in the display category. (Note the waterfall, display designed by Laurel Shaefer.) --Photo by Christine Chin.

We had a great turnout both days. Many thanks to all the club members who helped. For more pictures and info, see inside.

May Meeting features a Repotting Session

Our May 19 meeting will be **both Zoom and in person** at the Vestal Church. After a short meeting the Zoom will end and we will start the repotting. We have several large plants that need to be divided, and members can help with dividing and repotting the divisions. Members can also bring a plant to be repotted, and should bring a few pots of various sizes and media (preferably moistened). Someone will assist you with the repotting. Many things will be going on simultaneously, like a 3-ring circus. Divisions will be given away to members via raffle, one free ticket per member or family membership. A link to the zoom will be emailed in the week before the meeting.

Meeting topics include scheduling the summer picnic, and a call for nominations for officers and other positions.

Member Info

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Carol Bayles

Vice President

Ruth Allen

Treasurer

Angel Caoile

Secretary

Linda Mittel

AOS Representative

Bernice Magee

Members-At-Large

Colin Dimon

Loi X Tran

Gail Gunsalus

Newsletter Editor Carol Bayles

Web Master Carol Bayles

Social Media Loi Tran, Renee DePrato,
Jean Mint

Librarian Laurel Shaefer

Show Chair Carol Bayles

Program Coordinator Jean Mint

Auction Committee Pete O'Connell,
Jane Trey

IT Specialist Melissa Bennett

Web Site:

<http://www.southerntierorchids.org>

Email address:

STOSorchids@gmail.com

Google Group (Listserv)

STOSorchidgroup@googlegroups.com

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

<https://www.instagram.com/SouthernTierOrchidSociety/>

STOS Calendar 2024

Meetings are 2-4 pm (1:30-2 is 'social time')
at the Vestal United Methodist Church,
328 Main St. Vestal, NY.

In 'The Belfry' on the 2nd floor. Elevator available.

Jan 21 General Meeting via Zoom.

Speaker: Bill Goldner "Next Generation of
Miniature Phragmipediums and other New
Lines of Breeding"

Feb 18 General Meeting In Person and via Zoom.
Speaker Ron McHatten

Mar 17 General Meeting, Show Planning
Spring Online Auction Kickoff, Speaker Carol
Klonowski on Tolumnias

Apr 20-21 Orchid Show at Roberson Museum

April 26-28 GROS Show (Rochester)

May 19 General Meeting, Repotting Workshop

June-Aug Summer Break, no meetings or newsletters

Aug. ?? Picnic at Hickories Park

Sep 15 General Meeting with nominations for
officers. **Fall auction** Live, in Person
Set up at 1:00.

Oct 20 General meeting, voting for officers.
Speaker TBA

Nov 17 General Meeting, Speaker TBA

Dec 22 Holiday Party

Neighboring Societies

CNYOS – Central NY Orchid Society (Syracuse)

GROS – Genesee Region OS (Rochester)

NFOS – Niagara Frontier OS (Buffalo)

CPOS – Central Pennsylvania OS (State College)

Albany Orchid Society (Albany, NY)

Monthly Checklist for May and June

Phalaenopsis

Except for the latest-spiking plants, all phalaenopsis should be ready for potting or already potted. Because phalaenopsis are tropical plants, they tend to be seasonal in their rooting behavior. **The critical point for potting is when new roots emerge from the base of the plant.** This is absolutely the best time to repot a phalaenopsis. The summer-flowering types, based on Doritis background, have ideally already been potted and are becoming freshly established, ready to support their soon-to-emerge spikes for the summer season.

Phalaenopsis potted at the right point in their growth cycle will reestablish almost immediately, with fresh roots growing into the new medium nearly uninterrupted. As soon as the flush of new root growth is seen, begin regular watering and fertilizing to make maximum use of the major growing season. Do not get over-exuberant with your watering, though, allowing water to splash between plants. This can be a source of infection for both water-borne pathogens and viral contamination. *Phalaenopsis* are much more susceptible to virus than was previously thought. Take extra care to keep your collection free of bacterial and viral problems, which you can accomplish by maintaining a clean growing area.

The AOS thanks Ned Nash and James Rose for this essay.

Upcoming AOS Webinars

Take a Trip to Taiwan, the World Orchid Conference with Carol Klonowski

Thursday, May 16th, 2024 8:30 pm EDT

Carol takes us to Taiwan for the 2024 World Orchid Conference and the TOGA (Taiwan Orchid Growers Assn) show, occurring together for the first time.

AOS MEMBERS ONLY, REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Greenhouse Chat June 2024 with Ron McHatton

Wednesday, June 5th, 8:30 PM - 9:20 PM EDT

Greenhouse Chat July 2024 with Ron McHatton

Tuesday, July 9th, 8:30 PM - 9:20 PM EDT

Join Dr. Ron McHatton as he answers your questions about all things orchids. Please send your question and pictures to Sandra Svoboda at greenhousechat@aos.org by June 3 for the June seminar and July 7 for the July seminar. You can just attend without sending a question. Greenhouse Chats are OPEN TO THE PUBLIC BUT REGISTRATION REQUIRED.

See [AOS.org/orchids/webinars](https://aos.org/orchids/webinars)

STOS Orchid Show

Our Orchid Show April 20-21 was a big success. Here are a few details and credits to those who helped make it a success.

We had 8 fabulous exhibits: GROS, CNYOS, STOS (3), Fair Orchids, J&L Orchids and a new vendor, Taida Orchids, who specialize in Phalaenopsis. A big thank you to members of our neighboring Societies who came to setup and take down their exhibits. Also, a big thank you to Laurel Shaefer, who designed our 1st place display, Laurel has become our unofficial display queen. STOS members brought so many plants that we needed to set up a 3rd display! Thanks to everyone who brought their beautiful blooming orchids.

We had a good turnout, 428 according to our clicker but likely more. We split the raffle this year, one on Saturday and one on Sunday. We sold 253 raffle tickets for \$644 and signed up 27 new members (at half price). The raffle lacked for blooming orchids and did not do as well as last year. We should provide some from the spring auction next year. We used our online system for new memberships and this went well. We did have to assist several people, but this was not difficult. At least all the entries are legible! Many helped at this table but I want to especially thank Mari Stover-Ling and Luke Engel, who are new members who spent a considerable time at the welcome table both days and did a great job. Thank you Mari and Luke!

We had good number of judges, assistant judges and clerks again this year. One of the assistant judges was the granddaughter of John Dunkelberger, one of our past, long time judges (featured on page 12) The judges gave out numerous ribbons and but no AOS awards, although several plants were considered.

This year we included 4 artist vendors:

- John Carnessali (Syracuse, NY): photography
- Christine Chin (Ithaca, NY): artist and photographer
- Raelynn Dieffenbach (Troy, PA): watercolors, mixed media
- Charlotte Holden (Lewisboro, NY): illustrator

Another new feature was a Terrarium Display featuring terrariums of various sizes from our members. I specifically want to spotlight Linda Mittel, our Secretary, and Jean Mint, our Program Chair, for arranging all the artists and the terrarium exhibit. Linda came up with these ideas on her own and she and Jean put a lot of time and energy into them. I think they made great additions to our show. Thank you very much Linda and Jean, you are amazing.

Always a popular part of the show was the scavenger hunt, run by Bernice Magee, our AOS rep. She also puts together information on vanilla and the vanilla orchid, and had a long vine of a vanilla plant on display, thanks to Josh DeMarree. We had some Orchid-gami (assembled by

STOS Orchid Show

Angel Caoile)) on display and gave out, for a donation, unassembled ones. We 'sold' ~50 and ran out the first day. There were also maps of the world to locate orchid origins and Bernice gave out postcards of illustrated orchids. Thank you, Bernice for organizing and running this part of the show. It is very popular.

Renee DePrato had help from Jeffery Hackett with the registration this year and together they streamlined the process even more, thanks to Jeff's macro and coding skills. They were kept busy on Friday and Saturday, with last minute registration changes, working with the judges and recording the results. An efficient registration process allows the judging to go smoothly, and our judges really appreciate this. Thank you, Renee and Jeff for your efforts.

Geoffrey Gould, who has been our official photographer for many years, passed away a few weeks before the show, after a short stretch of poor health. (see obit on page 11). Luckily, we had a backup plan, and Christine Chin, a STOS member, stepped in. She set up for the AOS award photos, but unfortunately there weren't any. However, she was able to take high quality photos of all the exhibits with their ribbons before the public filled the space, as well as other pictures of the show. We are so lucky to have another talented photographer in the club. Thank you, Christine.

Emile Sacco and John Zygmunt demonstrated repotting techniques which were attended by over 50 people (standing room only, we need more chairs next year). This is a very popular event and I wish we had time to do more of it. Thank you, Emile and John.

Jane Trey stores many of the exhibit, judging, and food supplies, making several trips from her house to bring it all. Luckily, she has space in her basement and lives only a few blocks away. She ordered the Friday pizza and Saturday lunch and set up all the food tables, which is greatly appreciated by hungry judges and volunteers. She also hosted two of the vendors, Kim Feddersen and Lucas Carreno at her house, saving them hotel costs. Thank you Jane, for all of your efforts. The show depends on you a great deal.

Ruth Allen picked up breakfast for the judges and clerks on Saturday morning, and helped set up the food, and assisted with the art table, interacting with visitors. Thank you Ruth.

Angel Caoile, our Treasurer, kept track of the expenses (and there are a lot of them!) and the income, reimbursing members who paid out of pocket in a timely manner. She was also very helpful at the welcome table. Thank you Angel.

Cont. next page...

STOS Orchid Show

Others who helped include Gail Gunsalus, Sue Seamans, Paula Matienzo, Lisa Fitzpatrick, Gail Fitzpatrick, Judy Simpson, Jennifer Moss, Loi Tran, Sue Szczotka, Jean Mint, Sam Hance, Ben Cabot, Colin Dimon, Luis Matienzo and others.. So many people helped with the raffle table, education table, setup, teardown, clerking and just mingling that I cannot name them all. Many of you spent most of your weekend at the show. Our show is getting a reputation as the event to see, many who came cited coming last year as the reason for coming again. This would not be the case without the help of so many of our members. Thank you all so much. You are why our little Orchid Society is so successful!

And we were out by 5pm, our deadline!

Carol Bayles

--President, Show Chair



Our Terrarium Exhibit, new this year, thanks to Linda Mittel. Photo by Christine Chin
For more photos, see <https://photos.app.goo.gl/3D7dB42HBvWBoQ7x9>

For a Show Wrap up discussion, with ideas for next year, click on this link:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-8-Hy2od63TdVn8nZvQBZb4URvFN-4Zf/edit?usp=sharing&oid=109806065713484504721&rtpof=true&sd=true>

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STOS also won 3rd place in the display category for this display, which was in the hallway. Note the birds, an idea from Paula Matienzo. The judges liked them!



CNYOS took 2nd place in the display category.

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GROS Display (lots of blue ribbons!)



Fair Orchids Display (Kim Feddersen)

STOS Orchid Show



Taida Orchids Display (Sammy Lai)



J & L Orchids Display (Lucas Carreno)

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Jean Mint with daughter and Linda Mittel



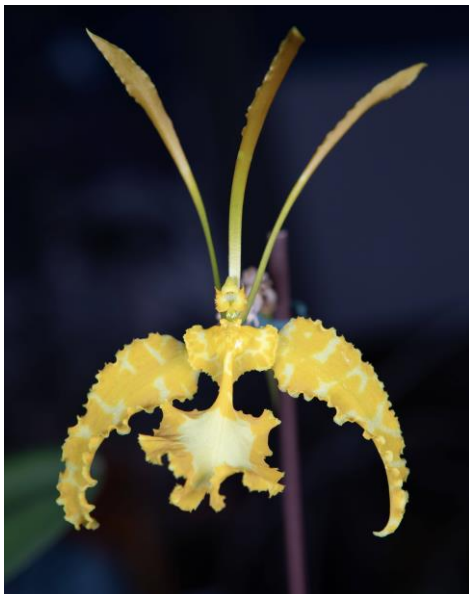
Lisa Fitzgerald and Bernice Magee



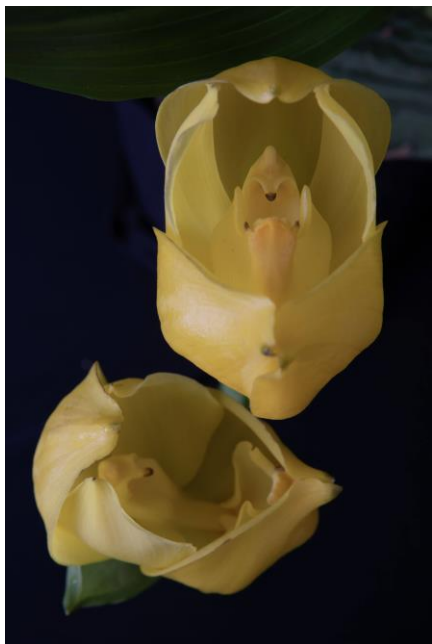
Ruth Allen with visitor



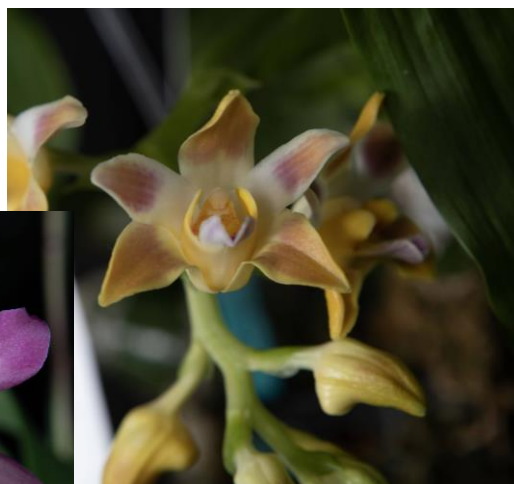
Colin Dimon and visitor



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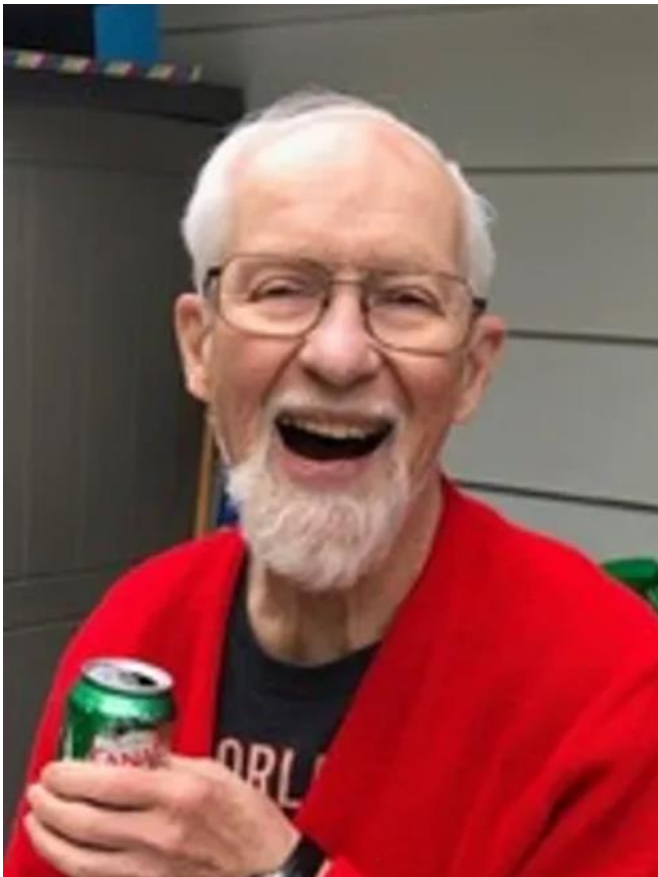
Best House Grown in Show
from Jeff Hackett



Our 2024 Orchid Show was dedicated to the memory of

Geoffrey Gould

Orchid Hobbyist and STOS Photographer



Geoffrey David Gould, 84, passed away in Johnson City, New York on April 16, 2024. Geof joined STOS in 2002 and, with his association to art clubs in the area, organized the art portion of our show for many years. He became our official photographer and has taken photos of 45 AOS award-winning orchids since 2002 for both STOS and CNYOS. His photos for STOS AOS awards are in a gallery on our website.

He will be greatly missed by his wife of almost 40 years, Elizabeth (Libby) Tucker Gould, many devoted family members and wonderful friends, and his sweet pets, Holly and Zorro.

Geof was born October 11, 1939 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He graduated from Rutgers University in 1962. As coach of the Rutgers Hockey Club, he furthered the athletic careers of many students.

Geof had a long career as an admissions director, first at Rutgers and later at Binghamton University, where he succeeded in increasing the diversity of the student body, working closely with the Educational Opportunity Program. At Binghamton he received the Educational Opportunity Program's Faculty/Student Recognition Award in 1996, a Service Recognition Award in 2002, and the Council/Foundation Award in 2002.

After his retirement in 2002, Geof enjoyed being an active member of the Cooperative Gallery and the Southern Tier Orchid Society. He gave many shows of his beautiful photographs, some of which he had taken on his trips with Libby to Europe and South America.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Rutgers University or the Tucker/Gould Prize Fund, Binghamton University Foundation, Binghamton, New York 13902-6000.

John Dunkelberger

*Recognized by the AOS with the
Norito Hasegawa Award for Excellence in Hybridization*



John Dunkelberger has been a judge at the STOS show for many years. His wife, Shirley, who often came with him, passed away last December and there was a celebration of life in her honor on April 27. Right: Cyrtocidium Golden Ruffles 'Ruffled Vision' AM/AOS.

John Dunkelberger is a hobbyist, grower and hybridizer who has achieved success particularly with miniature cymbidiums and Oncidinae crosses. He has originated 78 registered hybrids in 24 genera, and is best known for his work with oncidiums. In 1991, he made the foundational hybrid, Cyrtocidium (Odontocidium) Roger Cole (Cyrtorchilum retusum × Oncidium maculatum), which has garnered four AOS quality awards, one cultural award and most notably the Award of Distinction.

John's understanding of the breeding characteristics of Cyrtocidium Roger Cole has given rise to its being the direct parent of 26 registered hybrids, all but one of which have been awarded.. He continued this line of breeding into the second and third generations, giving rise to a cluster of Oncidinae with branched inflorescences and medium-sized, intensely colored, chocolate and gold flowers.

John is also known for his novelty hybridizing in the Cymbidium Alliance, exploring the smaller flowered Chinese and pendent cymbidiums. Fourteen of his 17 cymbidium hybrids have garnered 33 AOS awards. John has been an accredited AOS judge for more than five decades and became an Emeritus Judge in 2019. He continues to judge and gives generously of his time as teacher and mentor, including to two of his granddaughters, who are now student judges.

--from ORCHIDS, May, 2024

GROS Orchid Show



STOS Exhibit, 3rd place



GROS Orchid Show



GROS photos: Carol Bayles. For more photos
<https://photos.app.goo.gl/3KEE9LXh5mwRT99u8>