

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

It is an odd time to assume the presidency of STOS, as we enter a period of not being able to come together for activities that make the club worth joining. We can't meet and socialize, have speakers, show off our plants, add to our collections. Our spring auction and annual show have been cancelled, all due to the Corona virus pandemic. I just retired, (the date was moved up a few weeks) and I thought I would be so busy with orchid club activities. Being retired really changes your perspective on life, which many of you already know. With everything cancelled or closed, the change is magnified.

I am trying to make the best of this opportunity, nurturing my orchids and learning more about them on my own. I recently read the history of one of my orchids, a large white Cattleya, from the original cross to my orchid 'Jose Marti'. Its ancestors are quite famous. I plan to look up some of my other orchids.

I recently joined the American Orchid Society, it only took me 5 or 6 years since joining STOS to have time for this. They send almost daily emails, which would have driven me crazy a year ago, now I like them. You don't have to join AOS to take advantage of many of the benefits of the Society. There is plenty of information on their website and many seminars are available to anyone, anytime. I am sending things now and then to all of you who get emails. For those who don't

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MARCH MEETING MINUTES

Sunday, March 15, 2020

Membership meeting started at 2:04pm (15 member present)

Welcome:

- Membership vote for presidential removal. Several speakers presented cases and causes for removal. In an email inquiry of the 11 respondents that replied one voted to keep Anthony Mercado as president.

Members present voted by show of hands. Passed unanimously, confirming the action of the Board members.

A motion was made and seconded to replace him with vice President Carol Bayles, who was already designated successor. Unanimously passed.

- Approval of minutes as printed in the February newsletter. Passed.
- Treasures report ; Jane Trey presented income and expense statement. On File.

Board and Committee Reports

- Joe Sniezek – reported on his success developing the website it is now online at <https://www.southerntierorchids.org>. Joe express appreciation to members that assisted with input of material and ideas. It has been a several year process. Joe contributed the resources and expenses involved. Peter O'Connell at his expense paid for renewal of the previous domain name for temporary continuity.
- April auction tentatively scheduled for April 19.
- 2020 STOS Orchid Show – Scheduled for April 25 and 26. Carol Bayles chairperson showed posters for the event. Subject to possible postponement due to COVID-19 pandemic.

Old Business

- New computer status- John Zygmunt and son in law tried to retrieve data from the hard drive from the old computer. Purchased some hardware at their expense, but it didn't work. It cannot be fixed. Will need a new one prior to the next show.
- Seeking 2 boards members as leadership partners for group decision making.

Speaker

Luis Matienzo gave an excellent educational talk on preparing orchids for presentation at orchid shows.

No raffle was held due to potential COVID-19 precautions.

Show Table

Laurel Shaefer: Galeopetalum Arlene Armour, NoID mini Phal.

Luis Matienzo: Enc. Cindy, Den. Abracadabra Miva, Paph. Dreaming Emerald, Paph.

Jane Trey:c. Husky Boy 'Romeo', Hybrid Phal..

Meeting closed at 4:17pm

Respectfully submitted,
Ben Cabot, Secretary

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Vice President

Carol Bayles

Treasurer

Jane Trey

Secretary

Ben Cabot

AOS Representative

Bernice Magee

Members-At-Large

Luis Matienzo

Newsletter Editor

Renee DePrato

Contributions, including pictures, to the STOS newsletter from members are welcomed!

Contributions must be submitted by the 5th of the month to the editor.

Web Site:

<http://www.southerntierorchids.org>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/SouthernTierOrchidSocietyInc.1992>

Email:

southerntierorchidsociety@yahoo.com

CLUB CANCELLATIONS

New York State remains on PAUSE through April 29, which bans all non-essential gatherings of individuals of any size for any reason.

All Southern Tier Orchid Society activities that were planned for April have been cancelled. Sadly, this includes the Orchid Show we had planned at Roberson and our April Auction. Although it's disappointing to have to cancel these two popular club events, we hope these cancellations assist in keeping our community healthy.

USPS ISSUES ORCHID STAMPS

The U.S. Postal Service celebrates the beauty of Wild Orchids with stamps of flowers that grow in the United States. The stamp art highlights photos taken by native plant photographer and author, Jim Fowler. He states, "As an orchidophile, I am always on the lookout for orchids growing in the roadside ditches and in the swamps and woodlands."

As art director for the stamp project, Ethel Kessler wanted to "showcase a variety of different colors, shapes and sizes of flowers as well as represent the different growing regions native orchids can be found." In addition, she favored images that provided native foliage in the background. Ref: Arthur Chadwick, Orchids20203.

Each stamp features a photograph of one of these nine species. How many can you match to the stamps? Which 2 stamps show the same orchid?

- Calopogon tuberosus (Tuberous Grass Pink Orchid)
- Cypripedium californicum (California Lady's Slipper)
- Cypripedium reginae (Showy Lady's Slipper)
- Cyrtopodium polyphyllum (Yellow Cowhorn Orchid)
- Hexalectris spicata (Crested Coral Root)
- Spiranthes odorata (Marsh Lady's Tresses)
- Platanthera grandiflora (Greater Purple Fringed Bog Orchid)
- Platanthera leucophaea (Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid)
- Triphora trianthophoros (Three Birds Orchid)

Look for the answers on the next page!!



IDENTITY AND DESCRIPTIONS OF USPS STAMPS

#1 *Triphora trianthophoros*, the Three Birds orchid, is an unusual orchid of deciduous forests ranging across much of central and eastern North America. The common name, three birds orchid, is attributed to the flower's resemblance to three birds in flight. The scientific name, trianthophora, means "bearing three flowers," which refers to the typical number on each plant. The pink and white flowers are quite small, rarely reaching 2 cm. in size and the stems vary greatly in length perhaps due to local light and moisture conditions. In some instances stems barely reach the surface of the leaf litter (about 5 cm.), and on other occasions grow up to 20 cm. tall.

#2 *Cypripedium californicum*, the California Lady's Slipper, has the smallest range of the western lady's slippers- limited to southwestern Oregon and northern California. Often found in large colonies, the tall plants may exceed 120 cm with alternating leaves and numerous flowers. The flowers have yellow petals and a white pouch similar in size to *C. passerinum*, but the number of flowers and their display along the stem, distinguishes this orchid from all other lady's slippers. This orchid prefers wet areas such as seeps, marshes, forest openings and steep slopes, usually with a serpentine substrate.

#3 *Hexalectris spicata*, or Crested Coral Root, grows in the southern and central U.S. from New Mexico to Maryland. This orchid is myco-heterotrophic: it primarily obtains nutrients not from photosynthesis but through mycorrhizal fungi. It has a leafless, yellowish or pinkish brown stem and produces up to 25 small, yellow-brown or purplish flowers, the petals and sepals often strongly veined with brown or purple. The labellum is tan or purple white, usually 3-lobed and with undulate margins. It is found in a wide variety of habitats, from swamps to desert canyons in the southwest; typically, it grows in mesic to dry soil in forests and over sandstone or limestone.

#4 *Cypripedium reginae*, the Showy Lady's Slipper, is distributed through eastern and central Canada and the U.S., from North Carolina to Saskatchewan. It has white sepals and petals which spread out from a pouch-like labellum, which is usually suffused with pink to magenta. The stem, which usually bears 3-6 large leaves, is covered in thin hairs which can cause moderate to severe dermatitis. It is a clonal plant that grows slowly, occasionally taking over 16 years to produce its first bloom; a single plant can live over fifty years. It requires moist soil, growing in damp fens, meadows, forests, swamps, and on river banks. In moist, favorable conditions, a single plant can produce over 200 flowering stems.

#5 *Spiranthes odorata*, or Marsh Lady's Tresses, is distributed throughout the southeastern United States and southern mid-Atlantic region, from Texas to Delaware. It produces several basal or lower stem leaves which generally persist through flowering. In the fall and early winter, it bears an inflorescence of multiple small, white flowers arranged in a tight spiral. The inflorescence is covered in small hairs, and the center of the labellum is usually colored yellow or green. The edges of the labellum are crenulate or slightly lacerate. This orchid prefers wet environments, growing in swamps, marshes, bogs, and moist meadows and is known to grow in standing water.

#6 *Platanthera leucophaea*, the Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid, is primarily distributed in the mid-western United States and Canada, from Oklahoma to Ontario, with a limited distribution in the northern mid-Atlantic and New England regions. It produces multiple long, narrow stem leaves and has an inflorescence of up to 40 white (or slightly pale green) flowers. The labellum is deeply three-lobed and fringed; the lateral petals are curved slightly over the column and their edges are toothed. A slender, clavate spur extends out from the back of the flower. It can be found in moist prairies and meadows, bogs, marshes and fens.

#7 *Triphora trianthophoros* (same as #1)

#8 *Platanthera grandiflora*, the Greater Purple Fringed Bog Orchid, is found across the East Coast of the United States and Canada, from Georgia to Quebec. It has 2-6 wide, spreading leaves along its stem and produces a showy inflorescence of multiple bright purple, pink, or rarely white flowers. The labellum is deeply fringed and three-lobed. Primarily a wetland species, it can be found in moist forests and fields, marshes, bogs, and swamps.

#9 *Cyrtopodium polyphyllum*, also known as *Cyrtopodium flavum*, the Yellow Cowhorn Orchid, is native to Brazil and has become naturalized in Florida. It is a terrestrial orchid while the other species in Florida (*Cyrtopodium punctatum*) is an epiphyte. This spectacular orchid produces 10-12 plicate, leathery leaves and an inflorescence with 30-50 bright yellow flowers on an erect panicle that is up to 75 cm long. Pseudobulbs are up to 60 cm in length. *Cyrtopodium flavum* blooms in April to June in vacant lots and pine dominated sites.

#10 *Calopogon tuberosus*, the Tuberous Grass Pink, is found across much of eastern Canada, the United States, and the northern Caribbean. It produces a grass-like leaf and up to 25 magenta, pink, or white non-resupinate flowers with a golden crest on the lip. It can be distinguished from other *Calopogon* species by its relatively large size and elongated labellum. It is known to form natural hybrids with *C. pallidus*. It prefers full sun and generally grows in moist meadows, grasslands, and savannas.

References:

#1 and #7 https://www.fs.fed.us/wildflowers/plant-of-the-week/triphora_trianthophora.shtml

#2-9 <https://goorchids.northamericanorchidcenter.org/species/>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE ...Continued from cover.

I am including the links that maybe you can access somehow.

Many groups are turning to Zoom for holding meetings, classes or lectures online. I am not sure this would be effective for our group. It is not very personal.

In the meantime, we can use this newsletter as a place to share. In this issue there are pictures from the show table last month. Those of you with blooming orchids can take a picture and send them to Renee (renee@rjbullock.com) for the May issue. And/or post them on our Facebook page. Or send them to Rich Thomas, captainrich99@yahoo.com and he can post them for you.

Maybe by May the pandemic will be past the peak in NY and we can meet again? Let's hope so. Until then, stay healthy.
Carol Bayles, President

A VIRTUAL CLASSIFICATION OF ORCHIDS ACCORDING TO THE 2019 SHOW

In these difficult days indoors, you likely spend more time looking at your computer screen, streaming videos or you are simply wondering what to do. I would like to introduce you to a problem that my wife Paula suggested it may test your ability in entering your plants into an orchid show registration.

I believe the issue is relevant since many of you missed my presentation during the March meeting. I have offered to do a second run in the future so you are introduced to the history and other details associated with an orchid show. Please note that the plants that I have selected for this exercise were not included in my presentation as examples.

Problem: Let's assume that your orchids are doing fine and your growing conditions have provided you with 16 flowering plants that you want to enter into our virtual show. Images of these plants appear on the next page. Using the show schedule, how would you enter your plants so they are in the right classes and are judged correctly?

Solution: I promise I will provide the answers to the listing of plants you virtually have entered in the next newsletter.

Luis J. Matienzo

VIRTUAL SHOW SCHEDULE FOR ORCHID CLASSES

Group B: Cattleya Alliance

- Class 6. Species excluding Cattleya
 - Class 7. Hybrids excluding Cattleya
 - Class 8. Cattleya species
 - Class 9. Cattleya hybrids, intergeneric hybrids white
 - Class 10. Cattleya hybrids, intergeneric hybrids lavender
 - Class 11. Cattleya hybrids, intergeneric hybrids red
 - Class 12. Cattleya hybrids, intergeneric hybrids other colors
 - Class 13. Cattleya alliance, miniature (6" or less, NOT including inflorescence)
- Miniatures may also be entered in classes 6 through 12 – applies to other groups

Group C: Cymbidium Alliance

- Class 14. Cymbidium and allied genera species
- Class 15. Allied genera hybrids
- Class 16. Cymbidium hybrids – standard
- Class 17. Cymbidium hybrids – miniature

Group D: Paphiopedilum and Allied Genera

- Class 18. Species, single or double flowering
- Class 19. Species, multiple flowering
- Class 20. Hybrids, primary and near primary, single or double flowering
- Class 21. Hybrids, primary and near primary, multiple flowering
- Class 22. Hybrids, Maudiae type
- Class 23. Hybrids, complex
- Class 24. Phragmipedium and related species
- Class 25. Phragmipedium and related hybrids not containing *Phrag. besseae*
- Class 26. Phragmipedium and related hybrids containing *Phrag. besseae*
- Class 27. Cypripedium species and hybrids

Group E: Vanda and Phalaenopsis Alliance

- Class 28. Species, all except Phal. and (formerly) Doritis
- Class 29. Species, Phal. and (formerly) Doritis
- Class 30. Hybrids not including Phal., Dtps. and (formerly) Doritis
- Class 31. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. • white
- Class 32. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. - white with colored lip (other than yellow)
- Class 33. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. • white with markings
- Class 34. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. - pink
- Class 35. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. • pink with markings
- Class 36. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. • yellow with or without any markings

- Class 37. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. • all others, plain
- Class 38. Hybrids, Phal. & Dtps. - all others with markings
- Class 39. Hybrids, intergeneric with Phal. and Dtps.
- Class 40. Miniatures (classes 28 – 39, same rules as for cattleyas, class 13, apply here)

Group F: Dendrobium Alliance

- Class 41. Species
- Class 42. Hybrids • nobile type
- Class 43. Hybrids - all other types
- Class 44. Miniatures (classes 41 – 43, same rules as for cattleyas, class 13, apply here)

Group G: Oncidium Alliance

- Class 45. Oncidium species, including equitant (tolumnia)
- Class 46. Oncidium hybrids, including equitant (tolumnia)
- Class 47. Brassia species, hybrids and intergenics
- Class 48. Odontoglossum species (including Lemboglossum, Osmoglossum and Rossioglossum), hybrids and intergenics
- Class 49. Miltoniopsis and Miltonia species and hybrids
- Class 50. Allied Oncidium genera: species, other than above
- Class 51. Allied Oncidium genera: hybrids and intergenics other than above
- Class 52. Miniatures (classes 45 – 51, same rules as for cattleyas, class 13, apply here)

Group H: Pleurothallid Alliance

- Class 53. Masdevallia species
- Class 54. Masdevallia hybrids and intergenics
- Class 55. Dracula species and hybrids
- Class 56. Pleurothallis species and hybrids
- Class 57. Other genera, species and hybrids
- Class 58. Miniatures (classes 53 – 57, same rules as for cattleyas, class 13, apply here)

Group I: Botanicals

- Class 59. Lycaste species, hybrids and intergenics
- Class 60. Catasetum and allied genera
- Class 61. Stanhopea and allied genera
- Class 62. Bulbophyllum and allied genera, species and hybrids
- Class 63. Jewel Orchids and others grown for foliage (need not be in bloom)
- Class 64. Species other than above
- Class 65. Hybrids other than above
- Class 66. Miniatures (cattleyas, classes 59 – 66, same rules as for cattleyas, class 13, apply here)

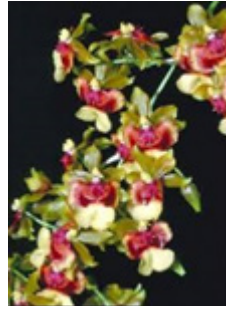
ORCHIDS FOR POSSIBLE VIRTUAL SHOW SUBMISSION



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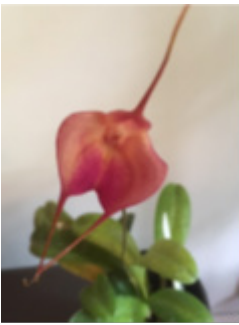
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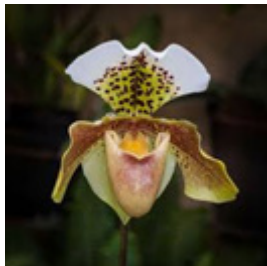
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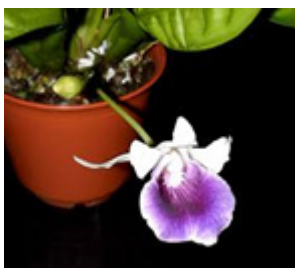
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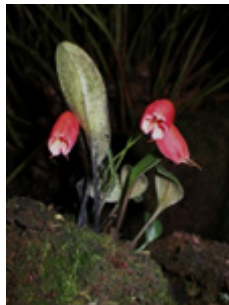
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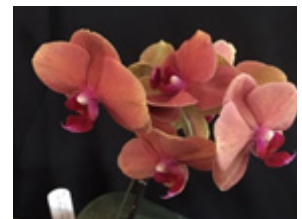
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15



16

SHOW TABLE



Encyclia Cindy



Mini Phal



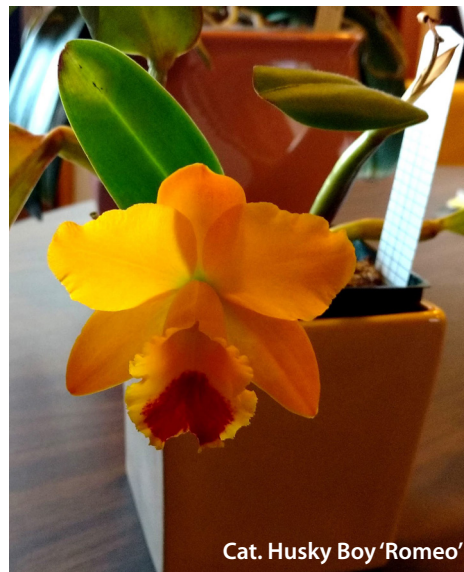
Paph. Dreaming Emerald



Den. Abracadabra Miva



Hybrid Phal



Cat. Husky Boy 'Romeo'



Galeopetalum Arlene Armour

Photos of our member show table at our March Meeting. Photos by Carol Bayles