



Southern Tier Orchid Society

[HTTP://WWW.STORCHIDSOCIETY.COM](http://www.storchidsociety.com)

MEMBER MEETING SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

2:00PM - First United Methodist Church, Endicott, NY

Wade Hollenbach will be giving a new talk entitled "Orchids to Grow Your Collection On". It is a selection of 50 plants (almost all species) that you can consider putting on your "want list" to add to your collection. All are good candidates for growing into specimen plants and most can be grown in a variety of conditions. It is a comprehensive program with a lot of cultural advice. Wade will also be bringing orchids for sale.

Wade Hollenbach has been growing orchids since 1978. He is a member of the Central Pennsylvania Orchid Society, Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania, and the American Orchid Society.

We will meet upstairs in the First United Methodist Church, located at 53 McKinley Ave. in Endicott, NY. The Executive Board will meet at 1pm before the regular member meeting.



Phragmipedium Besseae 'Firehot', Photo by Carol Bayles

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sun, 1/19	Meeting	Orchids to Grow Your Collection On - Wade Hollenbach
Sun, 2/16	Meeting	The Wonders of Orchid Roots - Gregory Griffis
Sun, 3/15	Meeting	Orchid Show Awards: Ribbons and American Orchid Society (AOS) Judging - Luis Matienzo

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello and Happy New Year to All,

I would like to begin by thanking the entire membership, from Board Members to the General Membership, for the confidence placed in my ability to bring the Southern Tier Orchid Society (STOS) to a new level of advancement and growth. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the outgoing President, Ben Cabot, for his continued guidance as we continue our executive level transition.

The new year will bring about exciting and additional forward-thinking changes to the STOS. By creating a self-imposed goal of March 31, 2020 to complete the first phase of my planned initiatives, we will be assured to quickly observe the results of our efforts and move on to newer tasks.

Some of my initiatives moving forward are to provide clear direction, increased notoriety, and greater membership for the STOS, building on what has already been developed by previous Boards. I have moved forward with recommendations and suggestions that will be discussed during the January 19, 2020 Board Meeting and submitted to the membership for voting.

To highlight just a few examples of what I have submitted to the Executive Board for consideration are the upgrading of the STOS website to include a more vibrant outward appearance and user friendly tools, the creation of a newly titled site as a ".org" for the purpose of solidifying corporate continuity and the creation of a new "800" telephone number collectively for seamless communications and uniformity.

These steps are just some works in progress that I have submitted, along with other objectives for Board review last December. I am confident that we will meet our March goal and enjoy the beginning of a newer, more formidable and advanced Southern Tier Orchid Society.

Anthony Mercado, President

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President

Anthony Mercado

Vice President

Carol Bayles

Treasurer

Jane Trey

Secretary

Ben Cabot

AOS Representative

Bernice Magee

Members-At-Large

Luis Matienzo

Pamela Pucci

Sharon Voorhees

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:

www.storchidsociety.com

Facebook:

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

Email:

southerntierorchidsociety@yahoo.com

DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES

STOS President, Ben Cabot, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

Welcome:

Ben welcomed all, and explained the order of business at today's meeting. We will eat first, and enjoy our dish-to-pass, while everything is still hot! Afterwards, we will conduct a brief meeting, followed by the raffle for the give-away of the free orchids to the paid-up members present at today's meeting. Any remaining orchids will be raffled off, as well.

Dish to Pass Banquet:

We then broke for a delicious feast! There was a bounty of delightful dishes provided by our members! We all enjoyed the delicious, festive food and, of course, the fine company of all our orchid-loving friends!

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made and accepted to approve the November 2019 Meeting Minutes

Treasurer Report:

Jane Trey reported the current balance of our treasury, and reminded members that dues of \$20 for 2020 are now due. Jane will work on the 2020 budget, and will present it to the Executive Board and members during the January meeting.

Committee Reports/Meeting Discussion:

Library: Paula Palmer, librarian, has categorized all of the STOS books, and has ordered an STOS stamp for the library books; Paula reported that the books and the sign-out sheet are in the library; she will bring a few books from the library to each meeting to encourage members to sign out books, if interested. The books are a valuable resource for members to make use of.

Facebook: Rich Thomas is the Facebook administrator for 2020.

AOS: Bernice Magee brought in the new issue of the AOS Orchid Magazine—any member may borrow it. Bernice commented that photos may be submitted to the magazine to possibly be selected as photo of the month. Bernice also mentioned that the AOS magazine includes an orchid pronunciation guide, included in every month's issue!

2020 STOS Orchid Show: Carol Bayles, Show Chair, reported that we will be having an AOS-judged orchid show at the Roberson Center on 4/25-4/26/20, with set up on Friday, 4/24. Roberson has offered to advertise the show on their website. Judging will take place at 9:00am on Saturday. We have 3 vendors committed (Main Street Orchids, Wade Hollenback, and Kim Feddersen). We will need members to host the vendors. If you have a spare room and can accommodate a vendor, please contact Carol Bayles. We will also need someone to do the plant registration, as Pete O'Connell will not be available. Would need to be someone who is knowledgeable about orchids.

New Computer Purchase: Our old STOS laptop is no longer operational. Ben has deferred purchase of a new laptop for the club to the next President to be accomplished next year.

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...December Meeting Minutes continued from previous page.

New Business:

2020 Elections: The members voted and approved the new slate of officers for 2020:

- President: Anthony Mercado
- Vice President: Carol Bayles
- Treasurer: Jane Trey
- Secretary: Ben Cabot
- AOS Representative: Bernice Magee
- Executive Board Members : Sharon Voorhees, Luis Matienzo, Pamela Pucci
- Newsletter Editor and Membership Coordinator (non-elected office): Renee DePrato

Membership Dues (\$20) are now payable for 2020

Show Table:

Members shared some of their flowering beauties on our Show table.

Raffle:

The holiday orchids were then raffled off, and each paid-up membership received their free orchid, compliments of STOS. Luis then raffled off the rest of the "leftover" holiday plants. Many members got some really great deals on some beauties!

Meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Mandeville, Secretary

STOS 2020 ORCHID SHOW

Our show will be on April 25-26, 2020 at the Roberson Museum and Science Center on Front St in Binghamton. Our club will have 2-3 display tables and the Central NY Orchid Society (CNYOS) will also have a display. We have 3 vendors this year and each of them will have a display as well. It should be a wonderful show. This will also be an AOS-judged show (unlike last year) so we will have several judges attending as well. Setup will be on Friday from 2pm - 7pm (with pizza). Judging will be Saturday morning from 9am - noon or longer, as needed. The show will be open to the public from Noon - 5pm on Saturday and Sunday, with cleanup afterwards. We will have a raffle, some children's activities, and other informative displays. The show itself is free.



Wade's Orchids display from 2019 STOS show. Photo by Geoffrey Gould

We will need lots of volunteers for many tasks, starting with setting up displays on Friday and ending with cleanup on Sunday. We will each need 2-3 clerks to help the judges on Saturday morning, and we will need people to take shifts selling raffle tickets and answering questions both afternoons. On Saturday there will be coffee/pastries in the morning and lunch for volunteers and judges. We also have always provided housing for the vendors. I will host Wade Hollenbeck again but we need a host for Kim Federson (Fair Orchids). I don't know about the new vendor, Main Street Orchids, but it would be nice if we could offer a place to stay. If you have a spare room with a bed please consider hosting for Friday and Saturday nights. It's a great way to get advice from an expert and you may end up with a free orchid.

Mark your calendar and keep this weekend free. It is the biggest event of the year for our club and everyone should be part of it. I have to say I had a great time hanging out at the show all weekend last year and I was amazed at how many of our members stayed around, too.

Carol Bayles, Show Chair

TO INFINITY AND BEYOND

This is 20/20 (with a Barbara Walters Accent)

Although I am King of my house, I serve at the will of my wife. Her hobby is orchids. So I accompany her to our club meetings. Therefore for the second time last year I served as your president by default. For me, personality of people is the greatest endeavor that makes life worthwhile. I am not particularly drawn to the study of orchids or the science that balances their survival. The art of orchids is my enjoyment; the colors, the shapes, and infinite variety of types, exotic and graceful. To you, the people interested in providing maintenance and orchid schedules, I admire your diligence.

Life is all about opportunities, every day a new threshold for adventure. Survival of organizations like the Southern Tier Orchid Society depends on the continual flow of leadership. New leadership brings new and fresh enthusiasm. The undertaking of responsibilities is an act of heroism; a fresh occasion to plan for success, to develop a blueprint of operation for the benefit of all. New, is a generation of change for the future. It is exciting to feel the passion like we experienced at the Christmas Party, the camaraderie we had at the summer picnic, and public exposure we had at the Orchid Show at Roberson Museum and Science Center. The best is yet to come.

Several members attended the funeral of long time STOS member Bob Rudin. He lived a long and fruitful life, an avid orchid lover with a passion for life, family, people, and teaching. When his Rabbi and children spoke about him, it was clear that a great man has met his maker. His kindness and humble nature serve as an example we all should strive to be like.

I have heard that Ann Quain, long time member and lover of green (Irish) orchids, suffered a badly broken leg, pray her healing comes quickly.

It is comforting to feel the warmth embraced by new President, Tony Mercado. He became president before he became a member. Thank you Tony, great things come to people that never say no. Willingness, perseverance, and preparation are the keys that will be the elements of his successful year. Kudos to Renee DePrato, for undertaking newsletter duties, developing a new format, and encouraging participation for all. Welcome Pamela Pucci as a new board member, new ideas are what make things better every day. Gratefully Rich Thomas is editing our Facebook page, and Joe Sniezek is making progress with a new website design.

To the many members of the Southern Tier Orchid Society, I love you all. Thank you for letting me provide some service.

May the bloom be yours,
Ben Cabot - Secretary



Club members enjoying our annual holiday party. Photo by Ben Cabot

UPCOMING ORCHID SHOWS

January 17-19, 2020 - Northern Jersey Orchid Society Show and Sale, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ
Free admission and parking, a dozen vendors, workshops. More info at www.njorchids.org

February 6-9, 2020 - Deep Cut Orchid Society Show and Sale, Dearborn Market, Holmdel, NJ
Free admission. More info at www.deepcutorchidsociety.org

March 26-29, 2020 - Genesee Region Orchid Society Show and Sale, Rochester Museum & Science Center, Rochester, NY
More info at www.geneseeorchid.org

February 15 - April 19, 2020 - The Orchid Show at New York Botanical Gardens, Bronx, NY
More info at www.nybg.org

April 3-5, 2020 - Southern Pennsylvania Orchid Society Show, Greater Philadelphia Expo Center, Oaks, PA
More info at www.sepos.org