



OSWP Membership Application Form

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____

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Phone (_____) _____ - _____ Email _____

Circle one:

Paper Newsletter: Individual Membership \$20 Household Membership \$25

Email Newsletter: Individual Membership \$15 Household Membership \$20

Must include a legible email address. Mail your form and check made out to OSWP to Richard Raiff, 106 Markham Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228, or contact at oswp@comcast.net



Orchid Society of Western
Pennsylvania

www.oswp.org

Editor: Cindi Zimmerman
Cindi.wu@gmail.com

The Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania, Inc. is a non-profit corporation organized to advance the propagation, horticulture and preservation of orchid species and hybrids through research, education and scientific endeavors.

ORCHID SOCIETY OF WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

February 2012

Dear OSWP Members and Friends,

Thank you to Norma and Jim for the January program. Norma contacted AOS and Jim updated their slides as a power point presentation and then presented it to us. The Flea market was fun and I hope members had a chance to purchase bargains and/or eliminate duplicates or extra plants from their collections. I can't say enough about our wonderful auctioneer, Edye Van Dyke and her beautiful assistant, Amy Cignetti! She really did a spectacular job which only enhanced the amount raised for P-OSI.

Thank you to Linda Christen's son, Adam Purdy, for allowing the OSWP to store the show equipment in his landscaping equipment barn. Jack Lucas has moved everything to the barn the week after the meeting. Jack has stored this equipment for years..we really appreciate that, Jack.

Just a word about our upcoming show in March. The show is a lot of fun. It takes a lot of folks to make it fun. We need everyone's help. Please look at the list of committees and volunteer to help. Some require a lot of orchid knowledge but other committees do not need any orchid knowledge just a friendly face.

Looking forward to this month and a talk about terrestrial orchids. It will be the last clipboard Sunday..so sign up and help!

and...Think Orchids

Sincerely,

Carolyn Bolton
boltoncs@gmail.com

Meet February's Speaker: Dr. Bill Mathis “Gardening with Perennial Orchids”

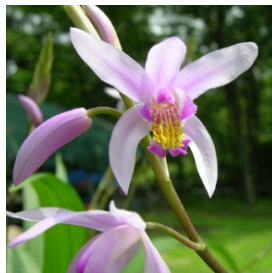
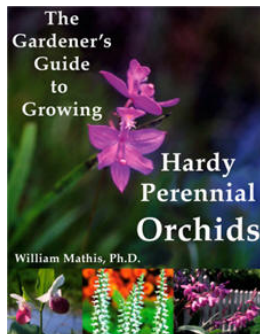
February 19, 2012

For OSWP members who are avid orchid lovers as well as outdoor gardeners, this month's talk “Gardening with Perennial Orchids” offers tips and techniques that will encourage us to indulge both interests simultaneously.

Our speaker, William Mathis, became interested in native terrestrial orchids in 1970 when, as a graduate student at the University of Arkansas, he conducted ecological studies on ‘Small Yellow Lady’s Slipper Orchids in Northwest Arkansas.’ After completing his MS and Ph. D. he accepted a job with a major agricultural company and worked as a research scientist and manager until his retirement.

Bill then started **The Wild Orchid Company** focusing on North American, European and Asian terrestrial species that are hardy in Southeastern Pennsylvania. He is now working with hybridization and has induced polyploidy of several *Bletilla*, *Cymbidium*, *Calopogon*, *Pleione* and *Calanthe* species in an effort to select specific plants for horticultural use.

The Wild Orchid Company web site entices readers with a host of specific growing tips and cultural recommendations. For more in depth knowledge, ***The Gardener's Guide to Growing Hardy Perennial Orchids*** (2005) offers a practical and non-technical ‘how to’ handbook for hobby enthusiasts.



Bletilla Yokoham 'Kate'



Calanthe tricarinata

Bill will be bringing copies of his book and a few selected orchid species for sale at our meeting (if purchased, he advises to just keep them in the refrigerator until ready to plant out.) Pre-orders can be placed for *Calopogon turerosus* or *Plectelis(Habenaria) radiata* only, or you can place an order for mailing in the spring:

Phone (215) 297-5053 or Fax (215) 297-0578

Email: WildOrchidCo@earthlink.net

Web Site: www.WildOrchidCompany.com

Getting to know Bill Mathis:

What was your first orchid? *Bletilla striata*

What was your biggest mistake or funniest experience? I purchased *Bletilla striata* from Parks Seed Company in 1973. I grew them as shade plants as instructed by Parks. Several years later I found out that *Bletilla striata* is a sun plant and grows much differently when given full exposure.

Family matters: I am married with a son and married daughter, and a new granddaughter.

Words of advice to orchid lovers: "Read the book twice and grow once."

Mini Class: Registering Your Orchids & How to Win Ribbons and Trophies

1:30pm

In preparation for our upcoming show, Barbara Tisherman and Tim Choltco will discuss how to prepare your plants for exhibition and will explain how to register your plants. Plants must be entered correctly to be eligible for ribbons and trophies. If time permits Barbara will also talk about what judges look for in awarding ribbons and trophies. She will bring some handouts that will help with exhibit design.

P-OSI Update for February

(Phipps-Orchid Society Initiative)

Mission: developing the Phipps orchids into a collection of "note"

The Tribe Teams for Phipps - Orchid Society Initiative are discussing when to meet and study their part of the collection to suggest cultural adjustments as well as needed orchid additions or subtractions. There are lots of great, educational work to be done with hands-on learning.

The Slipper Team and advisors are embarking on a research project to survey Paph experts (hybridizers, authors, noted authorities) for the most important (re: hybridizing or as a new type) paph hybrids since 1870, when the first paph hybrid was registered (then called cyripediums). It's hard work and exciting! Hoping to have results after our show, publish the results, and then begin collecting the actual plants for Phipps!

AND . . . Laura Schoch from Phipps has finished accessioning (putting the orchid inventory we physically did last June into the computer) and making permanent metal tags for the MINI tribe and the Dendrobium tribe. So **we need volunteers** (this means you :) for either **Wednesday, February 8th, or Saturday, February 11th, from 9:30AM to 1PM.** Snacks provided.

Please let Demetria know if you can be part of the Tag Team for those Two Tribes in February OR if you'd like to be part of this project in another way. (...continued...)

Thanks very much,
Nancy Kline and Demetria Marsh
demetmarsh@verizon.net
412-630-8293

February Pfun at Phipps

What a great time to be volunteering at Phipps!!! The Orchid Show is going on and we will be able to see the fruits of the year's labors up close and personal! How exciting it can be to see an orchid that you repotted blooming in all its glory in the orchid exhibition house. The only Pfun date for February will be Thursday February 16. As usual, 9:30. We finish around 12:30 or so. Either meet near the cafe or go directly to the greenhouses. Don't forget to leave a note on your dashboard that you are an orchid society volunteer. We have some very attractive notes available in the greenhouses. We will probably be repotting orchids but possibly other chores??? Please let me know if you can join us. E-mail me at nancyk412@gmail.com or by phone at 412.367.1556. Thanks for all of the support for Pfun and P-OSI
Nancy Kline

Minutes of the OSWP Business Meeting Held on 1-15-12 at the Phipps Garden Center

Minutes Submitted by: Gary VanGelder

Auction of Bob Cotton donated orchid collectables was conducted prior to the business meeting. The proceeds of this auction are going to the Phips / OSWP Initiative. The total raised was \$187

There were approximately 40 members in attendance

Business meeting was opened at 2:20 PM by Carolyn Bolton

The society still needs a volunteer to store the society's show supplies. If no one comes forward in the next few weeks, then commercial space will be rented at a cost of \$30 per month (\$360 per year).

There were three visitors in attendance.

Linda Forschner provided a status update of the Spring Show and started passing around sign-up clipboards. There are still a few major coordination positions that need filled.

These included education, preview party, publicity, Saturday evening dinner, ribbons & trophies, and hospitality. Linda does not have the ability this year to fill in for these if no one takes them on. Posters will be available for distribution at next month's meeting.

There will be a show committee meeting next month at noon before the main meeting.

(...continued...)

The largest portion of the discussion of these show coordinator positions involved hospitality. Mike Lysy explained the task and issues he was facing in the past few years with diminishing contributions. No one volunteered at the meeting to take on this task. There were some suggestions for alternative options. It was decided to have options, and the consequences of each, put in newsletter.

Carolyn reminded everyone that the society will be voting on the proposed bylaws changes next month.

Bob Jenkner gave a brief summation of the society's finances. This included the fall show and other expenses.

Nancy Kline briefly reviewed the upcoming fun at Phipps. There are two dates scheduled in January and they are already full.

Demetria gave a summary of the Phipps / OSWP Initiative. It is moving along. The physical inventory is essentially done. The slipper group is now doing research into which plants in the collection have special merit or great rarity. There is still room for more to members to join this initiative.

Barbara Tisherman gave an update on the Paph forum being held on February 18th in Washington DC (in a location different than usual)

Gary VanGelder asked for suggestions from members on whom to contact to fill the few vendor openings for the spring show.

Carolyn announced Vicki Strod is chairing the Nomination Committee

Norma Raiff asked members to opt for receiving the newsletter by email if possible. Mailing them via postal is quite expensive. She also highlighted upcoming programs and reminded everyone that a volunteer is still need to coordinate the society auction in June.

Tim Choltco volunteered to again host the society picnic in the summer

Four members brought on approximately 10 plants for show & tell

Business meeting ended 3:00 PM

REMINDER

We will be voting on the revised by-laws at February's meeting. Please review and/or download from the website. If you cannot attend and wish to register your vote, please contact Carolyn Bolton (boltoncs@comcast.net).

2012 Spring Show Information: An Exotic Orchid Getaway

Greetings All!

Well it is that time of year again. It feels like just yesterday I was sitting at my computer writing words of encouragement as last year's show was about to begin, and what a beautiful show it was. As many of you know, it is not the direction of one, but of many to put on a spectacular show. I am forever in thanks to all of my hard working members for the wonderful jobs they did last year. And now, I am forever in thanks and appreciation of those who have, and may not have yet, agreed to volunteer their time for this year's show. I have chosen the theme **An Exotic Orchid Getaway** because that is what I think we are all in need for from time to time. Over the past nine months, I have changed my life dramatically by decided to go into nursing school, so I am much in need of a getaway. So please join me on a weekend getaway filled with hundreds of exotic orchids.

It is important to keep in mind that without our committee members and volunteers, the Show would not be possible. If you haven't done so already, I encourage you to sign-up to help on a committee. Volunteering is a great way to learn more about orchids, to learn how the Show runs, and to get to know fellow members. Most importantly, we do not volunteer because somebody told us we had to, we volunteer our time because of the joy that orchids bring us. While on the topic of volunteering, there are some committees that still need a chairperson(s). Without a guiding light, these committees will not exist, thus not allowing our wonderful show to be the best it can be. So I am looking for volunteers for the following committees: **Hospitality, Preview Party, Saturday Night Party, and Flower Arrangement.** These are not complicated jobs to fill, but time is needed to ensure that they are completed properly. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact me as soon as possible.

Look for even more show information in March's newsletter. It will contain the most up to date information.

See you in February!
Linda Forschner
2012 OSWP Spring Show Chairman

**Needed: Spring Show Hospitality
Co-Chair! Please Contact Rick Nietert
at 724.222.3069. The show cannot go
on without your help! Volunteer!**

Spring Show Artistic Arrangement

Class 401: Wild and Wonderful Orchids – Create an orchid design using one or more orchid flower and fresh or dried plant material. Orchids should be dominant, other flowers may be included. The design must be suitable for a niche 32” high by 23” wide and 15” deep. Accessories are permitted, but may not dominate the design. Limit six entries.

Class 402: Fascinating Orchid Centerpiece – Create a multiple color orchid centerpiece or basket in a space 15” wide by 21” deep. Orchids must dominate, other flowers, greens and fruit can be included. Limit six entries.

Class 403: Miniature Orchid Arrangement – Create a small design not to exceed 8” high and 8” square. The space available is 10” wide by 21” deep. Orchids must be included, only fresh and dried materials are permitted. Limit six entries.

A designer may enter all classes, but only one entry in each class. No artificial plant materials may be used. Accessories are permitted in all classes.

Entries must be completed by 11am Friday, March 16th.

Please contact me for flower or plant material to be ordered from Pittsburgh Cut Flowers. Reservations to show and requests for flowers must be made by March 3rd to:

Frances Rice
412.963.9104

Classifieds :: Wanted/For Sale

FOR SALE

- Cirrhopetalum (Bulbophyllum) medusae (large plant, very rare)
- Cym. King Arthur 'Green Giant' AM/AOS - Two plants should be in bloom for our show, one 3 spikes and one 1 spike. This is the one in my exhibit every year!
- Phaius Dan Rosenberg 'Mellow Yellow' – 3 spikes (large plant, flowers opening now)
- Phaius Dan Rosenberg 'Tropical Ice' – 3 SPIKES (large plant, in high bud)
- Heisey glass orchid pattern plates in several styles
- Orchid sweaters by Marian Sheehan

Call: BARBARA TISHERMAN at 412-683-0207.

The Paphiopedilum Forum will be held on February 18, 2012, sponsored by the National Capital Orchid Society. This year the location is Behnke's Nurseries, 11300 Baltimore Ave., Beltsville, MD (about a mile north of the Beltway on Route 1/Baltimore Ave.).

Sales open at 8:00 a.m.

Speakers this year are Dr. Holger Perner talking about "Paphiopedilum Species from China," Arnold Klehm on "Complex Paphiopedilums" and Eric Sauer on "Phragmipediums." There will also be an overview of recent slipper orchid awards and discussion of the plant show tables.

Ribbons and trophies will be awarded, and AOS judging will be held. This jam-packed day of slipper lore, plant sales and slipper plants on display will end by 5:00 p.m. The fee of \$50

includes lunch and a door prize ticket.

(...continued...)

Participation is limited to the first 140 registrants.

Pre-registration is required, as space is limited and box lunches must be reserved. For more information go to <http://www.ncos.us/ncos>.

2012 Meeting Schedule

Jan. 15 :: Orchid Swap & AOS Program: *Unusual Orchids Visible to the Naked Eye*

Feb. 19 :: Dr. Bill Mathis – The Wild Orchid Company: *Gardening with Perennial Orchids*

March 14-18 :: **OSWP Annual Show**

April 15 :: Jason Fischer – Orchids Limited: *2011 World Orchid Conference*

May 20 :: Steve Frowine

June 10 :: Auction



2011 Orchid Show Set up!



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/342202277984/>

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEWSLETTER ARE DUE NO LATER THAN THE 20TH OF EACH MONTH! PLEASE DO NOT FORMAT SUBMISSIONS.