



Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

June 2022

www.oswp.org

Upcoming Events

June 19 2022

Edgar Stehli, from Windswept in Time
Bulbophyllum

Looking Ahead

Meetings will continue on Zoom for now

July 30 2022 OSWP Picnic
August no newsletter or meeting
Sept 18 2022 TBA

" UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES "

OSWP meetings are held at the Phipps Garden Center on Shady Avenue and are open to members, their guests and the general public. Program Calendar is also available at www.oswp.org

HOWEVER, we are on Zoom for meetings , and those interested non members could use the 'contact us ' section of the website to get a Zoom invitation

OSWP Officers

Co-President: Sheila Nathanson and Mike Lyse

Co-First Vice President: Kathleen Arria and David Springer

Second Vice President: Timothy Choltco

Directors: Brooke Decker, Peg Kalupanov, Jinghua Ou, Aaron Vitron, Tamara Wurst.

Secretary: open

Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

What's Blooming Now

Cypripedium Acaule or Moccasin flower is native to the woods of eastern North America from Georgia north to Maine and west to the Mississippi river. It is also in Canada from the east coast to the Northwest Territory. It grows in pine or oak forests in dry areas. That said on occasion it can be found in bogs which can be dry part of the year. The soil is acid with very low in nitrogen.

This orchid grows along with a bacteria (in symbiosis) and if the bacteria is not able to live in the soil where the orchid seed falls, the orchid will not grow. I think the bacteria fixes the nitrogen so the orchid can absorb it in the spring or over winter.

The flower color veeries from dark rose to white. This may be do to the soil type. White though is an albe form and breeds true to white. This orchid does have a fragrance of very strong rose.

Cyp. acaule is probably one of the most difficult orchid to cultivate.

Cypriderium Acaule



Photo by Jlm Yamber

Co-President's Letter May 2022

This is the last co-presidents letter from me and Mike. Our term ends on 6/30/2022, and we expect a new slate of officers and advisory board to be confirmed by majority vote on 6/19/2022, at our June meeting. It has been a challenge to guide the OSWP during the pandemic shutdown. We learned a lot, and deeply appreciate all our members who participated via Zoom. We're grateful we had an alternative to no meetings at all, but there is no substitute for meeting in person.

On that note, we will be welcomed back to the Phipps Garden Center on Shady Ave for our next meeting. This will be a homecoming for many of us, since the Garden Center was our meeting "home" for many years. Our guest lecturer will be our friend, Edgar Stehli, of Windswept in Time Orchids. He will be speaking on the subject of 'Growing Bulbophyllum'. This is certainly an area I could use more information on! Our meeting will begin by 12:30, with our speaker at 2pm.

I have begun to spray my catasetum with a miticide, since I had a dreadful infestation last year.

I've been using the Bayer product that specifically is effective against mites. It does have to be re-applied every couple of weeks, but if I can keep my leaves clean I'll have better growth and flowers. I have also started the process of getting my collection outside. I started with the cooler growers, and hopefully within the next week the greenhouse will be empty, and can be deep cleaned in preparation for the fall.

Thank you to Kathy Collins, Membership Chair, and Janet Greenberg, Treasurer, for organizing the New Member Reception. We LOVE having new members! (We love our old members,too)

Thanks also to Natalie Turicik for organizing the plant raffle, and Tim Choltco for pulling a winning ticket for our speaker, Dave Miller, AOS Judge. We all enjoyed his presentation on choosing a plant most likely to perform well, and maybe earn someone awards.

It has been a pleasure serving as an officer with Mike Lysy, Dave Springer , Tim Choltco and Janet Greenberg, and our advisory board members: Brooke Decker, Peg Kalupanov, Jinghua Ou, Aaron Vitron, and Tamara Wurst. May the new officers and board work together as harmoniously and form deep friendships as we have. That's what it's all about, actually.

Stay well, and think orchids!

Sheila Nathanson and Mike Lysy, co- presidents, OSWP



Cattleya skinneri var alba 'Snow'

OSWP Election This Month

Below is the slate of officers and board members who have agreed to serve next year, if elected. The election will be at the June Annual Meeting, June 19th.

The Nominating Committee (Jim Yamber, Norma Raiff, Demetria Marsh) and all the OSWP thank them for their willingness to serve.

Our thanks also go to the officers and board members who have served the last two years. Without them, the OSWP would cease to exist. Thank you!

Co presidents: Michelle and Dave Panasiuk
Co first vice: Natalie Turicik and Carolyn Bolton
Second vice: Katie Schuller Mentor: Tim Choltco
Secretary: Kathy Collins
Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

Board Members
Tim Choltco
Kathy Grajcar
Dave Motak
Chuck Oldenburg
Brian Powell

June speaker is Edgar Stehli.

Our speaker for our June meeting is Edgar Stehli. Edgar along with his wife Kim are the owners of Windswept in Time Orchids and are faithful vendors at our shows.

Edgar's interest in orchids began when he was just six or seven years old. He found a plant growing in the roadside ditch near his house in North East Ohio. When his father got home from work, he dragged him over to see his discovery. He said "Oh! That's an orchid." Edgar's first orchid find was a *Spiranthes* (probably *cernua*). A few years later his family drove to Alaska and back. On that trip, he found a *Calypso bulbosa* in Wyoming and several other orchids in Alaska and Canada.

In his final year at Case Western University, he met Kim Sante who was working at the Cleveland Garden Center, now known as the Cleveland Botanical Garden. Eventually Kim and Edgar were married in Kenya, Africa. Shortly after they were married, they built a sunroom on the corner of their house. This of course allowed his orchid collection to get a little out of hand. Finally in 1999 Edgar and Kim began selling their plants to area florists, and then through the orchid shows. They called their new business – Windswept in Time Orchids. They now attend close to fifteen shows a year, where their plants and exhibits have won many awards

Edgar will be speaking to us about the genus *Bulbophyllum*. *Bulbophyllum* is a huge group of orchids found throughout the tropics. They are quite varied in shape and size. Some are fragrant, and some not! They are generally easy to grow once you know the tricks. There have been lots of taxonomic changes in this group, but we will not be overly concerned with the nomenclature, and just consider them all *Bulbophyllum*, or whatever their label says. The presentation will cover a brief history of the group, and its distribution around the world. There are pictures of many of the more commonly grown species, and lots of cultural information as well. Edgar has received many awards on my *Bulbophyllum* plants, and many of these are featured in the presentation.

Orchid Gems Natalie Turicik

Natalie Turicik: Standing up for OSWP, Community, and Ukraine

By Norma Raiff

Natalie Turicik is a relatively “newer” member of our society who will shortly become more familiar to our membership at large. That’s because she’s slated to become OSWP’s First Vice President in July.

You may already know her through several channels. If you attended our recent Spring Show perhaps you took some time to study Natalie’s stunning display that featured beautifully arranged orchids and her homemade pysanky: gorgeous, decorated eggs that she dyes using intricate traditional (and sometimes non-traditional) designs. And if you listened to Natalie’s recent talk on growing under lights you may have learned a lot about orchid culture.



It’s also possible that you are aware that Natalie and her family are long term members of a local Ukraine community. Although her parents and some of her grandparents grew up in the US, her family’s Ukraine connections remain strong. Natalie’s parents, grandparents and her own children (five generations in all) are members of St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Carnegie, PA. However, congregational prayers are being supplemented with direct action. Starting the day after Russia invaded Ukraine, the Church made the news by packing thousands of donated items (such as non-perishable food, diapers, and medical and emergency supplies) to send for civilian relief. To quote Father John Charest of St. Peter and St. Paul Church, "It feels amazing. Being in a Pittsburgh community, this is a Mister Rogers' story. Where is God in this? Well, look for the people doing good" (Source: Carnegie Church receives huge donations for Ukrainian civilians – CBS Pittsburgh).

And about the pysanky: “I began learning from my maternal grandmother as a young child. She was the real master, who learned from her mother and grandmother in Ukraine, as they did before them. I love the process of dying the egg, adding wax with a kistka (stylus used for applying melted bee’s wax), and repeating that with each color that I want in the design. Although I’ve been writing pysanky for a long time, I’ve only recently started featuring orchids on them!”

You can see more of Natalie’s work by visiting an upcoming Stand with Ukraine multimedia exhibit at the Sweetwater Center for Arts in Sewickley from June 13, 2022 - July 22, 2022. Its focus is on how artists of Ukrainian descent are aesthetically expressing themselves as they respond to the ongoing war’s horrors. Background information: Natalie grew up in the Pittsburgh area and returned here after working out of state. She and her husband, Louis (an engineer at Westinghouse), and their two young children, Sofia (age 4) and Dmytri (age 1), live in Kennedy Township. An engineer by profession, Natalie’s also a Product Manager at FedEx Ground. She values the Pittsburgh community for its friendliness and its culture, diversity, and affordable life style which she judges to be ahead of comparable communities of the same size.

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Natalie's journey toward orchid involvement has been several years in the making: but how she became an OSWP member is unique. Like many of us, Natalie enjoys gardening and learned it from her family. "I've always liked having plants around." However, she became attached to orchids about 10-11 years ago after winning an unnamed phalaenopsis at a bridal shower. Natalie's was charmed by its color and, although many years went by with no sign of re-flowering, she hung on to it because of her love of plants. Her guardianship was rewarded several years later when, now in a new house and having been relocated to a sunnier window, the plant once again bloomed.

Orchid collections often grow in fits and starts. Natalie started buying sales phals at places like Lowes, "and all of a sudden I had 10!" At the same time, she became known at work as the "girl who likes to take care of orchids." Which meant that coworkers began to come to her with questions. So, never one to treat things lightly, Natalie started searching for reliable sources of orchid information and came across the OSWP website. And to me, the amazing part of her orchid journey is this: Natalie immediately signed up as an OSWP member even though she had never attended any of our shows or meetings. Her action also astonished OSWPers helping at the membership table who soon realized their outreach was unnecessary.

And yes, Natalie's orchid journey has become more diversified. She now has about 200 plants not counting seedlings. And while some are in a window sill (read more about that below), she primarily grows under LED lights which she finds promotes better growth and is much less expensive than fluorescents.

Natalie's collection includes phals, Cattleyas, Oncidiums, Paphiopediliums, and Odontoglossums. She loves hybrid phals, such as Phal. Art Nouveau or Phal. Zheng Min Anacond. Another of her favorites is Encyclia (Prosthechea) cochleata, commonly referred to as the clamshell or cockleshell orchid. "I love its shape and that it holds its blossoms over time." For those who are not familiar, cochleata not only flowers in succession, the remarkable thing is that the flowers resemble a swimming 2 to 4 inch octopus!

At this stage of her "orchid cycle", Natalie has decided to only keep plants that she can successfully raise and to prune the rest either by giving them away, dumping, or selling them to others.

When asked "What your funniest/weirdest mistake or experience?" Natalie's response illustrates her sense of humor, love of family, and the care with which she instructs her children about how to respect the things she values.

Story #1: About 2.5 years ago, Natalia came across Sofia (then aged 1.5) "hiding" within the area of the shear drapes that cover a windowsill area where Natalie grows some of her orchids. And she overheard: Sofia softly speaking - "Orch-DiD (points)... (pause); Orch-DiD (points and pauses) ...Orch-DiD (points and pauses) (Sigh)...Mama's... Don't touch!" Clearly a lesson learned!

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Story #2. She recently caught Dimitri trying to eat a handful of potting materials. Clearly a lesson in progress! So be sure to come up and congratulate Natalie during the June election, feel free to ask about her choice of lights, and to find out more about where her art and conscience are taking her.





P-OSI

A joint initiative between Phipps Conservatory and the Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania to create and cultivate an orchid collection of note for enjoyment, education and research.

June 2022

Pfun at Phipps is part of P-OSI (the Phipps-Orchid Society Initiative, to grow the Phipps orchid collection well). Repotting and cleaning up is our main work, while learning and having some Pfun, too.

We have finished repotting the cymbidiums and are repotting cattleyas and whatever else Giovanny needs. We are going to Phipps most Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30AM – 12:30PM. (If it's your first visit, you must stop in at the Volunteer Office with proof of vaccination and ID and sign a photo release. All of the volunteers are required to wear masks at Phipps.)

If you would like to join our Pfun efforts and haven't previously signed up with us, please let us know at the email addresses below. We are using 3 members each date, with at least one being a more experienced grower.

Our June dates are filled so we would be looking at the Mondays and Thursdays in July.

Thanks and looking forward to working and learning together.

PS: Phipps Summer Flower Show: Monet in Bloom. Don't miss it!

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412-848-4349

Current Committees Chairs,

AOS	Nancy Kline
Culture Corner	Nancy Kline
Facebook	Lance Cheuvront
Garden Club/Library Liaison	Karen Gibson
Hospitality	Carolyn Bolton
Library	open
Membership	Kathy Collins
Mini-class	Tim Cholte
Newsletter	Jim Yamber

Orchid Gems	Norma Raiff, Pam Horter-Moore, Cristina Eyler
Pfun	Nancy Kline
P-OSI	Demetria Marsh
Raffle	Natalie Turicik
Show	Sheila Nathanson, Norma Raiff and Janet Greenberg
Speaker	Kathleen Arria and David Springer
Website	Jinghua Ou

Mini-class 2022 – June
Prior to the O.S.W.P. business meeting.

Habenaria and Related Genera - Timothy Choltco

Please join myself and the O.S.W.P. for the mini-class for June. The topic “Habenaria and Related Genera”. The presentation will be a discussion of culture.

Habenaria is a wonderful genus of about 880 species found in tropical and subtropical areas of every continent. Related genera that grow similarly are Bonatea (13 species), Cynorkis (60-70 species), Pecteilis (8-9 species), Stenoglottis (8 species), and others. Cynorkis, Habenaria, and Stenoglottis species and hybrids have become increasingly popular for their colorful flowers produced in late summer through early winter. While the first Habenaria hybrid was registered in 1910, the majority of hybrids were produced after 2010. Recently hybrids between Cynorkis, Habenaria, and Pecteilis have added additional colors, shapes, and sizes. The future of this group is NOW. Work is being done by several growers and breeders, including myself, to bring more to the orchid buffet. These plants, unlike the majority of other orchids REQUIRE a warm (or sometimes cool to cold) dry dormancy. Not a rest period. These plants lose their leaves and become completely dormant like spring Narcissus and Tulipa or summer Dahlia. Failure with these plants is often with the misunderstanding of the dormancy period. Some species are forgiving of watering at the “wrong time”. For some species it is a death sentence. But, in the end it is a matter of listening to your plants and being patient.

Though I did a similar presentation in 2021, over the past 2 months I have received many emails, texts, etc. concerning what, when, and how to treat these orchids now that they are waking up from their 3-5 month dormancy. This will be a truncated culture only presentation. Please join myself and the rest of the O.S.W.P. for this presentation prior to the regular O.S.W.P. meeting.

Timothy Choltco

2nd Vice President and all around decent sentient being.



OSWP
3rd ANNUAL ORCHID RAFFLE for MEMBER
DUES RENEWAL,

HELD Sunday 06/19/22 at monthly meeting
Winner need not be present

All renewed ONLY, paid members for fiscal year 07/01/22-06/30/23 are AUTOMATICALLY
ENTERED IN THE RAFFLE

(Note: New members in 2022 are not up for renewal)

The raffle, orchid plant is from Windswept in Time Orchids, owned by Edgar Stiehl. Plant info will
be e-blasted the end of May. If winner is not present at the June 19th meeting, arrangements will
be made.

Dues: Individual: \$20; Family \$25
(For those without email, add \$15)

*No need to complete the membership form, if your contact info for address,
phone or email has not changed

DUES PAYMENT OPTIONS:

EASY to Pay per website link.
Just sign into OSWP.org

Go to memberships and use the buttons to pay

↗ Pay with Debit or Credit Card.

↗ OR, Click Option for PayPal payment (OSWP pays fee).

•Or, Via PayPal, Use email address OSWPtreasurer@gmail.com and select "Friends
and Family" (no fee assessed OSWP).

•Or, Send check payable to "OSWP" and mail to Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Dr. Mc
Murray, PA 15317-3212.

If you are not sure if your dues are paid up for the new fiscal year, beginning July 1st, please
email Janetg150@verizon.net.



American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.

To promote the appreciation of orchids, the American Orchid Society delivers the most up-to-date, accurate, educational information about orchid culture and sponsors research and conservation initiatives to improve the outlook for orchids around the globe."

go to the website
for pricing

To become a member of the American Orchid Society go to the web site <https://www.aos.org/>
There are several ways to join. On line only or online and have a printed copy sent to your home.
The Magazine is monthly, and there are online Webinar and information for everyone

The AOS website provides information and images to help identify orchid ailments and grow healthier plants. From Aphids to Virus, you will find information on insect pests, rots, disease and cultural challenges, to name a few, and advice on prevention and treatment for the problems. Click below for articles to learn about specific orchid problems.

Pittsburgh Bonsai Society

40th ANNUAL

BONSAI SHOW

Saturday, June 11, 10-5 PM

Sunday, June 12, 12-5 PM

FREE ADMISSION

SHOW HIGHLIGHTS

- View a beautiful gallery of trees displayed in a traditional Japanese setting.
- Start your own collection and purchase trees, starter material, and supplies.
- Watch tree styling demos each day.

*"We're sharing the wall with the annual
"LIVING DEAD WEEKEND"*

*a special collaboration honoring the
fading spirit of "Guns of the Dead"
Look for our new 20000 flower display!*



[Pittsburghbonsai.org](#) & Pittsburgh Bonsai Society on Facebook

MONROEVILLE MALL
UPPER LEVEL



First Class Mail

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The Orchid Society of Western
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the propagation, horticulture and
preservation of orchid species and
hybrids through research, education
and scientific endeavors

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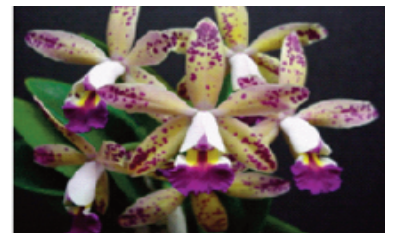
Upcoming 2022 speaker

June 19 2022

Edgar Stehli, from Windswept in Time

Bulbophyllum

More to come for the future programs for 2022



WANTED

**The American Orchid
Society Judging Program
is seeking highly
motivated orchid
enthusiasts to join the
judging ranks.**

*Work with other such people and
help maintain our awards
programs and educational efforts.*

*For more information contact Dave
Miller at 330-307-7189 or
dcnjpsmil@aol*