



Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

Sept 2018

www.oswp.org

Upcoming Events

Looking Ahead

September 16, 2018
Alan Koch Mini Catts

2018 OCTOBER 20th and 21st OSWP Bazaar —
2018 – November 18 Brandon Spannbauer
Pleone: Terrestrial Orchids braxtonds@gmail.com
2018 – December 9 Holiday Party
Timothy Choltco Sex, Lies, and Orchids.
harbingerorchids@yahoo.com

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

OSWP Officers

President: Demetria Marsh

First Vice President: Lori McDermott & Tim Choltco

Second Vice President: Sheila Nathanson

Directors: Don Ammon, Mike Lysy, Kim McClelland, John Whiting and April Arroyo

Secretary : Lance Chevront

Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

What's Blooming Now

— paph. primulinum flavum

Paphiopedilum primulinum is endemic to Sumatra (southern Aceh), near Blang Kejeren and near Tapaktuan at 1000 m above sea level and on the west coast at 500 m above sea level. It grows in the humus on limestone, in the shade or even exposed to light.

It is a small sized, hot to warm growing, multi-flowered terrestrial with distichous, oblong-lanceolate, clear green, 15-17 cm long, 2-4 cm wide leaves that are tridenticulate apically.

The Primrose Yellow *Paphiopedilum* blooms on an erect, 10 to 30 cm long, green, pubescent inflorescence that has several flowers that open in succession from the lowest out, occurring through the summer months. The flowers are about 4 cm in diameter.

from Travaldo's blog

Take note of the fine hairs on the petals. When orchids are named the hairs on petals are used to identify sub-species.



Photo by Jim Yamber

President's Letter September 2018

Happy Autumn!

Wow! How quickly the summer season goes.

First, many thanks to Tim Choltco and his wonderful neighbors, the Schillings (especially Stormageddon J), for having such a great OSWP picnic in July in spite of the weather. It was beautiful outside, inside and outside again. Tim's orchids, gardens and hospitality were wonderful and the great group of OSWPers, including many newer members, made it even more special.

Second, our thanks to Carolyn Bolton, for ushering us into the 21st century by giving us the OSWP website in 2002, maintaining it for 16 years. AND . . . thanks very much to Jinghua Ou, a newer member, who volunteered to take over as webmaster. Our OSWP website is a vital link not only for our members, but also for other interested people to learn about the OSWP. We appreciate Carolyn's many years of service as well as Jinghua's offer to continue that work.

Change is hard, challenging and it's necessary. The OSWP Board voted to move our show in 2019 to a new location: Artsmith on McFarland Road in the South Hills, 5 minutes from the south portal of the Ft. Pitt Tunnels. More later on that, but it will be an exciting challenge to move our show for a few years while the Garden Center plans for rebuilding. Special thanks to the Show Location Task Force for all the hard work contacting, visiting, following-up with many locations then meeting to discuss and choose the top sites they found. The Task Force was Gary Van Gelder, Janet Greenberg, Norma Raiff, Mike Lysy, Jim Yamber, Circe Curly, Barbara Tisherman, Sheila Nathanson, Carolyn Bolton and me. Several newer members offered ideas for possible sites. Great work from everyone! Thank you.

It truly does take a village, or a city, or a tri-state area, to help an orchid society grow and bloom. I want to encourage all of us to learn more, grow better, take part in the OSWP. Active participation is a vital element of all of the above. Join in! Learn! Have fun!

Happy September and see you soon!

Demetria

Demetria Marsh,
OSWP President
412-848-4349
demetria117@gmail.com

2018 – October 20-21 OSWP Bazaar

2018 – November 18 Brandon Spannbaauer Pleone: Terrestrial Orchids tonds@gmail.com

2018 – December 9 Holiday Party Timothy Choltco Sex, Lies, and Orchids.
harbingerorchids@yahoo.com

2019 - January 20 Thomas Sampliner The Orchids of Malaysian Borneoosam2651@hotmail

2019 - February 17 T.B.A.

2019 – March 15-17 O.S.W.P. Spring Show

2019 - April 28 New Members Panel

Orchid Gems: By: Norma Raiff September 2018.

Orchid Gems: Jim Yamber

He edits our newsletter. Has served on just about every position on the OSWP Board up to and including VP. Insatiable curiosity. Inveterate storyteller. OSWP's own Santa Claus back in the days when our Holiday Party was a big family affair. And he's raised chickens since way before they were the "in" thing.

That's Jim Yamber. Hardworking, dedicated, gives back to the community. How long have you been growing orchids? Jim's been growing orchids for over 60 years. Obviously, he started very young. As he recalls, he used to faithfully listen to a Saturday morning television show hosted by the legendary Frank Curto, principal Horticulturalist of Phipps Conservatory. One of these shows' featured orchids and Jim was entranced. "Well, I was really taken with that. I went downtown to Kaufmann's department store and bought Rebecca Northern's 'Home Orchid Growing' for \$10. It was the only place where I could find a book on the subject." His hard working mother was not at all happy. She said incredulously, "You spent all of your saved allowance on something that you'll never keep an interest in!"

Then Jim bought his first orchid: a small mail order Cattleya from Rod McClellan Co. What followed was predictable. Jim studied Conservation Wildlife Management (SW Missouri State University) and his collection continued to grow. He even collected orchids in the wild while in the Navy (this is way before CITES and its current prohibitions) "and inspecting officers never said anything when I brought them back on ship." Jim also traveled to Ecuador during the '70s and spent three weeks collecting orchids and cactuses. Description of growing conditions: Jim's orchid saga has been marked by flexibility, variety and (as we shall see below) setbacks.

Jim's growing areas encompass just about every conceivable niche and condition: "I grow in the greenhouse, grow native orchids outside in my yard, and under lights in the basement and on window sills."

About those recurring greenhouse traumas!

The saga of the first greenhouse: "I came home one day, and it was 18 degrees in the greenhouse." The heating had failed and the Cattleya leaves snapped "like potato chips."

The challenges of the second greenhouse: A builder's challenge and a labor of love, the replacement greenhouse was built over the original and then the first greenhouse was demolished. Unfortunately, history can repeat itself. "This second greenhouse froze over. Some plants froze; some didn't. Some plants had only frozen tops; others, frozen bottoms. It was weird!"

A third variation: "Well, after losing two collections, it was time for a new approach." So Jim switched heating systems. "I've heated my greenhouses with just about everything you can think of." While his first heating sources included a potbellied stove and a newer, fancier coal-burning model, Jim grew tired of going down to the greenhouse in the middle of the night to add coal and stoke the fire. He ultimately switched to a forced air gas furnace. But renovations and new introductions didn't stop there. "I also put in an electric water tank so I could have hot and cold running water, a loft, a TV and a computer. It was my



continued on page 4

continued from page 3

‘man cave.’” But uh-oh, the electric hot water heater went bad and burned this second greenhouse to the ground (sigh!)

Greenhouse #3: I bought the Raiff’s greenhouse (author’s note: which they in turn had bought second hand from the widow of a former OSWP member), and he continues to grow there (author’s note: Hallelujah!).

Jim’s collection now numbers between 300-400 orchids. He has remained faithful to his longstanding interest in Cattleyas. His two favorites are C. Bess Truman (a large white/purple throated “cor-sage orchid” named after our former first lady who often wore orchids) and Blc. Norman's Bay ‘Low’ (a fantastic purple Cattleya awarded in 1959). Jim is also a true experimentalist and he has modified his greenhouse to accommodate both warm and cool growers. “The way to do it is to have a fan blowing the warm air from the stove onto the tropicals so they have their own climate.”

What has been your most memorable experiences? “I would frequently go to the Conservatory over the years and Frank Curto would always give me attention and talk to me. He was a small man but had a big personality and loved people and children.” And what stands out in Jim’s mind? “Well you know, everyone says that you never forget where you were when President Kennedy was killed... Well, I was in the Phipps Conservatory looking at orchids.”

What’s the weirdest mistake or experience you had as an orchid grower? “My biggest mistake (laughs) was watching Frank Curto on Saturday morning, because then I became addicted.”

When did you join OSWP & why? Jim became a member after attending the 1971 OSWP show. He wanted to grow his collection and was searching for a local resource that also featured important national vendors.

You might also be interested to know this about me: Jim is the long-term editor of the OSWP Newsletter. He has chaired the show four times, and, as noted above, has been an officer in every position except President. A final note: Jim is extraordinarily active in his local church, volunteering for everything from cooking meals to maintaining the church web page and bulletin. He’s a church leader and even preaches on occasions. He also services on the election board in Oakdale.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Reminder: The new fiscal year is approaching-07/01/18-06/30/19, and annual dues should be paid by July 1st.

NOTE: Members who joined from March 2018 thru June 2018 are considered paid thru June 30, 2019.

Important Notice:

Effective immediately, because of rising costs, dues for MAILED NEWSLETTERS are increased from \$10 to \$15 additional dues.

New annual dues rates for mailed newsletters:

Individuals \$35

Household \$40.

Dues for emailed newsletters remains the same at \$20 for Individual and \$25 for household.

Checks are payable to OSWP and mailed to Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Dr., McMurray, PA 15317 or via OSWP website, PayPal link.

Chairpersons

AOS Nancy Kline

Facebook Lance Chevront

Holiday Party Carolyn Bolton

Hospitality Carolyn Bolton

Library Rosa Graudin

Membership Val Robey

Newsletter Jim Yamber

Orchid Show Sheila Nathanson,

Gary Van Gelder

Pfun Nancy Kline

P-OSI Demetria Marsh

Website Jinghua Ou

Program for our Sunday, September 16, 2018

Alan Koch : Modern Miniature Cattleyas

LOCATION: **PHIPPS GARDEN CENTER IN SHADYSIDE**

Meeting Start Time: 2:15PM

Alan Koch owns and operates Gold Country Orchids where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleya's. Alan started growing orchids in 1969 with 3 Cymbidiums given to him by an aunt. While in college he became interested in other orchids and discovered many would grow outdoors in Southern California. He has moved five times as his orchid obsession has led to the need for more growing space. With the last move, he purchased 10 acres of land in Lincoln, California for his 250,000 orchids. He is recognized as an expert in the Brazilian Cattleya alliance and a trend setter in miniature compact and Cattleya breeding. Alan has been published in the Orchid Digest, the American Orchid Society magazine, as well as many International Publications. He has also been published in several proceedings of the World Orchid Conference. He is an internationally known speaker. He is a past member of the AOS Judging Committee, and the Research Committee, as well as an Accredited Judge and is Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Center. Alan also served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and 3 terms on the Board of Directors, as well as two terms as a Trustee for the AOS.

Modern Miniature Cattleyas

Gold Country Orchids - <http://www.goldcountryorchids.com/>

Alan Koch has been breeding Cattleyas for 40 years and in that time he has studied what works and what does not work when making crosses. He has talked with other Cattleya breeders world wide and has shared their (Gold Country Orchids) information and has used this knowledge to build plants that will flower more than once a year, be able to flower in various growing conditions and take the neglect of a modern busy life style. Alan plans to show our society the parents of plants that you should be looking to buy, but more importantly he will give us an incredible amount of cultural information to make us to all be more successful growers. So even if you are not a Cattleya grower you will benefit from this talk.

Alan will be selling orchids, so members may not sell plants at this meeting.

Gold Country Orchids (<http://www.goldcountryorchids.com/>) encourages pre-orders when they visit by offering free freight and a 10% discount on all orders. If your order is over \$150 they offer an added incentive of a 20% discount with your free freight. It is best to have all orders sent to the email - gcorchids@aol.com If you do not get a confirmation within 3 days call or send it again. The discounts also apply to the website.

Please note that Alan did supply a list of available plants that will be emailed to all members in the next few days.

DINNER INVITATION: Join Alan, Lori McDermott, Demetria Marsh, Tim Choltco and several of us at THE PORCH RESTAURANT in Oakland/Schenley Park after the meeting. (around 5PM)

Let Lori know by Wednesday, September 12th if you would like to be part of the group, so the reservation can be made. Separate checks are provided at the Porch Restaurant.

See you on September 16th !

Lori McDermott Co-Program Chair 412-247-0397 lorimcdermott@comcast.net

Outline for Meeting Minutes Board Meeting

Date:[07/22/2018]

Attendees

President: Demetria Marsh

First Vice Presidents: Lori McDermott and Timothy Choltco

Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

Secretary: Lance Chevront

Directors: Don Ammon & Kim McClellan

Call to order: The meeting was called to order at [2:03pm] by Demetria Marsh, President

2:20pm Janet Greenberg, suggested that the OSWP should offer vendors emailed newsletters and a list in the directory, as well as an ad in the back of the member directory. A motion was made by Janet Greenberg to implement this decision.

Motion was seconded by Lance Chevront and passed unanimously.

Demetria moved to increase Memorial Donations from \$25.00 to \$50.00

Passed unanimously.

Demetria announced that she had made the decision to raise OSWP liability insurance from \$500,000 to \$1 million because of a request from a venue as a possible show site. The increased cost is small and the society gets more protection.

2:30 After discussion about the tentative 2019 contracts from Phipps, Janet Greenberg moved to move OSWP Annual Show to a new location, Tim seconded.

Passed unanimously

Discussion was heard concerning possibly shortening the show to three days, a decision was going to be held off until Taylor Slaughter could be consulted.

2:35 Demetria discussed the Location Taskforce's findings concerning possible locations for the 2019 OSWP Annual Show. The Taskforce had narrowed it down to four locations

The Kingsley Association in East Liberty

The Crown Plaza Hotel

The Home Ec Building at South Park

Artsmith in Mount Lebanon

After discussing the high and low points of each of the locations, Demetria informed the board that the Taskforce vote had gone with Artsmith.

3:28 Demetria moved that the board vote on locations and the results were Six in favor of Artsmith, One in favor of The Crown Plaza. Motion passed and Artsmith was chosen as the location for the 2019 OSWP Annual Orchid Show.

Janet Greenberg ~ Treasurer presented the budget for the 2018-2019 fiscal year. Lance Chevront moved to accept the budget, Lori McDermott seconded, budget passes unanimously.

Discussion concerning asking for a suggested donation for attendees of the OSWP Orchid Show and how to make the donation vessel more obvious and appealing.

Discussion was had concerning offering repotting services at one of the meetings, Lance and Tim offered to take charge of researching and setting up a possible future date.

3:54 Janet moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Lance, motion passed.

12th Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium

Presented by an alliance of his orchid friends in Virginia

November 2 & 3, 2018

The Founders Inn and Spa

5641 Indian River Road, Virginia Beach, VA

757-366-5700

Symposium: Friday, November 2, 6:00 PM – 9:30 PM

6:00 PM Buffet Dinner (included in registration), Cash Bar and Plant Sales

7:15 Introduction - Rob Griesbach

7:30 - Linda Thorne – Merritt Huntington, Forever in Our Hearts

8:30 - Panel Discussion

Symposium: Saturday, November 3, 8:45 AM – 4:00 PM

8:45 Introduction - Rob Griesbach

9:00 - Mark Reinke - "Decoding Dendrobium: the Surprising Orchids You Thought You Knew!"

Plants to be entered for AOS Judging by 10:00 AM

10:30 - Sam Tsui - "Multifloral Paphiopedilum and their Culture"

Buffet Lunch (included in registration) and plant sales 12:00- 1:00 PM

1:30 David Off – “You Bred What?”

2:15 - Linda Wilhelm – The Real Miltonias

3:15 - Judging Awards Presentation

VENDORS:

Waldor Orchids - www.waldor.com

Orchid Inn - www.orchidinnusa.com

Marble Branch Farms - www.marblebranchfarms.com

Seagrove Orchids - www.seagroveorchids.com

Woodland Orchids - www.woodlandorchids.com

Orchid Classics - <https://www.facebook.com/orchidclassics/>

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Additional Registrant(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Friday Only (\$40) _____ Saturday Only (\$40) _____ Combination(\$75) _____

Check enclosed for \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Huntington Memorial Symposium

Return to: Joanne Bryan, 932 Darby Rd, Virginia Beach, Va. 23464

*For additional information and Online registration go to: www.mhsymposium.org

The Founders Inn and Spa rate for Huntington Symposium: \$99 Plus Tax

Passing

An old time OSWP member of years gone-by for those who remember Bob Koffler passed away on August 14, 2018 He was 88

OSWP ORCHID BAZAAR

2018 . . . OCTOBER 20TH AND 21ST

Calling all orchiholics!!!! In lieu of a typical October Orchid Festival, A MOCK ORCHID SHOW is planned for October 20th and 21st. Like the 2016 Watch-It-Grow Orchid Show, members will be given the opportunity to try their hand with building a tabletop exhibit while teamed with one or more experienced members. During the 2016 event, we had a HUGE overflow table of plants and the exhibits were amazing. This was Mortimer’s first appearance as an OSWP regular. We hope to build on that experience!

PLUS we will have a SWAP ‘N BUY!

SATURDAY, October 20th

12-2pm: Bring your blooming orchids for the exhibitors to use in their exhibits and bring in your Swap ‘N Buy orchids. It’s a special early bird time to sell, buy and trade. 2-5PM: The exhibit teams will work together to build their own tabletop exhibits. Snacks will be served, as always.

SUNDAY, October 21st

12-2pm: All call for Swap ‘N Buy and see the exhibits. 2pm: Our regular meeting will take place. The program will be a discussion of the exhibits. 3:30pm: Refreshments and the final sales for the Swap ‘N Buy. 4pm: Exhibit breakdown **SIGN UP!**

Contact Tim Choltco harbingerorchids@yahoo.com (814-574-2551) or see him at the September meeting to let him know you would like to learn to exhibit or to mentor.

Plants . . . bring your blooming orchids by 2pm on the 20th of October.

Please let Tim know if you have a card table you can bring to the Garden Center on that Saturday.

This is an excellent, no pressure, FUN opportunity for members to be involved in the creative process that is part of our yearly show.

Think of this as a practice run for our 2019 March OSWP Orchid Show!



**Orchid Society of
Western Pennsylvania
Membership Information
DUES: 07/01/18-06/30/19**

The Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania (OSWP) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to serving orchid enthusiasts. Our purpose is to stimulate interest in the exchange of information about the culture, conservation, and exhibition of orchids. Membership is open to everyone, whether they grow orchids or just want to learn more. Visit us at www.oswp.org

OSWP Membership Application Form

Name _____

Name of spouse/other family member _____

Your Email _____

Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone (____) _____

Date: _____

Annual Dues calculation: (check all that apply)

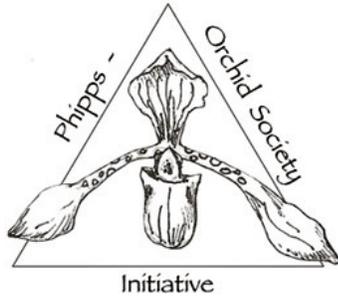
Individual Membership \$20

Household Membership \$25

Additional fee for paper newsletter: \$15

Total dues \$ _____ Check payable to OSWP

Or PayPal, via OSWP.org, Dues PayPal link,
Or PayPal, using email address: OSWPtrasurer@gmail.com
PayPal-Please click on “Friends and Family” or fee assessed OSWP
Mail your completed form/check to:
Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Dr., McMurray, PA 15317



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.

September 2018

The P-OSI and Pfun people including a few new members, came on individual days to work at Phipps on the Orchid Collection inventory. The two month effort went well and will help us understand what the collection has, how it's growing and what we should try to acquire to develop the Phipps Orchid Collection.

Once Katie has the inventory in the database, the P-OSI leaders can see what is needed to help make the collection super special. If you have ideas, let us know. The amazing stanhopeas may still be blooming in the exhibition house. Don't miss these spectacular orchids that Katie is growing so beautifully. They are very fragrant!

If you'd like to be a part of this phenomenal team effort, contact us! We'd love to have you for Pfun and P-OSI! It's a wonderful learning experience for all of us, a great way to give back to the community and to help make Pittsburgh someplace even more special.

Nancy Kline
nancyk412@gmail.com
412-367-1556

Demetria Marsh
demetria117@gmail.com
412-848-4349

Pfun at Phipps in September

We have only one potting date for September, Thursday the 13th. Looking for 3 volunteers to work at 9:30 until about 12:30 or so. We will probably only have 1 date for a few months as Katie is busy with installation of the Fall Show. It will still be HOT in September so dress accordingly but NO open toed shoes.

There are name tags in a box in the beige cabinet in GH 1. Please take one and add your name. These can be taken home and used when you return. Also helpful in the cafe or the gift shop when you request your 20% discount.

We also have some of our orange 'Volunteer Parking Permits' in that same box in that cabinet. Take one if you need one. At As always, contact me if you are available. We begin typical Pfun work at 9:30 and finish around 12:30. Lunch at the Cafe is always an option. If you are working at any other time than Pfun, please let me know your hours.

These figures are reported to Phipps' volunteer coordinator and they help both OSWP and Phipps.

If you have begun working with Katie in the greenhouses, you can contact her with your availability. Katie would love to hear from you if you have the time, she may have an opportunity for you: kschuller@phipps.conservatory.org If you have any questions, email me at nancyk412@gmail.com or call 412-367-1556.

Thanks for your help. Nancy Kline



Mini-Classes

The mini class for September 16 will be on "Getting Your Orchids Ready for Winter".
The mini-class will start at 1:30



Orchid Society of Western
Pennsylvania

First Class Mail

James Yamber
380 Western Ave.
Oakdale, Pa. 15071

quail1@verizon.net

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

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Upcoming 2018 speakers

FUTURE PROGRAMS

...

September 16, 2018
starts the fall programs with
Alan Koch Mini Catts

More to come for the future programs for 2018 and 2019



WANTED

THE AMERICAN ORCHID
SOCIETY JUDGING PROGRAM
IS SEEKING HIGHLY
MOTIVATED ORCHID
ENTHUSIASTS TO JOIN THE
JUDGING RANKS.
TEAMWORK, WILLINGNESS
TO LEARN AND ENTHUSIASM
ARE PARAMOUNT
QUALIFICATIONS. THERE ARE
NO AGE OR GEOGRAPHIC
RESTRICTIONS.

FOR DETAILS CONTACT DAVE MILLER AT
330-307-7189 OR DCMJPASML@AOL.COM