



# Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

July 2022

[www.oswp.org](http://www.oswp.org)

## Upcoming Events

July 30 2022  
OSWP Picnic  
see below for details

## 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](http://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:** Michelle and Dave Panasiuk

**Co-First Vice President:** Natalie Turicik and Carolyn Bolton

**Second Vice President:** Katie Schuller Mentor: Tim Choltco

**Directors:** Tim Choltco, Kathy Grajcar, Dave Motak. Chuck Oldenburg, Brian Powell

**Secretary:** Kathy Collins

**Treasurer:** Janet Greenberg

### What's Blooming Now

#### *Cattleya labiata*

The type species of *Cattleya*, discovered in 1818 in Brazil.

These plants are epiphyte, growing up in trees, also directly on rock with very little soil.

William Swainson traveled into the jungles of northern Brazil in search of exotic ferns, mosses, and tropical plants to send back to collectors and botanical gardens in the United Kingdom. One of his shipments reached a man named William Cattley. A collector and avid horticulturist, Cattley lived on the outskirts of London in Barnet, England, where he grew tropical plants—including orchids—in his hothouse.

The romantic version of this tale is that Cattley received a specimen of the orchid used as packing material to protect a shipment of ferns. The wise horticulturist could see that he had something special and took this plant from the packing material. More accurately the story is that Swainson had seen *Cattleya labiata* in flower in the wild, and knew that Cattley had an interest in orchids. The orchid was deliberately sent as part of a mixed shipment of tropical plants. This by no means diminished Cattley's accomplishment.

Cattley's orchid flowered in November of 1818. The following year, the same orchid from another one of Swainson's shipments flowered at the Glasgow Botanic Garden. The English botanist John Lindley described the orchid in one of his books in 1821; he gave it the name of *Cattleya labiata* in honor of William Cattley—the first person to successfully grow the orchid in the U.K.



Photo by JIm Yamber

## Ex-Co-President's Letter July 2022

We were thrilled to have had our June OSWP meeting in person at our long time home, the Phipps Garden Center. For those who were able to attend, it felt like a homecoming. A good number of new members attended, and introduced themselves to the group. I hope that very soon they will be known by name by the entire membership. It doesn't take long to be 'One of the Gang' in the OSWP. One good way to get to know us would be to plan to attend the annual picnic on July 30. The Oldenburgs very graciously offered to host this year. Please RSVP to oldenburgs@comcast.net or 412-953-1536 ASAP, to facilitate their planning. Chuck has a greenhouse with many plants, and may be persuaded to give tours.

At our June meeting, we voted in a new slate of officers and advisory board. Mike Lysy and I are thrilled to pass our batons to very capable leadership. Congratulations to the nominating committee on a job well done, Norma Raiff, Demetria Marsh, and Jim Yamber.

New members especially should consider contacting Demetria about joining the Pfun at Phipps. There is much to be learned when given the opportunity to work on the Phipps Orchid Collection, under the guidance of experienced growers. You will approach your own collection with a new sense of self confidence once you've re-potted dozens of Phipps plants.

Mike and I thank you for the opportunity to serve, and hope to see you all soon.

Sheila Nathanson and Mike Lysy, ex-co-presidents OSWP



July 2022

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.

Pfun at Phipps is part of P-OSI (the Phipps-Orchid Society Initiative) whose mission is to develop and maintain a Signature Orchid Collection at Phipps, as well as the Barbara Tisherman Slipper Orchid Collection, a living museum of Slipper Orchids. The Memo of Understanding, stating the goals and responsibilities of Phipps and the OSWP, is near completion and will cover the next five years. P-OSI/Pfun is an invaluable partnership for both organizations and its members. While the OSWP and Phipps have worked together since the OSWP's founding in 1954, P-OSI started in earnest in 2011.

While repotting is our main work with Pfun at Phipps, we are now starting our P-OSI work, doing the inventory of the Phipps orchid collection. So, we will be doing both during the last two weeks of July and into August and September. We are going to Phipps most Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30AM – 12:30PM plus a few extra days. Inventory takes a long time.

(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/P-OSI efforts and haven't previously signed up with us, please let us know at the email addresses below. We are using 4 members each date, with at least one being a more experienced grower.

Thanks and looking forward to working and learning together.

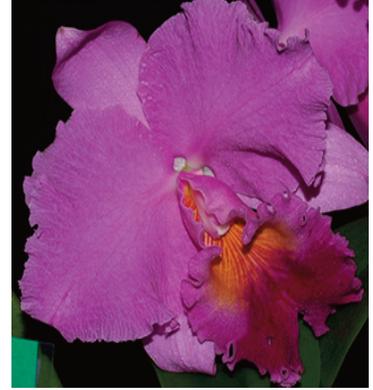
PS: Phipps Summer Flower Show: Monet in Bloom. Don't miss it!

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

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



# OSWP Summer Picnic



2:00pm – 6:00pm, Saturday, July 30th

Rain date: Sunday, July 31st

Location:

597 McCombs Road

Venetia, PA 15367

**Food:** We will provide burgers (real meat and synthetic too), chicken and hot dogs and have some sides to pass. It is requested that everyone bring either a side or a desert to share with the crew. We will have soft drinks, coffee, water, and a few types of beer. If anyone has anything special they like to drink, bring it with you.

Please RSVP by July 10th with the number attending, what dish you plan to bring and if you have any dietary restrictions:

Email: [the\\_oldenburgs@comcast.net](mailto:the_oldenburgs@comcast.net)

Call or Text: 412-953-1536

**Parking:** We live in a residential area on a somewhat busy two-lane road so on-street parking blocks one lane of traffic. We have room in the driveway/yard to park about 8 vehicles. Overflow parking will be at the Bower Hill Elementary School which is a couple blocks from the house. We will have a shuttle to bring people back and forth.

To request the shuttle, call or text Samantha at 412-925-1449 when you arrive for a pick-up

We have enough tables and chairs to comfortably seat ~30 people. If the RSVP number exceeds this amount, we will send a request for people to bring chairs.

**Plant sales:** Member plant sales are allowed. We have a table under shade reserved for plant sales.

## Where is the picnic?



**Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania (OSWP)**  
**General Meeting Minutes**  
**June 19, 2022**

Meeting was held at Phipps Garden Center - first return to the Garden Center postpandemic. Meeting began at approximately 1:15 pm with mini-class on Habeneria Orchids presented by Tim Choltco.

Following the mini-class, various members presented orchids they had brought to the meeting for the purpose of Show & Tell.

Official call to order at 1:45 pm by co-presidents Sheila Nathanson and Mike Lysy. Janet Greenberg presented the Treasurer's report.

Jim Yamber discussed publication of OSWP's newsletter.

- Articles are due on the 20th of the month to allow for editing and distribution (distribution predominantly done by email). There will be no newsletter in August.
- Jim also handles Eblasts for the membership. All replies to Eblasts should be sent to the original sender - not to Jim. The original sender's email address is in the Eblast.

As Demetria Marsh was unable to attend the meeting, Nancy Kline discussed a number of topics, including

- Pfun at Phipps: Those wishing to volunteer in the effort to repot orchids at Phipps are encouraged to contact Demetria. There is much repotting to do and plenty of opportunities to volunteer. Beginners are matched with experienced OSWP members so they are able to assist with repotting. (Phipps does require all volunteers to have received the COVID vaccine and masks must still be worn.)
- Inventory of Phipps orchid collection: Although no date has yet been set, it is expected that an effort will soon begin to inventory the collection. OSWP members will likely be asked to assist in that endeavor.
- American Orchid Society (AOS): Benefits of AOS membership include the monthly magazine, archived articles on orchid culture and webinars.
- Culture Corner: An opportunity for OSWP members to bring their orchids to the OSWP meeting for assistance with a variety of growing issues. This will resume at the September meeting. (If you think your orchid may have a bug or disease, please bring in a bag to assure the plant keeps its issues to itself.)

Summer Picnic: Will be held at Chuck Oldenburg's home on Sat. July 30th from 2:00 pm - 6:00 pm. Address: 597 McCombs Road, Venetia, PA 15367. Please RSVP directly to Chuck at either: the\_oldenburgs@comcast.net or 412-953-1536.

A number of new members were in attendance and were introduced at the meeting.

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### **Election of new Officers and Board Members:**

Co-Presidents: Michelle and Dave Panasiuk  
Co-First Vice Presidents: Natalie Turicik and Carolyn Bolton  
Second Vice President: Katie Schuller. Mentor: Tim Choltco  
Secretary: Kathy Collins  
Treasurer: Janet Greenberg  
Board Members: Tim Choltco  
Kathy Grajcar  
Dave Motak  
Chuck Oldenburg  
Brian Powell

Co-President Sheila Nathanson called for a vote on the slate of officers and the vote passed unanimously.

Special thanks were given to the outgoing Officers and Board for their 2 years of extended service during the pandemic, which included orchestrating Zoom meetings and finding a physical location for the return of OSWP in-person meetings when the Garden Center was unavailable, as well as the return of the Spring Orchid Show.

Two plant raffles were held. Jinghua Ou won the raffle for the 2022-2023 membership renewal. New member, Patricia Wagner won the raffle for the OSWP monthly meeting fundraiser.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m. and was followed by the guest speaker, Edgar Stehli of Windswept in Time Orchids who gave a presentation on *Bulbophyllum* Orchids

Secretary: Kathy Collins



Cyp calceolus var pubescens



Phal Sogo Grape 'Fireball'



Paph complex

### **Current Committees Chairs,**

AOS	Nancy Kline	Orchid Gems	Norma Raiff, Pam Horter-Moore, Cristina Eyler
Culture Corner	Nancy Kline	Pfun	Nancy Kline
Facebook	Lance Cheuvront	P-OSI	Demetria Marsh
Garden Club/Library Liaison	Karen Gibson	Raffle	Natalie Turicik
Hospitality	Carolyn Bolton	Show	Sheila Nathanson, Norma Raiff and Janet Greenberg
Library	open	Speaker	Kathleen Arria and David Springer
Membership	Kathy Collins	Website	Jinghua Ou
Mini-class	Tim Choltc		
Newsletter	Jim Yamber		



First Class Mail

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James Yamber (editor)  
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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 2022 speaker**

July 30, 2022

**OSWP  
Picnic**

see you in September

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 demjpasmil@aol*