

Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

Feb. 2020

www.oswp.org

Upcoming Events

February 16, 2020

**Orchid Show
review at Phipps
with Katie**

Looking Ahead

2020 - March 14 & 15 OSWP Spring Show
“An Orchid Journey”

2020 - April 19 Panel

2020 – May 17 Edgar from
Windswept in Time Orchids

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 Cristina Eyler

Secretary : Lance Chevront

Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

What's Blooming Now

U.S.A. Stampe



New postage stamps

President's Letter February 2020

Happy February!

A big thank you to Jim Yamber for his presentation on his trip to Ecuador in the late 1970's. It was an informative and entertaining visit to Ecuador. We saw the people, the countryside and cities, the roads (some very scary) and the wonderful orchids.

Thank you, Jim.

Also thanks to Scott Jones for his generous donation of the orchid collection of his late husband, David Curtis, to the OSWP. Most of the plants sold at the meeting with a few auctioned off as well. We are grateful for Scott's generosity and hope to see him at our show and meetings. (Thanks to Sheila Nathanson for helping with this.)

WE HAVE A GREAT OPPORTUNITY IN EARLY MARCH: The Home & Garden Show in the Convention Center, downtown, is offering us the chance to show orchids and distribute information about orchids and our upcoming show. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!** Please contact me asap to help sit at the table and answer questions about orchids, the OSWP and our March show. Our table will be there 10AM – 10PM Friday 3/6, 10AM – 10PM Saturday 3/7, and 10AM – 6PM Sunday 3/8. Please let me know asap if you can take a 2-hour or 4-hour shift there. Public transportation is nearby. They have a shuttle to Heinz Field parking or the parking rate in the Convention Center garage is \$12 per day. It would give you a chance to see the whole Home & Garden Show as well. No admission fee. We will have a pass at the door for you.

The Akron Orchid Society, one of the many societies Dave and Mary Jo Miller support, is having its Orchid Show the weekend before ours, 3/6 – 3/8/20. Carolyn Bolton, Carol Panza, Val Robey and Kathy Collins have volunteered to lead a team to set up and break down an exhibit at Akron from our society. Please let them know if you would be willing to help. The more the merrier.

Speaking of shows, our own show is coming up mid-March, 3/13 – 3/15/20, at the Crown Plaza Hotel by South Hills Village. Please be sure to volunteer to help make our show a success all around! See the online sign-up sheet on the OSWP website or contact the show committee chair directly.

Hope to see you at Phipps' Botany Hall for our February 16th meeting.

Demetria
Demetria Marsh,
OSWP President
Demetria117@gmail.com
412-848-4349

Program for our meeting Sunday, February 16, 2020

Greetings !

Program for our Sunday, February 16th meeting is going to be exciting as Orchid Manager at Phipps, Katie Schuller (and OSWP member) welcomes us back to Phipps.. A short presentation is being prepared so we can showcase some amazing Orchids in the collection. The Meeting will be held at BOTANY HALL AT PHIPPS CONSERVATORY, Small historic Building between the conservatory (lily ponds) and Panther Hollow Bridge by small statue of Robert Burns START TIME: 2PM. There will be a short business meeting filled with our own show preparations, a little show and tell (your orchid plants must stay in Botany Hall) and the presentation of some special Orchids in the Phipps collection. As with other years Katie has had an integral role in the preparation and setup of this year's Phipps Orchid Show. This year's Phipps show theme is titled "Out of This World" <https://www.phipps.conservatory.org/calendar/detail/orchid-and-tropical-bonsai-show>, which opened Jan. 18 and continues through March 8. She collaborated with some of our society members to make the show beautiful and interesting. After the presentation, we will have a short refreshment break and then we are permitted to visit the orchid growing (production) houses (where there will be a few orchids for sale for low prices /(CASH or CHECK only) and you are free to enjoy the beautiful orchid show at Phipps. We will have members that can guide you to the production houses from Botany Hall if needed. Internally there are some steps. If you go around the outside it is level or has elevators. The conservatory closes at 5PM. Our thanks to Phipps for allowing us entrance to the Orchid Show and production houses in conjunction with our meeting. Enter Botany Hall by the front outside door by Panther Hollow Bridge. We will be in the auditorium on the main floor. Parking is available on the public streets and around the large statue at the entrance to the conservatory itself. Facing the conservatory by the other bridge (closer to Carnegie Library) on the right is a drive that goes down the hill to the back. You may park there as well. The street name is: FREW STREET EXT. If you have handicap parking and need assistance that day, please call my cell phone and be there by 1:30. We will park your car if the few spots at the entrance to Botany Hall are taken. (If you are there early and can walk, please do not use those parking spots at the entrance to BH.)

Cheers ! Looking forward to the meeting !

Lori McDermott and Tim Choltco

If you have any questions, please feel to reach me -

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

Orchid Plant raffle

At the January meeting we raised \$153 towards the spring show! A special thank you to Scott Jones who donated the really fabulous *Cycnoches warscewiczii* (Giant Swan x SVO Swan) that was our first prize. Congrats to Joann VanAtta who won it and all our other prize winners today! As always, if you'd like to donate or sponsor a plant or have an idea to make the raffle even better, contact Natalie Turicik or fill out the survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JW76K5L>



Orchid Gems: Zander Morrison

By: Norma Raiff

Do you know Zander? He joined the Society when he was 10; he is now 11 and a passionate learner. Although he is a relative OSWP newcomer, he makes his presence known through consistent attendance and persistent questioning. We all appreciate Zander's eye for detail and exuberant quest for knowledge.

So Zander, tell us about yourself

"I was born in Tallahassee, Florida and moved to Whitehall when I was 2. My family has been living in the Howe area of Mt. Lebanon (Sunset Hills) for 6 years. I am a fifth grader and play the clarinet and piano.

I also like science and reading books about plants, and I enjoy cooking, baking and gardening. I love gardening...You might as well make a good garden so you know all your food is locally sourced.

I also like going outside and playing with friends. Sometimes my dad (Jim Morrison) and my sister, Zoe, and I will try to go out once a month to see different parks and parts of Pennsylvania."

What was your first orchid?

"When I was younger, I got a Phalaenopsis, but since I did not know anything, it was dead in a week. Now I know more about growing and have expanded my collection. I have learned a lot at the OSWP meetings, get many books from the library, and watch YouTube videos.

I now have 11 orchids, plus other types of plants. My orchids include Dendrochilum, Miltonia, Tolumnia and some others. I have a couple of favorite types, but I like the Maxillaria genus over all. I grow near a windowsill.

When the Tolumnia speaker was here (Daryl Venables, Tezula Orchids, Miami, Florida) I kept looking at his Tolumnias, but I didn't have any money with me. He kept seeing me looking, and when I explained the situation, at the end of the show he nodded his head over to some remaining plants, and said: These three are for you."

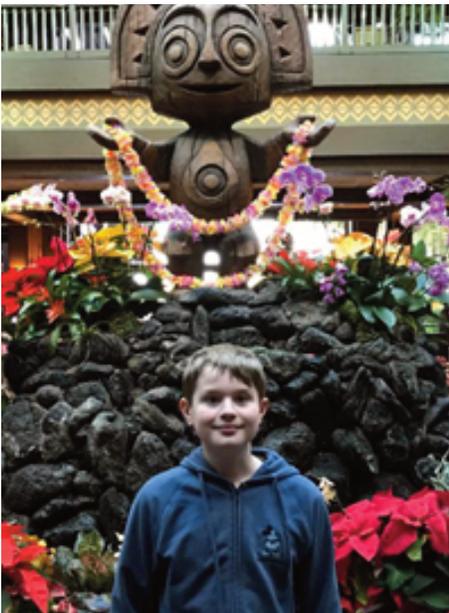
What made you join the Society?

"Well I have always had a love for plants and more recently for orchids. I searched the web and found that Tim Choltco was doing a repotting orchids talk at Phipps, and he brought membership forms and other membership things. Obviously, I took one and pretty much paid for it all. Tim will remember me since I'm the person who asked him a ton of questions that had nothing to do with repotting, because I was so hungry for more."

Follow-up from Tim Choltco: "He asked me a lot of questions, including questions about the mycorrhizal fungi that orchids need to germinate their seed. God he scared me: for someone that age to ask about that meant that he knew quite a bit. I think he is going to be a great asset to the society. We need new blood; we need members his age who are not shy."

What do you like best about orchids?

"It's the huge diversity of them; and then trying to find them. When I was at Disney World around Christmas, I was just looking around and saw a plant that had a purplish-pink lip and everything else was brown. I thought it could be the Tampa Butterfly orchid (*Encyclia tampensis*). The pseudobulbs were gargantuan. My dad used an app, Picture



This, to help to identify it. It was like 'Yay!' It was the Tampa Butterfly and it was the first orchid that I found growing in the wild!"

Your final words

"I really think that the Society is so valuable, not just for me but for everyone. It opens doors to careers and introduces topics like conservation. I think that a lot of people who, when they think about conservation, think about animals that are endangered; but there's an orchid in Borneo or Malaysia that only has a few left.



continued from page 4

”Advance notice:

During this interview, Zander and I discussed looking for native orchids and I told him about OSWP’s annual native orchid hike. Tim Choltco supplied the following:

“Carolyn Bolton and I will be announcing the Native Orchid Hike soon. It usually occurs Mother’s Day Weekend, which is when native orchids are likely to be in bloom. The hike generally takes place either at the Scotia Barrens, a state game land near State College, or at Canoe Creek State Park, near Altoona.”

OSWP Society Sales Table 2020 Show

Once again we will be selling items at the Society Sales Table. In order to make this run smoothly, there will be a few guidelines for those who are hoping to sell their items. As this will be a new venue, please bear with us to make our table the revenue producing area that it has been. There may be last minute changes, please stay tuned...

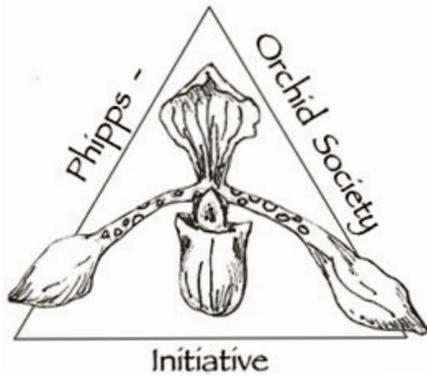
Make sure items are properly priced and marked with your name or initials. I would suggest 2 stickers as they tend to fall off. If you have the time, a list of your sale items would be great for us to have. Also, if your initials are fairly common, please let us know your name so we can get the proceeds to the proper person.

- Obviously, plants are to be disease and bug-free. Anything we find to be suspect will be isolated and returned. The better your plants look, the more likely they are to sell. If they are not currently blooming, a photo of the plant is always a help. Any specific information that would be helpful can be added to a tag on the plant. People might like to know where you purchased it and any helpful cultural information.
- We are encouraging the sale of orchid items. These are things like: art-work, books, clothing, decorative items, fancy pots and whatever else you can find that has something to do with orchids. Again, price them with 2 stickers and don’t forget your name.
- We are taking a 20% commission for OSWP. Please price your items accordingly.
- Items can be dropped off any time on Thursday, Friday or Saturday or even Sunday. Obviously, the longer your plant has to be on the sales table, the more opportunity it has to be sold. You **MUST** plan to retrieve your items by 4pm on Sunday. If you want to know if you have items to take home, call me at 412-367-1556. I will be at the show site and can find that info for you. It is your responsibility to get your items home.
- We can use bags and boxes. Both plastic and paper bags are great. Small boxes help our buyers get the plants home safely.
- There will be NO ‘holds’ of sale plants before they are purchased. You may pay for the plants, have them packaged and leave them with us.
- This includes plants that are seen before the table is officially open. If you want something desperately, find me and pay for the plant. I will deal with the paperwork later.

Again, NO HOLDING of any items.

- A record of sales will be submitted to Janet Greenberg, Treasurer, within a few days of the end of the show. Your check will come from the OSWP treasury.
- Some help will be needed on both Saturday and Sunday. Please contact me if you are interested in working with our sale items. There is a sign-up sheet on the OSWP site, OSWP.org We particularly need help on Saturday morning, 9 am to noon, while the judging is going on. The vendor area will be open and many of our members are involved with judging so we need anyone who is not judging to help with sales.

With your help we can make this a profitable endeavor for members and the society alike. Nancy Kline nan-cyk412@gmail.com 412-367-1556



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.

The results of the Cypripedium Survey were distributed at the Paph Forum in Washington, D.C., on January 25th by Katie Schuller of Phipps, Carolyn Bolton and Demetria Marsh. The survey shows the most important Cyp hybrids and species for our Cypripedium Wish List for the Barbara Tisherman Slipper Orchid Collection, Phipps' Living Museum of Slipper Orchids. The Cyp Wish List was also distributed to the hundred participants with a reminder that the Paph and Phrag Surveys and Wish Lists are available on our OSWP website. Donations of Wish List Slippers were solicited for Phipps from the Slipper experts, vendors and enthusiasts.

To see the Paph, Phrag and Cyp Survey results as well as the Wish Lists, go to <https://www.oswp.org/p-osi> and scroll down.

In the spring the P-OSI teams hope to study the new Phipps orchid collection inventory to see how we can help Phipps update and grow their orchid collection in all ways, to continue to be one of special note.

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

Mid America Orchid Congress

The Miami Valley Orchid Society will be hosting the Mid America Orchid Congress as a part of our Spring Show at Cox Arboretum in Dayton, Ohio, February 15-16, 2020- We have two great speakers lined up and a great dinner planned-

Glen Decker, formally of Piping Rock Orchids
Phragmipediums, It's Hybrids and How to Grow Them

My Life with Slippers

David Haelterman, Cali Columbia

Orchids of Colombia in their native habitats: a huge richness to conserve in an incredibly biodiverse country.

Maxillaria of Colombia: one of the most diverse genera but yet poorly understood.

Here is a link to the website for more information and registration:

2020 Spring Mid America Orchid Congress

We would recommend registering soon because we have a limit on seating space!

Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thanks for passing on the information!

Eric

Eric Sauer
President and Newsletter Editor
Miami Valley Orchid Society 937-212-0462
www.miamivalleyorchidsociety.com

Trophy Sponsorship

You may use the online sign up sheet, Time to Sign Up, which is available through our website, OSWP.org, to sign up for a Trophy Sponsorship. Sponsorships are \$25. and are payable to our treasurer, Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Dr., McMurray, Pa., 15317, made out to OSWP. You may note 'trophy' on the check. There are still plenty of categories available- sign up to support your favorite genre. And, consider exhibiting- you may win a prize !

Culture Corner

Have questions? We all do. If you want a 'consultation' with OSWP orchid growers, please bring your questions to a meeting. Nancy Kline will be near the Membership and Raffle tables to try to help you with your growing issues. If possible, bring the whole plant but at least several good photos. If you are able to bring the whole plant, please put it in a plastic bag to prevent any possible contamination of other orchids, assuming it may have a pest or disease. See you there.

Orchid Show near us.

Phipps Orchid and Bonsai show
Now thru the first week of March

Regional Shows:
Greater Cleveland Orchid Society
2/15 - 2/16
<http://www.gcos.org>

National Capital Orchid Society
2/15 - 2/16
<https://ncos.us/ncos-show-2020/>

Miami Valley Orchid Society
Dayton, Ohio
MID-AMERICA ORCHID CONGRESS
Show, sales and speakers:
Glen Decker, Phrag Hybrids
David Haelterman, Orchids of Colombia
2/15 - 2/16
http://miamivalleyorchidsociety.com/index_files/Page755.htm

Greater Akron Orchid Society
Massillon, Ohio
(OSWP will be taking a society exhibit on 3/6)
3/7 - 3/8
<https://thegaos.com/spring-show>

OSWP :)
Crowne Plaza Hotel by South Hills Village
backdrop set-up: 3/12
show set-up: 3/13
Judging, show, sales, education, repotting:
3/14 - 3/15
Sign up to help with our show today online on the OSWP website, show, bottom of page:
<https://www.timetosignup.com/oswp2020show/sheet/1276858/>

OSWP show, An Orchid Journey

The annual OSWP show, An Orchid Journey, will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, across from South Hills Village Mall, on March 13 - 15 , 2020 . Set up and registration will be on Friday, March 13 , starting at 8am. As usual, the more hands on deck, the quicker set up will be. We have the space until 10 pm.

On Saturday, March 14 , judging will begin at 8 am. Therefore, exhibits will not be open to the public until 12 noon. Vendors will be open from 9 am until 5 pm. Exhibits will be kept available until 6 pm.

On Sunday, March 15 , exhibits and vendors will be open from 9 am until 4 pm. That is another time when we need help breaking down and packing up.

Kathy Arria will be in charge of the Society Exhibit for the first time, so if you feel the need to express yourself with orchids, let her know you can help.

We are creating a program booklet this year, as a way to generate income, since our show is free to the public. If you frequent a business, especially in the South Hills, that you think might be interested in a sponsorship , we will have order forms available as well.

We will be passing clipboards at the January meeting, so think about what you'd like to do to participate in making our show a success.

If you have plants that might cooperate with the show schedule, consider exhibiting. Jim Yamber is the person you need to speak to about getting a space.

Whatever you can do to help will be much appreciated.

Sheila Nathanson , Norma Raiff , Tamara Wurst

Current Committees Chairs,

AOS	Nancy Kline
Culture Corner	Nancy Kline
Facebook	Lance Chevront
Garden Club/	
Library Liaison	Karen Gibson
Hospitality	Carolyn Bolton
Library	Rosa Graudins
Membership	Val Robey
Mini-class	Sheila Nathanson
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, Tammy Wurst, Norma Raiff
Speaker	Lori McDermott, Tim Choltco
Website	Jinghua Ou

Editorial

Looking at the list to the left you may wonder just what is involved with each committee.

Each of the committee has more than one member and if you have skills that may be a good fit with any of these committees please talk to the committee chair to see if you could give a hand. Or just to find out what the committee does.

For instance, the upcoming spring OSWP show.

There is a time when the chair of a particular committee needs to step away from the thing that current chair has done for many years. If you would like to become more involved with any part of the society please don't wait to be asked BUT let us know of you are interest. You may be surprised as to the welcome for that help you offer.

So if you are looking to help with your society and the direction it is going, talk to the current officers, ,committee chair or a long time member and you will find the answer.on how to become more of a part of your Orchid Society.

Pfun at Phipps in February

The Orchid and Bonsai Show is open and we can settle down to Pfun dates in February. There are 2 dates, Wednesday February 19 and Tuesday February 25. As always, we begin at 9:30 am and are usually done by 12:30. The main effort will be repotting orchids.

You can plan to see the show and eat at the Cafe.

Parking is in the volunteer/employee lot off Frew Street Extension and behind the Conservatory. If you have an orange 'volunteer' sign, please put it on your windshield. If you do not have one, please ask us for your own sign.

If you have been working individually with Katie, thanks. Do not forget to send me your hours so I can log it on the OSWP record. We reached 500 hours in 2019 and probably much more as some of the individual efforts are not being recorded.

Always, thank you for this commitment.

If you need me, nancyk412@gmail.com call or text 412.367.1556

Nancy Kline



New Members Corner

We would like to extend a warm welcome to our newest member(s) to OSWP:

Christine Zanis

Val Robey Membership Chair



**Orchid Society of
Western Pennsylvania
Membership Information
DUES: 07/01/19-06/30/20**

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 (____) _____ cell# _____

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, using email address: OSWPtreasurer@gmail.com
PayPal-Please click on "Friends and Family" (no fee assessed OSWP)
Or PayPal, via OSWP.org, Dues link,
(OSWP pays fee-Friends & Family discount not available)
Mail your completed form/check to:
Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Dr., McMurray, PA 15317



Orchid Society of Western
Pennsylvania

First Class Mail

James Yamber (editor)
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 2020 speaker

FUTURE PROGRAMS

February 16, 2020

**Orchid Show
review at Phipps
with Katie**

More to come for the future programs for 2020



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