



Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania

Nov2022

www.oswp.org

Upcoming Events

Nov. 20, 2022 Zoom & in person

Sarah Hurdel

tips, tricks and creative solutions for growing
orchids successfully without a greenhouse

Looking Ahead

Dec 11 2022 Christmas party Crowne Plaza-Pgh South 2 to 6

Jan 15 2023 TBA

Feb 19 2023 TBA

March 16-19 2023 Spring OSWP Show Crowne Plaza-Pgh South

" 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: Michelle and Dave Panasiuk

Secretary: Kathy Collins

Co-First Vice President: Natalie Turicik and Carolyn Bolton

Treasurer: Janet Greenberg

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

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

What's Blooming Now

Arachnanthe (Esmeralda) cathcartii

The Species: This grows as an epiphyte in forests in the eastern Himalayas at elevations from 2000 to 6600 feet. It can be a large plant, branching and pendant.

Culture: conditions as for zygotpetalums and plain leaf paphs. do not them dry out t during winters. Try growing in a hanging basket.

It clearly shows its desire to be pendant. It grows with year round water, dilute fertilizer. Grow in cool intermediate to cool conditions. Once it starts blooming it can be a reliable bloomer with 3.5" flowers.

It will also grow in intermediate conditions.

To the best of my knowledge this plant is not available in the USA. It is okay to have it but no one has it for sale in the U.S. Everyone is out of stock.



Photo and info from

marni turkel
mostly species orchids & flasks

-Ex-Co-President's Letter November 2022

Hi Everyone,

I'd like to take a moment to say how much I've enjoyed seeing everyone at the OSWP meetings! We have had such a nice turn out the last couple months. I am a huge fan of fall weather, and know how hard it is to spend all afternoon inside when the sun is shining and the trees look like they belong on a postcard. Not to mention, the 1 o'clock Steeler games have made it rough for our sports fans. So thank you to all those who have attended the meetings, brought plants for Show & Tell, and to everyone taking the time to read our newsletter! It is much appreciated.

Next month we once again be adding Zoom to our meeting. The OSWP will meet in person at the Phipps Garden Center on Shady Ave as regularly scheduled. However, our speaker will be joining us on a Zoom call. I know, it's always nice to have everyone in person, and yes, it can be challenging. Yet, on a positive note, Zoom will open the door to many new speakers who could otherwise never join us in person.

As many of you know, the Garden Center will be undergoing renovations. We are still waiting to learn when the work will start. So, for now, our meetings remain at the Garden Center. I will be sure to share any updates as soon as possible.

Enjoy the fair weather and your orchids! See you in November.

Michelle and Dave Panasiuk

Co-Presidents, OSWP

November 20, 2022 Speaker Sarah Hurdel

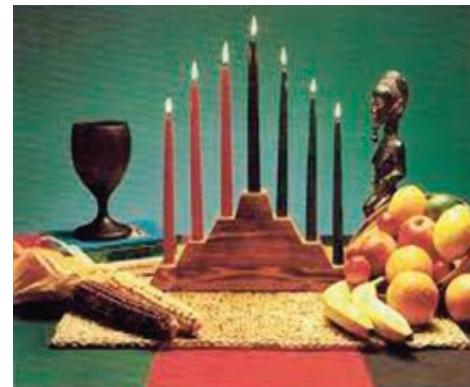
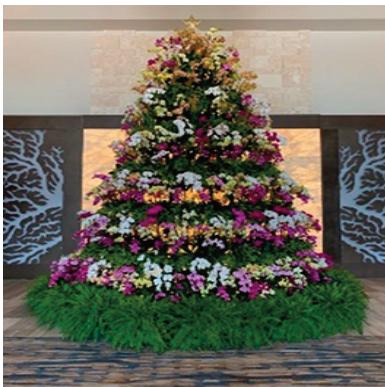
Sarah is the owner of Needmore Orchids, an artist, orchid blogger, exhibitor and accredited AOS judge. She maintains a collection of well over 600 orchids under lights in her basement, including a large number of Habenaria species and hybrids. Even without a greenhouse, her plants and exhibits have received AOS award recognition for culture, flower quality, and design. She enjoys sharing her orchid obsession with others through in-person and virtual presentations to societies across the US and Canada.

Each talk combines her love of orchids, photography, and illustration with experienced advice and a sense of humor. Sarah currently has two blog pages featuring her orchid photography and cultural information - Something About Orchids on Facebook and Blogspot.

Home Grown Orchids - Under Lights

An entertaining and informative presentation packed with tips, tricks and creative solutions for growing orchids successfully without a greenhouse. All levels - even spouses and children of the orchid obsessed have enjoyed this presentation.





Come Celebrate!

WHAT: OSWP Holiday Party

WHO: OSWP Members and guest

WHEN: Sunday, December 12, **SECOND Sunday**

2:00-6:00 PM, dinner at 3pm, cash bar until the end of dinner

WHERE: Crown Plaza Hotel Pittsburgh South

COST: \$15.00 The balance is subsidized by OSWP

MENU: Pasta Buffet; Garden Greens with 2 dressings, Penne Pasta, Marinara and Al Fredo Sauce, Sliced Grilled Chicken, Italian Meat Balls, Garlic Bread Sticks.
AND RETURNING...**THE COOKIE TABLE AS DESSERT.**

PLEASE NOTE ON YOUR RESERVATION IF YOU HAVE DIETARY RESTRICTIONS!

PAYMENT: Preferred method-OSWP.org and select Holiday Party Payment or your own Paypal, or mail a check to Janet Greenberg to be received by the deadline of December 7 at the latest. If not paid, you cannot attend unless there is a late cancelation and re funds for payment until December 7.

Janet Greenberg, 150 Ammons Drive, McMurray PA, 15317

the direct link <https://www.oswp.org/holiday-party> for members to pay online?

What to bring: If you have a blooming orchid/orchids please bring to use as center pieces, and, cookies

RSVP: Carolyn Bolton, boltoncs@gmail.com or 412 714 0263 to be included for the holiday favor orchid plant.

NOTE: The holiday favor picks will be determined by the order of RSVP

We do not have to supply food or decorate the room just orchids for the tables

Orchid Gems – Challenges and Opportunities –

Nancy Kline

By Pam Horts-Moore

You don't have to be in OSWP long before you hear the name Nancy Kline. If you had attended meetings before the Covid pandemic, you might have seen her seated at the Membership table, ready to answer your questions about your orchids.

There is no formality in Nancy's Culture Corner; people know they can approach Nancy with their orchid questions, understanding that they will get a friendly reception and a clear, frank, and informed answer.



A grower long before she was an OSWP member, Nancy joined the Society in 2003 and has been one of its most active members ever since. Although she has been active in Membership, is the Society's AOS Representative, and has served on the board and as Orchid Show Chairperson, Nancy's name usually comes up when talk turns to the collaboration between OSWP and Phipps Conservatory through Pfun at Phipps and P-OSI.

Through these two programs, OSWP performs a service, not only to Phipps, but to the community at large. Both programs have a distinct purpose: Whereas P-OSI is an OSWP-Phipps initiative to create an incomparable orchid collection at the Conservatory, Pfun at Phipps is the hands-on side of the collaboration.

The Pfun part for OSWP members is the joy of repotting, inventorying, and otherwise supporting the Phipps orchid collection. It's an opportunity to talk with other members and the Phipps staff about all things orchid, as well as a chance to work with a variety of plants.

The relationship benefits both partners. "Like so many places, Phipps was forced to suspend many of its activities during the Covid pandemic. OSWP volunteers could no longer come in to care for the collection," Nancy recalls. When Phipps finally brought OSWP back in March 2022, there was a need to catch up. The collaboration is back, in full swing.

Pfun at Phipps is open to experienced, intermediate, and novice orchidists. Three or four OSWP volunteers meet twice a week. For more information, see <https://www.oswp.org/pfun>.

Nancy was an orchidist before she joined OSWP in 2003, and her story demonstrates the serendipity of orchid fever. "I found an orchid abandoned in the garbage, still tied up in its gift wrapping," Nancy relates. "I took it home, and it became a fabulous bloomer for me." That "garbage orchid" encouraged her to acquire a few more.

In 2003, with her children grown, Nancy decided that she now had the time to take up a hobby. She attended the OSWP Orchid Show and joined the Society.

Then serendipity struck again. "I attended the new member orientation meeting and was surprised to see a familiar face," Nancy recollects. It was Carol Panza, with whom she played tennis at the Oxford Athletic Club of Wexford. They had joined the Society at the same time.

Nancy and Carol have been energetic members of the Society ever since, serving as Membership and Show Chairpersons for several years, as well as in other capacities.

"I lived closer to Phipps back then, so I began to volunteer," Nancy explains. "It was a wonderful learning

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experience.” This satisfying combination of personal enrichment and volunteerism is really what Pfun at Phipps is all about.

Nancy has many interests besides orchids. She sold real estate. A political activist, she is a former council woman for Pine Township. Nancy has been a member of the Oxford Athletic Club for 24 years, and taught water aerobics for fifteen years. “A person must be certified every two years to be a water aerobics instructor,” Nancy remarks. “That involves fifteen or more hours of classwork and CPR certification.” She works part-time to assist a friend who owns Levana Bratique, a lingerie shop in Wexford. A native of Mount Lebanon, Nancy currently lives in the North Hills. She lost her husband Fred over a year ago, but is blessed with two sons and two grandchildren.

Nancy maintains a collection of 130 plants. “I grow hanger-on orchids – those that don’t die,” she quips. Phragmipediums are her favorites, although she also has Catasetums, Cattleyas, Oncidiums, and a mix of other orchids.

She is concerned about the future of the hobby. “Orchid vendors are struggling and need the support of orchid enthusiasts,” Nancy says. “Many are going out of business due to age, health, or business conditions. Inflation is hurting them just as it is hurting all of us.

“There was once a time when vendors would beg us for table space at our show. Now, many of them are gone, and we are down to a handful who might participate. Members are getting most of their orchids from big-box stores like Giant Eagle, Lowes, or Home Depot. By and large, these are Phalaenopsis, which are beautiful orchids, but you don’t have the variety that so many collectors have come to enjoy. As collectors and as a Society, we discover that this is a whole new ballgame.”

Regardless of the issues confronting the orchid world, Nancy remains optimistic. “When OSWP hosted its meetings through Zoom during the pandemic, we had participants from all over – old members who had moved out of the area, people who lived too far to attend meetings in person.

“The challenges the pandemic imposed became an opportunity for others to participate. We learned to make something positive out of it.” Sometimes challenges can lead us to new ways of think

October meeting raffle!

Teddy Emberg won a very large, beautiful Maxillariella tenuifolia! and the plant was donated by Sheila Nathanson. We raised \$65 to benefit the society.

We are looking for a plant for our October raffle. Anyone who is interested in donating a plant, please contact Natalie Turicik" natalie.rozum@gmail.com

Mini-Class- November and December

There will be no mini-class in November or December prior to the meeting and the mini-class will resume in January.

Thanks,
Katie



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.

November, 2022

Pfun at Phipps, a vital part of the OSWP's volunteer work at Phipps, is repotting orchids as well as doing the inventory of the Phipps orchid collection. The Pfunsters are also helping as the Clean-up Crew too. We are going to Phipps most Mondays and Thursdays from 9:30AM – 12:30PM. If you don't think you have the expertise to repot orchids or work on the inventory, you can help with orchid greenhouse clean-up. It's all a great learning experience for all of us.

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 at least 4 members each date, with at least one being a more experienced grower.

(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. At the moment, all of the volunteers are required to wear masks at Phipps.)

Don't miss the Winter Flower and Light Show at Phipps: Holiday Magic, opening November 18th.

Looking forward to working and learning together and having Pfun!

Nancy Kline

nancyk412@gmail.com

412-367-1556

Demetria Marsh

demetria117@gmail.com

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 Horts-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

Orchid Society of Western Pennsylvania (OSWP)
General Meeting
Oct. 16, 2022

Meeting was held at Phipps Garden Center.

Meeting began at 1:00 pm with mini-class "I Bought this Orchid. Now What?" presented by Sheila Nathanson.

Official call to order at approx. 1:50 pm by co-president Michelle Panasiuk.

3 new members were welcomed to their first meeting.

Old Business:

- a. Crawford Estate Donations: Items remain in temporary storage in Pitcairn. Coordination with Phipps to divide the items still needs to be worked out. There are approximately 10 large plastic tubs containing etched crystal, awards, books, pictures, folk art, etc. OSWP would like 1 or 2 volunteers to assist in choosing items from the estate. Interested individuals should email Michelle Panasiuk.
- b. Storage Unit - The building where the Spring Show materials (as well as the Crawford Estate items) are stored is for sale. OSWP continues to solicit Ideas for new storage options as these items may soon need to be relocated.
- c. Zoom - Volunteers have stepped forward to be trained on the Zoom technology so that future meetings can be provided via a Zoom link. (The speaker for the November meeting will be on Zoom, although the meeting and mini-class will be inperson at the Phipps Garden Center.)
- d. Raj Popat's plants. Still working out the details for the choosing, transfer and storage of Raj's orchid plant donation.

New Business

OSWP Meeting Location: The Phipps Garden Center is working on a timeline for beginning renovations of the building. It is anticipated that OSWP will be provided an update on this timeline before the end of the month. A search for a new meeting location has begun. If anyone has ideas for a potential location, please contact Michelle Panasiuk.

Reports:

- a. Pfun / P-OSI: Demetria Marsh provided an update on Pfun and P-OSI activities at Phipps. Pfun continues to volunteer twice per week to do orchid repotting, inventory and clean-up. Volunteers work in the Orchid greenhouse on both Monday and Thursday (9:30 a.m - 12:30 p.m.). (The Oct. 17th date was cancelled due to the

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illness of Giovanny.)

b. American Orchid Society: Nancy Kline provided a short review of AOS webinars and orchid conservation activities. (aos.org)

c. Culture Corner: If a member has a plant question, plants may be brought to the meeting (in a bag if it might be diseased or bug-infected) or a picture of said plant can be provided and Nancy (or another OSWP member) will attempt to answer plant specific questions.

d. Newsletter: Jim Yamber was unable to attend meeting but it was noted that articles are due on the 20th of the month to allow for editing and distribution.

e. Orchid Gems: Norma Raiff thanked all the OSWP members who are willing to be interviewed for Orchid Gems. This is one way OSWP is able to get to know a bit about both our “old” and new members.

f. Orchid Show: Norma noted many of the vendors have committed for the Spring Show. In response to Norma’s request last month for ideas regarding Strategic Planning, Zander sent an email with ideas for interesting young people for the future. If you would like to volunteer (or have ideas) for a Strategic Planning Committee, please contact Norma. The Spring Show dates will be March 18 and 19, 2023.

g. Treasurer: The Treasurer’s report, submitted by Janet Greenberg in absentia, indicates funds in a variety of investment accounts, including checking, money market, CD and a US Treasury I-bond.

h. Hospitality / Winter Party: Carolyn Bolton encouraged members to bring treats to share at the meetings. The Winter Party will be held at the Crowne Plaza on Dec. 11th. Anyone willing to assist with Hospitality, please contact Carolyn.

Miscellaneous:

A plant raffle was held. Sheila Nathanson provided a beautiful Maxillaria for the raffle. Additionally 2 large Aloe plants were part of the raffle. Any OSWP member wishing to donate a plant for the raffle should contact Natalie Turicik.

A number of members presented orchids they had brought to the meeting for the purpose of Show & Tell.

Dave Miller and Edgar Stehli (Windswept in Time) both brought orchids for sale as did a number of members. Edgar will host an Open House for Windswept in Time on November 5 and 6.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m. and was followed by the guest speaker, Leon Glicenstein PhD. who gave a presentation on Jewel Orchids



First Class Mail

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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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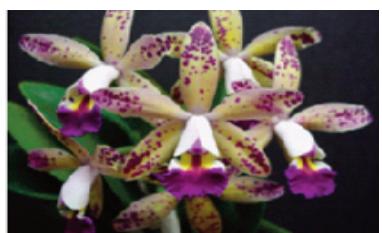
American Orchid Society
Education. Conservation. Research.
Affiliated Society

Upcoming 2022 speaker
Nov. 20, 2022
Sarah Hurdel

tips, tricks and creative solutions for growing orchids successfully
without a greenhouse

Zoom and in person meeting

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
dcmjpa@gmail.com*