

# The **Slipper Orchid Alliance Newsletter**

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## **AN OVERVIEW AND THE HISTORY OF THE SPECIES NAMES WITHIN THE GROUP OF THE LONG-PETALED PHRAGMIPEDIUMS.**

One of the most distinct and unique groups of lady-slippers can be found in South and Central America. This group of lady-slippers is characterized by their long pendulous flower petals that can sometimes be over 80 cm in length. According to Rolfe (1896) these species belong to the section *Phragmipedium*. Until now there have been five distinct taxa described, but in the past and particularly in the last few years there has been a lot of confusion regarding the names of these five taxa. The names keep switching back and forth by various taxonomists and the orchid registrar of the Royal Horticultural Society. In this article I will give an overview of the history of these five taxa, and in conclusion give my own opinion of what the correct name should be for each taxon.

In 1840 John Lindley described the first taxon from this group as *Cypripedium caudatum* Lindley from

a herbarium specimen of Ruiz & Pavon obtained at Lima, Peru. In 1844, the first illustration of *Cypripedium caudatum* appeared by Hooker in *Icones Plantarum*. The species name is derived from the Latin word “having tails,” referring to the long pendulous flower petals. *Phrag. caudatum* has been

### **SOA Membership**

If you receive a membership renewal form with your newsletter, your membership is up for renewal within the next three months. Please fill out the form and mail it to our membership secretary, Jean Metcalf, 2323 Edinboro Rd. GH#6, Erie, PA 16509. Questions about your membership? Jean can be contacted at [orchidiva@gmail.com](mailto:orchidiva@gmail.com).

**We are planning to have a directory published by the end of this year. Please make sure your dues are paid by October 15 in order to be included.**



*Phragmipedium caudatum* (close-up)



*Phragmipedium caudatum* (full flower)

found in Peru and Ecuador and possibly in Colombia at elevations between 1000 and 2500 meters. It has been found growing as a terrestrial under trees, as a lithophyte on rocks and cliffs, or as an epiphyte on tree branches up to 20-25 m high. It does, however, always grow together with mosses and ferns in places where moisture is present. *Phrag. caudatum* grows in areas with bright light to half shade, but will never grow in places exposed to full sun. The mean temperature range is 20 to 22°C (68-72°F), but it can range anywhere from 5°C (41°F) at the coldest in the winter up to 27°C (81°F) in the summer.

In 1846 the second taxon (commonly known as *Phragmipedium lindenii*) was described. As this species was lacking a pouch it was not even considered to be a lady-slipper, and it was assumed to be unrelated to *Cypripedium caudatum*. It was described by Lindley as *Uropodium lindenii* Lindley in *Orchidaceae Lindenianae*:28. It was not until 1975 that *Uropodium lindenii* was finally transferred to the genus *Phragmipedium* by Dressler and Williams. This species is unique because the lip has the same shape as the petals.



*Phragmipedium lindenii* (close up)



*Phragmipedium lindenii* (full flower)

*Phragmipedium lindenii* subsp. *lindenii* (= *Phrag. lindenii*)



*Phragmipedium wallisii* 'Perfect Ten' (close-up)



*Phragmipedium wallisii* 'Perfect Ten' (plant)

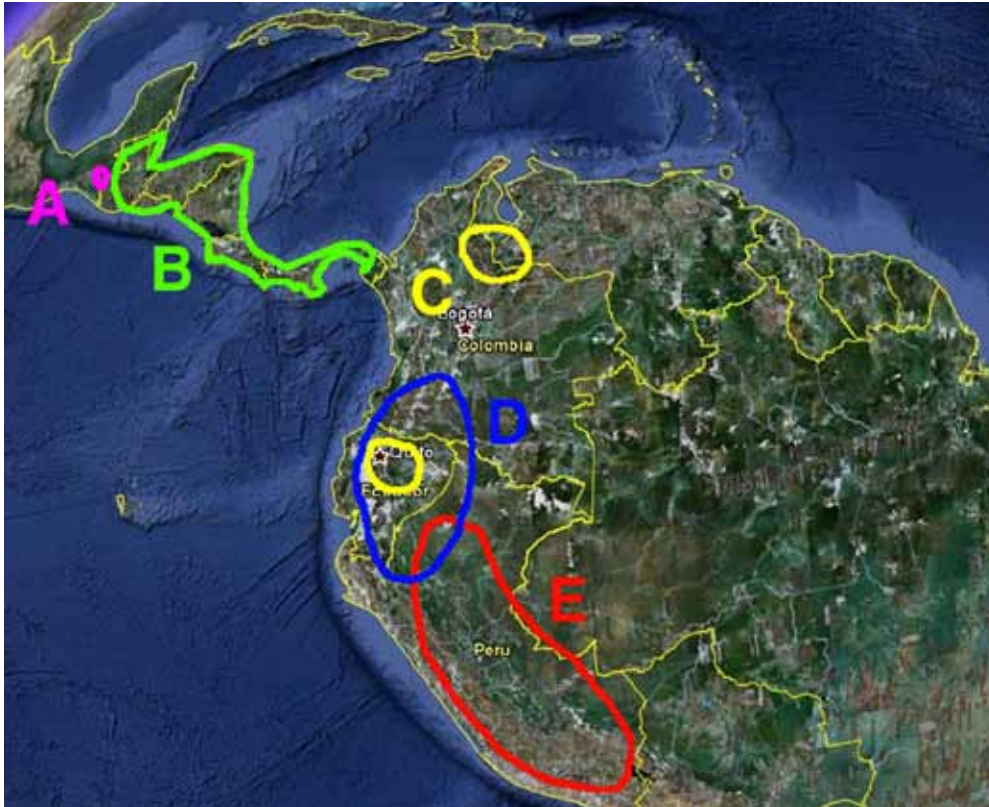
*Phragmipedium lindenii* subsp. *wallisii*  
(= *Phrag. warszewiczianum*)



*Phragmipedium Memoria Julius Dixler* (plant)  
(*caudatum* x *exstaminodium*)



*Phragmipedium Memoria Julius Dixler* (close-up)  
(*caudatum* x *exstaminodium*)



**Geographic range for the five different taxa of the long-petaled *Phragmipediums* in Central and South America.**

- A = *Phrag. warszewiczii* subsp. *exstaminodium* (= *Phrag. exstaminodium*)
- B = *Phrag. warszewiczii* subsp. *warszewiczii* (= *Phrag. popowii*)
- C = *Phrag. lindenii* subsp. *lindenii* (= *Phrag. lindenii*)
- D = *Phrag. lindenii* subsp. *wallisii* (= *Phrag. warszewiczianum*)
- E = *Phrag. caudatum*

The petals are white to light green in color, and can be up to 70 cm in length. Unlike other species in the genus *Phragmipedium*, this species also has a third fertile anther, which is in direct contact with the stigma resulting in a flower that is forced to self-pollinate. *Phrag lindenii* has been found in two disjunct areas, one in Ecuador and the other in Colombia, and can be found at elevations between 1400 and 2500 meters. The blooming season is March to November. It has been found growing under trees or in grasslands amongst thickets and ferns as a terrestrial; in-between rocks and gravel, or lava fields or road embankments as lithophytes; and as an epiphyte growing on trees. This plant has been found growing under variable light conditions, but never in full sun. The mean temperatures range is 19 to 21°C (66-70°F), but it can range from 10°C (50°F) at the coldest to up to 27°C (81°F) in the summer.

The third taxon (commonly known as *Phragmipedium wallisii*) was described by Reichenbach, based on a drawing by John Lindley in Paxton's Flower Garden. Lindley had drawn this flower from a live plant collected by Hartweg in the province of Quito, Ecuador. According to Reichenbach, this plant was distinct and different enough from *Cypripedium caudatum* that he described it in 1852 as a separate species: *Cypripedium warszewiczianum* Reichenbach fil. He noted that this species can be found growing in marshy places. In 1873 Reichenbach fil. described another species, discovered by Mr. Wallis in Ecuador, as *Selenipedium wallisii* Rchb. fil in Xenia Orchidaceae (2<sup>nd</sup> Vol). Unfortunately, he did not realize that he had described *Selenipedium wallisii* 21 years earlier as *Cypripedium warszewiczianum*, making the name *Selenipedium wallisii* invalid. Guido Braem et al discovered that Reichenbach had described this species twice, originally as *Cypripedium warszewiczianum*,

based on the drawing by John Lindley in Paxton's Flower Garden, and a second time as *Selenipedium wallisii*. The drawing clearly depicts the species we later all know as *Phrag. wallisii*, but which Reichenbach had originally described as *Cyp. warszewiczianum*; therefore, the correct and valid name for this species should be *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* (Braem, Ohlund & Quené, 2004).

*Phrag. warszewiczianum* and *Phrag. lindenii* have the smallest flowers within this group of long-petaled *Phragmipedium*s. *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* is native mainly to Ecuador, but has also been found in parts of Peru and Colombia. Its flowers are very similar in size and color to *Phragmipedium lindenii*, except they do have a pouch (in *Phragmipedium lindenii*, the pouch has been modified to a third petal). Also, unlike *Phragmipedium lindenii*, *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* has only two fertile pollinia. *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* grows at an elevation of 800 to 1400 m, and can be found as an epiphyte or a terrestrial in wet forests. The mean temperature range is 19 to 21°C (66-70°F).

In 1886, Pfitzer unified the South American and Asian lady-slippers into the genus *Paphiopedilum*. He recognized that the South American relatives were different from the Asian species, and put them into the section *Caudata* within the genus *Paphiopedilum*. In 1896 he changed the section name to *Phragmipedium*. Rolfe considered the South American species to be different enough from the Asian species that he transferred the South American species to the new genus *Phragmipedium*.

The fourth taxon (commonly known as *Phragmipedium caudatum* var. *warszewiczianum*, *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum*, *Phragmipedium popowii* or *Phragmipedium warszewiczii*) is the one that has created the most confusion over the years. This taxon is native to Central America, and can be found from Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Costa Rica to Panama.

Early on the fourth taxon, known as a horticultural variety of *Cypripedium caudatum*, was considered the "darker" or "redder" form of *caudatum*. The fourth taxon was known under a variety of names such as *Cypripedium caudatum* var. *warszewiczii* hort. or *Cypripedium caudatum* var. *roseum* hort. It was not until 1979, when Garay revised the genus *Phragmipedium*, that he raised this variety to the species level, and he named it *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum*. Unfortunately, Garay did not realize that Reichenbach had already used the name *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* for a different species, making this name invalid for the Central American species. Dressler realized Garay's

mistake after reviewing the old literature. Based on an article by Reichenbach entitled "Neue Orchideen der Expedition des Herrn J. de Warszewicz" (Reichenbach fil. 1852), he concluded that the correct name should be *Phragmipedium humboldtii*. Unfortunately, he misread the literature; Reichenbach did mention a plant by the name "humboldtii," but he considered it to be synonymous with *Cyp. caudatum*, and not the Central American species, *Phrag. warszewiczianum*. (This is all explained in detail in "The Language Trap, *Phragmipedium caudatum*, *Phrag. warszewiczianum*, *Phrag. humboldtii*" by Braem and Ohlund, 2004). In a later paper, we concluded that the Central American species had never been described as a species and we gave it the new name of *Phrag. popowii* Braem, Ohlund & Quené (2004).

The flowers of this taxon are the darkest within the group, and are dark reddish-brown in color. The petals can be up to 80 cm in length. The plant is more compact compared to its South American counterparts. They grow at an elevation of 1000 to 2100 meters. The blooming season is usually from June to July. They can be found in cool, wet forests, and growing on steep road cuts either as an epiphyte or terrestrial. The mean temperature range is 19 to 20°C (66-68°F). They grow in moderate shade.

Finally, the last taxon (commonly known as *Phragmipedium exstaminodium*) was described in 1984. It is native to only a very small area in the Chiapas region of Southern Mexico and in Baja and Alta Verapaz in Guatemala (these regions are adjacent to the Chiapas region). Similar to *Phragmipedium lindenii*, this taxon is easily identifiable as it lacks a floral part, namely the staminodal shield. This taxon was described as *Phragmipedium exstaminodium* Castaño, Hagsater & Aguirre (1984). This species has been found growing at an elevation of 1350 to 1700 meters. The flowers are similar in color to *Phragmipedium popowii*, but can be distinguished from *Phragmipedium popowii* by the missing staminodal shield. Another difference is the stance of the petals - on *Phrag. popowii* they hang down behind the pouch, while on *exstaminodium* they come out at an angle and hang down next to the pouch, shielding the pouch. The pouch color of *Phrag. popowii* tends to be darker and more saturated compared to *exstaminodium*. And finally *Phrag. exstaminodium* is autogamous (it self pollinates), while *popowii* does not. This is because both pollinia touch the stigma in the *exstaminodium* flower. Most of the time it grows as an epiphyte on trees and lianas, but it may also grow in wet forests in moderate shade with conifers and oak trees 1 to 4 m above the ground. The blooming season is May to July. The mean temperature range is 16 to 21°C (60-70°F). An interesting



*Phragmipedium popowii* 'Dark River' (close-up)  
(showing small indentations in the pouch)



*Phragmipedium popowii* 'Dark River' (plant)

*Phragmipedium warszewiczii* subsp. *warszewiczii*  
(= *Phrag. popowii* 'Dark River')



*Phragmipedium popowii* 'Dark River' (close-up)

fact is that the characteristic of not having a staminodal shield seems to be dominant. All the seedlings of the cross *Phragmipedium Memoria Julius Dixler* (*caudatum* x *exstaminodium*), registered by Joseph Dixler, seem to be missing the staminodal shield.

In 2003, Olaf Gruss wrote a checklist of the genus *Phragmipedium* in the *Orchid Digest*. According to Gruss, *Phrag. lindenii* and *Phrag. exstaminodium* were distinct enough (due to lacking and/or modified floral parts) that they could be considered as separate species. The other three taxa, however, he considered to be varieties of *Phrag. caudatum*: *Phrag. caudatum*, *Phrag. caudatum* var. *wallisii* and *Phrag. caudatum* var. *warszewiczianum*.

In 2005, Robert Dressler also classified the long-petaled taxa into three species, but different from how Gruss had classified them: the first being distinct and standing by itself - *Phrag. caudatum*; the second species being *Phrag. lindenii* with two subspecies: subsp. *lindenii* and subsp. *wallisii*; and the third species being *Phrag. exstaminodium*



*Phragmipedium exstaminodium* 'Extraordinary' (close-up)



*Phragmipedium exstaminodium* 'Extraordinary' (plant)

*Phragmipedium warszewiczii* subsp. *exstaminodium* (= *Phrag. exstaminodium*)



*Phragmipedium exstaminodium* 'Extraordinary' (close-up)

with to subspecies - subsp. *exstaminodium* and subsp. *warszewiczii*.

Now going back in the literature to where Reichenbach describes *Selenipedium wallisii* in *Xenia Orchidacea* (1873-1874), he did mention that this species is similar to *warszewiczii* Rehb. Fil., also known as *caudatum roseum* hort. When we (Braem, Ohlund and Quené, 2004) read this article, we were assuming that Reichenbach was referring to his earlier description of *Cyp. warszewiczianum* from Ecuador and did not think too much about it. However, Christenson (2006) believes that when Reichenbach mentioned that *Selenipedium wallisii* is similar to *Selenipedium warszewiczii*, also known as *caudatum var. roseum* hort., he is actually referring to the Central American species. Thus, this is the first time the "dark colored" *Phragmipedium* from Central America is mentioned at the "species" level. Therefore, according to Christenson, *Phragmipedium warszewiczii* should be the correct species name for the Central American taxon. Notice that Christenson changes the name from *warszewiczii* to *warszewiczii* (sc vs sz), which is correct since it was named after Baron von Warszewicz. Interestingly, when I re-read Reichenbach's article,

Reichenbach does mention that a way to distinguish *warszewiczii* from *caudatum* is that *warszewiczii* has small indentations on the pouch, while *caudatum* does not. Because of this statement I have to agree with Christenson that at this point when Reichenbach is talking about *warszewiczii* he in fact is talking about the Central American species formerly known as *caudatum* var. *roseum* hort. This is because one of the characteristics of the Central American species (that we named *Phrag. popowii*) is that it has small indentations on the pouch. Neither the South American species of *Phrag. caudatum* or *Phrag. wallisii* have these indentations. Christenson does agree with Dressler that both Central American taxa (*exstaminodium* and *warszewiczii*) are subspecies of the same species, and he named them: *Phrag. warszewiczii* subspecies *warszewiczii* and *Phrag. warszewiczii* subspecies *exstaminodium*. Unfortunately, Christenson does not mention what the correct name should be of the Ecuadorian species of *Phrag. warszewiczianum* (aka *wallisii*).

At this point, the registrar at the Royal Horticultural Society accepts the following five names for registration purposes: *Phrag. caudatum*, *Phrag. lindenii*, *Phrag. wallisii*, *Phrag. exstaminodium* and *Phrag. warszewiczii* (for the Central American species). According to Olaf Gruss (personal communication, 2010), he agrees with Guido Braem and me, that if you consider all five taxa to be separate species, the correct name for *Phrag. wallisii* should be *Phrag. warszewiczianum*, and not *wallisii*. If this is so, when you go by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature's recommendation 23A, it states the following:

**23A.3. In forming specific epithets, authors should comply also with the following suggestions: (g) To avoid in the same genus those which are very much alike, especially those which differ only in their last letters or in the arrangement of two letters.**

To follow this rule, the name *warszewiczii* should not be used for the Central American species, as Reichenbach already used the name *warszewiczianum* for a different species (the Ecuadorian species later known as *Phrag. wallisii*), and hence the name *Phragmipedium popowii* would be a better name for the Central American species. Therefore, if you would consider these five taxa as separate species, the correct names should be:

1. *Phragmipedium caudatum* (Lindley) Rolfe
2. *Phragmipedium lindenii* (Lindley) Dressler & N.H. Williams
3. *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* (Reichenbach fil.)

Garay

4. *Phragmipedium popowii* Braem, Ohlund & Quené
5. *Phragmipedium exstaminodium* Castaño, Hågsater & Aguirre

Now, after preparing a presentation for the Paphiopedilum Guild earlier this spring, I looked at this group of long-petaled Phrags one more time, and I came up with a different conclusion. Only time will tell what people will accept in the long run, but as I have been hybridizing with this group of plants for the last ten years, and we have a number of plants from each taxon in the greenhouse here at Orchids Limited, I based my conclusion both on morphological traits and on where these plants occur geographically. Reading Dressler's article, I will have to agree with him that the two Central American species are very closely related. The locations where *Phrag. exstaminodium* has been found are relatively close to areas where *Phrag. popowii* has been found, suggesting that at one point in the recent past or even still today, gene flow is occurring between both populations. Based on this, and similarities in their morphology, I agree with Dressler that we are speaking of just one species. Just like Dressler, I do consider *Phrag. exstaminodium* to be different enough from *popowii* to describe it at the subspecies level. If doing so, the name *exstaminodium* will have priority over *popowii* (as it was described earlier). A different approach would be to use the name that Reichenbach first used and that Christenson also adopted, namely *Phragmipedium warszewiczii* for the Central American species, and give the subspecies name of *exstaminodium* to the taxon from the Chiapas region and the subspecies *warszewiczii* to the other subspecies. This will also make more sense as historically the name of *warszewiczii* or *warszewiczianum* has been associated with the Central American species.

Now, I also have to agree with Dressler when it comes to *Phragmipedium lindenii* and *Phragmipedium warszewiczianum* (aka *wallisii*). I agree that *lindenii* probably derived at one point (due to mutations of one or multiple genes) from the species *Phrag. warszewiczianum* and they should both be considered as the same species. Due to priority the species name should be *Phragmipedium lindenii*. Because of this the pouchless lady-slipper will be *Phragmipedium lindenii* subsp. *lindenii*, and the other subspecies can be called *Phragmipedium lindenii* subsp. *wallisii*. As it is now considered a subspecies, you do not have to use the name *warszewiczianum*, and as historically the name *wallisii* has been used for over 100 years, I think it would be more appropriate to keep the name *wallisii* with this subspecies. Because of this there is now no conflict with using the name *warszewiczii* for the Central American species. The



third species is the most straightforward and will keep its name of *Phragmipedium caudatum*. Thus I have come up with the following classification:

- Phrag. caudatum* (Lindley) Rolfe  
*Phrag. lindenii* (Lindley) Dressler & N.H. Williams  
 subsp. *lindenii* (Lindley) Dressler  
 subsp. *wallisii* (Rchb. f.) Dressler  
*Phrag. warszewiczii* (Rchb. f.) Christenson  
 subsp. *warszewiczii* (Rchb. f.)  
 Christenson  
 subsp. *exstaminodium* (Castaño,  
 Hágsater J. Aguirre) Christenson

In conclusion, depending on whether you are a splitter or a lumper, if you consider all five taxa to be separate species, and if you go by the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature, the correct names for the five species are: *Phrag. caudatum*, *Phrag. lindenii*, *Phrag. warszewiczianum*, *Phrag. popowii* and *Phrag. exstaminodium*. Now if you are a lumper (and this is my proposal) and if you consider the two Central American taxa to be the same species and both *lindenii* and *wallisii* (aka *warszewiczianum*) to be the same species you can split the five taxa into three species: *Phrag. caudatum*, *Phrag. lindenii* (with two subspecies: *lindenii* and *wallisii*) and *Phrag. warszewiczii* (with two subspecies: *warszewiczii* and *exstaminodium*). For registration purposes, these five taxa can still be considered as five separate entities: *caudatum*, *lindenii*, *wallisii*, *warszewiczii* and *exstaminodium*. Now only time will tell what people (and the RHS) will start accepting as the correct names for this intriguing group within the genus *Phragmipedium*.

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## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dr. Robert-Jan Quené has a Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota in Plant Breeding, and a Masters in Plant Breeding from the Agriculture University in Wagenigen, The Netherlands, where he lived for 14 years. He was born and spent his first 10 years in Nairobi, Kenya. Dr. Quené is in charge of Orchids Limited's laboratory and also plays a major role in the breeding. Thus far he has registered over 200 new orchid hybrids, of which most are *Paphiopedilum*, *Phragmipedium* and *Phalaenopsis* hybrids. He has written multiple articles about orchids in orchid magazines including the *Orchid Digest*, *Richardiana* and *Orquideologia*. He has also co-authored with other orchid taxonomists such as Olaf Gruss and Guido Braem, and described two *Phragmipedium* species (*Phrag. brasiliense* and *Phrag. popowii*).

Owner of Plants: *Orchids Ltd, Plymouth, MN*  
 Photo: *Dr. Robert-Jan Quené*  
 E-mail: *robertquene@yahoo.com*



*Growing Hardy Orchids in Containers - An Educational Exhibit  
Owners and Photo: Doug and Beth Martin*

## HARDY ORCHIDS EXHIBIT

When Doug and I learned that the Spring 2010 AOS Members Meeting and SWROGA show would be held in Oklahoma City, we immediately decided to enter a hardy orchid exhibit. Oklahoma City is within driving distance of our home in the Kansas City area, so we could actually get the orchids to the show. More importantly, the show dates, April 28-May 2, were at the beginning of our blooming season and we knew we could have some hardy orchids in flower.

The orchids did bloom, and our exhibit succeeded beyond our highest hopes. It won the Orchid Digest Trophy, the Best Educational Exhibit Trophy, and an AOS Educational Exhibit Certificate of 88 points. Two *Cypripedium*s in the exhibit won three AOS awards and four trophies, including the Slipper Orchid Alliance Trophy and the SWROGA Trophy for best in show.

We displayed hardy orchids in a SWROGA show in 2008, and the new exhibit was a similar tabletop educational exhibit. This time we focused on Doug's technique for growing hardy orchids in containers. Educational panels on the exhibit's background provided cultural information



*Cypripedium parviflorum var. makasin  
'Doug's Delight' AM, CCM/AOS  
Owners: Doug and Beth Martin; Photo: Rod Knowles*

for growing the orchids in containers throughout their annual cycle of flowering and growth, die-back and dormancy. Another panel explained how to make the container bogs that Doug uses in his semi-hydroponic culture. We also included a conservation message reminding readers to purchase artificially propagated native orchids rather than collecting them from the wild. Additional panels provided photographs and cultural information about six easy-to-grow hardy orchids.

The highlight of the exhibit was the tabletop grouping of eight hardy orchids, mostly *Cypripedium*s, all in container bogs. The five *Cypripedium*s all grow in plastic storage boxes measuring 10 x 16 x 7 inches. *Cyp. parviflorum* var. *makasin* 'Doug's Delight' with 20 flowers won the Slipper Orchid Alliance trophy, an AM/AOS of 80 points and a CCM/AOS of 82 points, and the Best Grown Plant trophy for the *Cypripedium* Alliance. *Cyp. Aki* 'Kristin Martin' (*parviflorum* var. *pubescens* x *macranthos*), with two flowers, received an HCC/AOS of 77 points, the SWROGA Trophy for best in show and the Best Flower trophy for the *Cypripedium* Alliance. We also displayed *Calopogon* Fluffy and *Bletilla striata* grown in plastic wastebaskets converted into container bogs. The one non-blooming orchid in the display, *Pogonia ophioglossoides*, was in bud in a large clay pot set inside a large clay bowl filled with water to make another container bog.

Doug and I have already started to think about the Spring 2012 AOS Members Meeting and SWROGA show in Wichita, Kansas.

Beth Martin, Shawnee, Kansas  
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*Cypripedium Aki* 'Kristin Martin' HCC/AOS  
 (*parviflorum* var. *pubescens* x *macranthos*)  
 Owners: Doug and Beth Martin; Photo: Russell Tyler



*Cypripedium reginae fma albolabium*  
 Owners: Doug and Beth Martin; Photo: Rod Knowles



*Cypripedium Gisela*  
 (*parviflorum* var. *parviflorum* x *macranthos*)  
 Owners: Doug and Beth Martin; Photo: Rod Knowles

## ***Paphiopedilum malipoense* var. *album***

*Paph. malipoense* (Fig. 1) was originally found in Yunnan Province, China. The color of the flower is green with maroon venation on the petals and stippled pale brown on the pouch. The natural spread averages 11-13 cm, and more than 14 cm is rare. As for *Paph. malipoense* var. *album*, the entire flower is a clear green without other colors or stipples, although the pouch is a paler green. The album variety's natural spread averages 9-11cm, and above 11cm is rare.

Currently, our nursery has a high quality plant of *Paph. malipoense* var. *album* (Fig. 2); the entire flower is a pure emerald green color. So far, its best dimensions are as follows: Natural Spread - 15cm x 8.7 cm; Dorsal Sepal - 4.2 cm x 6.8 cm; Petals - 5cm x 7.8cm; Synsepal - 4.8cm; Inflorescence - 43cm (Fig. 3). The flower size is much larger than the average *malipoense*. Our *album* is considered to be a superior plant compared to most other *Paph. malipoense* var. *albums* by virtue of its large size and fine color.

We have tried twice to propagate this super species by self-pollination. Probably because of the mutated genes of album flowers, we did it in vain up to now. It would be greatly appreciated if anyone in the field of breeding Paphs could provide us with his experiences and helpful suggestions on this matter.

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Figure 1. *Paphiopedilum malipoense*



Figure 2. *Paphiopedilum malipoense* var. *album*



Figure 3. *Paphiopedilum malipoense* var. *album*



Figure 1. *Paphiopedilum papuanum*



Figure 2. *Paphiopedilum hainanensis*



Figure 3. *Paphiopedilum papuanum* x *Paphiopedilum hainanensis*

## When *Paph. papuanum* meets with *Paph. hainanensis*

*Paph. papuanum* (Fig. 1) has been found in New Guinea. The flower appears well-shaped and green except for the petals marked with mahogany.

*Paph. hainanensis* (Fig. 2) occurs in Hainan Island, China. The flower's deep raspberry petals and brown pouch appear lacquered due to their impressive sheen. However, due to over-construction in the aim of developing tourism and the expected boost to the economy, the original terrestrial region has been severely destroyed for years. Now, it is difficult to find the species *in situ*.

Our nursery has made 30 seedpods of the hybrid *Paph. papuanum* x *Paph. hainanensis* (Fig. 3) and expected good results. Unfortunately a very low percentage of the seedlings sprouted. (The poor germination could have been caused by problems with the media material, technology control or the species' own features.) We got only three successful capsules totaling about 20 seedlings, and one of them shown here bloomed with outstanding color. The hybrid resulting from these two parents is just amazing!

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## AOS AND SOA MEET IN OKLAHOMA CITY

AOS Members Meetings always offer a variety of interesting, educational and social activities. The spring meeting April 28 to May 2, 2010, in Oklahoma City followed this tradition, but was especially noteworthy for the slipper lovers who attended.

It is unusual to see *Cypripediums* in an orchid show, since they are essentially terrestrial. It is even more unusual and extremely exciting for slipper lovers to see a large group of Cyps win the top prizes in a large show. And to make this even more special, the winners of these honors are members of the SOA!

Doug and Beth Martin, of Shawnee, Kansas, entered an exhibit with five Cyps in containers and a few other terrestrials - *Calopogon Fluffy*, *Bletilla striata* and *Pogonia ophioglossoides*. The best plant in show award went to their colorful Cyp. Aki 'Kristin Martin' (*parviflorum* var. *pubescens* x *macranthos*), which also received an HCC/AOS of 77 points; it had two flowers. Nearby, in a container measuring 10" x 16" was *Cyp. parviflorum* var. *makasin* 'Doug's Delight' with 20 flowers, which won the Slipper Orchid Alliance trophy and an AM of 80 points and a CCM of 82 points. The exhibit itself received an Educational Exhibit Certificate of 88 points and Best Educational Exhibit award. Our congratulations to the Martins! To find out how they grow their beautiful Cyps, go to our Summer 2009 newsletter, in which Doug explained their culture in containers. An article elsewhere in this issue by Beth Martin includes pictures of the exhibit and flowers.

Glen Decker was our sponsored speaker and gave a talk on "Phragmipediums – A look at the species and how they relate to their hybrids and most importantly, how to grow them." The Oklahoma Orchid Society asked us specifically to provide a speaker on this subject, and I am glad that we were able to fulfill their request. Providing slipper orchid speakers in different parts of the country is one of our important functions.

Our auction, in conjunction with our speaker, was a little different this time. We had a donation of a non-plant item, a lovely silver *Paph. fairrieianum* charm on a chain, donated by its creator, Dawn Vertrees Jewelry Designer. Glen Decker provided Phrag. Grande 'Suzanne' AM/AOS. Norito Hasegawa gave a large *Paph. lowii*. An interesting seedling came from Max Thompson and Bryon Rinke –

*Paph. Bel Royal* x *armeniicum*. Sam Tsui contributed a flask of *Paph.* {(Snowflake x Double Trix) 'Super Bowl' x Tokyo Black Knight 'Red Moon' JC/AOS} and surprised us with a blooming size *C. lueddemaniana* from a select seedling population that is producing very large and dark flowers. We greatly appreciate these vendors' and members' tremendous support. Our auctions at meetings are extremely important fundraisers, and we welcome donations of plants or items from our members, which are tax-deductible.

Barbara Tisherman  
President, Slipper Orchid Alliance



Paphiopedilum Addicted Phillip  
'Long Red Twister'  
Grower: Sam Tsui

© Rod Knowles

*Paphiopedilum Addicted Phillip* 'Long Red Twister'  
Owner: Sam Tsui; Photo: Rod Knowles  
(Plant exhibited at the Oklahoma City AOS Meeting)



*Paphiopedilum Robinianum 'Da Villa' HCC/AOS*

Owner: Juanice Davis  
Photo: Larry Hennessey

## Winner of SOA Trophy at New Orleans Orchid Society Show, June 5, 2010

The plant was purchased from Golden Gate Orchids last year and rebloomed in a surprisingly hot greenhouse. It is the coolest greenhouse that we have, but we are in Austin, Texas and cannot control the temperature that much. I have found that this particular cross blooms very well for us.

Juanice Davis, It's a Jungle,  
Austin, Texas.  
jdavis007@austin.rr.com.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### AOS FALL MEMBERS MEETING

October 27-31, 2010, in conjunction with the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Merritt Huntington Memorial Symposium. Speakers: Glen Decker (update on *Phragmipedium kovachii*), Norman Fang, Carlos Fighetti, Jason Fischer, Olaf Gruss (albino *Paphiopedilums*, the subject of his new book), Alan Koch, Philippe Lecoufle, John Salventi. Cavalier Oceanfront Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA 757-425-8555.

Check the Website: [www.mhsymposium.org](http://www.mhsymposium.org)

The SOA will have a meeting, open to all registrants, on Saturday, October 30 at 1:00, immediately preceding Olaf Gruss's talk. We will include an auction. Please join us. (Be sure to check the daily schedule because sometimes planned events are changed.)

### 20<sup>th</sup> WORLD ORCHID CONFERENCE

Singapore, Nov. 14-23, 2011.

Check the Website: [www.20woc.com.sg](http://www.20woc.com.sg)

### 13<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SLIPPER SYMPOSIUM

November 6-7, 2010, Tampa, Florida. World-famous speakers, plant sales, expert panel discussion, BBQ and auction, and exclusive visit to June's Orchid Estate.

Check the Website: [www.slippersymposium.com](http://www.slippersymposium.com)

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center Tampa,  
2701 E. Fowler Avenue, Tampa, FL  
Reservations: 877-424-6423 / 813-971-4710  
Special rate accommodations have been arranged at \$79 per night. This rate is guaranteed available only if booked before October 15, 2010.

### SPEAKERS LIST

Steve Helbling is working on creating a speakers' list for the SOA. This will be a service to orchid societies to help them secure speakers who have special interest and expertise in slipper orchids and a program to offer. If you would like to be included in this list, please contact him: Stephen Helbling, 2489 Erie Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45208-1201; 513-321-3702; E-mail: [orchiddevil@aol.com](mailto:orchiddevil@aol.com) He will send you an information sheet along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope for your convenience.

## Supporting Members

In each issue of our newsletter we recognize and thank our Supporting Members (individuals and businesses) whose additional dues make it possible for us to carry out our mission of preservation of and education about all lady-slipper orchids. If you are interested in becoming a Supporting Member, please contact Jean Metcalf at [orchidiva@gmail.com](mailto:orchidiva@gmail.com). We encourage our members to support these businesses. From our web site you may contact them directly.

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