



The Slipper Orchid Alliance Newsletter

Volume 2, Number 4

Fall 2001

Election of Officers for 2002

In accordance with the By-laws of the Slipper Orchid Alliance, we would like to present the slate of officers for 2002.

President - Barbara Tisherman, PA

Vice-president - Tom Larkin, AR

Secretary - Al Svoboda, CA

Treasurer - Steve Drozda, PA

Directors: Kevin Porter, CA; Jerry Fischer, MN; Gordon Slaymaker, VA

The By-laws for the nomination and election of officers reads:

(A) Annually the Nominating Committee shall propose to the Board a candidate for each open elected position, in a timely manner so that the officers and directors may take office as of January 1 of the following calendar year.

(B) The slate will be published in the SOA Newsletter. If no new nominations presented in writing by ten members in good standing and accepted in writing by the nominee are received within one month of publication, a single ballot will be filed and those persons will be declared elected. If a new nomination is received, the election will be repeated for that office in the next newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Dauelsburg, Chairman, Jerry Fischer, Bill Goldner, Tom Kalina, Karen Muir, Janette Harris

SOA Mission Statement

Promote broader understanding of all genera and species of slipper orchids including paphiopedilum, phragmipedium, and cypripedium, as well as their conservation in natural habitats and under cultivation. Promote member's exchange of information at regional, national and international forums or seminars and advance scientific and horticultural studies of slipper orchids and their hybrids.

Judging Multifloral Paphiopedilums

Thomas F. Kalina

(This article was originally printed in the AOS Awards Quarterly, Volume 21, Number 3. It is a companion piece to the article on Judging Unifloral Paphiopedilums by Tom Kalina published in the Summer 2001 issue of the SOA Newsletter. Together these articles present an amazingly comprehensive and in-depth view of how Paphiopedilums should be judged. It should be noted that this article quotes the eighth edition of the Handbook on Judging and Exhibition on criteria for judging Paphiopedilums; the current edition, the tenth, contains the same criteria in section 7.1.6.)

There is a significant difference in the point scales used to judge single flowered and multi-flowered paphiopedilums effective with the eighth edition of the *Handbook on Judging and Exhibition*. Prior to the eighth edition only one point scale was used to evaluate both types. That scale, if followed literally, favored the floral characteristics exhibited by the complex or "Bulldog" *Paphiopedilum* hybrids over the multi-flowered species and primary type hybrids. However, the AOS judging community had apparently already evolved to a modified form of evaluation for the multifloras since more multifloras had been awarded over the five-year period prior to the change than the complex types. Instead of representing a dramatic change effective with the publication of the eighth edition of the *Handbook*, the new scale may simply reflect the reality of a judging modification which was already being followed on an informal basis by a significant number of AOS judges.

Excerpt from the Eighth Edition of the Handbook on Judging and Exhibition (Section 6.1.6 Paphiopedilum) :

"The majority of judged paphiopedilums currently grown, from species through primary hybrids to the modern complex hybrids, makes criteria, uniformly applicable to all, impossible to define.

The majority of judged paphiopedilums are those having

a single flower on an upright stem; these are scored using the “Paphiopedilum” point scale in section 6.2.4. Those having several flowers on an upright stem or arching inflorescence are commonly termed multiflora paphiopedilums and should be scored according to the general point scale section 6.2.1, as their floriferousness and arrangement of inflorescence are of substantial importance.

In judging of species and those hybrids with parentage near to the species, the general criterion is improvement over the ancestral type(s). The natural spread of flowers with long pendulous petals depends on the angle at which the petals are held, and should be interpreted as the greater of the horizontal or vertical dimensions.

The appearance of complex hybrids is the result of many generations of selective breeding that have obscured the contributions of the many species in their ancestry. The desired form of complex hybrid flowers is round, or broadly oval, with particular emphasis on fullness, balance and proportion. The dorsal sepal should be large, rounded, slight concave and not reflexed. The petals should be broad and their length should be in proportion to the rest of the flower.

The pouch should be full, in proportion and not protrude excessively forward. The ventral sepal should afford a harmonious background for the pouch; a split ventral sepal is not in itself a defect if its effect on the overall appearance of the flower is pleasing. The stem should be proportionately tall and strong, holding the flower well above the foliage. The color of the flower should be clear and definite in well-defined areas and patterns, or harmoniously suffused, according to breeding. Due to polyploidy, substance in complex paphiopedilums is generally heavy and is not expected as a necessary feature. Texture should be waxy or varnished. Size is based on the overall spread of the flower, with emphasis on the width of the dorsal sepal.”

Form of Flower (30/100 pts.)

When compared to the Paphiopedilum Point Scale, the General Point Scale is less demanding as far as the number of points allocated to flower form (30/100 vs. 40/100). However, one must not minimize the importance of obvious form faults in judging the multiflora paphiopedilums. Notice that, while the Paphiopedilum Point Scale is quite specific regarding the distribution of points for general form as well as that of each of the Paphiopedilum flower parts, the General Point Scale which is used to judge the multifloras contains no such specificity. One should keep in mind that these are still members of the genus Paphiopedilum. If we stray too far from the distribution ratios established by the Paphiopedilum Point Scale, especially in the area of form, the results may be problems of flower balance. If we assume the correctness of the above logic, and in the absence of specific guidance in this area by the Handbook on Judging and Exhibition, I would recommend the use of the following point distribution within the General Point Scale when

Multiflora Paphiopedilum Species

Orchidaceae

Cypripedioideae

Paphiopedilum

Paphiopedilum

Brachypetalum

Coryopedilum

Brachypetalum

adductum
glanduliferum
kolopakingii
philippinense
randsii
rothschildianum
sanderianum
stonei
supardii

Brachypetalum

Parvisepalum

Pardalopetalum

haynaldianum
lowii
parishii

Cochlopetalum

glaucophyllum
liemianum
victoria-mariae
victoria-regina
primulinum

Paphiopedilum

Barbata

Cribb, 1987 - The Genus Paphiopedilum

evaluation the form of the multiflora paphiopedilums:

1) General Form	(15)
2) Sepals	(7)
3) Petals	(4)
4) Pouch	(4)
TOTAL	(30)

General Form (15) – The first thing to look for when evaluating a multiflora Paphiopedilum for general form is overall symmetry of the flower parts to the vertical plane when viewed from the front. The ideal form of the flower would exhibit true bilateral symmetry along a line which bisects the dorsal sepal, staminode, pouch and synsepal. While such symmetry is indeed rare, when present it results in a well-balanced appearance and is a major factor in the decision to grant or withhold an award, all other factors being equal.

Next, the flower should be viewed from each side to determine the degree of flatness. Flatness, or its absence, is established by the alignment of sepals, petals and the ventral portion of the pouch when viewed from the sides. The closer

Upcoming Events

January 19-20, 2002

The Paphiopedilum Guild

The Paphiopedilum Guild meeting will be held at The Cliffs Resort in Shell Beach, CA. All reservations for the day and a half of speakers must be made ahead by writing Patti James at: Paphiopedilum Guild, 1699 Sage Ave., Los Osos, CA 93402

February 16, 2002

NCOS's 2002 Paph Forum

The 2002 Paphiopedilum Forum will be held at the United States National Arboretum on Saturday, February 16, 2002. Registration is limited to 150 people. Please check our website for registration information. (See article.)

March 9, 2002

Santa Barbara International Orchid Show

The 27th Annual Cymbidium Congress will sponsor a speaker program with half of the day being devoted to Slipper Orchids. Contact Al Svoboda at stillisch@pol.net

April 10-14 2002

AOS Members Meeting Chicago, IL

The SOA will sponsor two speakers on Saturday morning, April 13 at the AOS Members Meeting. Meeting will be held at the Sheraton North Shore in Chicago. For more information please contact Leo Schardje at 847-746-9355.

these flower parts are to alignment along a given plane, the flatter the flower will appear. Ideally this line should approach, if not achieve, a vertical orientation. As a general statement, the form of a multiflora hybrid should be an improvement over the parents, while multiflora species should represent an improvement over the ancestral type.

Sepals (7) – The form of the dorsal sepal in multifloras should be as flat as possible. Many members of section *Coryopedilum* (especially *Paphiopedilum adductum*, *Paph. kolopakii* and *Paph. glanduliferum*) exhibit a “hooded”

dorsal sepal, i.e., one which does not fully extend to the vertical plane when viewed from the side. However, the more erect the dorsal sepal is, the better.

The species within section *Pardalopetalum*, such as *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum* and *Paph. lowii*, also tend to exhibit varying degrees of dorsal sepal reflexing. Any tendency for reflexing of the dorsal sepal should be considered a fault. The issue of bilateral symmetry once again applies to the position of the dorsal sepal and synsepal when viewed from the front. Ideally, they should be equally bisected by the midline. Is the right side of the dorsal sepal a mirror image of the left side when bisected by the midline? If not, it will affect the overall balance of the flower. In many cases this problem is not fully appreciated until one views a photograph or slide of the awarded flower.

The multifloras may exhibit a synsepalum smaller than the dorsal sepal, although there are exceptions to this, especially among the recent high awards to *Paphiopedilum rothschildianum*. The form of the synsepal should ideally approach flatness, with any tendency toward reflexing also viewed as a fault. While a split synsepal is more common among the complex *Paphiopedilum* hybrids it is rare in the multifloras, and is generally regarded negatively when present. It is preferable to have the dorsal sepal and the synsepal in alignment when viewed from the side, a necessary characteristic for flower flatness.

Petals (4) – Petal form is influenced greatly by the ancestral species in the background of multiflora hybrids. Generally speaking, when evaluating whether the flowers to be judged represent an improvement in petal form over the ancestral type, one must look for such characteristics as evenness and degree of twisting as well as bilateral symmetry along the vertical axis. The relationship of the petals to the horizontal axis when viewed from the front (petal deflection) is also an important characteristic because of its impact on the measurement of overall spread as well as form. Unequal petal deflection has a negative effect on flower form and is considered to be a fault. If one petal exhibits a different degree of deflection than the other, this provides a point of distraction and results in an imbalance in the flower. Ideally, both petals should exhibit equal deflection along their entire length to the lips.

If the petals or petal tips have a tendency to curve, this curve should be exhibited to the same degree and direction by both petals. If one petal curves in a different direction than the other in sections other than *Cochlopetalum* (in which this is typical), it is considered to be a fault and should be scored accordingly. Reflexing of petals is also considered to be a fault, and aside from its effect on form, will also effect the measurement of overall natural spread of the flower. When viewed from the side it is important to remember that the ideal form would demonstrate the petals to represent an extension of the base of the dorsal sepal. In other words,

they would appear to be in the same alignment and plane. When this particular characteristic is present, the result is a “flat” flower which is very desirable as it adds to the overall flower balance. It is important that this alignment occurs close to the vertical, otherwise the combination of a hooded dorsal sepal and petals which follow the line of the dorsal, could well result in a flower that, while flat, also faces downward.

Pouch (4) – In general, most members of section *Corypedilum* exhibit two pouch form faults. One is the tendency for an inferior pouch cleft and the other is the characteristic forward-jutting pouch that one associates with this section and its hybrids. *Paphiopedilum adductum*, *Paph. rothschildianum*, *Paph. stonei* and *Paph. supardii* are particular examples of species within this section that demonstrate these characteristics—*Paphiopedilum glanduliferum* does so to a lesser extent. While we have limited knowledge of the inheritance patterns which will be shown by the hybrids of *Paph. adductum* or *Paph. supardii*, we do know that *Paph. rothschildianum* and *Paph. stonei* hybrids tend to display these characteristics to a greater degree.

When looking for an improvement over the ancestral type, one must look for hybrids from this section which lack either a pouch cleft or the strongly jutting pouch, or which exhibit these characteristics to the lesser degree.

The negative effect of a forward jutting pouch is especially unattractive when combined with a hooded dorsal sepal. When this happens, the general form appears closed with both the front surface of the dorsal sepal and the staminode obscured. Also, look once again at the bilateral symmetry of the pouch and staminode. (We are addressing the form of the staminode here, since it is not covered elsewhere.) The pouch and staminode should be equally bisected by a line which extends from the midline of the dorsal sepal through the midline of the synsepal. If the staminode is offset from this midline or the pouch exhibits lateral deflection, these are considered to be faults. The surface of the pouch should either be smooth in its entirety or exhibit slightly raised venation of a uniform nature. Any unevenly distributed raised horns, warts or projections which appear to be developmental or genetic defects are considered to be significant flaws which detract from the overall appearance of the flower. In judging, one must be able to differentiate between such “fatal” flaws and lesser, more scorable defects.

Color of Flower (30/100 points)

The “General Point Scale” used to judge color in most of the multifloras lacks clear direction regarding distribution of point values among the flower parts. Such definition is quite clear in the *Paphiopedilum* Point Scale (40/100). It is interesting to note that *within* point scales, color and form have equal point values:

1) General Color (15)

2) Sepals	(7)
3) Petals	(4)
4) Pouch	(4)
TOTAL	(30)

General Color (15) – As a general rule, the color evaluation of any orchid flower is greatly influenced by the quality and quantity of light present in the judging environment. I would recommend, if at all possible, that color evaluation of multiflora paphiopedilums occur in natural daylight. Where this is not possible, every attempt should be made to create viewing conditions that approach, or duplicate, daylight. It is a basic fact that the same color can appear to be muddy, bright, clear or a different color altogether, depending upon the quality and quantity of light present in the viewing area. Evaluation of flower color under daylight or under artificial conditions approaching daylight will minimize this variability.

Overall flower color should be clear, not muddy. The closer the color gets to pure hues and tones, the more dramatic the display will appear. Do not expect to see the wide variation in color within a species that could be expected in the hybrids. When looking for improvements in color over the ancestral type or parents, look for improvements in clarity, brightness and saturation as well as improvement in the sharpness and definition of flower markings.

Sepals (7) – Many of the multiflora paphiopedilums exhibit varying degrees of stripes and spots on the dorsal sepal. When present, such markings should be clear and sharply defined. Lines or stripes should extend to the edge of the sepal and not fade at either end and unless such characteristic is not typical of the ancestral type. *Paphiopedilum haynaldianum* (Section *Pardalopetalum*) exhibits varying degrees of spotting in the dorsal sepal. The better flowers of that species will have sharply defined spots against a bright rose colored background.

Petals (4) – Multiflora paphiopedilums exhibit a wide spectrum of petal coloration and markings. Once again, one looks for clarity of base coloration and sharply defined markings. If elongated bars of color are present in the petals (as in the cochlopetalums), they should be darker than the base color and sharply defined. Any tendency for paleness in such markings should be considered a color fault. Many of the corypedilums have a combination of warts and stripes in the petals. We look for the even distribution of these warts along the margins of the petals and the sharpness of the contrast between the stripes and the base petal color.

Pouch (4) – The pouch color should be even and exhibit good color saturation. Any color break, tendency toward fading or irregular shading must be considered a fault, especially when viewed from the front. Although it is not unusual for the back of the pouch of many of the species and primary hybrids to be lighter in color than the front of the pouch, the “perfect” pouch color would be evenly dark and

wrap all the way around.

Other Characteristics (40)

There are some real differences between the point scales when we look at “Other Characteristics.” It is here that we evaluate the purely multifloral morphology. The 20 points that were gained by reducing both form and color point values by ten in the “General Point Scale” are assigned here to characteristics unique to sections *Coryopedilum*, *Pardalopetalum* and their hybrids. Notice that we have excluded section *Cochlopetalum*. While sections *Corlyopedilum* and *Pardalpetalum* exhibit a sequential/simultaneous flowering habit, section *Cochlopetalum* exhibits a *successive* one. That is, the flowers usually open one at a time along a continually elongating stem. As one flower fades, the next bud is ready to open.

As a result, flowers of plants from section *Cochlopetalum* are evaluated using the *Paphiopedilum* Point Scale, although they are technically included in the multifloras, because there is usually only one flower per inflorescence to judge. (This is also a case where it is acceptable to judge the next flower to open on the same inflorescence at a future date.)

We will now discuss each of the “Other Characteristics” that account for the majority of the points in the “General Point Scale.”

Size of Flower (10) – Much has been said and written about the importance of size when judging orchids in general. You will notice that size has exactly the same value in either of the scales, so it is just as important when judging the multifloras as when judging the unifloras. In either case, it

is only 10 points out of 100! However, as stated by Alvin Bolt at last fall’s Mid-America Congress in Knoxville, it is the *first* 10 points.

Size in terms of natural spread is determined by the angle of the petals. For this reason it is important to take vertical as well as horizontal measurements. Both measurements should be recorded if an award is granted. The wider and/or longer the sepals and petals are, the better, as long as the flower remains in balance. Wide dorsal sepals and petals lead to a rounder and fuller form.

Substance and Texture (10) – The point value to be used when judging the multifloras for “substance and texture” is twice that allocated by the “*Paphiopedilum* Point Scale” used for judging the complex hybrids (10 v. 5). This is because heavy substance is now “expected as a necessary feature” among the complex hybrids according to the Eighth Edition of *The Handbook on Judging and Exhibition*, and is almost never absent in this type of breeding. The same applies to texture where virtually all flowers exhibit a distinctly waxy and varnished appearance. Such characteristics are not as common among the multifloral species and hybrids, and are therefore assigned greater relative importance.

Many years have passed since the first multiflora hybrids were developed in the 19th century, and there has been little further activity beyond the primary phase until just recently. As we begin to experience third and fourth generation complexity among the multifloras, we should also see improvements in substance and texture as a result of selection and polyploidy.

Briefly, substance should be heavy and firm. Any tendency toward thinness or limpness should be considered a fault. Texture should approach waxiness and exhibit a varnished appearance. Some striped dorsal sepals, especially in the species and hybrids derived from section *Coryopedilum*, will have a crystalline sheen to the white base color which is quite pleasing.

Habit and Arrangement of Inflorescence (10) – Now we will address two of the three other characteristics which are specific to the multiflora paphiopedilums and how 10 or the 20 point reduction for form and color is reallocated within the “Other Characteristics” section of the “General Point Scale.”

The stem on multiflora paphiopedilums will be either arching or upright, but rarely straight. Ideally it should be strong enough to support the weight of the flowers without staking. If staking was used it should have been applied progressively to the elongating stem to allow proper orientation of the buds prior to opening. We have all seen the result of improperly applied staking of multifloral inflorescences. If a weak inflorescence is staked *after* the flowers have opened and set, the result will be an unnatural flower orientation. You cannot deny the force of gravity and its effect on the opening flower. On an improperly staked inflorescence, the flowers will appear to be looking

Comparison of Judging Point Scales			
	Paph.	General	Prop.*
1. Form of Flower	40	30	30
General form	20	-	15
Sepals	10	-	7
Petals	5	-	4
Pouch	5	-	4
2. Color of Flower	40	30	30
General Form	20	-	15
Sepals	10	-	7
Petals	5	-	4
Pouch	5	-	4
3. Other Characteristics	20	40	40
Size of flower	10	10	10
Subst./Texture	5	10	10
Stem	5	-	-
Habit/Arrangement of			
Inflorescence	-	10	10
Floriferousness	-	10	10
Total Points:	100	100	100
*Proposed point distribution for judging of multiflora paphiopedilums.			

upward. The flowers should be well spaced along the stem, neither crowded nor widely separated.

On some multifloras, the buds nearest the base of the stem will open first and the remaining buds will continue opening in sequence until, finally, the bud nearest the end of the stem has opened. This is called a *sequential* blooming habit, typical of the *Pardalopetalums* such as *Paph. lowii* and *Paph. haynaldianum*. It is not uncommon among these species and their hybrids to have the first flower to open begin to fade as the last flower to open reaches its prime.

Simultaneous bloomers, those which have all buds opening at more or less the same time, are found in section *Coryopedilum* with *Paph. stonei* and *Paph. glanduliferum* being good examples of this type of bloom habit. However, very few are truly simultaneous.

A *successive* blooming habit is typical of section *Cochlopetalum* and its hybrids. Normally, one flower at a time opens, finally wilts, only to be replaced by the next developing bud on the same inflorescence. Each successive flower can be judged on its own, even if it is on the same stem as a flower which may have been previously judged and scored. *Paphiopedilum victoria-mariae* (syn. *chamberlainianum*) and *Paph. primulinum* exhibit a successive blooming habit. Hybrids between sections *Pardalopetalum* and *Cochlopetalum* such as *Paph. Henrietta Fujiwara* (*haynaldianum* x *primulinum*) can inherit both a sequential and successive blooming habit, with several flowers open along the stem with new buds forming at the tip. This type of multifloral hybrid tends to be in bloom for an extended period of time.

Floriferousness (10) – In most cases one should expect to see at least three to five flowers open on the species and hybrids of sections *Pardalopetalum* and *Coryopedilum*. Section *Cochlopetalum* will generally present one, or rarely, two flowers open at the same time on the same inflorescence and should be judged using the *Paphiopedilum* Point Scale, the same one used for single flowered paphiopedilums. The expected number of flowers in hybrids between any of the multifloral sections can be estimated by multiplying together the number of flowers expected on each of the parents and then taking the square root of the resultant number. This is called the geometric mean, and is also used to estimate size expectancy as well.

Judging Paphiopedilums at The 2001 Japan Grand Prix

By Yassir Islam

Held in Tokyo in early spring, the nine-day Japan Grand Prix International Orchid attracts approximately 450,000 visitors! Growers compete for a total of \$130,000 in prize money, with the Japan Grand Prix (JGP) of almost \$17,000 (and a prize luxury car) awarded to a single plant. With stakes this high, and a Japanese penchant for excellence, the JGP may well be the best orchid show in the world.

While the quality of all plants on display is generally excellent, slipper orchid aficionados are in for a treat. Other than miniature cymbidiums (from Japan, China, and Korea), and orchids of Japanese origin, perhaps the most popular of all the genera are the paphiopedilums. Individual entries in Division 1 are of greatest interest to the hobbyist and judge. Note that none of the entries in the Display Division are labeled or pulled for judging. That would be impossible given the size of the show. Therefore, it is in Division 1 that superior cultivars and select specimens are entered, and from which the Grand Prix winner is selected. Each of the ten classes in Division 1, representing different genera or alliances, are subdivided into groups.

There are ten such groups for paphiopedilums, more than any other class in Division 1. Each of these groups is then split further into categories, which reveal the preferences of Japanese paph growers. For example species are split into three mutually exclusive categories: brachypetalum and parvisepalums, single flowered species, and multiflorals. While this makes sense, it also indicates the fondness of Japanese growers for parvis and brachys. As another example, there are five categories for complex paphs, a type of hybrid especially appreciated in Japan. These are spots, white/pinks, reds/bronzes, greens/yellows, and amber (rainbow)/“other colors than above.”

The judging teams award blue, red, and white ribbons to the top three plants in each of these ten groups. Nine of these are paphs, as there is only one group for paphiopedilum-allied species and hybrids, such as phrags. While the overall standards for judging paphs are similar to those in the AOS, refreshingly, minor deformities, such as a small protuberance in the pouch, or a misshapen staminode, tended to be overlooked if the overall quality of the flower is outstanding. Additionally, the judges award gold, silver, and bronze medals, independently of ribbon awards.

Incidentally, there were 21 judging teams consisting of almost 250 judges at this year's show. More than 85% of judges are Japanese, and foreigners were assigned only to

Japanese Grand Prix 2001



Paph. Pedro Point x Sonora Pass 'Hatachi Eagle'



Paph. Pebble Path 'TA' Silver Medal



Paph. Poetic Society 'Toyoni'



Paph. Tenga 'Tsukuba' Bronze Medal



Paph. Skip Jaguar 'Pink Emotion'



Paph. Kimura's Honor 'Nishihara'

Division I judging teams, which is where I presume most of them wanted to be. Four judging teams were dedicated to slipper orchids. Given the large number of slipper entries, this was a blessing. All entries, however, were neatly grouped by category making it easy to select those worthy of ribbons and medals.

The ten best slipper orchids, all blue ribbon winners, are pulled by JGP staff, and join the 37 other best plants selected from other genera for further consideration. From these, all the judges in Division 1 select the top thirteen entries by secret ballot. Accordingly, the top three prizes are awarded: Award of merit (JGP), Award of Distinction (2nd place) and Award of Merit (3rd place), with the rest receiving Awards of Encouragement.

While this year's coveted Grand Prix was awarded to a Lycaste, as it was during my last visit two years ago, a spectacular specimen of Prince Edward of York received the Award of Merit. Irrespective of winners, the JGP presents a tremendous opportunity to study paph species and hybrids. For example, there are probably more specimens of Paph rothschildianum to be seen at this one show than in all the annual shows in the United States combined! Alba forms of species and Maudiae alba hybrids appear to be perennial favorites among Japanese growers, as do white and pink complexes. And there are always a few novelty hybrids, reassuring us that paphs will remain a highlight of the JGP for years to come.

Resources on the JGP

<http://www.yomiko.co.jp/orchid/contents/>

This is the official website of the Japan Grand Prix with a historical record of all prize and trophy winners, with photos of course! In Japanese, but intuitive and easy to use.

<http://www.orchid.or.jp/orchid/people/tanaka/indexe.html>

Dr. Tanaka is considered to be one of Japan's leading paphiopedilum experts. His website, available in English, is an excellent resource for slipper orchid growers, and features many photographs of paphs from the Japan Grand Prix.

<http://www.argusorchids.com/photointro.htm>

Two photo galleries on this commercial website devoted to the Japan Grand Prix in 1999 and 2001. It features many genera including paphs.

Yassir Islam is a slipper orchid enthusiast who lives in Washington D.C. He is President of the National Capital Orchid Society and was a judge at this year's Japan Grand Prix. He is the owner of argus orchids which specializes in sensational slipper orchids. He can be reached by email at yassir@argusorchids.com

What's in a Name?

Our first introduction to orchids came in the mid-1960's when we moved to Chattanooga, Tennessee. At that time there were several large greenhouses and some smaller ones that dealt mainly in the cut flower business. Most of the growers had plenty of cattleyas and just token amounts of other genera, the exception being Crestwood Orchids. I bought my first lady-slipper orchid during this time, *Cypripedium Maudiae*, and I think that it represented one-third of my collection of *Cypripediums*. When we left Chattanooga in the late 60's, we sold our orchid collection as we didn't have a place for them at our new home in Winston-Salem, NC.

Many years passed before we felt that we were able to get back into orchids again. We began acquiring some plants in the early 90's knowing that retirement wasn't that far away for my husband, and this was something that he wanted to do during his retirement years. But I soon discovered that *Cypripediums* were no longer called *Cypripediums*, but *Paphiopedilums*. I accepted that name change but have often wondered when and why it occurred. Some recent readings of old *Orchid Review* magazines brought to mind this question again.

From *The Orchid Review*, Vol. 72, No. 854, August, 1964, part of an article by Alex D. Hawkes:

"Though *Paphiopedilum purpuratum* has been known in our collections since the year 1836, it is even today a distinct rarity. It is, however, one of the most charming of the small-growing paphiopedilums (still almost universally known, unhappily, by the very confusing and erroneous name "*cypridium*," which of course applies to a completely distinct group of orchids!).

.....As a species *Cypripedium purpuratum* is pretty and distinct, and interesting as being the third of the coriaceous cyripedes cultivated in European gardens. The "coriaceous cyripedes" are now—and have been since Pfister established the genus in 1887—of course correctly known as *Paphiopedilum*."

Huh? Okay, I confess. I didn't take botany in college. Where is the dictionary? Coriaceous - Of or like leather, especially in texture; tough.

From *The Orchid Review*, Vol. 71, No. 838, April 1963, part of an article by E. E. Young:

"The word "*cypridium*" is, strictly speaking, inaccurate for the group of orchids commonly found in the amateur collections and refers to a genera usually found in North America..... "*Paphiopedilum*" is the word we should use for the Asiatic species and their hybrids so commonly found

in collections, but what a word! Botanists have tried for a generation to persuade us to use the correct nomenclature but for professional and amateur alike the word is still “cypripediums.” Our Editor has gently reprimanded me for not using the scientific term, but I have noticed that even he does not always practise what he preaches! In this case it is not possible to say “A paphiopedilum by any other name will smell as sweet” for they are without odour and this must surely be their only shortcoming.”

It must be noted that the authors gently reprimand all of us for not using the correct term “Paphiopedilum” but they continue to use “Cypripedium” throughout their articles. Next we checked Sander’s to see when they recognized the change.

The first and second volumes of Sander’s use “Cypripediums.” The third volume, Sander’s List of Orchid Hybrids (1961-1970) includes the following information in its introduction under notable changes:

CYPRIPEDIUM

All hybrids (grexes) registered and published in the past under the generic name Cypripedium are in fact Paphiopedilums. The International Registration Authority decided that, as from 1st January 1968, all registered grexes in this genus would be referred to under their correct generic name Paphiopedilum; also, for like reasons, all registered grexes, formerly recorded as Selenipediums would in future be referred to under their correct generic name Phragmipedium: similarly, grexes registered as Selenocypripedium would in future be referred to under their correct intergeneric name, Phragmipaphium. Apart from the corrections of generic names, this does not affect the register in any way since, to date, no true Cypripediums and no true Selenipediums have been registered or used as a parent in registration. THEREFORE, whenever the following appear in Sander’s List of Orchid Hybrids (Main Work 1854-1945) and Sander’s One-Table List of Orchid Hybrids (1946-1960) Vol.1:

For Cypripedium read Paphiopedilum

For Selenipedium read Phragmipedium

For Selenocypripedium read Phragmipaphium
(Paphiopedilum x Phragmipedium)

From the time the genus was proposed until it was finally accepted by the International Registration Authority was a period of eighty-one years. For most of us using the term Paphiopedilum is not a problem although there are still some of our older growers who will occasionally refer to them as Cypripediums or Cyps. In this time of the electronic age, it seems as if the flow of information would move much faster that it did in the last century. But how many of us know that

Phragmipedium caudatum var. warscewiczii is now Phrag. warscewiczii? Or that Paph. glanduliferum var. wilhelminae is now Paph. wilhelminae? Then to further complicate matters we have the taxonomists who seem to thrive on either lumping everything together or creating numerous species that only they recognize.

It still takes a while for the information to filter through the orchid world and for all of the changes to be accepted and the nametags actually changed in the pots. Guess we are all too busy taking care of our orchids to worry about such mundane things as name changes.



The 2001 Paphiopedilum Forum

The 2001 Paphiopedilum Forum, sponsored by the National Capital Orchid Society, was held at the United States National Arboretum, February 17, 2001. Under the steerage of Richard Grundy and Gordon Slaymaker, over the past decade the Paph Forum has grown to be the premiere gathering of slipper orchid enthusiasts in the United States. There were nearly 150 registrants at the 2001 Paph Forum, and the overwhelming and spectacular show table exhibited almost 300 beautifully grown and flowered Paphiopedilums, Phragmipediums, and Cypripediums from both local and visiting growers. Current Co-chairmen, Gordon Slaymaker and Bill Goldner, continued the tradition by putting together an informative and entertaining program.

The keynote presentation was delivered by Mr. Yuan Chuan Hsiao, President of In-Charm Orchid Laboratory, Taiwan. Mr. Hsiao described the impressive efforts that his company is undertaking to provide blooming pot plant Paphiopedilums to markets in Japan and the United States. Mr. Hsiao’s presentation will be featured in an upcoming edition of the SOA Newsletter.

The afternoon session focused on Phragmipediums with presentations by Stig Dalstrom and Bill Goldner. Stig Dalstrom, the botanical illustrator for Marie Selby Botanical Gardens Research Center, Sarasota, Florida gave an illuminating and often humorous presentation on the natural

habitats of Phragmipediums in South America. Stig, an expert photographer, visited many of the habitats during the past decade of field work.

Bill Goldner, co-owner of Woodstream Orchids, Huntingtown, Maryland, played off Stig's presentation on Phragmipedium habitats by presenting his talk "Report from Orchid Heaven." Bill blended dialogue and images linking the cultivation requirements of Phragmipediums based upon the natural habitats. He also described current trends in Phragmipedium breeding being undertaken at Woodstream Orchids.

Steve Drozda, AOS student judge in the National Capital Judging Center, presented "The AOS Awards of 2000." Steve's presentation was informative and appealing, revealing the state-of-the-art in both Phragmipediums and Paphiopedilums presented to AOS judging centers throughout the country during the first year of the new millennium.

Nancy Mountford, AOS accredited judge in the National Capital Judging Center, chaired the Show Table Ribbon and AOS Judging. Participating AOS judges included: John Dunkelberger, Steve Drozda, Merritt Huntington, Bill Goldner, Tom Kalina, Ken Peterson, Linda Kennedy, Nancy Meares, Chris Rehmann, Robin Davis, Barbara Tisherman, Steve Shifflett, Les Werner and Ken Meier. Yassir Islam assisted in the Ribbon Judging. Show Table and AOS Judging results will be published in the next edition of the SOA Newsletter.

The 2001 Paph Forum concluded with the presentation of the Show Table. Merritt Huntington, Bill Goldner and Paul Phillips ably shared this daunting task.

By all accounts the presentations, plant exhibit and plant sales at the 2001 Paphiopedilum Forum were a huge success.

Announcing the 2002 Paphiopedilum Forum

The 2002 Paphiopedilum Forum will be held at the United States National Arboretum in Washington, D.C. on Saturday, February 16, 2002.

The list of speakers includes:

Barry Fraser, Papa Aroha Orchids, New Zealand: Paphiopedilum Hybridization in New Zealand

Karen Muir, AOS Pacific South Regional Judging Center: Recent Trends in Hybridizing and Judging Brachypetalums

Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn, Illinois: New Directions in Parvisepalum Breeding

Pre-registration is required and will be **limited to 150 registrants**. Ribbon judging (with trophies) and AOS judging will be held.

Please visit the Paph Forum web site www.geocities.com/RainForest/vines/5097/Forumindex.html (not yet updated as of this printing) for general Paph Forum and registration information.

Spring AOS Members Meeting

To promote our mission to increase knowledge about the slipper orchids in a national forum, next year we will meet with the American Orchid Society Trustees at the meeting in Chicago, April 10-14, 2002, hosted by the Illinois Orchid Society.

We will sponsor two speakers on Saturday morning, April 13. John Doherty, who has written articles for the AOS's **Orchids**, will share his extensive knowledge of and experience with Cypripediums. Glen Decker, of Piping Rock Orchids, will talk about Phragmipediums with an emphasis on culture. Our lectures will be open to all registrants.

We expect to be able to auction some special plants between the lectures. This is an opportunity for growers to add to their collection while at the same time benefiting the SOA.

This promises to be an excellent meeting and the timing would bring out many Paphs and Phrags in the show for our enjoyment and edification. Please mark your calendars!

The meeting will be held at the Sheraton North Shore in Chicago. For more information please contact Leo Schardje at 847-746-9355.



27th Annual Cymbidium Congress

The 27th annual Cymbidium Congress will occur Saturday, March 9, 2002, in conjunction with the Santa Barbara International Orchid Show. The full day program will be equally divided between Slipper Orchids and Cymbidiums and Zygopetalums. Speakers will include Loren Batchman, Andy Easton, Ross Tucker of New Zealand, Hadley Cash, Tom Kalina and Dr. Norito Hasegawa discussing new directions in hybridizing. Panel discussions will highlight culture. The lectures will be followed with an auction and evening banquet. Address inquiries to Dr. and Mrs. A. C. Svoboda, 231 Middle Road, Santa Barbara, CA 93108, 805-969-4596, email: stillisch@pol.net.

Time to Renew Membership

Membership fees of \$25 for individuals or \$100 for commercial members are due at the beginning of each year and must be paid by March 31st. Please mail your checks to: Stephen Drozda, 661 Harrogate Drive, Pittsburg, PA 15241. Phone: 412-854-1862.

If you know of anyone who would like to join, please pass this information on to them. New members are always welcome.



Websites of Interest

Slipper Orchid Alliance (<http://slipperorchid.org>)
Contains information about the Slipper Orchid Alliance and links to our commercial vendors.

Antec Labs (<http://www.ladyslipper.com>)
Very extensive site with over a thousand pictures. Several articles which Bob and Lynn Wellenstein have written are also posted here.

Orchids Limited (<http://orchidweb.com>)
Plant of the Week library features different orchids along with culture sheets for each plant.

The Phrag Web (<http://phragweb.com>)
Could almost be called the complete phrag information site. Rob Zuiderwijk, a hobbyist, has gathered information on species and hybrids for over three years and has it all on his website.

Internet Orchid Species Photo Encyclopedia (<http://www.orchidspecies.com>)
Jay Pfahl's wonderful site.

So much has happened in our world since the last edition of the SOA Newsletter. Whether or not this is a proper forum to mention world events is a question that each of us must ponder.

We are all sojourners on this planet earth; we all belong to the human race; and what affects one of us eventually affects all of us.

So during this holiday season, we would like to wish each of you Peace, Health and Happiness.

SOA Membership Status

Support for the Slipper Orchid Alliance continues to grow. When the Alliance completed its 2000 inaugural year, founding member support exceeded 170 members from seven countries: Australia, Canada, Dominican Republic, England, Japan, Jersey of the Channel Islands, and the United States. At the Alliance's May 19th Speakers Forum, membership exceeded 200.

Supporting membership also grew in 2001 to include seventeen commercial members: Antec Laboratory, Candor, New York; Bloomfield Orchids, Pittsford, New York; Castle Rock Orchids, Ltd., Maple Plain, Minnesota; Curved Air Orchids, Santa Maria, California; Ellenberger's Orchid Eden, Victor, New York; Fox Valley Orchids, Villa Park, Illinois; Gypsy Glen Orchids, Beaver, Pennsylvania; Orchidaceae, Seattle, Washington; Orchid Inn, Downs, Illinois; Orchids Limited, Plymouth, Minnesota; Paphanatics, Ltd., Anaheim, California; Ratcliffe Orchids, LLC, Kissimmee, Florida; The Orchid House, Los Osos, California; The Paph House "Orchids", San Leandro, California; Whippoorwill Orchids, Rogers, Arkansas; Windy Hill Gardens, Labadie, Missouri; and Woodstream Orchids, Huntingtown, Maryland.

On behalf of the Alliance, I wish to thank you for your continuing support and urge that you renew your membership.

Richard Grundy, Executive Director.