



# The **Slipper Orchid Alliance Newsletter**

Volume 7, Number 3

Fall 2006

## 9th Annual Slipper Orchid Symposium

The Slipper Orchid Study Group of Florida will present its ninth annual Slipper Orchid Symposium – A FAREWELL PARTY – on November 4, 2006, at the Ramada Plaza Hotel in Kissimmee, Florida. It will feature speakers on the latest trends in hybrids, species and slipper orchid culture. The speakers will be Bill Goldner, Sam Tsui, and Dr. Eric Christenson. Lunch, sales tables, an auction and a real Down South Florida Champagne BBQ Farewell Party in the evening for Paul and Mary Phillips round out a very special full day of orchid education and camaraderie.

Registration is \$100, with a \$25 discount for registration before October 1. There are also discounts for groups of ten or more and for previous attendees. The BBQ is an additional \$10. This year the BBQ will honor Paul and Mary Phillips of Ratcliffe Orchids, who started this event nine years ago and have been its benefactors ever since. (The Slipper Orchid Study Group joined in after the first few years to help out.) It is their expertise, scope of contacts and organizational efforts that have helped to make it successful. Sadly, they are retiring back to England. Ratcliffe Orchids is supplying free seedlings to each paid attendee, but your spot in the picking rotation will be determined by the time your registration slip is received. Hotel reservations at the special rate of \$59 per room must be received by October 15;

### 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@yahoo.com](mailto:orchidiva@yahoo.com).

### OOOPS! We Goofed!

In the Summer issue the article "Happy birthday Kovachii" was written by Chuck Acker and we neglected to give him credit. Our sincerest apologies to Chuck. Please check out Chuck's website at <http://www.flasksbychuckacker.com/>

thereafter, reservations will be taken on a space and rate available basis only. For information and registration, contact Jamie Lawson at 888-619-7687 or [jimorchids@aol.com](mailto:jimorchids@aol.com). You may also go to their web site, 9<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL SLIPPER ORCHID SYMPOSIUM.

### BILL GOLDNER

Bill Goldner of Woodstream Orchids, founded in 1990, works with his wife and co-owner, Lynn Evans-Goldner, to develop Woodstream's reputation as a source for quality Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. He has a Ph.D. in Plant Physiology from the Pennsylvania State University and also holds degrees in Ecology and Botany. Bill is an Accredited American Orchid Society (AOS) Judge in the National Capitol Center and is Co-Chair (with Lynn) of the Paphiopedilum Forum held annually in Washington, D.C. He is Co-Chair of the AOS Research Committee and is a frequent speaker on orchid cultivation, hybridization and adventure at conferences and orchid society meetings. Lynn and Bill have spent a good deal of time visiting orchids in their natural habitats in Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Thailand, Malaysia and India. Their plants have received numerous AOS awards.

Woodstream Orchids has grown and changed dramatically since 1990. As a breeder and producer, Woodstream focuses on the seed propagation of Paphiopedilum species and complex standard hybrids and Phragmipediums. In 2002, Woodstream Orchids began a joint venture with Barry

Fraser's Papa Aroha Orchids of Coromandel, New Zealand, bringing Barry's amazing and unique Paphiopedilum flasks, seedlings and blooming size plants to the American market. Papa Aroha's Paphiopedilum complex hybrids, species and novelty hybrids have been very popular in Japan and should not be missed! In late 2004 Barry Fraser announced his retirement from commercial orchid growing. Woodstream Orchids has purchased much of his elite Paphiopedilum breeding stock and thousands of seedlings, and will continue Barry's fine tradition by producing unique high quality species and hybrid Paphiopedilums. Woodstream Orchids is the largest active producer of seed-grown orchid species and hybrids in the Virginia, Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, and Washington, D.C. area. In the last few years WSO has become one of the largest breeders of Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums in the United States. Their web site and on-line catalog are available at: [www.woodstreamorchids.com](http://www.woodstreamorchids.com). Bill welcomes pre-orders.

#### SAM TSUI

Orchid Inn, Ltd is owned and operated by Sam Tsui and his wife Jeanie. They started growing orchids in the early 1980's, and orchids have always been their passion. Sam started breeding/hybridizing in the early 1990's and eventually started their home-commercial business, Orchid Inn, in their basement and greenhouses attached to their house. As the business grew, they purchased a six acres property and built their first commercial 6,000 square greenhouse in 2004.

In the past ten years, Sam has been very active in the orchid world, traveling for shows, sales, and lecturing while he still maintains a full-time computer software job. At Orchid Inn, Ltd, they continue to specialize in Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums. They particularly emphasize species and Brachypetalum, Parvisepalum and Multifloral hybrids. They select only the best, most vigorous parent plants in their collection for breeding/hybridizing. Occasionally, they select the best plants or flasks which are, they believe, outstanding examples of their type from friends around the world to improve their breeding stock. They currently produce 4,000 to 5,000 flasks or approximately 100,000 seedlings annually.

#### DR. ERIC CHRISTENSON

Dr. Christenson is a research taxonomist with strong interests in the Aeridinae (Sarcantinae), neotropical floristics, and the conservation of horticultural plants. He authored a monograph of *Phalaenopsis* for the International Phalaenopsis Alliance (IPA) in 2001. He has done field work in both Guyana and French Guiana and authored the orchid

treatment for the Vascular Flora of Central French Guiana. He is also actively assisting David Bennett of Lima, Peru, with a modern inventory of Peruvian orchids. To date they have published 800 illustrations as Icones Orchidacearum Peruvianum, including more than 150 new distribution records and more than 100 new species from Peru. His bilingual florula Machu Picchu: Orchids was published in 2003. His current work in Peru can be read about at: [www.andesamazon.org](http://www.andesamazon.org). A prolific author of more than 300 articles, Dr. Christenson is known for his articles that attempt to bridge the gap between taxonomy and horticulture as well as his in-depth book reviews. He is a strong advocate for orchid conservation, particularly ex situ propagation, and actively works with commercial growers to that end.

**A Slipper Orchid Culture Round Table** is a highlight of the Symposium as attendees get to ask questions of the top experts world-wide in the Slipper Orchid field. Just listening to the panel argue and tell stories is a real treat.

On Sunday morning, November 5, there will be an **Open House at Ratcliffe Orchids LLC** (or someplace else if Paul and Mary have left already, a possibility that we fervently hope does not happen).



**Paph. Lady Isabel**

**New Orleans OS Show  
SOA Trophy Winner**

## Upcoming Events

**9th Annual Slipper Orchid Symposium**

**November 4, 2006**

**Ramada Plaza Hotel**

**Kissimmee, FL**

**Sponsored by the Orchid Study Group of Florida.**

For information and registration, contact Jamie Lawson at 888-619-7687 or [jimorchids@aol.com](mailto:jimorchids@aol.com).

My husband, Eddie, and I were honored to receive the SOA Trophy at the New Orleans Orchid Society Show on June 3, 2006.

This lovely lady, Isabel that is, was purchased from Norman's Orchids and is grown with light equivalent to that of a vandaceous plant. I believe it is a misnomer that Paphiopedilums require low "under the bench" light. That is a holdover from the days when the complex or "bulldog" Paphs were popular. The multifloral Paphiopedilums, with *philippinense*, *rothschildianum* et al in the background, can handle and, in fact, prefer much higher light than any other Paphs.

While we grow many orchid genera, species and hybrids, our first love is the "Slippers." From the very first one we owned – Paphiopedilum Deperle — it was love at first sight. I read that it takes time to acquire a taste for the Paphiopedilum/Phragmepediums; however, in our case we decided early on that these would be the basis for our collection. And they have been.

We had quite a lot of adjusting to make when we moved from a townhouse, where we grew on a comparatively low-light patio, to a home with a new greenhouse built in full sun. We might have had a problem blooming the lovely Isabel had we not moved and built a greenhouse with such high light. Although, we were able to bloom *Paphiopedilum philippinense* and some of its progeny at our old location, but only by hanging them as high as we could on our patio. We do use a shade cloth (75%), and white wash, in the summer starting around May and through September. This enables us to grow some of the lower light (but not under the bench) Paphs, and Phrags.

Two of the most significant aspects of our orchid growing, however, have been the friendships we have made and the camaraderie we have enjoyed. When we had to evacuate before Hurricane Katrina struck, it was our dear orchid friends, Byron and Doris McGraw, who took us in and treated us as family. Had we not been so fortunate in discovering the delights of orchids and the friendships we acquired, that

beautiful SOA Trophy would be sitting on someone else's shelf.

Enjoy your Slippers, and especially the friendships that go along with them.

Alice Barrios  
New Orleans, LA Area



### *Phragmipedium andreettae*

Phillip Cribb (recently retired from the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew) and Franco Pupulin (Jardin Botanico Lankester, Universidad de Costa Rica) have published a description and illustration of a recently discovered Phragmipedium - *Phragmipedium andreettae*.

They note that this "small-flowered species, allied to *P. schlimii* [was] collected in northwestern Ecuador in the same region where *P. fischeri* was discovered...." Habit and habitat are noted to be "similar to *P. fischeri* according to the collector....It is similarly coloured to some pale forms of the Columbian *P. schlimii* but its lip and staminode shape are quite distinct, being differently coloured, longer than broad and distinctly, if minutely, bifid at the tip."

The species "...is named in honour of Padre Andreetta...who inspired the Portilla family in the foundation and development of Ecuagenera."

Russ Tyler

## Phragmipediums

Helmut Rohrl

In the darkness of the grove  
Shines a bright red flower.  
Love ya, Bess!

When *Phragmipedium besseae* was first described by Dodson and Kuhn in 1981, hobbyists and commercial growers interested in this genus and related genera were electrified. At that time I was involved in other alliances and this momentous event by-passed me completely. It took nearly twenty more years before my interest in paphiopedilums and phragmipediums was awakened by my friend Olaf Gruss, an internationally known orchid judge and taxonomist specializing in *Phalaenopsis*, *Paphiopedilum*, and *Phragmipedium*. His numerous articles about these genera include seven papers that later appeared as a booklet [Gruss (1996)]. This booklet was later superseded by the paper [Gruss (2003)]. While the booklet contains extensive descriptions and synonyms, historical comments and remarks on growing conditions, the latter paper is more taxonomically oriented. When I decided to acquire some phragmipediums I used these two publications and Cash's (1991) book to learn about and familiarize myself with the species and their cultural requirements. Later on there appeared two good articles about the culture of phragmipediums [LeDoux (2003a) and Wilkins (2003)].

After having grown about fifty species and hybrids of the genus *Phragmipedium* and having spent hours after hours studying their breeding behavior, this is perhaps a good time to write about them.

In this article I discuss briefly the species and the most important hybrids of the genus *Phragmipedium*. In all cases the kind and number of AOS awards and the number of descendants are quoted. After the name of each quoted hybrid appear the parentage, the registrant and the year of registration.

### THE SPECIES

The genus *Phragmipedium* Rolfe [**syn.**: *Phragmipedium* Rolfe; *Uropedium* Lindl.; *Uropedium* (Lindl.) Pfitzer] is subdivided into five sections. These are:

*Himantopetalum* (Hallier) Garay, *Lorifolia* (Krzl.) Garay,

*Micropetalum* (Hallier) Garay, *Phragmipedium* Garay,  
*Platypetalum* (Pfitzer) Garay.

This classification, due to Garay (1979), is used in Cash (1991), Gruss (1996) and Gruss (2003). The number of species is still contentious, ranging from 15 (McCook, 1998) and 21 (Gruss, 2003 and Quene, 2003) to 35 species herein.

A large number of images of the species can be found in Gruss (1996), Gruss (2003), Karasawa (1987), in the e-AOS Awards Subscription Service and in OrchidWiz (2005). A list of chromosome numbers appears in Gruss (2003), p. 240.

After each entry I list the various AOS awards received and the number of offspring as well as progeny (which includes the offspring!) produced by that entry. Note that the number of progeny is always at least equal to the number of offspring, and that these two numbers are equal if the number of progeny is 0 or 1. Most numbers listed under the category "Measurements" are the largest flower measurements of NS (Natural Spread for horizontal dimension) and NS vert. (Natural Spread for vertical dimension) recorded for AOS awards.

#### Section *Himantopetalum* (Hallier) Garay

[**bas.**: *Paphiopedilum* sect. *Himantopetalum* Hallier; **syn.**: *Phragmipedium* sect. *Himantopetalum* Pfitzer]

The plants are characterized by their sedge-like leaves, the missing protuberances along the border of the aperture of the pouch, and the successive opening of the flowers (except for *P. tetzlafricanum*) with one or two flowers open at any given time. The petals are twice or three times as long as the dorsal sepal.

#### *Phragmipedium caricinum* (Lindl. & Paxt.) Rolfe 1896

[**bas.**: *Cypripedium caricinum* Lindl. & Paxt.; **syn.**: *Paphiopedilum caricinum* (Lindl. & Paxt.) Pfitzer; *Paphiopedilum kaieteurum* hort. In Stein; *Phragmopedium caricinum* (Lindl. & Paxt.) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium caricinum* (Lindl. & Paxt.) Rchb. f.; *Selenipedium pearcei* Rchb. f.]

The name *caricinum* is derived from *Carex*, a genus of sedges, and refers to the sedge-like leaves.

These montane plants occur in the Andean region of Bolivia. The up to 30 cm tall, 3- to 6-flowered inflorescences bear flowers opening successively over several weeks. The pale tan to yellow dorsal sepal has green veins and recurves along the margins. The ribbon-like, twisted petals are tan with

maroon venation, distally suffused maroon. The synsepal is colored similarly to the dorsal sepal. The pouch is yellow green with amber veins.

Measurements: NS 7.1 cm, NS vert. 10.9 cm.

2 HCC/AOS, 1 AM/AOS and 4 CCM/AOS. 18 offspring and 37 progeny.

***Phragmipedium christiansenianum*** Gruss & Roeth 2001

The species is named for Danish grower Hans Christiansen.

The plants occur in Colombia. They are similar to *P. pearcei* but have crowded pseudobulbs, longer and broader leaves and wider bracts. The cream to greenish flowers have a narrower dorsal sepal and down-swept, much longer and narrower petals than *P. pearcei*. The pouch is light yellow to light tan. The reverse elliptical staminode has violet brown hairs on its sides.

Measurements: NS ~14 cm, NS vert. ~13 cm.

***Phragmipedium ecuadorensis*** Garay

Listed under *Phragmipedium pearcei*.

Measurements: NS 6.4 cm, NS vert. 12.8 cm.

3 HCC/AOS, 1 AM/AOS, 1 CBR/AOS, 1 CHM/AOS and 1 CCM/AOS. 8 offspring and 14 progeny.

***Phragmipedium klotzscheanum*** (Rchb. f.) Rolfe 1896

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium klotzscheanum* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium schomburgkianum* Klotzsch fide Schomburgk; *Paphiopedilum klotzscheanum* Pfitzer; *Paphiopedilum klotzscheanum* Kerchove; *Phragmopodilum klotzscheanum* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium klotzscheanum* Rchb. f.; *Selenipedium schomburgkianum* Desbois]

The species is named after Dr. Johann Klotzsch, curator of the Berlin herbarium from 1833 to 1860.

These plants inhabit riparian habitats in Guyana, southeast Venezuela and the neighboring parts of Brazil at elevations between 300 m and 1000 m, and often grow in running water with constant vigorous air movement throughout the year. The up to 60 cm tall, 2- to 6-flowered inflorescences bear flowers with a pale greenish to tan dorsal sepal overlaid with maroon venation. The synsepal is colored similarly but less pronounced. The ribbon-like, twisted petals are colored like the dorsal sepal. The pouch is yellowish green spotted dark brown along the margin of the white aperture.

Measurements: NS ~11 cm, NS vert. -.

1 JC/AOS. 6 offspring and 9 progeny.

***Phragmipedium pearcei*** (Rchb. f.) Rauh & Senghas 1975

[**bas.:** *Selenipedium pearcei* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium caricinum* sensu Bateman in Curtis's *Botanical Magazine*; *Paphiopedilum ecuadorensis* (Garay) V. A. Albert & Borge Pettersson; *Paphiopedilum pearcei* (Rchb. f.) V. A. Albert & Borge Pettersson; *Phragmipedium ecuadorensis* in K. Karasawa; *Phragmipedioides ecuadorensis* Garay; *Phragmipedium pearcei* v. *ecuadorensis* in Cash and in Gruss; *Phragmipedium pearcei* v. *ecuadorensis* (Garay) Cash ex Gruss]

The species is named after Mr. Pearce who collected orchids for the firm Veitch.

These terrestrial plants grow in riparian habitats in eastern Ecuador and neighboring areas of Colombia. The 2- to 4-flowered, erect inflorescences bear large, showy, successively opening flowers. The white to cream dorsal sepal has green veins, and the synsepal is colored similarly. The broadly linear, proximally greenish yellow petals are strongly twisted with distal margins flushed purple. The green to greenish yellow pouch is heavily spotted near the margins of the white aperture.

Measurements: NS 11.2 cm, NS vert. 16.3 cm.

9 HCC/AOS, 3 AM/AOS, 1 CBR/AOS, 1 CBM/AOS, 1 CHM/AOS and 3 CCM/AOS. 18 offspring and 35 progeny.

***Phragmipedium richteri*** Roeth & Gruss 1994

[**syn.:** *Phragmipedium amazonica* nomen nudum; *Phragmipedium peruvianum* nomen nudum; *Phragmipedium toppei* nomen nudum; *Phragmipedium* nat. hyb. Bennett & Christenson]

The name of the species honors Walter Richter, author, hybridizer and photographer of orchids.

These lithophytic or terrestrial plants grow in montane rain forests in Peru at an elevation of 600 m. They have large, sedge-like leaves and produce branched, up to 1.4 m tall inflorescences bearing up to eight successively opening flowers, with one or two open at any given time. The upright, somewhat twisted dorsal sepal is white heavily overlaid with green to tan venation. The synsepal is colored similarly as are the strongly twisted petals. Margins and distal part of the petals are overlaid dark maroon. The pouch is yellowish green with darker venation, the margins of the aperture are white and the infolded side lobes are heavily spotted dark green to maroon. The staminode is reverse-elliptic with intensely black-brown hairs at basal and lateral margins.

Measurements: NS ~15 cm, NS vert. -.

1 HCC/AOS, 2 AM/AOS, 1 CBR/AOS, 1 CHM/AOS and 1 CCM/AOS. 14 offspring and 14 progeny.

*Phragmipediums tetzloffianum* Gruss 2000

The name of the species honors the father of Allan Norman Tetzlaff who sent the plant to O. Gruss for identification.

The robust plants were imported from Venezuela and may have come from the general border area with Colombia. The plants are similar to *P. pearcei* in growth habit, flower color and shape, except the flowers are larger and more intensely colored. The oval staminode has dense growth of hair on the upper margin and thin growth of hair on lateral and lower margins.

1 AM/AOS

Measurements: NS ~24 cm, NS vert. ~12 cm.

1 offspring and 1 progeny.

**Section Lorifolia (Krzl.) Garay**

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium* sect. *Lorifolia* Krzl.; *Paphiopedilum* sect. *Lorifolia* (Krzl.) V. A. Albert & Börge Pettersson]

The plants are characterized by the successive opening of the flowers with two or more flowers seldom open at the same time, petals twice or three times as long as sepals, and two protuberances on both sides of the aperture of the pouch.

*Phragmipedium boissierianum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe 1896

[**bas.:** *Selenipedium boissierianum* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium boissierianum* Rchb. f.; *Cypripedium grandiflorum* Pav.; *Paphiopedilum boissierianum* (Rchb. f.) Stein; *Phragmopedilum boissierianum* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium duboisii* nomen nudum; *Selenipedium duboissierianum* nomen nudum]

The species is named after Edmond Boissie who owned the original plant.

These montane, epiphytic plants are found in the Peruvian Andes in habitats similar to those of *P. caudatum*. The erect, up to 80 cm tall inflorescences bear successively up to eight flowers with pale green, veined dark green sepals whose margins are crisply undulate. The synsepals are more than twice as wide, but similarly colored, as the dorsal sepals. The twisted petals are horizontally positioned to pendulous and heavily undulate along the maroon margins. The elongated pouch is greenish brown with darker green venation, and the infolded side lobes are greenish white with green to brown spots.

Measurements: NS 17.8 cm, NS vert. 14.1 cm.

3 HCC/AOS, 2 AM/AOS, 1 CBM/AOS, 2 CHM/AOS. and

1 CCM/AOS. 13 offspring and 27 progeny.

*Phragmipedium boissierianum* var. *czerwiakowianum* (Rchb) Gruss 1995

[**bas.:** *Selenipedium czerwiakowianum* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium czerwiakowianum* Rchb. f.; *Paphiopedilum czerwiakowianum* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Phragmipedium czerwiakowianum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe; *Phragmopedilum czerwiakowianum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe; *Phragmopedilum cajamarvae* Schltr.]

The name of the species honors Dr. Ignatius Czerwiakow of the Botanical Garden in Krakow.

These plants occur in Peru and Southern Ecuador. They differ from *P. boissierianum* by their lighter colors, their petals with strongly undulate margins, their synsepal that is markedly larger than the pouch and their staminode that is wider than the pouch's aperture.

Measurements: NS 16.5 cm, NS vert. 12.7 cm.

*Phragmipedium boissierianum* var. *reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe emend. Pfitzer 1903

[**bas.:** *Selenipedium reticulatum* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Rchb. f.; *Paphiopedilum reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Phragmipedium reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Garay; *Phragmopedilum boissierianum* v. *reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe emend. Pfitzer; *Phragmopedilum reticulatum* (Rchb. f.) Schltr.]

The name of the species refers to the net-like pattern of markings on the flowers.

These plants are found in Ecuador and Peru. They differ from *P. boissierianum* by their darker green colors, the barely reflexed margins of their sepals, the petals with strongly undulate margins, and their reverse-elliptic reniform staminode.

Measurements: NS 17.7 cm, NS vert. 11.0 cm.

1 CBR/AOS.

*Phragmipedium brasiliense* Quené and Gruss 2003

The species is named after its country of origin.

These terrestrial plants occur in Brazil. The occasionally branched, up to 1.2 m tall and up to 24-flowered inflorescences bear up to 10 cm large flowers with light green to red dorsal sepals veined reddish brown and similarly, but paler colored, synsepals. The linear, twisted and marginally undulate petals are centrally green and distally reddish brown with dark reddish brown venation. The pouch is green,

suffused reddish brown, spotted dark reddish brown along the margins of the aperture. The side lobes are intensely spotted reddish brown. The staminode is transverse obovate. Measurements: NS 12.0 cm, NS vert. 10.0 cm.  
1 offspring and 1 progeny.

***Phragmipedium hartwegii*** (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer 1903

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium hartwegii* Rchb. f.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium longifolium* v. *hartwegii* (Rchb. f.) Veitch; *Cypripedium macranthum* Hartweg; *Paphiopedilum hartwegii* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Paphiopedilum longifolium* v. *hartwegii* (Rchb. f.) Stein; *Phragmipedium hartwegii* ((Rchb. f.) L. O. Williams; *Phragmopedilum hartwegii* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium hartwegii* Rchb. f.; *Selenipedium hartwegii* (Rchb. f.) Desbois]

The name of the species honors the Hofgärtner (Royal Gardener) Hartweg who discovered the species.

These plants grow in swamp-filled areas in montane rain forests in Ecuador. The dorsal sepal is cream to green with green to tan venation, and the synsepal is colored similarly. The petals are cream to light greenish with maroon margins and central vein. Often sepals and petals are suffused rose. The pouch is yellow to greenish yellow, and the infolded side lobes are light yellow to greenish spotted light brown. The staminode is reverse elliptic and proximally acuminate. Measurements: NS 21.3 cm, NS vert. -.  
1 HCC/AOS.

***Phragmipedium hartwegii* fma. *baderi*** (Roeth & Gruss) Gruss 2001

[**bas.:** *Phragmipedium hartwegii* v. *baderi* Roeth & Gruss]

This variety differs from *P. hartwegii* by its smaller plant habit and the nearly lanceolate leaves.

***Phragmipedium hirtzii*** Dodson 1988

[**syn.:** *Paphiopedilum hirtzii* (Dodson) V. A. Albert & Börge Pettersson]

The species name honors Alexander Hirtz, who discovered the plants.

These lithophytic plants live on rocks in creeks and small rivers in Northwestern Ecuador and Southwestern Colombia. They differ from the other members of this section by their caespitose growth and glabrous staminode. The rolled and twisted dorsal sepal is yellowish green to green with darker green venation; the synsepal is colored similarly. The

similarly colored petals are multiply twisted with maroon margins. The pouch is yellow to light maroon, the infolded side lobes are white to light yellow spotted green to light brown.

Measurements: NS 12.9 cm, NS vert. 13.0 cm.  
3 HCC/AOS and 1 CBR/AOS. 2 offspring and 4 progeny.

***Phragmipedium longifolium*** (Rchb. f. & Warsc.) Rolfe 1896

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium longifolium* Rchb. f. & Warsc.; **syn.:** *Cypripedium hincksianum* Rchb. f.; *Cypripedium longifolium* v. *hincksianum* (Rchb.

f.) Veitch; *Paphiopedilum dariense* (Rchb. f.) Stein; *Paphiopedilum hincksianum* (Rchb. f.) Stein; *Paphiopedilum longifolium* (Rchb. f. & Warsc.) Stein; *Phragmipedium dariense* (Rchb. f.) Garay; *Phragmipedium hincksianum* (Rchb. f.) Garay; *Phragmipedium, hincksii* Garay; *Phragmipedium longifolium* v. *dariense* Cash; *Phragmipedium longifolium* v. *hincksianum* (Rchb. f.) Cash; *Phragmopedilum longifolium* (Rchb. f.) Rolfe; *Phragmopedilum longifolium* v. *dariense* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Phragmopedilum longifolium* v. *hincksianum* (Rchb. f.) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium dariense* Rchb. f.; *Selenipedium hincksianum* (Rchb. f.) Desbois; *Selenipedium longifolium* (Rchb. f. & Warsc.) Rchb. f.; *Selenipedium reichenbachii* Endres]

The term *longifolium* refers to the long leaves of the plants.

These terrestrial plants inhabit granitic seepage channels near creeks and streams in damp forests in Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Panama at elevations between 500 m and 2300 m. The up to 90 cm tall, 6- to 10-flowered inflorescences bear greenish flowers with white to pale green dorsal sepals and synsepals, both suffused light pink and veined pale rose. The slightly twisted linear petals are colored similarly to the sepals with margins darkly flushed and veined rose to magenta. The elongated and roundly inflated pouch is pale green suffused chestnut to rose. Prominent auricles appear distally on the infolded side lobes.

Measurements: NS 20.5 cm, NS vert. 23.0 cm.  
7 HCC/AOS, 15 AM/AOS, 1 CBM/AOS, 5 CHM/AOS and 7 CCM/AOS. 39 offspring and 241 progeny.

***Phragmipedium longifolium* v. *chapidense*** (Campacci & Takase) Gruss 2000

[**bas.:** *Phragmipedium chapadense* Campacci & Takase]

The species receives its name from the locality of its origin, Chapado do Veadeiros.

These terrestrial plants grow in open meadows and draws

filled with bushes in the state of Goiás in Brazil at elevations between 700 m and 900 m. Dorsal sepal and synsepal are green with maroon venation. The twisted petals are yellowish green to green with darker green to maroon venation and dark maroon margins proximally and dark maroon distally. The pouch is yellow suffused maroon with infolded yellow side lobes peppered light brown.

***Phragmipedium longifolium fma. gracile*** (Veitch ex Rolfe) Gruss 2001

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium longifolium* v. *gracile* Veitch ex Rolfe; **syn.:** *Cypripedium longifolium* v. *gracile* hort. Veitch; *Phragmipedium longifolium* ssp. *gracile* Atwood & Dressler; *Phragmipedium longifolium* v. *gracile* (Veitch ex Rolfe) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium gracile* Desbois]

The term *gracile* refers to the small plant habit, which distinguishes it from *P. longifolium*.

Measurements: NS 9.1 cm, NS vert. -.  
1 AM/AOS and 1 CBM/AOS.

***Phragmipedium longifolium var. roezlii*** (Rchb. f. ex Regel) Pfitzer 1903

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium roezlii* Rchb. f. ex Regel; **syn.:** *Paphiopedilum longifolium* v. *roezlii* (Rchb. f. ex Regel) Hallier; *Paphiopedilum roezlii* (Rchb. f. ex Regel) Pfitzer; *Phragmipedium roezlii* (Rchb. f. ex Regel) Garay; *Phragmopedilum* v. *roezlii* (Rchb. f. ex Regel) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium longifolium* v. *roezlii* Rchb. f. ex Regel) Autran & Durand; *Selenipedium roezlii* Rchb. f.]

The name of the variety honors the orchid collector Benedikt Roeszl, who discovered the plants.

These plants occur in habitats similar to those of *P. longifolium* in Colombia and possibly Costa Rica and Panama. They differ from *P. longifolium* by their broader leaves, sepals that are suffused rose, petals that have red margins and a more triangular staminode.

Measurements: NS 7.0 cm, NS vert. 8.5 cm.  
1 CHM/AOS and 1 CCM/AOS.

***Phragmipedium longifolium var. roezlii fma. minutum***  
Gruss 2001

The name of the forma refers to the size of the plant. The plants differ from *P. longifolium* by their smaller size.

***Phragmipedium vittatum*** (Velloso) Rolfe 1896

[**bas.:** *Cypripedium vittatum* Velloso; **syn.:** *Cypripedium binotii* hort.; *Cypripedium paulistanum* Barb. Rodr.;

*Cypripedium vittatum* Velloso; *Paphiopedilum vittatum* (Velloso) Kerchove; *Paphiopedilum vittatum* (Velloso) Pfitzer; *Phragmopedilum vittatum* (Velloso) Pfitzer; *Selenipedium paulistanum* (Barb. Rodr.) Pucci; *Selenipedium vittatum* (Velloso) Rchb. f.]

The Latin term *vittatum* means bordered, referring to the yellow margins of the leaves.

These terrestrial plants are found in grassy areas in bogs near creeks and rivers in Bolivia and Brazil at elevations around 1500 m. The up to 30 cm tall, 1- to 4-flowered inflorescences bear flowers with lanceolate, greenish white sepals veined pale rose and green and similarly colored synsepals. The linear petals have dark maroon margins and are pale green proximally, turning reddish maroon distally. The elongated pouch is pale green, lightly flushed and veined chestnut brown, and the rim of the aperture is pale yellow spotted rose purple. The staminode is cordate triangular.

Measurements: NS 10.0 cm, NS vert. 12.0 cm.  
1 HCC/AOS and 1 CBM/AOS. 6 offspring and 7 progeny.

(*This is the first installment in an overview of all the Phragmipedium species and important hybrids.*)

## Speakers List

A new service that the SOA would like to provide to our members and the wider orchid community is the establishment of a list of knowledgeable speakers who give talks on any aspect of slipper orchids. We urge our members to contact Steve Drozda, our Vice President, with suggestions for speakers whom you personally recommend, at [sdrozda@adelphia.net](mailto:sdrozda@adelphia.net) or 681 Harrogate Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15241, 412-854-1862. This list will be a valuable resource for orchid societies and various forums. Before a name is included on the list, the person will be contacted for permission to do so.



## SOA Trophy

When we decided several years ago that the Slipper Orchid Alliance would sponsor a trophy at major shows, we wanted it to be so special that the winner would be proud to display it and not put it away in a closet or drawer, which happens to so many trophies. Our trophy qualifies as a piece of art. It is a hand-blown glass orchid on a wood base; each one is unique. At present there are three designs that may be chosen – the original *Cypripedium* with twisted petals, a *Paph. Maudiae* type, or a *Paph. sukhakulii* type. On the underside of the base appear three or four lines burned into the wood, indicating the Slipper Orchid Alliance, the local society, and the date the trophy was awarded. The SOA donates this trophy at each American Orchid Society Meeting show and at the Paph Forum in Washington, D.C., which includes AOS judging in its activities. We are the only orchid specialty group that donates its trophy for these shows. It is also available for purchase by orchid societies or individual members for donation as a trophy at a local show.

We publicize the trophy winners whenever possible in our newsletter, with a picture of the plant and an article about the grower.

If you wish to purchase the trophy or have any questions, please contact Barbara Tisherman at [btisherman@aol.com](mailto:btisherman@aol.com) with the details and at the same time send a check for \$70, made out to "Slipper Orchid Alliance" to our Treasurer, Linda Thorne, 3451 Brower Mill Road, Seagrove, NC 27341. This price includes shipping. Requests should be received 3-4 weeks before the event.

## A Great Rare Giant

This story begins in 1989 when David Morris, president of Clackamas Orchids received a shipment of *Paphiopedilum kolopakingii* from Simanis Orchids, Indonesia. This was a group of four plants, and one plant stood out by having a leaf width of nearly twice that of the other three plants. Being that David's good friend Marie Riopelle had requested one of these *kolopakingii*, David sold this wide-leaved specimen to her. And the rest will go down in history!

For several years this plant flourished under Marie's great care, and on April 23, 1994 her plant was displayed at the annual Oregon Orchid Society Show in Portland, Oregon. At that time the plant had four growths spreading 39 inches (99cm) across and was growing in a nine-inch (23cm) pot. It bore one inflorescence with eight flowers and two buds. The judges looked fondly upon this plant, and it was granted an 82 point Award of Merit and given the clonal name appropriately of 'Riopelle.'

Two years would pass and the plant continued with its incredibly vigorous growth rate and was now literally a giant of a plant. Now growing in a 12-inch (30cm) pot, this superbly grown specimen with its eight growths would again find itself on display at the Oregon Orchid Society Show in Portland, Oregon. There on April 27, 1996 it was again judged, and with its 19 flowers and 12 buds on three inflorescences the plant was rightfully granted the motherlode of AOS awards, a First Class Certificate! This would be the first *kolopakingii* to receive an FCC and to this date is still the only plant of this species to hold the coveted award. Along with receiving the 90 point FCC, the judges also took it upon themselves to grant this specimen and its grower the honor of a 93 point Certificate of Cultural Merit! This is truly an honor to receive two such awards on this rare and slow growing species. Marie and James Riopelle should be commended for such an achievement.

A few years passed. Marie divided the great giant and gave a piece of it to David Morris as a gesture to him for originally providing the incredible plant. To this day David still proudly owns and grows this great giant. Being that this plant is now in the ranks of the prestigious FCC caliber, there was some interest from other growers (including myself) to obtain a division of this plant. Since Marie had divided hers into several pieces after the double FCC-CCM awarding in 1996, there were three divisions put out for sale. David reported to me that he had sold one piece for Marie to a plant broker who then sold it to a customer in France for \$5000! Another piece was traded to a respected commercial orchid grower in New York. Once I heard that there was still one remaining division available, I immediately wrote to David to make the purchase before this division was sold too.

On March 12, 2002 I received the most outstanding plant that I had ever purchased from any orchid grower/vendor in my entire life! When I opened that box I saw this incredibly beautiful, flawlessly grown wide leafed giant. It was the most robust *Paphiopedilum* division I had ever seen, bearing one old bloomed growth, one nearly mature new growth and one fresh new starting growth. This division was also well accompanied by an outstanding set of roots which I was amazed to see, since I had previously not had good luck with root development on my previous *kolopakingii* plants. What really stood out about this plant were the extraordinary wide leaves which measured four and a half inches (11 cm) across! I indeed had myself a great giant of a *Paphiopedilum* and realized that I was among the elite few in the world that now owned a piece of this magnificent, awarded species. Needless to say, I was very pleased with this plant and could not wait to call David and thank him.



I potted this specimen into a plastic 10-inch (25 cm) pot using my standard bark mix consisting of 75% medium bark, 15% perlite and 10% coarse Canadian sphagnum peat. I figured my new *kolopakingii* would appreciate a fair amount of light, so I hung it in among our *Cattleyas* where it would receive about 2000 foot candles (21,000 lumens) of light. The temperature in that greenhouse is considered intermediate, which ranges from 55 degree F (13 C) nights to 75 degree (24 C) days, and even warmer day temperatures during the summer. Watering frequency of this plant varied greatly depending on the weather and the time of year. Here in Wisconsin it is not unusual to experience a week without sunlight, but regardless, I watered the plant as needed when it became totally dry in the core of the pot. The water quality used on my *Paphiopedilums* is a blend of reverse osmosis and well water mixed together to achieve a total part per million reading between 50 and 75 PPM. My fertilizer regime is 13-3-15 diluted to achieve 100 PPM Nitrogen, and is applied every third watering cycle. My new giant *Paphiopedilum* quickly settled into its new home and rapidly finished producing its new growth. For me, this was unlike any other *kolopakingii* I had ever grown in the past. But then again, this plant was indeed a different beast, and I could not proclaim that this rapid growth was due solely to my growing expertise.

In the summer of 2003 I was amazed when this remarkable plant flowered for the first time under my care. I have to say, that I had never seen a more outstanding display of flowers. Here I witnessed a flower spike taller than I had ever seen before on any *Paphiopedilum* in my collection, reaching 34 inches (86 cm) tall and carrying nine striking flowers. Although this was a tremendous display which would prompt the average person to display this plant for showing and judging, I had other intentions for my great giant. It was now time to get some photographs and pollinate some flowers!

Both David Morris and I had been successful in self-pollinating our awarded divisions, and we were both able to produce seedlings for sale in and out of the flask. I was exceptionally impressed to see the vigor and consistent growth in my flasks as well as the identical growth pattern of the parent plant, the telltale wide leaf.

I also purchased a flask from David just for comparison of growth, and the pattern and consistency to the parent were evident there as well.



*Paph. kolopakingii* 'Riopelle' FCC/AOS x self  
Seedling from David Morris flask 2002

In early February 2005 my plant flowered again with a tremendous display of eleven flowers on one inflorescence. I again self-pollinated some flowers for more seed production. The pollinations were successful, and I was able to offer more flasks for sale. The plant was now reaching time to repot out of my 10-inch (25 cm) pot and was ready to be divided if I so desired. I opted out of making a division and transferred the giant into a 12-inch (30 cm) pot in hopes of making a really nice specimen for the next flowering season.

For the next 14 months my plant exploded with growth as it established itself in the new pot. In early April 2006, I watched in amazement as three huge new flower spikes emerged at the same time from the previous year's robust new growths. The passing weeks would reveal more and more hints as to how many flowers were going to be on each of the three inflorescences. By the second week in May my great giant was nearly in full flower. With supplemental monthly judging coming up that next weekend in Chicago, I thought it would be great to have it sent down and viewed in its glory by the AOS judges.

Being the weekend of May 13 is the second busiest weekend for our business, I found myself relying on the goodness of my friend and AOS judge Pete Peterson from Milwaukee to courier this gigantic beast to Chicago for me. I mentioned to Pete that this plant was quite large and I hoped he had a large car or van. When he arrived at the greenhouse that Friday afternoon with a mid-size car, I was slightly concerned. After doing some measuring Pete surmised that he would be able to fit the plant in his front seat by laying it at an angle. I was not real keen to this idea, but it was my only opportunity to get the plant to Chicago. So we stuffed the great big three-spiked giant into his car and away he drove.

The weekend nearly passed as I waited in anticipation to hear any news from someone involved with the Chicago judging center. Then late Sunday night I received a surprising email from Ron Setiawan, a student judge at the Chicago center. In the email was a beautiful image he had professionally taken of my plant and there in the text was the exhilarating news. My plant had been granted a 92-point Certificate of Cultural Excellence! The great giant carrying its 28 flowers and one bud on a flawlessly grown plant had again won the hearts of the AOS judges. It was now evident that Pete had successfully transported the plant to Chicago without a flaw. At most I expected the plant to receive an upgraded CCM since my plant had a higher flower count than Marie's at the time of her CCM award. The judges were impressed by how well my plant had been grown. There were no leaf blemishes on any of the five growths, the three inflorescences were straight and sturdy without the need for staking, and all 28 flowers were exceptionally well presented.



**Paph. kolopakingii 'Riopelle' CCE/AOS**

The intent of this article was to write about my growing culture and how I achieved this award, but I really cannot say that I did anything special to this plant to get this recognition. It was a combination of timing, availability, and pure luck. But whatever I did apparently had agreed with the plant, and I was rewarded with a magnificent display of flowers. We all have different growing techniques and environments. What may work for me may be a disaster for you. What worked for me one year may not work next year, or ever again. I just want to say to all who are reading this article, that you are all expert growers in the eyes of your plants! Hopefully someday all the pieces will come together for you too, so that you may be rewarded with such an incredibly thrilling experience.

*Chuck Acker  
Flasks by Chuck Acker*

## Supporting Members

In each issue of our newsletter we like to recognize and thank our supporting members. Each one of these businesses continues to support our efforts to have an outreach program for all slipper growers. If you are interested in becoming a supporting member, please contact Jean Metcalf at orchidiva@yahoo.com. We also hope that each of our members will support these businesses.

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