



# The **Slipper Orchid Alliance Newsletter**

Volume 2, Number 1

Winter 2001

## **Second Slipper Orchid Alliance Speaker Forum**

The Slipper Orchid Alliance will hold its second forum on Saturday, May 19, 2001. An exciting and stimulating day is planned at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Plymouth, Minnesota, a suburb of Minneapolis.

During the day, we are fortunate to have as speakers Dr. Louis Hegedus, Kevin Porter, and Karen Muir. They will be followed by a panel discussion – “Ask the Experts”. So, bring your questions or include them on the registration form. This will be your chance to ask questions of some of the outstanding growers in the country.

Dr. Hegedus will review “Phragmipediums – Past, Present and Future.” Since 1971, Dr. Hegedus has been a Professor of Chemistry at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. He received his Doctorate at Harvard University in 1970, and his Post-Doctoral studies were at Stanford University from 1970-71. He has been a prolific grower and breeder (Mary Bess, Rosalie Dixler, and others) of Phrags for thirty years. He has authored an A.O.S. program on Phrags and three articles on Phrags in the A.O.S. Bulletin. Dr. Hegedus provided the majority of the photos (including

the cover) for Catherine Cash’s book, The Slipper Orchids. He currently grows some 400 plants in his basement under lights and has flasks on the dining room table.

Mr. Porter will discuss “Evolution of the Designed Paphiopedilum.” He is the owner of Curved Air Orchids, a Paphiopedilum nursery in Santa Maria, California. He has been growing and hybridizing Paphs for more than twenty years. He is married, with one son, and mixes up his life with music, sushi, and golf.

“Parvissepalum – Then and Now” will be Ms. Muir’s topic. She is originally from Michigan where she raised orchids for 26 years. She was a member of the Michigan Orchid Society and held several society offices including Show Chair, Program Chair, Vice President and President. She became an accredited American Orchid Society judge in 1997. In 1998, she was transferred by her company, Lincoln Mercury, to Irvine, California and now lives in Laguna Niguel. Karen chairs the Pacific South Judging Region and has traveled to Canada, Guatemala, Ecuador, Brazil, South Africa, and Japan to lecture and attend orchid shows.

The day will start with continental breakfast and sales open at 8:00 a.m. Welcoming remarks at 9:15 a.m. will precede the speakers. An ample buffet lunch and morning and afternoon coffee breaks will be included.

Following the panel discussion there will be a review of plants on the exhibition tables. All attendees are urged to bring ladyslipper orchids in bloom. Every exhibitor will receive a ticket for each plant exhibited toward a drawing for an outstanding plant. This is a wonderful opportunity to see a wide variety of historical and famous plants, rare species, as well as cutting-edge hybrids. They will be grouped by category, and ribbons will be awarded in each class. A trophy, which is a hand-blown glass *Cypripedium* on a wood base, will be presented to the owner of the “People’s Choice” plant.

An auction after the review of the exhibit plants will feature several very special donations from the vendors and other commercial growers. Donations from members and attendees will be greatly appreciated. Proceeds will support more color in the newsletter and further development of our new web-site ([www.slipperorchid.org](http://www.slipperorchid.org)).

### **Slipper Orchid Alliance Mission Statement**

To foster understanding of all genera of slipper orchids including *cypripedium*, *paphiopedilum*, *phragmipedium*, and *selenipedium* orchids, as well as their conservation in natural habitats and under cultivation. To promote scientific and horticultural studies of slipper orchids and the exchange of information at regional, national and international forums or seminars.

There also will be a banquet at 7:00 p.m. The dinner will feature roast prime rib of beef, but special dietary needs may be accommodated if requested in advance on the registration form. The evening's speaker will be Dennis D'Alessandro, who will draw on his recent trips to Vietnam and Indonesia for his travelogue and discussion of "New Slipper Orchids of Southeast Asia." His entertaining talk will include cultural information and thoughts on conservation issues, in addition to his pictures of recently discovered slipper orchids and their habitats. Dennis began growing orchids over twenty years ago and in 1977 moved to southern Ecuador, where he was curator of the orchid collection at Orquideario Predesur, a botanical garden dedicated to the cultivation and propagation of the native orchid species in Ecuador. Since then he has collected and catalogued over 1000 specimens, of which over 80 species were new to science. He now divides his time between Ecuador, where he maintains an orchid nursery in Vilcabamba, and the United States, where he is the owner of Gypsy Glen Orchids in Beaver, Pennsylvania. He has traveled extensively to Europe and Southeast Asia to visit nurseries as well as natural habitats to photograph and document cultural requirements for slipper orchids. The cost of the banquet is \$35, and guests are welcome.

Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. until Noon, Jerry Fischer at Orchids Limited will host an open house. Directions will be available at the Forum.

Hotel reservations should be made directly with the hotel at 763-559-6600 by April 27, after which reservations will be taken on a rate and space availability. Mention the Slipper Orchid Alliance to receive the special rate of \$99 per night. The hotel has a comprehensive fitness center and offers free transportation within a ten-mile radius.

Registration for the forum is \$105 for members and \$125 for non-members. The deadline is May 14. For registration material contact Ed Bayer, 2393 Rihn Strasse, Gibsonia, PA 15044; phone 724-443-6016; email bayere@stargate.duq.edu. For membership and other information contact Richard Grundy, Acting Executive Director, 950 Wikiup Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95403-1305; phone 707-570-2828; email director@slipperorchid.org.

**DON'T MISS OUT!  
JOIN US FOR THIS EXTRAORDINARY  
DAY!**

## Paphiopedilum Cultural Requirements

*From Tonkin Orchids, Inc., Livermore, California*

Paphiopedilums will grow easily into specimen plants. With good culture they branch freely and regularly. Because paphiopedilums are capable of producing flowers on rootless growths, particular care must be taken with when watering a specimen plant in order to produce a lovely display of blooms with a healthy extended root system beneath the surface of the potting medium.

**Temperature and Humidity:** The green-leaved types ideally require night temperatures around 50 to 55 °F, while the mottled-leaved types need 60 to 65 °F at night. Day temperatures should range between 70 and 80 °F, although for short periods of moderate higher or lower temperatures will not injure the plants. The humidity should be moderate, between 40 and 50 percent.

**Light and shade:** Paphiopedilums enjoy medium light intensity, requiring 800 to 1,000 footcandles throughout the year for optimum growth. Direct sun, except in the early morning should be avoided. In the home, move the plants back from the window at the peak of the noonday sun, or ideally, grow them behind a filmy curtain.

**Air Movement:** As with all orchids, moist, vigorous air movement at a temperature favorable to the plants is highly recommended to keep the leaves cool and to dry drops of water from the plants, thereby reducing chances of disease. Hot or cold drafts will blast paphiopedilum flower buds so be very careful of the position of your plants, particularly on a windowsill.

**Watering:** Although the growth habit of paphiopedilums is sympodial, they do not possess pseudobulbs. Hence, like phalaenopsis, they must receive regular and constant watering. This will entail keeping the potting media moist but not wet. Perfection of this technique requires some experimentation.

Water your paphiopedilums every five to seven days; however, your own conditions affect the rate at which your plants will dry out and thus require water. Watering should always be done early in the day so that the plant foliage can dry before temperatures drop at nightfall.

For those growers using bark as a potting medium, it is extremely important not to permit the plant to go dry, as the bark is then very difficult to rewet. Water will channel through the dry mix leaving most of the pot dry. When this happens the only solution is to submerge the whole pot and mix in a pan of water until moisture has been restored to the pot.

**Potting:** There are at present many different potting media to choose from. Many of them have been described in various issues of *AOS Orchids*. Straight fir bark makes an excellent

## Upcoming Events

**May 19, 2001**

**Second Slipper Orchid Alliance Speaker Forum**

**Radisson Hotel and Conference Center  
Plymouth, MN**

The SOA's Spring 2001 Forum will include speakers and sales. Registration and membership information will be distributed to all SOA Members and also may be obtained from The Slipper Orchid Alliance, 950 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, CA 95403-1305 or by email from "slipperorchidalliance@att.net."

growing medium. Because paphiopedilums are semi-terrestrial, a potting medium that drains well but retains moisture is necessary. Consequently, fine chopped fir bark, commonly called "1/8 to 1/4 inch", is preferable to the medium to large chunks used as cattleya or phalaenopsis potting medium. Be sure that you wet the bark thoroughly before potting any type of orchid in it.

A paphiopedilum should be repotted when the potting medium has decomposed, when it has outgrown its pot, or when you wish to divide the plant. Although many paphiopedilums will live when divided into single growths with roots, it is preferable to make divisions of no fewer than three growths. The best time for repotting or dividing is immediately after flowering.

The procedures for repotting entail clipping off the old dead roots, and filling the compost medium in and around the roots until it reaches just slightly over the base of the plant. Do not bury the plant growths as this encourages rot, but the base of each growth should be in contact with the medium. You may wish to give your plant a little water immediately following repotting but as with other orchids, watering is held to a minimum until evidence of new growth is apparent.

Place your newly potted paphiopedilum in a shaded area, moving it gradually into its proper light conditions once it has started growing again.

**Feeding:** Plants in fir bark are fed with a high nitrogen fertilizer a 3-1-2 or 3-1-1 formula, at one-half recommended strength. For greenhouse growing you should fertilize three times and use plain water for the fourth watering in order to leach out any salts that have accumulated. For home or windowsill growing alternate the use of fertilizer and plain water.

Plants grown in some or the more complicated mixes consisting of rock, peat, oak leaf mold, etc., should receive fertilizer at a more reduced strength as some of these elements may provide nutrients or may be soured by a high nitrogen fertilizer at full strength.

*Prepared by Richard Grundy*

## 2001 Paphiopedilum Guild Meeting

*By Richard Grundy*

In January 2001, I was fortunate to return to the Paphiopedilum Guild Meeting in Shell Beach, California. These meetings are sponsored by The Orchid House of Los Osos and restricted to Paphiopedilum Guild members. Begun by Norris Powell 33 years ago, the Paphiopedilum Guild continues because of efforts of his daughter, Patti James.

Once again the Paphiopedilum Guild Meeting was chaired by Dr. Louis Hegedus of Fort Collins, Colorado. As discussed in an SOA Newsletter article last year, the meetings are tailored for the serious slipper orchid enthusiast. The format for the meeting was a full one and one-half days of excellent presentations with an emphasis on trends in paphiopedilum hybridization. The structure of the presentations provided an opportunity for the attendees to network during the various breaks, including a luncheon and banquet. In addition, there was a small flower-show, as well as sales by The Orchid House at its greenhouses.

The program included an excellent presentation by Dr. Hegedus on breeding with *Phragmipedium besseae* and *Phragmipedium schlimii*, which is discussed elsewhere in this newsletter. Particularly interesting was a review of historical trends in orchid hybridization by Kevin Porter of Curved Air Orchids entitled "Progress in the Guilded Age of Orchids." There also was an update of white and pink paph hybridization by Hadley Cash of Marriott Orchids entitled, "Pink/White complex Slippers." Special attention was devoted to the roles of Dusty Miller, F.C. Puddle, Hellas, White Challenge, White Knight, and Yerba Buena. A summary of his earlier presentation at the 2000 NCOS Paph Forum was reported in depth in the Winter 2000 issue of the SOA Newsletter (Vol.1, No. 1).

In addition, there were stimulating presentations by Yves Aubry from Quebec, Canada, on "Paphiopedilums of Peninsular Malaysia" and by Dr. Harold Koopowitz on "Paphiopedilum Druryi in the Wild," as well as a review of "Recent AOS Awards to Paphiopedilums and Phragmipediums." There also was a presentation by Ned Nash of Cal-Orchids on "The Effects of CITES on the

Commercial Orchid Industry.”

In conclusion, Dr. Louis Hegedus of Fort Collins, Colorado, presented a thought-provoking review of “Trends and Directions in Breeding with *Phrag. besseae* and with *Phrag. schlimii*.”

Once again Norris Powell is to be commended for hosting a successful meeting of the Paphiopedilum Guild.

## Launch of the SOA's Website

By *Richard Grundy*

With the new year, the SOA's website was launched at <http://www.slipperorchid.org>. In addition to being available to meet the needs of the SOA's membership, the SOA's website is available to everyone interested in all aspects of lady-slipper orchids.

The SOA Home page provides its members with a portal to nine (9) sections of the website. Separate sections are available for each genera – cypripedium, paphiopedilum, and phragmipedium. Currently, the section for each genus incorporates a preliminary list of those orchid species within the genus, as well as representative color pictures of certain species, where available. As the site matures additional color pictures will be added for each species, along with representative pictures for registered hybrids, where available. For example, you may wish to look at the species lists for paphiopedilum and phragmipedium, as well as the alphabetic list of phragmipedium hybrids. (Your thoughts on, and contributions to, the SOA's website would be appreciated.)

Currently, the SOA's website also provides email links to the Alliance's acting officers and information on membership. Website links are provided to the SOA's supporting (commercial) members. As the site matures, cultural information and a comprehensive Events Calendar will be included and information on culture will be expanded. A general bibliography and individual bibliographies for each genus will be added.

In upcoming installments, articles in the SOA Newsletter will discuss various features of the SOA website. Meanwhile, you are encouraged to visit us at <http://www.slipperorchid.org>. You also may wish to contribute to our photo gallery or comment on the services that you would like the SOA's website to provide.

## Presentation on Breeding with *Phrag. besseae* and *Phrag. schlimii*

By *Dr. Lou Hegedus, Fort Collins, Colorado*

The history of phragmipedium hybridization is characterized by two bursts of activity: One about 100 years ago with *Phrag. schlimii* and another about sixteen years ago following the discovery of *Phrag. besseae*.

Dr. Hegedus observed that the original Peruvian samples of *Phrag. besseae* from the Selby collection displayed considerable variation in color and lots of color break. This was true for the original plants from Ecuador, as well. He also observed that you cannot rely on good *besseae* parents to produce good offspring. Also, when breeding with the yellow form of *besseae*, experience so far is that the yellow does not carry over to the progeny.

*Phrag. schlimii* exhibits color variation as well but less than *Phrag. besseae*. Experience is that anything that is one-half *schlimii* is pink. When *Phrag. schlimii* is crossed with *Phrag. besseae* you get Hanne Popow which also exhibits wide variation in shape as well as color break. He also observed that there are distinct differences between the offspring of *Phrag. schlimii* and *schlimii* 'Wilcox'. The better progeny, which come from *Phrag. schlimii* 'Wilcox', suggest the presence of *Phrag. longifolium* (and support *Phrag. schlimii* 'Wilcox' being *Phrag. Cardinale*).

When *Phrag. Hanne Popow* is crossed back to *Phrag. besseae* you get *Phrag. Saint Ouen*, which Dr. Hegedus does not consider an improvement

Breeding *Phrag. caricinum* with *schlimii* in 1876 produced some nice progeny such as *Phrag. Stenophyllum* with some branching and multiple flowers that do not drop. When bred with *Phrag. besseae* this branching and flower retention were present in *Phrag. Mary Bess*, although there is color variation from *Phrag. besseae*. When bred with *Phrag. ecuadorensis* you get *Phrag. Ecu-Bess*.

Experience when breeding with *Phrag. longifolium* is that the plant size is reduced but the flower size is puffed up as was the case with *Phrag. schlimii* to produce *Phrag. Sedenii* in 1873. This was true for *Phrag. Eric Young* (*longifolium* x *besseae*). A nice cross which is one-fourth *longifolium* is *Phrag. Flying Fortress* which is a cross of *Calurum* and *besseae*. It is one-fourth *longifolium* from *Calurum* [*longifolium* x *Sedenii* (*longifolium* x *schlimii*)]. However, there is some color break from *Phrag. besseae*.

In conclusion, Dr. Hegedus observed that although it contains some red, *Phrag. kaieteurum* is not used very much. When it is bred with *Phrag. besseae* you get the uniformly nice *Phrag. Rosalie Dixler* which branches and carries lots of flowers with red hair all over the place. When *Phrag.*

besseae is crossed with lindleyanum you get Phrag. Andean Fire which is very nice and grows like a weed. When Phrag. besseae is bred with Phrag. caudatum for petals, you get Phrag. Ruby Slippers. However, there is a lot of variation from the various forms of Phrag. caudatum and he recommends use of the big pink form of caudatum for hybridization.

When besseae is crossed with Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements you get Phrag. Jason Fischer, which is red and round – all of which are nice. When Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements is crossed with Phrag. longifolium you get a very large and nice Phrag. Noirmont.

The next chapter of Dr. Hegedus' presentation may be heard at the SOA's May 19, 2001 Speakers Forum.

*Prepared by Richard Grundy*

## Notes on Hybridizing Complex Paphiopedilums

*Duane McDowell*

In studying breeding lines within the "insigne-type" complex hybrid paphs, certain types of crosses seem to appear more frequently in the pages of Sanders List of Orchid Hybrids and the American Orchid Society's Awards Quarterly. In this article I will list some of these trends and offer a few observations on the breeding tendencies of certain parents within each group.

**Spots.** The spotted paphs, or "Toads", are one of the most perplexing and frustrating groups of paphs, heredity-wise. Most of the better ones are the result of crossing spotted with reds or (spotted x red) with spotted or (spotted x red) with one another. Often, crosses of the latter types will produce many fine red and spotted progeny from the same pod.

Another disturbing tendency within this group of hybrids is that a large number of the seedlings tend to be pretty awful in terms of flower quality. Many of them have flowers with thin segments, short stems, muddy colors, or an atrocious combination of all three. Of course, the good ones are perfectly glorious, and among the most eye-catching of all orchids. The highly colored spotted paphs with clean, unmuddled colors and large spots are currently in vogue, and should remain so for some time.

### High-colored parents for spots.

Aylesbury 'Suez' AM/RHS. Gives good vigor, long stems, excellent dark pouch and petal color, and a nice rose flush in

the dorsal around the spots. Care should be used in choice of the other parent. Look for broad petals and good size.

Johnbourn 'Tip-Top' HCC/AOS. (Presumably other clones as well.) A seedling from Aylesbury, it performs similarly, giving a good percentage of brilliantly colored blooms. Care should still be exercised in the choice of a mate. Be sure to use one with good form.

Thunder Bay 'Flash' HCC/AOS, AM/ODC. Probably the premier parent of spotted hybrids at this time. Gives dark, fat petals and beautiful big black spots with a strong blushing of rose-purple around them. Be sure to use a strong growing plant with tall stems as the other parent.

Sparsholt 'Jaguar' and 'Ocelot'. Both give large dark spots to their progeny.

Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable' FCC/AOS. When crossed with the large, distinctly spotted types, this will give very large black spots.

Great Pacific (particularly those made with Winston Churchill 'Redoubtable'). Should be used with shapely parents such as Thunder Bay or perhaps a full-formed red like Amanda.

Olympic Forest, Cameo, Menthule, Milmoore, and Uncas also can give good bright colors to their progeny.

### Reds which combine well with spotted

Amanda ('Joyance', 'Shiffer's var.' and probably all others). Gives exceptionally broad petals to its progeny. It also tends to give a rich red color to the petals and pouch. The stem tends to be weak and short, and the flowers are small. It is a good idea to use a plant with big blooms on tall stems as the other parent.

Millionette 'Penn Valley'. Lends vigor and ease of blooming to its children. Makes spots larger and darker. Often (thankfully!) recessive for form.

Redezelle 'No. 3'. Gives stem strength and saturation of spotting on dorsal sepal. Can give good petal width. Some seedlings will exhibit poor growth and pleated foliage. These should be discarded.

Blagrose 'A'. Very dominant for tall stem. Gives bright color to spots. Recessive for form. Gives vigor and ease of bloom to its progeny. Should be used with full-formed parents.

### Other good reds to breed with spotted

Matcheck 'Mars', Paeony 'Regency' (watch for short stem), Carl Keyes, Tapestry, Sandra Mary 'Diabolo', Harbur 'Balthazar', John Hanes, Wendbourn, Bournette, Floralties 'The Cardinal', Bonheure 'Happiness', Sylvan Vale, California Queen, Evansrose, Lyric, Redvale, Startler, Tendresse, Valwin, XCLNT, Spumoni, probably any (spotted x vini), probably any (red x vini).

### Green x spotted breeding

Since the early days of modern insigne-type paph

hybridizing, breeders have sought to introduce form, size, color, and patterning into the spotted types by crossing them with the greens and golds. Many of our fine hybrids today have such crosses in their background, and the newer hybrids of this type are among the more consistently attractive complex hybrids. Examples of this type of breeding include Balaclava, Thumbelisa, Audrey Sacher, Margaret Brands, London Wall, etc., and more recently Jaques Ruffle, Spotshine, Wildroot, Hunter's Point and many more.

The best of the next generation will probably come from greens with a fair amount of spotted ancestry, such as Wallur, Marion Fisher, Jaques Fuffie, Agincourt, Engraved, etc. If a spotted parent with some spotting in the petals is used, the progeny may have a liberal amount of spots spread throughout their flowers.

Spotted paphs such as Blendia 'Magnificum', Sharnden 'Agnes Miller', Sparsholt 'Jaguar', Spotter 'Leopard', Parry Gripp 'Santa Barbara' and Swallow 'Karyn' would be good ones to cross with the greens to get "all-over" spots.

### Miscellaneous spotted parents

Of course there are many fine parents other than those listed above. As new seed crosses have begun to flower, they have been used to produce further generations of (hopefully) improved types. In my estimation, one trait which is too often overlooked in spotted paph breeding is vigor and ease of bloom. Any plant which gives glorious flowers one out of three years is a poor investment of valuable space and should not have its genes passed on to another generation. The following is a (partial) list of vigorous parents in the spotted group which would be good mates for some of the more recalcitrant growers and blomers. Most of them feature strong, tall stems as well.

Pacific Ocean 'Terry', Pacific Ocean 'Anne', Mildred Hunter 'Ileana', Johnbourn 'Tip Top', Farmmoore 'Rex', Dakota, Sea Cliff, Balaclava, Vale, Clementine H. Churchill, Small World, Warrior, Thumbelisa, Alcibiades, Geraldine 'Pajaro', London Wall, Winston Churchill, Swallow 'Karyn', Mendocino 'Charlotte', Punxsutawney

### Red Paph Breeding

As in spotted hybrids, the best of the reds seems to come when the various reds are bred "out of type" and then back crossed onto the reds. The (Red x tan) types are usually the best parents to use with reds to produce good clean colors and good color saturation.

The (Tan x Spot) crosses should also perform well in this type of breeding.

As in all types of hybridizing, it is important not to overlook such traits as color breaks, short stems, frequent deformities, or overall poor growth habit. Many hybrids have been made with two parents with wonderful color and weak stems and the results have been, for the most part, horrendous.

### Some possible (Red x tan or green) parents to use with reds

Helgi, Frostlight, Sioux, Crazy Horse, Harwin, Venture, Dalla, Easyline, Via Luna Este, Coit Tower, Indian Hills, Rustella, Dartington, Saronia, Harbur, Santa Margarita, Sandra Mary, Sandhill, Zealandia, Hargrose, Bryce Canyon Panga, Kenosha Pass, Chipmunk

Using these with the dark colored reds with heavy Atlantis influence should give good clean color right out to the edges of the dorsal sepal. The introduction of brown and green breeding lines also improves vigor and raises the percentage of high quality blooms.

(Red x spot) crosses have produced some wonderful things when back crossed to the reds. These tend to be the "Brushed" reds with varying degrees of white in the dorsal sepals. Among the progeny of this type of cross can be found some of the largest and most shapely blooms in the red group. Again, vigor is somewhat improved in this line of breeding, but many of this type will need cooler night temperatures to initiate successful blooming. The Winston Churchills (spotted clones) are tremendous parents for this type of hybrid. Some others are listed below.

Redezelle, Algonquin, Sandhill, John Dovan, Totally Awesome, Beauvale, Dered, Sylvan Vale, Millionette, Mildred Hunter, Johnhill, Spumoni, Pacific Regency, Thunder Bay, Frank Pearce, Adventurous Mandy, Omdurman, Jim Iverson, Johnbourn, Festive Hunter, Valwin, Varina Vaughan

There is a great deal of excitement over the new (Complex x vini) type hybrids. They tend to have good color saturation (particularly when *Maudiae* is used) and excellent vigor. I feel that the next generation (back crossing into the complex reds, spotted and tans) will produce some fantastic new types to work with. I believe that an additional richness of color will be added with the use of (*charlesworthii* x vini) hybrids with the complex types.

### Tans and browns

This group tends to give a high percentage of acceptable (read: saleable) blooms on vigorous plants whether it is used with other tans, reds or green-golds. With the spotted, results are somewhat less predictable, but some have certainly been worth-while. The following is a partial list of proven parents in the tan types.

Hellas 'Westonbirt', Hellas 'Sunset' (and many others), Peter Black, Via Gaviota, Golden Chalice, Gege Hughes, Harbur 'Golden Gateway', Danella, Sarella, Stoke Poges, Chipmunk, Claro Javier, British Concorde, Crazy Horse, Honey Plume, Hazella, Tangold, Inca, Littledean, Incadean, Hell's Chamber, Frostlight, Van Ness, Frosty James

These plants are also extremely vigorous, giving multiple leads rapidly and blooming readily on windowsills or in the greenhouse without any manipulation.

## Greens and golds

This is one of the largest groups of hybrid registrations, with many more being made and registered each year. The main reason for this is the degree of uniformity found in almost all crosses within the group. Chances are that any cross between two high-quality proven parents in this type will produce large numbers of very fine seedlings which grow rapidly to maturity and perform well under a variety of conditions. They also breed well with members of the tan group. Here's a partial list of some of the more famous and worthwhile green with broad white border types.

Yerba Buena 'Whitecap', Green Mystery 'White Lynx', Actaeus v. Bianca, Betty Bracey, Tommie Hanes, Sheila Hanes, Henrietta Hanes, Betty-Anna, Crescent Meadows, Avine, Greenhorn, King of Sweden, Reezy, Little Irene, Kay Rinaman

Many other types of greens and golds are also very fine parents when crossed with one another, the greens listed above or with the tans. Here are a few.

Gwenpur, Diversion, Divisadero, Shapely, Pittsburg, Marion Fisher, Wallur, La Honda, Halo, Caddians, Sunol, Via Muchos Ninos, LaCrescent, Greenstede, Engraved, Burleigh Mohur, Honey Dew, Honey Gorse, Chantal, Spring Tree, San Carlos

## Whites

Paph F. C. Puddle is the foundation of almost all of our modern complex whites. When crossed with the greens in the first list, it gives uniform bright whites with some slight degree of purple stippling toward the center of the flower. It is so dominant, in fact, that the progeny produced in this fashion will give very similar results when crossed with albino-type greens.

In the last number of years, major breakthroughs in white breeding have taken place. When crossed with Paph. godefroyae, F. C. Puddle made Skip Bartlett. While most of these are similar to Paph. godefroyae in appearance and growth habit, some few were fairly clear whites of good form, much like an improved F. C. Puddle. The cultivar 'White Pepper' HCC/AOS has gained a deservedly fine reputation by producing such superior hybrids as White Knight (Green Mystery x ), Lunacy (Hellas x ), Spinnaker (Frecklies x ), White Queen (Via Virgenes x ), and Lady Luck (Winston Churchill x ). The cultivars 'Ruth' and 'Suzy' are quite similar in appearance to 'White Pepper', and may perform similarly as parents.

Paph. Freckles (Burleigh Mohur x F. C. Puddle) has also begun to come into its own as a parent of some note. Via Ojai (Hellas x ), Tomas Garcia (Inca x ), and Pinkpong (Winston Churchill x ) are all very fine hybrids.

Paph. Dusty Miller (Chardmoore x F. C. Puddle) is another fine cross being used very successfully as a parent of whites and pinks.

The following is a partial list of plants which when crossed

onto other whites, greens, golds or tans will produce good whites.

F. C. Puddle, Susan Tucker, Jack Tonkin, Skip Bartlett, Astarte, Saint Ouen's Bay, Salty, Whitemoor, Snow Bunting, Blanche Sawyer, Lohengrin

The next group is comprised of plants which, when crossed with whites, greens or golds should give whites, but when crossed with tans, red or spottedts will give a good percentage of pinks. Be aware that crossing whites onto reds and spottedts also gives a pretty high percentage of garbage. The good ones usually make it worth-while and paph fanciers are certainly gamblers, if nothing else.

Freckles, Skip Bartlett, Huddle, Via Ojai, White Knight, Tomas Garcia, Sumurun, Rosy Dawn, Dusty Miller, Miller's Daughter, Lunacy, Psyche

## What Next?

In watching the reaction of the buying public, I've seen a number of trends developing. The pot plant trade appears to want large, showy blooms on easy-growing plants. To this end, I believe that the greens, golds and tans will continue to grow in popularity. Also, I think that we will continue to see more and more of the novelty (complex x species) and (complex x vini) types of hybrids. I believe that species such as henryanum, barbigerum, spicerianum, purpuratum, and fairrieanum will be crossed onto the various color types to bring down plant size and increase floriferousness. The vigorous older complex types such as Alcibiades, Mildred Hunter, Aurobe, and Hellas will see a tremendous resurgence. Within the next ten to fifteen years, I expect to see thousands of seedlings from the very fertile Skip Bartletts on the market; not only for the connoisseur, but for the general public. Multiflorals such as haynaldianum and lowii make exceptionally vigorous plants with very brightly colored (if unusually shaped) blooms. They are always a good seller to the public at large. The more proven lines of (complex x cochlopetalum) are also very popular. While they are among the most attractive and tempting to make, the (complex x brachypetalum) types can be a terror to keep alive up to blooming size. Once they are full grown, many are quite vigorous, but these are more of a hobbyist crop than a mass-production pot plant type.

Of course, we paph fanciers will continue to want only the best, newest and most unusual colors, forms and patterns, and it is hard to predict where these will go. As a hybridizer I continue to try new combinations, particularly focusing on the (primary x complex) types. Who knows, (Van Ness x Charles Sladden) may be the hot cross of 1999!

*Duane McDowell spoke at the Paph Forum in 1990 and this article is from the notes of his talk.*

### Slipper Sales Mart

**For Sale:** Cribb, *"The Genus Paphiopedilum"* (2nd Ed.) Mint condition. \$90. Contact Richard Grundy, 950 Wikiup Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Email: richardgrundy@att.net

The Slipper Sales Mart is a small classified section. Ads should be twenty-five words or less (excluding addresses and phone number). Make checks payable in the amount of \$10 to The Slipper Orchid Alliance and mail check and text of ad to Janette Harris, 1947 Jackson Rd., Westfield, NC 27053. The SOA assumes no responsibility for any item offered for sale and the tariffs or governmental requirements are the responsibility of the purchaser/seller.

### SOA NEWSLETTER Advertising Rates

1/4 Page (vertical)	\$75.00
1/2 Page (vertical or horizontal)	\$130.00

Rates apply to ads furnished on computer disk. For details please contact Janette Harris, 1947 Jackson Rd., Westfield, NC 27053. Email: jaharris@surry.net. Make checks payable to The Slipper Orchid Alliance and mail check and text of ad to the above address. The SOA assumes no responsibility for any item offered for sale and the tariffs or governmental requirements are the responsibility of the purchaser/seller.

## 2001 SOA DUES NOTICE

### *Time to Renew SOA Membership*

I wish to thank you for our support during the year 2000, our inaugural year. By February 3, 2001 letter, you should have received your 2001 Dues Notice. I encourage you to renew your membership, as soon as feasible. During 2001, we will continue to foster understanding of all genera of slipper orchids, as well as their conservation and preservation in natural habitats and under cultivation. In addition to an expansion of the SOA newsletter and website, a speakers forum is scheduled for May 19, 2001, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. So, please renew your membership by forwarding your 2001 SOA dues to the Treasurer, The Slipper Orchid Alliance, 950 Wikiup Drive, Santa Rosa, California 95403-1305.

## The SOA's Founding Member Support

Support for the Slipper Orchid Alliance continues to grow. As we completed our inaugural year, founding member support exceeds 170 members from seven countries: Australia, Canada, Dominican Republic, England, Japan, Jersey of the Channel Islands, and the United States.

Commercial membership also has grown to include fifteen supporting members: Antec Laboratory, Candor, New York; Bloomfield Orchids, Pittsford, New York; 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, CA; 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 encouragement and support.

Richard Grundy

*We would like to apologize to Tom and Barbara Larkin of Whippoorwill Orchids and Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn for inadvertently omitting their names from the list of commercial supporters in the last newsletter.*

## THE SOA'S ACTING OFFICERS

The SOA's acting officers are: Chairman, Barbara Tisherman, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Executive Director and Treasurer, Richard Grundy, Santa Rosa, California; Recording Secretary, Jamei Haswell, Santa Rosa, California; 1st Vice-president, Gordon Slaymaker, Springfield, Virginia; SOA Newsletter Editor, Janette Harris, Westfield, North Carolina.

The members of the SOA's Steering Committee are: Ed Bayer of Gibsonia, Pennsylvania; Bill Goldner, Huntingtown, Maryland; Steve Drozda of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; Jerry Fischer of Plymouth, Minnesota; Norito Hasegawa of Anaheim, California; Tom Kalina of Villa Park, Illinois; Harold Koopowitz of Santa Ana, California; Paul Phillips of Kissimmee, Florida; Kevin Porter of Santa Maria, California; and Bob Wellenstein of Candor, New York







