NEWSLETTER



Editor's Note: The newsletter is distributed electronically (blind copied so addresses remain private) to all members for whom we have an email address. If you do not receive an emailed newsletter please email info@saskorchids.com to update your contact information.

Future Meeting Dates:

Sun Nov 28, 2021 Sat Mar 19, 2022 Sat Jan 21, 2022 Sat Apr 23, 2022 Sat Feb 26, 2022 Sun May 15, 2022

SOS Executive

President: Tracey Thue Vice-President: Vacant **Past President: Bob Lucas** Secretary: Donna Carlson-

O'Keefe

Treasurer: **Cheryl Grummet** Social: Shirley Keith

Lynn Campbell

Plant Orders: Heather Anderson

David Schwinghamer

Resources: Don Keith

Tom Kondra

Librarians: Deb Huculiak

Kathryn Hiller

Newsletter: Tracey Thue COC/AOS Rep: Tom Kondra

Speakers: Heather Anderson

Webmaster: Calvin Lo Facebook: Sara Thue

Web Address: www.saskorchids.com Email: info@saskorchids.com

facebook: https://

www.facebook.com/saskorchidsociety? Mail Address: SOS, Box 411, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3L3

The November general meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 28 @ 1:00 pm

The Presentation will start at 2:00 pm CST (1:00 pm MST)

The guest speaker is Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids presenting "How to Manage Your Collection."

Please see page 2 of this newsletter for links to the Zoom meetings.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ZOOM GENERAL MEETINGS TO CONTINUE

Due to recent surges in the delta variant, we will continue meeting virtually for the rest of the calendar year. We will reevaluate in 2022.

GENERAL MEETING AGENDA:

1:00 pm General Meeting Start on Zoom SOS Business Items: Announcements Problem corner Show & Tell

2:00pm Zoom Presentation by Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids: "How to Manage Your Collection"

NOVEMBER GUEST SPEAKER:

Alan Koch, Gold Country Orchids

Topic: How to Manage Your Collection

Alan owns and operates Gold Country Orchids, where he specializes in miniature and compact Cattleya. Alan started growing orchids in 1969 with three Cymbidium. While in college, he became interested in other orchids and discovered that many would grow outdoors in southern California. Alan has moved five times as his orchid obsession led to the need for more growing space. With the last move, he purchased ten acres of land in Lincoln, CA to house his 300,000 orchids.

Alan is recognized as an expert in the Brazilian Cattleya alliance, and a trendsetter in miniature Cattleya breeding. He has been published in the Orchid Digest and the American Orchid Society magazines, and in the proceedings of the World Orchid Conference. Along with his published work, Alan is internationally known as a speaker and orchid judge. He is a past member of the AOS Judging Committee and of the Research Committee. Alan is an Accredited Judge, and is Vice-Chair and Training Coordinator for the California Sierra Nevada Judging Centre. Alan has served two terms on the Orchid Digest Executive Committee and Board of Directors.

Sunday, Nov. 28, 2021 @ 1:00 PM

ATTENTION: We have two different Zoom links for this month's meeting.

Please join the Zoom SOS general meeting starting at 1:00pm by clicking on this link: https://usask-ca.zoom.us/j/99697249290?pwd=NXcwck5wYnFFOFFBa1lKYmJUUkpmUT09

Please join the Zoom Presentation starting at 2:00 pm by clicking on this link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82680366439?pwd=RnVxUWQwcU5QaDA0UE92SVV5eEtKQT09

SOS EMAIL CONTACTS

Plant orders go to: orders@saskorchids.com

General requests or queries to:

info@saskorchids.com

LIBRARY

If you would like to borrow any library resources, please email Librarian Deb Huculiak hucuh@sasktel.net to arrange for pickup. Please include in your email message your name and a phone number for Deb to reach you. You can find a .pdf of the library holdings on our SOS website. Available are books, magazines (AOS Orchids and Orchid Digest), pH meter, light meter.

2022 SOS Calendar Fundraiser

Calendars will be available for pickup from Don Keith's house

Sunday, Nov 28 after 10:00am.



SOS EXECUTIVE ELECTION

Online voting by Election Runner
Slate of Nominees for SOS Executive
2021-22

President Tracey Thue

Vice-President Asking for volunteer

Past President Bob Lucas

Secretary Donna Carlson-O'Keefe

Asking for volunteer

Treasurer Cheryl Grummett

Asking for volunteer

Social Shirley Keith

Plant Orders Heather Anderson

David Schwinghamer

Resources Don Keith

Tom Kondra

Library Deb Huculiak

Asking for volunteer for 2nd librarian

Newsletter Editor Tracey Thue Newsletter Assist. Tobi Fenton

Speaker Coordinator Heather Anderson

COC/AOS Rep Tom Kondra
Webmaster Calvin Lo
Facebook Page Sara Thue
Member at Large Lynn Campbell

The Election Runner voting ends Nov 20, 2021. All members were emailed a link to vote on October 25. Results will be announced during the Nov 28th General Meeting.

OCTOBER SOS GARAGE SALE

On October 6, a Garage Sale was held at Heather Anderson's with help from David Schwinghamer and Cheryl Grummet. The Plant Order Committee had placed an order in September with Calvin Wong, Tropical Gardens, for pick up by Heather in Vancouver the weekend of October 2. At the time of the order, Calvin offered to donate between 30-50 orchids to SOS. After 21 years, Calvin is closing Tropical Gardens at the end of December, 2021. By 2023 he hopes to relocate to an island off Thailand, returning to Vancouver fro a part of each year. Calvin's generous donation to the Society resulted in Garage Sale proceeds of \$345 for SOS.

Thank you, Calvin.

SUPPLIES ORDER NEWS

Anyone interested in different pots, or pots for specialty orchids (such as Neofinitia pots), please contact Don Keith.



*Lepanthes uxoria*Grown and photographed by Sara Thue

OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Zoom meeting, moderated by Calvin Lo, shared among the Orchid Society of Alberta, the Manitoba Orchid Society, and the Saskatchewan Orchid Society. The meeting was chaired by Bob Lucas. There were at least 55 participants.

Before the presentation started, today's speaker, Sam Tsui of Orchid Inn Ltd., of Bloomington IL, gave an update on his plant pre-orders. After 3 months, he his still waiting for the US export permit. Once he receives the permit, he will send out an email to let people know, and then will allow 7-10 days to take more pre-orders. He takes the plants across the border and ships them from Ontario. There will be an extra charge for one day delivery, which will be necessary this time of year. The prices on his website include delivery, but not the expedited delivery. He will pay the extra shipping but pass the cost on to the plant purchasers.

Bob introduced Sam, presenting on *Multifloral* Paphiopedilum, the Tropical Ladyslipper. Sam is one of the foremost Paph breeders in the US, having received nearly 300 AOS awards (American Orchid Society). Bob himself purchased his first Paph from Sam in 1999. More information about Sam can be found in the October newsletter.

Sam Tsui, Orchid Inn Ltd., on Multifloral Paphiopedilums, the Tropical Ladyslipper

Quick Review of the Species:

Paphiopedilum is not a big family, fewer than 130 species, including some of the new species discovered in the last few years. There are six subgenera:

- Parvisepalum, e.g., micranthum
- Brachypetalum, e.g., bellatulum
- Paphiopetalum, e.g., charlesworthii
- Polyantha, e.g., rothschildianum
- Cochlopetalum, e.g., primulinum
- Sigmatopetalum, e.g., barbatum

Today's presentation concentrates on multifloral Paphs, the Phragmipediums (from South America), and the lady slippers (from Canada, US, northern China, and Russia). The multifloral Paphs are found around Borneo Island up to the Philippines and a few in southwest China.

Paph. rothschildianum (known to some as the king of Paphs) has been known for a long time. It has been widely used for breeding, starting in about 1930. Flowers in the wild are usually much smaller than those we see today.

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES, CONT.

In the wild, most of the dorsal sepals are 4.5-5.5 cm across. Today, due to multigenerational breeding, the dorsal can be more than 7 cm across. The lateral spread of the flower was normally 22-24 cm; now they can be as wide as 40 cm. They can have as many as seven flowers per flower

stem. Sam showed examples of award winning *Paph. rothschildianum* clones bred by Terry Root of Orchid Zone ('Atticus') and by the Tokyo Orchid Nursery in Japan ('Perfection'). Both clones had the same parent plant. Sam also showed a slide of his own clone, 'Auja', which has similar breeding as the other two clones he showed. This is a faster growing and easier flowering plant, which received the Grand Champion award at the Dresden Orchid Show in Germany. The Dresden show is the second largest indoor orchid show in the world, after the Japan Grand Prix.

Paph. sanderianum is the second most important species of multifloral Paphs. It is found in a very small area of Borneo Island on the Malaysia side. The unique characteristic of sanderianum is its very long petals, sometimes more than 100 cm long. Sam showed slides of some different clones. One was of the Canadian breeder, Dr. John Doherty of Zephyrus Orchids, with twelve plants in bloom at the same time. Of these twelve plants, two were awarded AM/AOS awards and four were awarded HCC/AOS awards. Paph. sanderianum has been known for longer than Paph. rothschildianum, but has received fewer AOS awards. This is because of its long thin petals that are prone to damage during transportation. The benefit of sanderianum and other Paphs is that they don't have to be grown in a greenhouse; they can be grown in our homes.

Paph. lowiii is commonly found all over southeast Asia: Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, and parts of the Philippines. It is a very common species with a unique purple spoon-like petal. In nature, they have up to 4 or 5 flowers, but Sam showed a slide of an awarded plant that had 8 flowers on one stem, with a flower spread of over 24 cm. They usually have a very dark pouch and a purple "spoon" at the end of the petals, but Sam showed an albino form, Paph. lowii var. album, which had pale yellow green flowers. Only one was ever discovered in Borneo, and Sam was fortunate enough to get a permit to import its offspring into the US, although he had to pay a fortune for it. Paph. lowii var. album is quite common now, but they all come from that original plant. One of his plants was awarded a Gold Medal and Grand Champion at the Dresden Orchid Show in 2017.

Paph. richardianum has flowers that are identical to those of Paph. lowiii, but half the size. The plant size is also half that of lowii.

Paph. haynaldianum is found in the Philippines. It also looks like Paph. lowii, but it has sports on the dorsal.

Paph. philippinense is a very common species found, as its name would suggest, in the Philippines. It has the second longest petals after sanderianum, 14-16 cm long in the wild. However, after successive breeding, petals are sometimes as long as 25 cm. It can have 8 flowers on a stem. It also has an albino (album) form.

Paph stonei is a slower growing species but, due to generations of breeding, Sam has stonei blooming after 5 years from flask, compared to 8-9 years in the past. They are found on Borneo, southwest of where sanderianum is found. Paph. stonei has brown stripes on a white dorsal. There is also an albino form.

Paph. kolopakingii is also found on Borneo, but on the Indonesia side, south of the sanderianum habitat. It has two varieties, the typical form (tipo) and the topperi form. Tipo form has a brown stem and brown ovary, and topperi form has a green stem and green ovary. Both forms

have a similar number and size of flowers. They can have up to 14-15 flowers, all open simultaneously. Some people, including Sam, consider *topperi* to be a semi-albino form. He bred *Paph. kolopakingii* var. *topperi* 'Jeanie Green Giant', and about 01-1% of them turn out to be an album form, green and white in colour.

Paph. parishii is found in Thailand, Burma, and Yunnan Province of southwest China. Paph. parishii var. dianthum is found further east of there, in Vietnam and southwestern China. These are the only multiflorals that are found this far north, so they like slightly cooler

temperatures than the other multiflorals. *Paph. parishii* normally carries about 6-8 flowers per stem, although Sam showed one that had 12 flowers on a stem. The *dianthum* variety has slightly larger flowers, but usually only 3-4 flowers per stem. The plant size is a bit smaller.

Paph. glandiferum has two varieties, praestans and gardneri/wilhelminae. Both varieties are found on the island of New Guinea, although the praestans variety is found farther west than gardneri/wilhelminae. Paph. glandiferum var. gardneri plant is very small and dark, with 3 or 4 flowers per stem; it can be grown in a 3" pot. Paph. glandiferum var. praestans is lighter in colour, more yellow, with up to 5 flowers per stem. Some people think it looks like a miniature Paph. rothschildianum. Praestans plants are larger than gardneri.

Paph. supardii is found on the southeast side of Borneo. It is related to Paph. stonei and the colour is similar. The main difference is in the petals, which in supardii, can twist in any direction. They are not popular nor much awarded because of the inconsistent presentation of the petals. They can have up too 6 flowers per stem, similar to

Paphiopedilum stonei
Photo by Orchids Choo
orchidroots.com

Paph. randsii is found in a very small area on Mindanao, an island in the southern most part of the Philippines. This

species has been around for a long time but about 12 or 13 years ago a new batch was discovered with much larger plants and more flowers per stem. The typical old form has 4-5 flowers per stem and is smaller than *Paph. philippinense*. The new form has up to 10 flowers per stem and is almost twice the size of the old form.

Paph. adductum and Paph. adductum var. anitum are both also found on Mindanao. Paph. adductum is found at higher elevations inland. It has a dark dorsal and normally 3-4 flowers per stem. Paph. adductum var. anitum has an even darker dorsal and darker petals. It is found in the same area as Paph. randsii.

Paph gigantifolium is found on Sulawesi, Indonesia. When it was found in the wild, the plant had a 4-5 foot span, thus earning its name gigantifolium. The flower stem is 4-5 feet long. But after the first or second generation under culture, the plant has been downsized considerably and is no larger than a rothschildianum. The plant is getting smaller, but the flower size remains the same. The petals take a curled shape, almost like a body builder pose. It has a dark dorsal and dark petals, but the ovary is a creamy white colour, even though it is not an albino form.

Paph. platyphyllum comes from the Malaysia side of Borneo. There is some controversy as to whether this is actually a true species. It has some characteristics of Paph. stonei and some of Paph. kolopakingii, and may be a natural hybrid of the two. It is found in much the same area as the other two species.

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Paphiopedilum platyphyllumPhoto: orchidspecies.com

There are a couple other multifloral species, but they are considered illegal species, so Sam didn't include them in the presentation.

Quick Review of Some Primary Hybrids

A primary hybrid is a cross between two species.

Paph. Prince Edward of York

(rothschildianum x sanderianum)

A cross between the "King of the Paphs" and the "Queen of the Paphs. Sam showed a slide of this hybrid for which he received 92 points and a CEE/AOS, his very first cultural award, about 20 years ago.

Paph. Michael Koopowitz

(sanderianum x philippinense)

Both parents have very long petals so the hybrid does too, some as long as $60~\rm cm$. It has 6-7 flowers per stem.

Paph. Paul Parks

(adductum x sanderianum)

It has a dark coloured dorsal from the *adductum*, and long petals from both parents. The ovary is creamy white, a characteristic of *sanderianum*. *Paph. adductum* var. *anitum* has also been used for this hybrid and produces a darker coloured dorsal.

Paph. Kolosand

(kolopakingii x sanderianum)

This has the long petals of *sanderianum* and the high flower count of *kolopakingii*. If you use the albino form of *kolopakingii*, you might get Kolosand var. *album*.

Paph. sanderianum x gigantifolium

Petals have the "body builder" shape characteristic of the *gigantifolium*, but the longer length of the *sanderianum*. The plant is not particularly big; once the *gigantifolium* is crossed with something else, it is no longer as big as it is in the wild.

Paph. Addicted Phillip

(adductum x philippinense)

It has the pale pouch of *philippinense* and the dark dorsal and petals of *adductum*, which gives a pleasing contrast.

Paph. Lady Isabel

(stonei x rothschildianum)

It has the distinctive striped dorsal of stonei.

Paph. Julius

(rothschildianum x lowii)

It has the dorsal and width of the *rothschildianum*, and the very dark pouch and broad purple petals of *lowii*. A fully mature plant can produce flowers more than 30 cm wide and up to 8 flowers per stem.



Paphiopedilum Addicted Phillip

Photo:

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/ File:Paphiopedilum_Addicted_Phillip.jpg

Paph. Johanna Burkhardt

(rothschildianum x adductum or anitum)

The colour comes from the *adductum* or *anitum*. In the past 10-12 years, they have received about 15 FCC awards for this hybrid.

Paph. Hung Sheng Cape

(stonei x anitum)

This has an interesting dorsal: the stripes looks like *stonei*, but the colour is a dark red rather than brown. There are not many of these available because *stonei* is slow-growing and *anitum* is rare in the marketplace.

Some of Sam's Other Hybrids

These are outcrosses with plants from a different group but still within the Paph genus.

Paph. Dollgoldi

(rothschildianum x armeniacum)

armeniacum gives it an overall yellow colour, while rothschildianum is used to produce multifloral plants and large flowers.

Paph. Gloria Naugle

(rothschildianum x micranthum)

Paph. micranthum gives it the pink colour, while rothschildianum again gives the flower its large size. In rothschildianum crosses with plants from the Parvisepalum group, the colour always comes from the Parvi side.

Paph. Harold Koopowitz

 $(roth schild ia num \ x \ mali poense)$

The green colour comes from the Parvi species; the size and multifloral trait from *rothschildianum*. Sam expects some flowers to have over 30 cm of natural spread, with up to 4 flowers per stem.

Paph. thaianum x anitum

Paph. anitum gives a red colour. Paph. thaianum is a very small plant with leaf spread of about 6-7 cm and flowers about the size of a nickel, so this hybrid is also small and can be grown in a 2-4" not

Paph, thaianum x rothschildianum

This gives a slightly larger plant with flowers of about 4" natural spread and plant size about 6" natural spread.

Paph. Mark Hasegawa (concolor x rothschildianum)

This is an older hybrid that has been used a lot in breeding multiflorals. The *concolor* gives a yellowish background to the flowers. Whenever you have *rothschildianum* crossed with a plant from the Brachypetalum group, you can have 3 or 4 or 5 flowers open simultaneously.



Paphiopedilum Mark Hasegawa

Photo: orchidinnusa.com

Paph. Booth's Stone-Lady

(Lady Isabel x stonei)

The *stonei* traits can be seen in the dorsal, which is quite round with the distinctive brown stripes. *Paph*. Lady Isabel is *stonei* x *rothschildianum*. Booth's Stone-Lady is 75% *stonei*, and looks almost like a gigantic *stonei*.

Paph. Randy Booth

(Lady Isabel x randsii)

It looks as if the Lady Isabel could be crossed with either *randsii* or *gigantifolium*, but there is no twisting of the petals, so that rules out the *gigantifolium*.

Paph. Gary Romagna

(St. Swithin x rothschildianum)

St. Swithin is *philippinense* x *rothschildianum*, so this hybrid is 75% *rothschildianum*. They have grown some plants with dorsals over 7 cm wide, which is huge for this hybrid.

Paph. Jerry Spence

(rothschildianum x Berenice)

Paph. Berenice is philippinense x lowii. You get the dark petals of the lowii, the long petals of philippinense, and the wide dorsal of rothschildianum.

Paph. Yang-Ji Diamond

(Prince Edward of York x anitum)

Depending on the parent, some plants have spiral petals and some have straight petals.

Paph. Chonsuke Atsugi

(Conco-bellatulum x rothschildianum)

Conco-bellatulum is a primary hybrid between *Paph. concolor* x *Paph. bellatulum*. This is very similar to the Mark Hasegawa mentioned earlier, but the flowers tend to have more red colour due to the influence of *bellatulum*. It can have four flowers or more on a stem.

Paph. Hiro Luna x rothschildianum

Hiro Luna is a Brachypetalum hybrid.

Paph. Rolfei

 $(bellatulum \ x \ rothschildianum)$

This is a classic hybrid. In the old days, it was difficult to grow and bloom, sometimes taking 10 years to produce flowers. However, with new generations of *bellatulum* and *rothschildianum*, they are "far from the jungle" and they can now bloom this hybrid in 4-5 years from flask.

Paph. Weltz Ballad 'Pine Ridge' HCC 78 pts.

(bellatulum x adductum)

You can see the colouration of the *bellatulum* in the background, and the *adductum* gives a very dark dorsal.

Paph. Chou-Yi Anigode

(godefroyae x anitum)

This is a small plant with a relatively large flower. With *anitum* hybrids, the plant is downsized a lot, but the flower size stays about the same.

Paph. Hsinying Lake x anitum

Hsinying Lake is a Brachypetalum type. The plant shown in the slide was in a 2-1/4" pot but the flowers were 4-5" across.

Paph. anitum x (Mem. Richard Steele x S. Gratrix)

This is anitum crossed with a complex Brachy containing bellatulum and godefroyae var. leucochilum.



Paphiopedilum Rolfei

Photo:

http://hybridorchid.la.coocan.jp/ Paphiopedilum/Paphiopedilum/20Rolfei/ Paphiopedilum/20Rolfei.htm

Multifloral Paphiopedilum Culture:

The five essentials of orchid culture are:

- Light/Shade
- Water/Watering
- · Fertilizer/Feeding
- Temperature/Humidity
- · Potting Mix/Potting

To determine the best growing conditions for orchids, always go back to where they originally came from. With the exceptions of *Paph. parishii* and *Paph. dianthum*, all the multiflorals can be found in the area of Borneo up to the Philippines. These have a tropical climate. Every day they have rain and sun and, most importantly, very good air movement. Most of them grow on limestone hills or cliffs, so they need a lot of limestone.

Paph. parishii and Paph. dianthum grow farther north in Thailand, Burma, and southwest China, where it is cooler. They prefer more shade and have been known to grow on tree trunks, so they don't need so much limestone.

Light/Shade

Light

Artificial

- LCD Grow Full Spectrum Light (400-800 fc)
- LED Grow Full Spectrum Light (1200w/155w)
- Fluorescent (400-500 fc)
- Metal Halide (400-700 fc)
- High Pressure Sodium (400-1000 fc)

Most people nowadays use LCD or LED lights.

Natural Light

600-1200 fc - the amount of natural light required depends on the species or hybrid you are growing.

- Window east/west exposures are best.
- Greenhouse requires shading. Sam uses shade cloth.

Winter: 30-40% shading Summer: 60-80% shading

Water/Watering

Water Quality

- Rain water one of the best sources. You can also use snow water, but let it reach room temperature before using it.
- Tap water if your tap water is good, you can use it. Some has high chlorine level, so let it sit for a day or two before using it to water you plants.
- Distilled water very expensive and does not contain any micronutrient minerals
- Reverse Osmosis (RO) water they use well water but it contains up to 600 ppm minerals, so they use RO water to purify it. This reduces the minerals down to less than 10 ppm, which is too low. To compensate, before watering, they mix it with about 15% well water, to bring the minerals up to 75-90 ppm.

Watering

This depends on where and how you grow your plants. Judge the need for watering by the weight of the pot.

- Every 3-7 days they water every 2-4 days in summer, but every 7 or 8 or even 10 days in winter.
- Morning/beginning of the light cycle. For Paphs, always water in the morning or, if you are growing under lights, water when the lights first turn on.
- Moist but not soggy; don't let it sit in the water.
- You have to give them a lot of air movement. In their natural habitat they grow on the side of a hill where there is always air movement.

Fertilizer/Feeding

Fertilizer

In the past, people used three different types of fertilizer:

- High Nitrogen: 30-10-10 or similar (spring/summer)
- Balanced: 20-20-20 or similar (fall/winter)
- Bloom: 10-50-10 or similar (flowering)

Sam doesn't think the type of fertilizer made much difference for growing orchids in the home. About 15 years ago, they started using MSU (Michigan State University) fertilizers. The first one they used was

• MSU 13-3-15 with 8% Cal + 2% Mag for RO water

The calcium and magnesium are very important for growing Paphs.

Then, about 7 or 8 years ago, MSU came out with a new fertilizer, and this is what they've been using ever since:

• MSU K-lite 13-1-1 with 1-% Cal + 4% Mag

They found that plants bloomed better with this formulation. For example, plants that had produced four flowers with the old MSU fertilizer were now producing five flowers.

Feeding

- Weekly/weakly
- Use 1/3 or less recommended strength

· Water first, then feed.

Temperature/Humidity

Temperature

- Ideal range: 60-85F (16-29C) for Paph species and their primary hybrids
- Low limitation: 50F (10C)
- High limitation: 95F (35C) only for a short period of time. Make sure the humidity is high if it is a hot day. Mist or water in the morning if you know it's going to be a hot day.
- Prefer 10F (6C) day/night temperature differential; necessary to set the buds in the fall.

Humidity

- Range: 50-70%
- Gravel tray can be used to increase humidity in the home.
- Humidifier/fogger can be used to increase humidity if you have an enclosed area.
- Air movement is important 24/7.

Potting Mix/Potting

Potting Mix

They use:

- 4 parts fine/medium/large bark (Orchiata/Kiwi) wet the bark overnight before using.
- 1 part sponge rock (coarse size Perlite)
- 1/2 part charcoal (#3) they don't use this anymore because it has become too expensive. It is used to remove toxins from the mix but Sam says that if you water well, you can probably eliminate it.
- 1/4 cup dolomite lime per 20 gal of mix

They used to use Orchiata, but now they use Kiwi. The difference is that Orchiata is composted while Kiwi bark is not.

They have found that after about a year, the pH of Orchiata drops. This can be remedied by adding more lime or top dressing with oyster shell or lime. Both barks will last 2-3 years.

Potting

- Repot: 12-36 months, whenever needed, depends on size of plant and pot size. They repot seedlings in small pots every 12-15 months; plants in medium or large pots can go for 3-4 years before needing to be repotted.
- Never overpot; most Paphs grow between the rock, so their roots are quite confined.

Sam showed a picture of the mix that they use. The mixture of fine, medium, or large bark is based on pot size. He also showed photos of their reverse osmosis and water filtration system and of their lab, followed by a series of photos showing the process of growing the seedlings from deflasking to blooming size.

There are two ways to deflask. You can deflask with the whole flask tied together, let the seedlings grow like that for a few months, and then separate them and put them in trays. Or, if they are easy to separate, you can go ahead and separate them when they come out of the flask and then put them in trays.

At Orchid Inn, they put the seedlings into trays of potting mix, about 4 or 5 flasks per tray (about 100-120 seedlings). When the seedlings get larger, after 9 months or so, they pot them individually, or if some of the seedlings are smaller, they put them into a community pot.

When the seedlings are first deflasked, they put them into a room with brighter light and extended hours of light, turning the lights on earlier in the morning and turning them off later at night. They set the temperature higher, too, so the seedlings grow much faster. In their greenhouse they use natural light in the daytime, and LED lights early in the morning and late in the evening.

When the plants reach a certain size, they move them to the regular greenhouse. The photo of the greenhouse showed pots of more mature multifloral plants hanging near the top of the greenhouse. In nature, the multiflorals grow on the sides of hills or cliffs where they get more air movement and light, so this is an easy way to meet the different requirements of different plants in the same greenhouse. They also have *Cattleya* plants hanging near the top of the greenhouse.

Their greenhouse has large fans circulating the air; these fans run all the time, providing the air movement that the plants need.

Sam showed more photos of their greenhouses, including one with a bench full of *Paph. rothschildianum*. Presently they have more than a thousand blooming size *rothschildianums*.

Sam then showed photos of the early days, about 30 years ago before they purchased a commercial property, when he grew the orchids under lights in the basement of his house. There is nothing wrong with that, he says: when you grow under lights, you can control everything. When the plants needed humidity, they turned on the fogger. They had plants set out on benches, but they also had more plants growing under lights beneath the benches, doubling their growing space.

Sam then took questions from the meeting participants.

- **Q.** You mentioned a delay in shipping due to the wait for CITES. Is it still possible for someone to place an order?
- A. Yes. I haven't received any orders from the societies yet. As soon as I receive my CITES export permit, I'll send out an email to the societies with new plants lists, with a deadline two weeks after the email. However, if I don't get the permit for another month, it will be too late to ship this year, and the order would have to wait until spring. If that becomes necessary, I would make the same offer at that time.
- Q. You were talking about changes in the way plants are growing because of hybridization. Is there anything you have found that we should be doing to get the best growth in our homes? One thing you mentioned was air circulation,
- A. When growing Paphs successfully, the main thing is how you water. One of the biggest problems is crown rot. Watering at night is a no-no. If water sits in the crown area, you will probably get crown rot and the plant will likely not survive. The second thing is air circulation. If you water in the morning, and you have good air circulation, then you won't have to worry about any rotting. Another thing is the light multiflorals need a little more light. If you are growing species, Google them to find out about their natural habitat and temperature requirements. I do not recommend searching for the culture of a particular species. Everyone has their own way of doing things and they only tell you how they grow the plants, but you don't know what kind of conditions

they have. It is better to directly Google the natural habitat and use that information. Or send Sam an email and ask him.

- **Q.** I have had some problems with crown rot. We are so limited in what we can use not that I am reduced to using hydrogen peroxide solution or sprinkling it with sulfur. Do you have any suggestions?
- A. You can also dust with cinnamon powder, but it's better to protect your plant before it happens. If you have water in the crown and not enough air circulation to remove it, you can use paper towel or tissue to remove the water between the leaves in the crown area. Maybe put a portable fan in the area for a few hours or half a day to evaporate the water. Outside, if it rains, even if it's during the night, there is still good air circulation. But indoors, the circulation is not as good, so make sure you use a fan.
- **Q.** I have found that after 2 or 3 years in Orchiata, some plants have significant root rot, perhaps due to the drop in pH. You use limestone to counteract that. How often do you put limestone on the mix?
- **A.** If you are using Orchiata, it comes with lime in it, but after 9 months or a year, put some lime powder on top to immediately lower the pH. Then put some oyster shell or limestone on top so that every time you water, it will increase the pH. Do this every 9 months to a year. After 3 years, it is time to repot.
- Q. What about Rexius bark?
- A. Rexius bark is no longer available since the plant burned a few years ago. they rebuilt but the bark was not as good quality and people started looking for other alternatives such as Orchiata, which was just starting to come in at the time. Some people have tried using coconut husk instead, but it is a nightmare. It has to be rinsed several times before you use it to remove soft content, and if it ever dries out, it has to be soaked again for several hours to rewet it.
- **Q.** What are the winters like in your area? How do you manage the climate there?
- **A.** We are in Zone 5 or Zone 6. We have snow as early as the end of November and as late as late April. We can have -10F (-23C) in January. We grow in a greenhouse, so heating is expensive. In winter, we keep the temperature in the greenhouse at a minimum of 55F (13C), and up to 72F (22C). With the sun in the daytime, the temperature of the greenhouse can go up to 80F (27C).
- Q. Do you ever top dress with magnesium?
- A. No, it has to be liquid form. Calcium to magnesium has to be in a 3:1 ration. If you use more magnesium than that, it won't work. Maybe you could water with just magnesium, but I've never tried that. However, every 3 months we water with an Epsom salts solution, which contains magnesium, and this really greens up the plants. We use about 150 ppm, which would work out to about 1 teaspoon in a litre of water. The first time you can water with this solution on 2 successive weeks, and after that, once every 8-10 weeks for maintenance. Your will see the plants green up within 2-3 weeks. It's a cheap way to grow your plants better.
- **Q.** If you have a mix of different species, e.g., *Phalaenopsis*, *Cattleya*, *Dendrobium*, will the mix harm other species?
- **A**. You are not going to use any fertilizer excessively. In general, if you only use a very light amount, you can use it on everything. *Phalaenopsis* and *Cattleya* are big feeders, but *Paphiopedilum* are not. Too much fertilizer will burn their leaf tips.

In the house environment, you can fertilize Phals and Catts more often and periodically skip a round of fertilizer for the Paphs. You need to research your species and find out their fertilizer and other requirements. In general, Paphs don't need much fertilizer.

If people have further questions, Sam encouraged them to email him. His email address can be found on the Orchid Inn website.

Bob thanked Sam for his informative and interesting presentation.

SOS Meeting Agenda:

Announcements:

- 2022 Calendar Fundraiser: Sara Thue has created another beautiful calendar. As last year, they will cost \$15 each, and can be ordered at orders@saskorchids.com There is no limit to the number you can order. They will be available for pickup at Don Keith's house on November 27.
- Executive Elections: the Election Runner app will be used for voting. All members will receive an email with voting id and voter key and instructions for voting. Voting runs from 5:00 a.m. October 25 until 11:00 p.m. November 20. All members are encouraged to participate.
- Heather reported that the speaker for November will be Alan Koch of Gold Country Orchids. No topic has been announced yet. The meeting will be on Sunday, November 28. We will probably be joined by both the Edmonton and Winnipeg societies.
- Heather also reported that there will be no orchid orders in the foreseeable future.

Problem Corner:

No one raised any problems.

Show and Tell

Jenn Burgess showed

- Brassavola Little Stars that she got from the OSPF (Orchid Species Preservation Foundation) about 10 years ago. It blooms every couple of years. It has a lovely clove scent.
- Blc. Mystic Isles that just opened the day before.
- Paph. fairrieanum that she got as a seedling from Terry at Forestview Gardens. It has taken ten years to grow to this size and will open next week

Calvin Lo showed a *Holcoglossum lingulatum*. It is a great miniature, really cute. This is its first blooming.

General:

Members were urged to check out the website (saskorchids.com) and the newsletter.

Memberships are now due.

Adjournment: 3:21 p.m.



Paphiopedilum Mrs. Reginald Young

(sanderianum 'Dr. John Doherty' AM/AOS x lowiii var. album 'Goldrush')

Photo: orchidinnusa.com

Paphiopedilum stonei 'The Best' x Johanna Burkhart 'Strokes of Midnight FCC/AOS

 $Photo: \underline{orchidinnusa.com}\\$



ORCHID MARKET

Plant Products from Sherida Gregoire's Greenhouse

If you are interested, please email Bob Lucas at robert.lucas@usask.ca

Products are offered on a first-come, first-served basis.

- One Sunblaster 24" T5 HO bulb and ballast, new in the box @ \$25.00.
- Greenearth concentrate horticultural oil, 500ml, new & unopened, 2 @ \$5.00 each.

Don Keith will provide orchid supplies to SOS members, orders to be placed by 8:00 pm Saturday, Nov 27, 2021. Orders will be ready for pick up after 10:00 a.m. Sunday, Nov 28, 2021. Please pay with exact cash, by cheque made out to the SOS, or pay Don by e-transfer. Email Don at donkeith@sasktel.net



PRICE

\$6 - \$32.00

10 for \$1.00

\$1.00 \$1.25

\$0.50

\$0.50

\$0.75

\$1.25

\$1.50

\$1.25

\$1.25

\$1.50

\$1.75

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	PRICE	ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Fir Bark	3L bag fine or medium (please specify)	\$6.00	Cork slabs	Various shapes, sizes (see photo above)
Orchiata Pine Bark	3L bag fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$6.00	Inflorescence clips	Small, brown or green
Orchiata Pine Bark	40L bag, fine, medium or med-coarse (specify)	\$52.00	Rhyzome clips	Small Med/Large
Perlite	4L bag medium/coarse	\$4.00	Clear Pots	2 1/4 x 2 1/4 square
GrowStones	3L bag, 1/4 - 3/8" or 1/2 - 3/4"	\$6.00		2 1/2 x 2 1/2 round
				2 3/4 x 2 3/4 round
Sphagnum moss, N.Z.	8L compacted 12L compressed	\$12.00 N/A		4 x 4
Grodan Grow	3L bag, 0.4" cubes	\$5.00		4 1/2 x 4 1/2 slotted
Cubes	7L bag 0.4" cubes	\$10.00	Net Pots	3"
MSU fertilizer	1 cup 13-3-15 for tap or RO water	\$5.00		3.5"
Oyster shells	1 cup bag	\$0.25		5"
Marphyl Soil Enhancer	500 ml bottle	\$11.00		6"

PLANTS FOR SALE by SOS MEMBERS

For Sale by Pat Randall pat.randall@sasktel.net





Cattleya percivaliana 'Summit' FCC/AOS

This is a division of my plant that I divided this past summer. This plant has developed a number of good long roots and 2 new growths. It has potential to bloom next winter. It is in a 6" pot with medium bark. It is the highest AOS awarded clone of this species to date, with a 90 point FCC/AOS and several other awards since then. So it is a sought-after plant. It typically blooms in December or early January. The bloom photo is from my plant last winter.

Asking \$18.00





Rhyncholaeliocattleya Betty Hamilton x Cattleya percivaliana

A division taken from my mother plant recently. It has good roots and a cluster of new roots on the latest mature growth which also has a large sheath. It is potted into medium bark in a 5" pot.

This plant is a cross made by Don Hawker of Maldawn Orchids in Edmonton. It blooms faithfully every January or February with numerous blooms. (As in the second photo.)

Asking \$14.00

For Sale by David Schwinghamer dms-2019@protonmail.com

Paphiopedilum Mottled Leaf NOID

(Ching Hua) \$7.00

Paphiopedilum Mottled Leaf Alba NOID

(Ching Hua) \$7.00





Cymbidium Red Nelly 'Devil' (Ecuagenera) Six-growth plant, enormous leaves. \$30.00

SHOW AND TELL

Grown by Julia Koop

Oncidium Twinkle

I purchased my first selection of non-Phalaenopsis orchids with one of the orchid society's orders earlier this year. This beauty arrived without a spike. I didn't know what to expect or how to care for it, but it is doing really well. The flowers opened two days ago! I am so excited!



Grown by Pat Randall



Brassocatanthe Little Mermaid 'Janet' AM/AOS

I have had this plant from Ching Hua since 2013. It has bloomed every year and sometimes twice a year. It is very fragrant and becomes even more so at night. I grow it under lights and have it potted in medium bark. It has 4 spikes with 4 - 6 blooms on each one.



Laeliocattleya Ballet Folklorico 'Eloquence'

This was acquired from Ching Hua in 2016. It is 50% L. speciosa, which is known to be rather hardy in cool temperatures. This has 2 blooms but one is at the back of a rather large plant. Blooms are 6-1/2" wide. They are quite long lasting. As usual, grown under lights in medium bark.



Rhyncholaeliocattleya Hsinying Rouge 'CH #6'

Another one from Ching Hua in 2015. It blooms every year and often twice a year. Unfortunately, the blooms don't last much more than a week or 10 days but what they lack in longevity they make up for in gorgeous rich colours and a heavenly scent. I grow it under lights in medium bark.



Rhyncattleanthe Fu Shu Glory 'Happy Holiday'

I had this shipped bare root from Calvin Wong of Tropical Gardens Orchids in 2017. It was a small seedling at the time. I ordered it because the colouration on the petals intrigued me. This is a first bloom and I was rather surprised to see solid yellow petals on both blooms. But within a week or so the colour began fading to white, leaving the yellow flare through the centre of each petal. One petal on the left bloom is still mostly yellow. This too is grown under lights in medium bark.

Grown by Heather Anderson

These 3 orchids are grown in an orchidarium with 25-26C day/19-23C night. There is more variation in the temperatures during the colder months. They are misted once a day and the humidity is in the high 90s.



Oncidium eurycline



Coelogyne fimbriata



Sophronitis cernua 'H&R'



Cattlianthe Tristar Bouquet

This is a large, mature plant that is grown under lights after spending the summer in an outdoor greenhouse. It has 4 bloom stems with 5-11 blooms on each stem for a total of 31 blooms. It gets more fragrant as the day goes on. Photos by Pat Randall.





Phragmipedium Darlene Thompson

(Spot On x *Phrag. klotzschianum*) This was purchased from Paph Paradise in September. It was in bud when it arrived and bloomed in late October. It has been grown in an east window, sitting in a saucer of water.



Phragmipedium Magdelene Rose

Grown ion the basement greenhouse under lights and once in spike it is placed in an east window in a saucer of water.



Phragmipedium Barbara LeAnn

Purchased from Tropical
Gardens in October. It
bloomed a month later. It has
been grown in an east window
in a saucer of water.

Grown by Tracey Thue | Photos by Sara Thue



Isabelia virginalis



One of my favourite miniatures, this Brazilian species is mounted on a piece of cork and enjoys summering outside in bright light. It flowers in October after returning to the living room plant stand. Watered sparingly in winter, and generously during the summer. Purchased from J&L Orchids in 2018.



Paphiopedilum henryanum

('Bear' SM/TPS x 'Bear-6')

What a darling little Paphiopedilum! Henry lives on my east-facing dining room windowsill potted in fine Orchiata and is watered generously in summer, but has a drier winter; it blooms willingly every fall. The plant was purchased from Ten Shin Gardens when they attended the Orchid Society of Alberta Show in 2013.

Cattleya jenmanii f. rubra (HR Red Lib x HR Grand Ruby)

This Venezuelan species is happy on my plant stand in a south-facing window in winter, and outside in bright light in summer with lots of water and fertilizer. I purchased this plant as a seedling in 2017 from the OSPF and the fragrant flowers are a delight.



Miltoniopsis Sunglow 'Amazing'

Wow, amazing is right! The fragrance from these flowers when warmed by the morning sun fills the living room with the scent of sweet honey! Purchased from Forestview Orchids when Terry Groszeibl visited us in January 2020.

Paphiopedilum Vixen x Thundercat

Hadley Cash from Marriott Orchids visited us in 2018. He gifted this seedling plant to me when his credit card machine didn't work and I had to run across the street to a bank to get some cash to pay for my pre-ordered plants! This is the plant's first flower and I adore the intense color and shine of the pouch and brush strokes of burgundy on the dorsal petal. The shape of the dorsal isn't great, but I'm ok with that! Maybe next flowering it will be flatter.



Phragmipedium longifolium

('Red Ropes' x 'Swallow')

I purchased this plant in 2018 from Cheryl A., who had acquired it from FOS member Charlotte Cummings' collection after her death.

This species is native to Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, growing in partial sun along rivers and coastal areas where its roots are constantly wet.

This plant is in a fine bark mix in a clear plastic pot, sitting in rainwater. It gets flushed with fresh rainwater every week.



Phragmipedium Taras

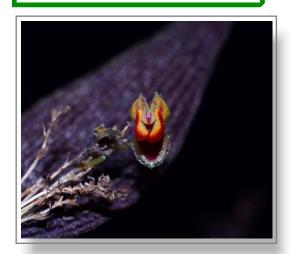
(Phrag. boisserianum x Phrag. ecuadorense)

From Bob L. in 2013, this lovely primary hybrid flowers willingly any time of year. It's a small, grassy Phrag that fits easily under lights. Parent species are native to Ecuador and Peru, growing in high light in or along rivers where roots are constantly wet.

Flowering is sequential, so there's usually only one open at a time, but they can produce flowers for many months. The flowers are beautiful, with spots and stripes of green, pink, and white.



Grown by Sara Thue



Lepanthes zamorensis



Lepanthes uxoria

Both plants were purchased from Ecuagenera in 2019. They grow in my cool-intermediate tank where they get high humidity and lots of air movement from small computer fans. *Lepanthes uxoria* is mounted on a small piece of cork with sphagnum at the roots, and has been in constant bloom. *Lepanthes zamorensis* is potted in a 1" plastic slotted pot in chopped sphagnum moss with a bit of perlite and charcoal.

Grown by Candice Jackel-Cram



Lepanthes telipogoniflora From Ecuagenera, summer 2021.



*Masdevallia nidifica*From Ecuagenera, spring 2021.

Grown by Karen Fetcher





These two orchids were given to me. I am told they are Phalaenopsis. I've never had orchids before. I was/am scrambling to find information on them. I received both in April, 2021. The first plant started blooming October 30, 2021. The second was finished blooming June 8, 2021 and is blooming again now, November 12, 2021. I have so many questions, I don't know where to begin. Where on the internet can I find accurate information? *Editor's note: I highly recommend the COC website and the AOS website!*

Grown by Donna Carlson-O'Keefe





Paphiopedilum Aladdin

These pictures were taken about 2 weeks apart. I have limited space for plants on my main floor so I grow it under T5 lights in my basement and bring it upstairs when it blooms. I had pretty much given up growing Paphs in my present condo because it seemed I could never get them to bloom. And then, lo and behold! After nearly five years it produced this beautiful flower, and then another one. The first one is about 6" across, the second somewhat smaller. I originally got it from Bob Lucas. If we had had in-person meetings last year, I probably would have sold it. I'm glad I didn't.



Grown by Mary Orchard

Paphiopedilum spicerianum

From Huronview in 2001. I have divided this several times. This is the first time the plant has had 2 two blooms on one spike. Information says this is a rarity.

Grown by Jennifer Burgess



Paphiopedilum fairrieanum

This species came from Forestview Gardens as a seedling about 10 years ago. It has finally bloomed. Yay! It has not dried out as much this year, kept moist with more consistent watering and grown under T5 lights.



Cattlianthe Hawaiian Blue Sky

This was given to me by member Laurel D. five years ago. It has a beautiful fragrance. Grown on a windowsill. This is its first bloom, and my new favourite plant.



Brassolaeliocattleya Carolina Orange D'or 'Lenette' x Blc. Love Sound 'Dogashima' AM/AOS

Grown on a southeast windowsill. Acquired from Sunset Valley Orchids when Fred Clarke came a few years ago.

Grown by David Schwinghamer

Cattleya portia

My favourite Cattleya. Purchased from Heather Anderson. Grown in a south facing window behind a sheer curtain. Rotating seems to keep the new growths straight.



Grown by Lynn Campbell

Paphiopedilum King Arthur

One of my very first plants. Grown on the east windowsill. Blooms faithfully.

Oncidium Twinkle

Once again this miniature outdid itself. Grown on an east windowsill. It has a musky odour, not all that pleasant. I think I got it from Calvin in BC when he donated or brought plants to a presentation. I've had it quite a few years. An easy one to grow.



Grown by Bob Lucas



Phalaenopsis Rocket Man 'Sir Elton'

When I made the cross of (Cool Cat x Ching Ruey's Blood-Red Sun) in 2016, I knew immediately what the registered name would be. This is the 11th I have bloomed and the best one to date, hence the clonal name, Sir Elton.



Phragmipedium Seymour Tower x kovachiii

I bought this seedling from Orchid Inn in the summer of 2020. It is a small plant, but the natural spread of the flower is 8.4 cm. It will only get bigger!



Phalaenopsis Leucadia Farewell '#1'

I bought a flask of this cross of (Bright Star x Ching Her Buddha) from Ralph Smith of Leucadia Orchids in 2004. When he passed away before registering it, I did the honours. It has proven to be a great breeder of red Phalaenopsis and so, each time it blooms, I put it to work. This is a clone of the original that succumbed to my enthusiasm.



Paphiopedilum Vanda M. Pearlman

A primary hybrid of *denalatii* x *bellatulum*. Originally made in the 1890s. A large flower for its genus, with a natural spread of 9.5 cm.

THE ROOT TIP



Calypso bulbosa
Jasper National Park

Oh, Calypso, beautiful nymph, hidden in your feather bed; you burst up in spring when the rains come in time for bumblebees to stumble into your scent.

Poor, deluded workers, believing you've found paradise in a shining purple cup. How long do you stay before you learn the truth:

She's a deceiver of souls, promising immortality with empty bowls.

Photograph and Poem by Tobi Fenton