

## Letter from OSGKC President:

### Dan Schlozman

A lot has gone on this month, including two public relations events and the Omaha show. Next month, of course, consists of visiting three growing spaces. A meeting will be held at the last place, but I do not anticipate any major issues. ( We will defer the 2 minute point and discussion as well as the book report until May.)

Happy Growing.

### Dan

#### Budget Committee Report: Cindy Hobbs

We will be working on a budget to present at the May meeting.

that an amendment be supported by a two-thirds majority vote of the members. Voting on a change must occur at the meeting following the one at which it was discussed, in this case, at the April meeting.

**Old Business:** The newly-purchased books for the library were available at the meeting to be checked out, and reviewed by individual members at the monthly meetings. John Mallery said he is looking for additional volunteers to manage a display table at Family Tree Nursery on March 18.

#### Committee Reports:

**Beginner's Program:** The Beginners' group, chaired by Fred Bergman, met to examine and discuss potting mixes.

**Program:** This month's program was "Growing Pleurothallids in Kansas," by Bryon Rinke and Max Thompson from Winfield, KS. Mr. Rinke and Mr. Thompson also brought plants to sell.

**Yearbook:** Lance Jessee is almost ready to publish the new yearbook. If you have address changes, please contact him.

**Membership:** John Mallery announced new members: Stella Ann and James Gordener, Janet Brubaker, and Sandy Halsey.

**Shows and Exhibits:** Beth Martin said we will be exhibiting at the Mid-American Regional Orchid Congress in Omaha, March 25-26 with a 50-square-foot booth. Help is needed to set-up on Friday, March 24, and to tear-down on Sunday, March 26. Members are also asked to provide blooming plants (max.:3 plants per member). A total of 40 to 50 plants is needed.

**Mid-America:** Vivien Walters urged members to attend the Mid-America Show in Omaha. Vivian will have a display of collectibles. She also noted the deaths of St. Louis AOS judge Peggy Nagle, and Charlie Plaxico, an honorary member of OSGKC.

**Publicity:** Dan Schlozman reported in the absence of Jason Ward, publicity chairman, that more volunteers are needed to help with the potting clinic at Powell Gardens on March 25 and 26.

**Mini-Auction:** Monica McNamara said the annual auction to raise funds for the Society will be held at the June meeting. All proceeds will go to OSGKC. At the Fall auction, which will probably be held in October, 75% of the proceeds will go to the grower, and 25% to the Society.

**Raffle:** This month's raffle plants were from Vivian Walters.

**Hospitality:** Mike Wheeler said that he had lost the sign-up sheet for refreshments, and asked that members sign up again.

**Conservation:** Doug Martin is working to get a speaker on native orchids for the May meeting.

**Newsletter:** If you aren't receiving the monthly newsletter, contact Jami Parkison.

**AOS Representative:** The Society received a letter from the AOS, thanking OSGKC for the \$500 donation.

**Point and Comment:** Harold Basye talked about the importance of not crowding plants. Plants will grow together, and you can break flowers, leaves and/or roots trying to move the plants.

**Book Reviews:** Cindy Hobbs reviewed *Wild Orchids Across North America*, available in the club library. This book brings two things together: travel and orchids.

**Plant of the Month:** Epidendrum stamfordianum grown by Mark and Joy Prout. Congratulations!

## A Look Behind: OSGKC Meeting - February Minutes

A Severe Storm Warning delayed the start of the regular meeting when members sought shelter in the community center's basement. After a fifteen-minute delay, Dan Schlozman, President, called the meeting to order. A discussion followed about methods of handling plant judging at the monthly meetings. Comments included: limit the number of plants each member can enter; have people talk about their plants; explain the judging process; explain what deficiencies a plant may have from a judge's point of view; encourage people to become judges; simplify the process, at least for now and make it easier for all to understand. The February 2006 minutes were approved. Paul Kreutzer, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$13,457.88, not including show funds. The treasurer's report was approved. Paul announced that annual membership dues should be paid now. Mark Prout announced that the growers' tour will be held April 2, in place of our regular monthly meeting. The tour will include the homes of David Sosland, Lance Jessee and Jami Parkison, all in the south-of-Plaza area. The annual open house of Tom Larkin's Whippoorwill Orchids in Rogers, Arkansas has been rescheduled to April 23.

**New Business:** Doug Martin proposed that the constitution of the Society be amended to add the Budget Committee Chairperson to the Board of Directors. Discussion followed favoring the change. The By-Laws require



## Member Profile: Deb Pate -- Q and A

### Q. Give basic background about your orchid collection:

A. Unsuspecting, I walked into a Target in Lawrence in January, 2003. There it was directly ahead of me: phal "red with a white lip" (of course). I was hopelessly smitten. I began haunting the aisles of local supermarkets. I got to know the clerks. I called them. They called me. By late May, I had a mixed group of 20 or 30 plants and an orchid library of 8-10 books (2 of them useful).

### Q. How many orchids are in your collection?:

A. About 6 months ago, I was up to 150 or so. I've discovered that I'm comfortable with the level of care I can give around 100 and have weeded, traded, auctioned, or given away the others.

### Q. What is the predominant type(s) of orchid you raise?:

A. I love what I can grow and sometimes bloom (don't we all): paphs, mini catts, phrags, a few warmish pleurothallids (especially masdevallias), small dendrobiums, tiny mounted lovelies, and a variety of species.

### Q. Give a brief description of their growing environment:

A. We have a large atrium door opening onto a south-facing deck, an interior wall in the living room with 2 tiers of six 4 foot, 40 watt Ultralume fluorescents, and a cool bedroom. (The pleurothallids are in the living room, however.) I enjoy living with my plants and thus limit myself (finally) to things that please me, even when out of bloom. I also love displaying plants in the pots I make at Susie Hanna

and Al Clinton's house. Pots and plants are a match made in heaven.



### Q. Name one to three in your collection which is/are a particular favorite(s) and why:

A. I love so many plants but these little beauties come first to mind: ceratostylis phillippinensis, sophronitis cernus, and paph. niveum. The first has tiny white blooms but, really, it's the form of the plant that is such a source of pleasure. I can thank Andy's Orchids for the first two acquisitions: healthy, well-formed and well-mounted plants.

### Q. Name one to three in your collection that, despite your best efforts, has/have proven particularly difficult to grow:

A. I've had to be ruthless with a few plants, not necessarily because of the plants themselves but because I let plants get too crowded without quarantining new plants from suspect sources. Some phals had bacterial issues, and I lost several. Consan 20 and Phytan 27 seem to have helped,

and the newer plants seem ok. So far I like the Dyna-Gro ProteKt I got from Fred Bergman; I think this will help strengthen potentially vulnerable plants. Thin-leaved oncidium types are prone to leaf spotting in my care. I avoid them at the moment.

### Q. Share with readers your best orchid culture tip(s):

A. Keep the humidity up when you've repotted, especially if you've discovered few roots. A loose baggie with a few little air holes cut out will help, while the plant rights itself. I love customizing my mix: bark, inert pellets, maybe some coconut husk for moisture-retention, etc. Change the density of a mix gradually; don't make sudden changes from near-sludge to a loose bark mix. Maybe near-sludge to a fine bark mix or sphagnum. Also, I love translucent pots for getting light to the roots and so that I can monitor root development.

### Q. What do you do in life to support your orchid addiction?:

A. I retired about 5 years ago. For the previous 25 years I taught, was in sales, then taught and was in sales again. Finally, stress nearly flattened me; orchids helped pick me up. And having an understanding and loving spouse doesn't hurt.

Jennifer Byrne and Lance Jessee will provide refreshments for April's meeting



### Show and Event dates:

April 23, 2006  
Whippoorwill Orchids  
9th Annual Orchidfest [Sale]  
Rogers, AR

### Looking for information about orchids?

*Susie Hanna shares a favorite orchid resource:*

**Website:** <http://perso.wanadoo.fr/bernard.lagrelle/AA%20anglais/traduction%20anglais.htm>  
Susie says this is a great site for information on species phalaenopsis.

## Mid-America Regional Orchid Conference ~ Report



Team OSGKC has done it again and brought back another *American Orchid Society Show Trophy*. Next month's newsletter will have a full report.



### WHAT'S IN AN ORCHID NAME?

#### Part III

by Beth Martin

The final part of the series will cover the names of natural orchid hybrids. Some orchid species hybridize in the wild. The written names of these plants always include an *x* to identify them as natural hybrids:

Genus name Collective epithet  
*Cypripedium x andrewsii* = *Cyp. calceolus* x *Cyp. candidum*

For naturally-occurring intergeneric hybrids, the *x* appears before the hybrid-generic name:

Hybrid-generic name Collective epithet  
*x Laeliocattleya leana* = *Laelia pumila* x *Cattleya loddigesii*

Awards given to an individual plant, such as AOS awards, become a part of the cultivar name:

Hybrid-generic name Grege epithet Cultivar epithet  
*Brassocattleya Maikai 'Mayumi'* HCC/AOS

With some knowledge of the basic rules and a few words of Latin, orchidists access a surprising amount of information just by learning an orchid's name. They receive clues about its color, shape, size, geographic origin, and the people associated with it. The name might even offer hints for growing and flowering the orchid. The more the orchidist knows about an orchid, the better he or she can grow it. Learn a little botanical Latin and use that information to grow better orchids!

#### Updating Email Addresses

These email addresses are not active. Can you help identify members and update these email addresses? Contact Jami Parkison [parkisonja@everestkc.net] with corrections:  
haeberle@bronline.com  
Quill@planetkc.com  
aeason1@mindspring.com  
jkollman@kumc.edu  
Carol@computerservices.com  
dbird@cysource.com

Paphs and phrags...con't from pg. 1

multiple-flowered. The sequential bloomers produce a succession of flowers for a period of 3-11 months. One of my phrag hybrids bloomed for 15 months. Individual blooms last 2-3 weeks and usually fall from the stem in relatively good condition. I have often briefly considered super-glueing the bloom back on the stem, but have refrained as usually another bud is near to blooming behind it.

Phrags require different light, temperature and watering conditions than paphs. Those differences will be covered in Part II of this article.

To be continued.

#### Support OSGKC Sponsors:

Bergman Orchid Farm  
Bird's Botanicals  
Orchids by ViCli  
Oak Hill Gardens  
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Windy Hill Gardens  
Whippoorwill Orchids

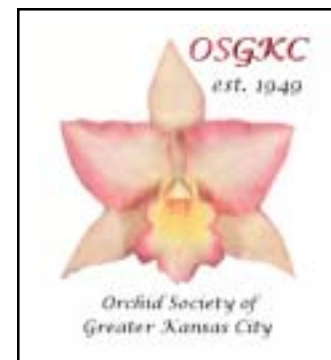
#### OSGKC April 2nd Program

Directions to homes will be emailed. All three homes on the tour can be accessed easily via State Line Road:

1. **Sosland** home: 2019 W 49th St Westwood Hills, KS.
2. **Jessee** home, 9 E 56th St Kansas City, MO.
3. **Parkison** home: 7337 Terrace. [Terrace is between Ward Parkway and State Line Road.]

#### Plants and Hobby-Greenhouse for Sale

Terry and Patty Robertson, who are moving in May, are selling several plants and a greenhouse. The house is a 6 X 8 double-wall polycarbonate with a sliding door and roof vent. Retail is \$400; sale price is \$225. Contact Patty for more information:  
eaglesfan76@yahoo.com  
or 913/681-1643.



# OSGKC News

ORCHID SOCIETY OF GREATER KANSAS CITY www.osgkc.org April 2006

## Growing Paphs and Phrags ~ Part I

by Monica McNamara

**P**aphiopedilums and phragmipediums are genera of slipper orchids. Their most obvious distinguishing feature is a pouched lip that is said to resemble the toe of a slipper. The pouch is involved in a rather intricate pollination process and functions as a trap for insects. The standard slipper pattern has much variation and diversity. Sepals may be striped, have dark blotches, or splashes of pastel and/or vivid colors. The petals vary in width and length and often have undulated margins. My personal preference is elongated petals with corkscrew spiraling. Slippers can be further adorned with warts, spots, hairs, stripes and marginal frills. There have also been recent new species discoveries such as Phrag kovachii in Peru that continue to add excitement to the slipper orchids.

Paphiopedilum is the largest genus of slipper orchids with more than 75 species. They are considered the "Old World" slipper orchids, inhabiting Southeast Asia, including China, India, Indonesia, the Philippines and New Guinea. Phrags are composed of around 18 species and are the "New World" orchids found in Central and South America.



There are significant culture differences in growing paphs and phrags. Paphs do well in lower light conditions, in general 1000-1500 ft candles. An East or shaded South window is appropriate. Moderate humidity between 40-60% is adequate. For window-sill growing, a humidity tray may be helpful. There are both warm and cool growing paphs. In general, the mottled-leaf types and the strap-leaf multiflorals are intermediate to warm growers and may bloom twice a year. The green-leaf types and complex or Bulldog types prefer cool growing conditions and bloom mostly during the winter. I

water paphs 1-2 times a week and try not to let them dry out completely between waterings nor let them be too moist or soggy. As Fred Bergman mentioned at the last meeting, paphs tend to be light-feeders and most growers recommend half-strength fertilizer applications. It is important to flush the media thoroughly to leach excess fertilizer and salts to avoid burning the paph's roots. I repot annually using a fine or medium grade fir bark mix. One of the most rewarding aspects of paphs is that the blooms can last from 1-3 months.

Phrags resemble paphs in general appearance. The habit of the plant is usually larger than a paph. Phrag leaves are more erect, brighter green and more grass-like. Most phrags produce flowers sequentially upon the stem, with the exception of the *caudatum* group which are simultaneous

con't pg. 4

#### OSGKC April 2nd Program

This year's annual orchid growers' tour will include the homes of three of our members: David Sosland, Lance Jessee and Jami Parkison. See page four for the addresses of and general directions to these growers' homes. Additional information will be sent out via email a few days prior to the tour.

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#### Regular OSGKC's Monthly Meetings are held at...

Roeland Park Community Center  
4850 Rosewood  
Roeland Park, KS

Beginners' Group: 1:00 p.m.  
Regular Program: 2:00 p.m.