

Guests may choose to enjoy either filet mignon served with chimichurri sauce or grilled fresh fish. Each will be accompanied by red pepper smashed potatoes, an asparagus-zucchini bundle and glazed baby carrots. A special vanilla dessert is being created to celebrate the successful 19th World Orchid Conference®.

The 19WOC is pleased to feature the only tropical wines produced in the United States with absolutely no grapes. Schnebly Redland's Winery will be providing the banquet dinner wine, a unique blend of tropical fruit and old world sophistication. Guests will taste special wines such as mango, lychee, guava, carambola and passion fruit. Chairs Robert Fuchs and Ken Kone will be acknowledging several growers and committee members during a brief ceremony; they also promise a few surprises. But this tropical banquet is mostly about celebrating and having a great time, and, upon departure, each guest will receive a distinctive limited edition memento that will commemorate this event.

Reserve space now by purchasing your \$250 ticket on line at [www.19woc.com](http://www.19woc.com) or mailing a check made payable to 19WOC to PO Box 560937, Miami, Florida 33256-9307. For more information on the banquet or any of the exciting activities at the 19th World Orchid Conference®, visit the Web site at [www.19woc.com](http://www.19woc.com).

- Amy Simons, Executive Director,  
19WOC (e-mail: [director@19woc.com](mailto:director@19woc.com))

\*\*\*\*\*

## **PAPHIOPEDILUMS – A GOOD CHOICE FOR NOVICE AND EXPERIENCED GROWERS by Gary Hart**

Paphiopedilum species are largely found in tropical Asia. They exist in scattered populations across a wide range of terrain and seasonal climatic conditions. I have grown most of the available species and find they do best when grouped in four broad microclimates. If you can reproduce these conditions they will grow well for you with annual flowering and abundant growth.

The first grouping I grow under the same conditions are the Parvisepalum (*armeniicum*, *delenatii*, *emersonii*, *hangianum*, *malipoense*, *micranthum* and *vietnamense*) and the *Paphiopedilums barbigerum*, *charlesworthii*, *helenae*, *hirsutissimum*, *insigne*, *jairrieanum*, *spicerianum* and *villosum*. I find these paphs. both enjoy a lot of air movement and definitely flower well when given a cool/cold period during winter. I grow these paphs. in a fiberglass roofed bush house all year. Minimum winter temperatures go as low as 5°C and in summer as high as 35°C. It is my experience that the poor flowering so many growers experience with *Paph. armeniicum* and *Paph. micranthum* is largely due to mild winter temperatures. I find that if I grow these in the glasshouse they grow and survive well but rarely flower. They also seem to respond to a great variety of light conditions.



Paph. armeniicum  
'Candor Starson' HCC/AOS



Paph. bellatulum

The second group I grow in a small microenvironment are the Brachypetalum (*bellatulum*, *concolor*, *godefroyae*, *niveum*) section. They like a little winter warmth, good air movement, and most importantly, a definite dry winter rest. So many have been lost through infection in the wet, cold winter months. The secret is to largely keep the hose away from these plants for a few cold weeks in winter. It is hard to do...but it works! Regular repotting when in growth is greatly beneficial to this group. They loose roots very quickly when over-watered and when the mix breaks down and the air space between your potting medium is reduced. Repot every 18 months to two years. (Editor's note: Depending on your mix, you may wish to repot more frequently. Some of our better Paph. growers repot every 8 months to a year.) Light conditions can also vary greatly. However, when in full growth they like long periods of good suffused light (I use 70% shade cloth all year).

The third group are basically called the mottled leaf Paphiopedilums and are largely from the Barbata section (eg. *barbatum*, *callosum*, *lawrenceanum*, *mastersianum*, *sukhakulii*, *superbiens*, *tonsum*, and *venustum*). These like shaded, suffused light with a little winter warmth. I grow them in the glasshouse on the lower benches, with the larger Paphiopedilum species growing above them on higher shelves and in hanging pots. In these conditions I find they grow all year and flower regularly.



Paph. barbatum



Paph. philippinense

The fourth and final group are the large growing multifloral and sequential flowering Paphiopedilum species that make up the Coryopedilum section (eg. *philippinense*, *rothschildianum*, *sanderianum* and *stonei*, etc.), the Pardalopetalum section (eg. *haynaldianum*, *lowii*, *parishii*, etc.) and the Cochlopetalum section (eg. *glaucophyllum*, *liemianum*, *primulinum*, etc.). They all grow in my glasshouse on the top shelves or in hanging pots. They receive the first rays of light coming through the 70% shade cloth over the house and when in full growth love to be fed well and “pushed along”. I do not give them a lot of winter heat, but am convinced they would grow more consistently throughout the year with a little winter growth. Repot them regularly, give them good light all year, and do not divide them up into too small a clump when repotting. They will often sulk and you will wait years for them to reflower if you get too greedy when dividing.

Given the right conditions, *Paph. venustum* will grow and flower regularly. *Paph. parishii* and *Paph. lowii* can be grown mounted and I find they do well on tree fern and in teak baskets suspended from the roof.

As you can see, there is a Paphiopedilum species that would suit all orchid growers. When the right conditions are provided, they are one of the most trouble free of all orchids to grow. We all have a responsibility to keep some species orchids in our collections for the future to enjoy. Paphiopedilums are a good choice for both the experienced and novice grower.



Paph. venustum  
album 'Candor  
Peridot' HCC/AOS

(Article originally published in *Orchids Australia*, April 2002.)



Paph. malipoense  
'Candor Spring Green'  
AM/AOS



Paph. parishii  
'Amalia' AM/AOS



Paph. charlesworthii  
'Catatank'