

In This Newsletter: President's blurb, Club activity including Kokedama, Doc's awarded beauties, Sequential blooming Phrag Grande, Speaker's Day information.

The Spike
Summer 2024

June, July, August

EIOS is Now on Facebook! At [easterniowaorchidsociety](https://www.facebook.com/easterniowaorchidsociety)
And on the web at [easterniowaorchidsociety.org](https://www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org)



EASTERN IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY

The Spike

A small group of people with a big love of growing orchids.



Best from Two Continents: Cypripedium Anna! First bloom in the Dusdieker Cyp. bed this spring. Cross between Chinese *Cyp. macranthos* and the North American *Cyp. parviflorum var. parviflorum*. About the only contribution I see that the parviflorum contributed was the yellow heart shaped staminode with red spots. This hybrid was made by Werner Frosch in Germany in 2012.

PRESIDENT'S BLURB

I had an interesting conversation with a person while at Noelridge Greenhouses promoting our Orchid Society, Mothers Day. While examining an orchid in our display, a person made the comment that she grows them successfully around the base of her mail box post, has for years. I was rather stunned and amused by the comment. You just can't dispute it. Best response was to just go along with it and praise their success. It was a great chuckle! (Iowa does have some terrestrial native orchids but doubt they grow around her mailbox) We were able to sell all of the orchids Nile and Lois picked up from Dr

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Calendar of Events

June EIOS meeting: Repotting at Jon and Joan Lorences' house	Jun. 9th, 2024 2 PM
Central Iowa Speaker's Day at the Lion's Club, Johnston, Iowa.	July 20, 2024 \$30 advance
Ivan Portillo from Ecuagenera	\$35 at the door.
David Sorokowsky, Paph Paradise	
Mid-America Orchid Congress, Dayton, Ohio. Assoc with Ohio Vally Orchid Fest.	August 24-25, 2024
September EIOS meeting. Quarter plant auction	Sept. 5th, 2024
Shueyville Church	

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Unfortunately our April meeting speaker had to cancel due to health issues. So our program changed quickly. For those of you that couldn't make it, you missed out on something new and fun.

Kokedama by Jon Lorence

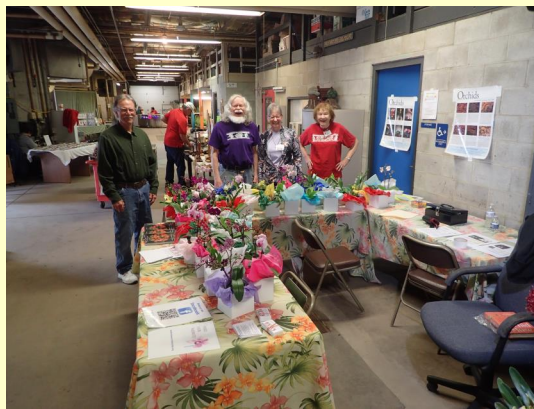


Kokedama is a traditional Japanese method of displaying plants. The name Kokedama translates to "moss ball". Koke = moss, dama = ball. Originated in Japan in the 17th century. Moss spheres create a sculptural display and visual impact of floating moss spheres. It was invented as a way for the lower classes to enjoy bonsai without needing to own expensive pots. Kokedama is sometimes called "poor man's bonsai ". Both are small displays of plants and moss. According to the Japanese, in Kokedama, the green moss spheres symbolizes maternal love and charity. The spherical shape of the ball is believed to add credence to the plants naturality while creating peacefulness and the Zen spirit. Using kokedama is also a practice that supports sustainability. Kokedama celebrates the irregular, intimate, and modest forms of nature.



NOELRIDGE SPRING SHOWCASES! As in past years, EIOS has had an exhibit at the Easter and Mother's Day Noelridge Showcases in Cedar Rapids. We have a variety of orchids for sale - which we sold out! Our orchid display is an 'eye-catcher' for those passing by and prompts many questions about how to grow or *are these all orchids!* Special thanks to all club members who helped during these events: Jon and Joan Lorence, Bill Page, Sharon Neff, Michael Hampton, Becky Briggs, Samantha Appleby, Denise Klemp, Nile and Lois Dusdieker.

Displays:
Easter L
MDay R



Phragmipedium Grande (caudatum x longifolium)

By Jon Lorence

I have provided a few photos of a bud from Phrag Grande in the process of opening. Surprisingly, the whole process took a very short time, 36 - 48 hours. I love the reddish color and the long petals. The petals continue to grow in length for a couple more days after the flower is open. The whole process is fun to watch.

Phragmipediums are found in Mexico, Central and South America. Most are terrestrial living in loose, organic rich matter. Rainfall is plentiful in their natural growing environment.

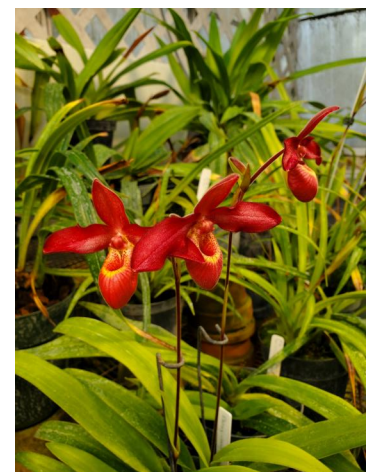
Phragmipediums are divided into two groups, **cool growing** and **warm growing**. *Besseae*, *schlimii*, and *kovachii* are examples of cool growing phrags. Examples of warm growing Phrags are *caudatum*, *longifolium*, and *sargentianum*. Phrag Grande's parental lineage are both warm growing. *Phrags caudatum and longifolium* are multifloral, require 50-70% humidity, tolerate warm temperatures, require bright indirect light, and good air movement.

Phragmipedium require growing media that drains well; maintains consistent moisture, and never allowing the media to dry. When watering, let the water flow well from the bottom of the pot. Repot your phrags every 12-18 months or whenever water

does not flow freely from the bottom of the pot. Try to plan repotting when new growth is showing or during spring and fall. Never repot during the winter or summer as it creates additional stress on the plant. When watering, never let water stand in the crown of your plant. This will help eliminate crown rot.

Provide a regular fertilization schedule to promote healthy growth and flowering. Good air movement is a necessity. If you are one of the people that tends to over water plants, then phrags are right for you.

Phragmipediums can be found in many colors and sizes. Below are two of Jon's more colorful Phrag hybrids. Center is **Fritz Schomburg** (*Phrag. kovachii* x *Phrag. besseae*) and below right is **Phrag. Jason Fischer** (*Phrag. Memoria Dick Clements* x *Phrag. besseae*).



Doc's Award Winning Beauties

By Nile Dusdieker

Dr. Robert Bannister has an amazing greenhouse in Des Moines (pics taken this spring) and a climate controlled grow area in a house next door where he can bloom phalaenopsis literally all year around. He supplies multiple wedding events and is a supporter of his local orchid society, Central Iowa Orchid Society.



He is a loyal member of our society as well and donates his beautiful phalaenopsis for our holiday party and fundraising at Noelridge Showcases on Easter and Mother's Day. (Easter plants shown on table at right) His flowers are unique and very different from those found at local 'big box' stores. He travels to San Diego to pick new varieties imported from Taiwan. He was the first in our area to have 'big-lip' phals for show and sale. When Lois and I visit his greenhouse we keep an eye

out for *really special* plants that might be worthy of

American Orchid Judging. He had four awarded this spring. Many of the Taiwanese imports have incorrect or no names and may only have a number. In Taiwan the best bloomers are selected and then propagated (mericloned) by the thousands for sale around the world. Obviously the 'no-named' ones can not receive AOS awards but ones registered are eligible. If Doc receives an award he tries to name his award using the Taiwan clone number & Iowa which recognizes the mericlone and also prevents other identical plants from receiving another award (all clones with a set number should be identical).

Phal I-Hsin Moon Ice 'KHM2544 - Iowa' AM 80 pts is shown on left. **Phal KV Butterfly 'JPM2 - Iowa' HCC 78 pts** is just below. Both are standard shaped flowers



but with unusual color contrast. The yellow

lip on Moon Ice was just brilliant to view in the sunlight. Just the reverse was seen

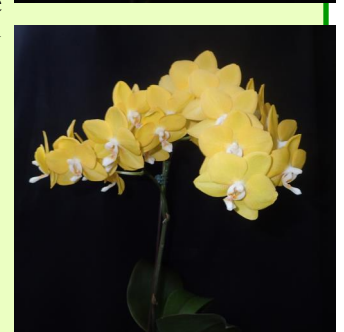
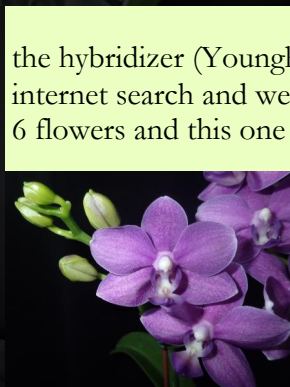
with **Phal Younghome Golden Pixie 'Iowa' AM 84** (right). Interest-



ingly, Doc and I had

the hybridizer (Younghome) but not the name - BUT - good ole internet search and we found it. A previous award only had only 6 flowers and this one was much better. Lastly **Phal Yu-Yan**

Little Peacock 'YHLD381-Iowa' HCC 77 pts (left) was a true blue color - a cross of tiny **Purple Martin** with big *amabilis*. Congrats to Doc Bannister - keep growing these beauties. Our societies love you!



35th ANNUAL SPEAKERS DAY

Saturday, July 20, 2024
Johnston Lions Club Community Center
6401 Merle Hay Road
Johnston, Iowa
Sponsored by Central Iowa Orchid Society

Iván Portilla

[Ecuagenera Cia. Ltda., Ecuador](#)

Jorge Iván Portilla Andrade, is an Ecuadorian orchid grower and researcher. He is passionate about the conservation and reproduction of orchids and tropical plants. He has been working with orchids, araceae and other genera for more than 20 years. During his career he has participated in expeditions to different regions of the country together with botanical researchers from different parts of the world, contributing to finding new species. Ivan is also passionate about orchid hybridization and has been involved in the creation of new hybrids that have been reproduced in the laboratories of the company he represents. He is currently Executive Vice President of Ecuagenera, a company dedicated to the conservation, research, commercialization and reproduction of the flora species in Ecuador.

Ivan's topics will be "*Cattleya maxima*, in situ and its different forms" and "Orchids of Ecuador".

David Sorokowsky

[Paph Paradise, CA](#)

After receiving his degree in biochemistry from the University of Toronto, Dave opted to step outside his chosen field and operated a tropical fish import business for eight years. Upon returning to school, Dave received a degree in enology and viticulture from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. While attending Brock, Dave began acquiring orchids one 2" pot at a time and before he graduated, Dave had over 100 orchids. Wine-making and a passion for orchids prompted Dave to seek a warmer climate in California about one year later. Dave has been growing paphiopedilums for about 20 years and seriously hybridizing for over 10 years. He is an accredited AOS judge and his paphiopedilums have received over 100 awards to date from the AOS and CSA. Many of those awarded plants playing important roles in his breeding program. In 2018 Dave left wine-making in order to focus all of his time running Paph Paradise Orchids.

David's topics will be "Don't Fear The Slippers" and "Compact Multiflorals for the Crowded Collection".

Registration <https://www.c-we.com/cios/ciosreg.htm> \$30 pre or \$35 at the door.

Information on pre-ordering plants : info@ecuagenera.com <https://paphparadise.com>

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

Micheal Hampton
2280 McGowan Blvd.
Marion, IA 52302-2258



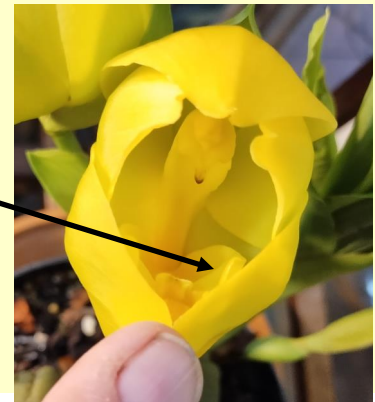
The Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

A small group of people with a big love of growing orchids

www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org

Summer Tulips? By Nile D

Lois and I saw this wonderful orchid in nature high in the Andes of Ecuador. This is *Anguloa clowesii* (the tulip orchid) which I got from Ecuagenera and actually can get it to bloom, usually late Spring. The flower never opens more than shown here. What intrigues me is the hinged mobile lip that easily flops up against the column presumably to push the pollinator to come in contact with pollen or the stigmatic surface to deposit pollen. It is also called the cradle orchid. The flower is pollinated by bees.



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Bannister. There were some very beautiful plants. Thanks again for the donations!

Our June meeting *How to Repot Your Orchid* will be held at my home. If it is raining or a good chance of rain, the meeting will be canceled. If you need help with a particular plant, unsure about the whole process, or just have questions, get help and ideas. Bring your plant and get your hands dirty. No better way to learn than to be guided along the way as you do it yourself, or just watch somebody else do it (better yet). Bring a snack if you like.

June is our last meeting until September 5th 2024 when we will have our plant auction. Remember, if you have an orchid that just will not rebloom, donate it to the auction and support the society. See you in September!

We elected officers for the coming year: Jon Lorence - President, Executive Committee: Joan Lorence, Denise Klemp, Matt Berry, Sharon Neff, Cathy Wilcox Treasurer, Nile Dusdieker-webmaster, newsletter, MAOC representative, Nancy Distler AOS representative.

Directions to Jon and Joan Lorence's house.

191 Knollwood Dr NE
Solon, IA 52333

