

In This Month's Newsletter: Note from the President, EIOS orchid Blog!, Wanted 'Dead now Alive', Longwood Gardens, AOS webinars upcoming.

The Spike
April 2022

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.



AOS AWARD
20222562 *Rhyncattlanthe Ka-boom 'Mem. Ebony Metcalf Small'* HCC 76 pts (Rth. Guess What x Rth. Schroder's Love) awarded to EIOS member **Jeff Metcalf** at the Wisconsin Orchid Show in Racine Wisconsin on March 5th. Congrats to Jeff. Lovely yellow for Spring!



PRESIDENT'S BLURB

Hello, EIOS!

It seems we are finally turning a corner; it is officially spring, the days are longer than the nights, and I am starting to see some blossoms in the landscape. Most of our orchids, during their winter dormancy or rest, have likely already bloomed for the season (or will be finishing soon) and now that the blooming season is ending, the growing season begins. Your plants will be wanting more water, more food, and – generally – more attention from you! Make sure you research the exact needs of each of your plants so you know exactly when to re-pot, when to resume or increase watering, and where to position your plant so that it gets the right amount of light and air circulation.

If you grow outdoors during the summer, now is the time to start preparing your growing space (or spaces). Stock

(Continued on page 6)

Calendar of Events

EIOS Monthly meeting: 6:30 Social, 7 pm program. Shueyville Methodist Church: Native Orchid Conservation by Peter Tobias. Also available on Zoom	April 7th, 2022
Easter Showcase at Noelridge Greenhouse. EIOS will have display and plants for sale.	April 16-17, 2022 11-5 pm
Mother's Day Noelridge Greenhouse Showcase. EIOS will have display and plants for sale.	May 8 th, 2022 10-5 pm
EIOS Monthly meeting: 6:30 Social, 7 pm program. Chicago Judging Center AOS Awards	May 12th, 2022
EIOS picnic - details to be determined.	Early June, 2022

President: Andy Coghill-Behrends
(319) 512-8076
E-mail: mistercoghill@hotmail.com

Vice-President

Secretary: Mike Hampton
(319) 377-0106
E-mail: mike_eios@qwest.net

Treasurer: Cathy Wilcox
(319) 354-5879
Email: cwilcox952@gmail.com

AOS Representative: Laynez Ackermann
(319) 656-2063
Email: lwla@kctc.net

Mid-America Representative:
Nile Dusdieker
(319) 626-2236
E-mail: niledusdieker@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Mike Hampton
(319) 377-0106
E-mail: mike_eios@qwest.net

Web Page Editor: Nile Dusdieker
(319) 626 2236
E-mail: niledusdieker@gmail.com



EIOS GROWERS BLOG: The show-and-tell table at our March meeting: Jon Lorence, Andy Coghill-Behrends, and Sharon Neff are inspecting the beautiful blooms. The ZOOM projection program by Mary Gerritsen 'Masdevallia Species and How To Grow Them.' showed the varied nature of Masdevalias



and comments on how to grow them. We also had a nice discussion on future leadership for the club with several volunteers stepping forward. The consensus was to have a team working together to assure club activities continue. **We will need volunteers for the upcoming Easter and Mother's Day Showcases** at Noelridge Greenhouse in Cedar Rapids. Here are some member's comments.



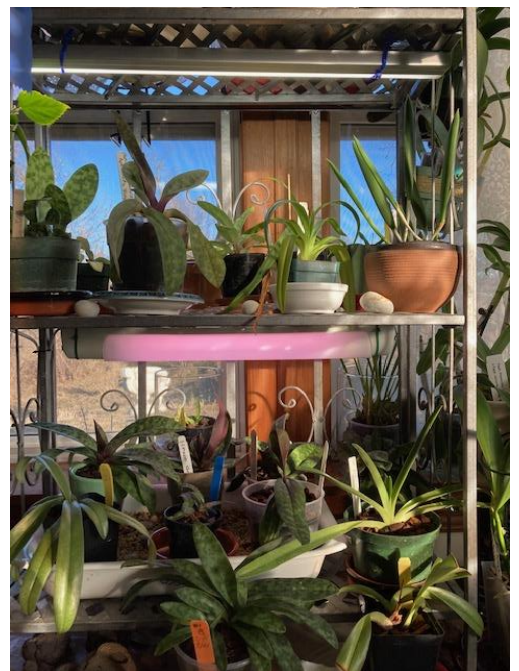
LAYNEZ ACKERMANN: As orchid growers, the prime thing we look for is of course the flower. It's fun to watch them develop and grow and bloom into beauties. But sometimes surprises are the best thing. Pic left, is a nice Cat. Claesiana coerulea. For the last month I have been watching it. First the buds then watching them grow and swell. Finally, they break sheath. If they are like this one after breaking sheath they continue to enlarge increasing the anticipation of the soon to be viewed beauty. However sometimes a surprise is better. As I was watching this one develop I didn't see what was happening on the same table, along came



Pic right. This is a *Paph haynaldianum* that I never saw develop and break sheath and grow until it surprised me one day when I saw it.



SHARON NEFF: *Patience Pays Off with Paphiopedilums!* I am excited to see a bud on my Paph. Greyi. I purchased it in 2018 from one of the vendors at our EIOS annual show. It has mottled green leaves with purple undersides. It was in bloom in a 2" pot when I purchased it. I repotted in paph mix in 2019. It has languished in a North window since. Last fall I moved it to a shelf in a room with South and East windows and small Grow-lites overhead. The pot sits in a tray of damp gravel with my vinicolor Maudie paphs -which bloom regularly- and a few phrags. I water on Mondays



and some plants get an extra watering on Fridays. In November I noticed new leaf growth. Now I see a bud. It has been so long I forget what the bloom looks like. I could look it up in my records or online but I think I'll just wait a couple more weeks for the reveal.

MARCIA WHITMORE: I've been moving in some new directions in Art. I purchased some excellent polychrome pencils and an assortment of colored papers with the thought of doing white and pastel plants/flowers in colored pencils. It's been fun...always gives me a sense of satisfaction when a drawing or watercolor is coming along. As the weather improves I won't have as much time for Art...repotting orchids and working in the flower beds and vegetable garden takes most of time. Working on finishing *Paph. malipoense* hybrid, watercolor painting above 12" x 36", *Angraecum leonis* (left) working on finishing & sold! And *Paph philippinense* 'alba' x *primulinum* 'alba'. (left below)



These are my plants currently in bloom:

Dendrobium Rainbow Dancer (below) *Paphiopedilum* Vanda M. Pear (below right) *Phragmipedium* Hanna Popow (far right)

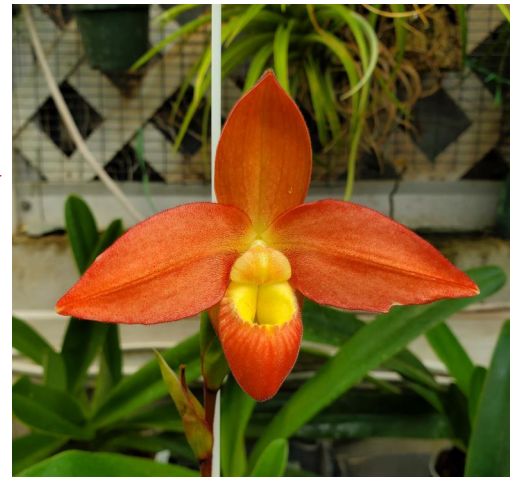


JOHN AND JOAN LORENCE shared these: *Dendrobium anosmum* (species) (below), 85 flowers - spring blooming nobile!



Phrag. Don Wimbur 4N (Eric Young 'Rocket Fire' 4N x *besseae* 'Rocket Town' 4N) The 4N refers to the number of chromosomes (double normal) giving the flower more substance, size and color.

(right)



Finally, *Phrag richteri* 'Lorence' AM/AOS Six flowers and five buds on three inflorescences awarded at the Illowa Orchid Show in Bettendorf, Iowa on April 17th, 1999. This is now an accepted species - was considered x *richteri* - natural hybrid of *pearci* x *boisserianum* and it is still alive and well!

WANTED: DEAD NOW ALIVE! CALLISTA DENDROBIUMS

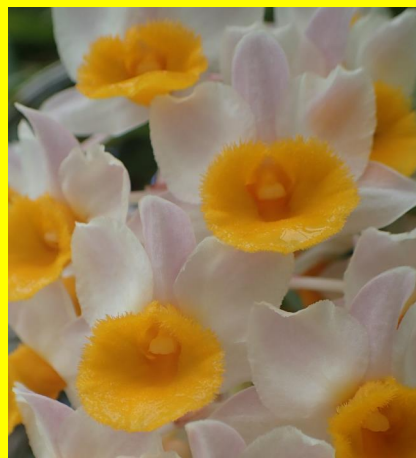
I have been going through the greenhouse and discarding sick, marginal, and frankly dead orchids which makes room for new ones to grow *and then die!* One group I didn't discard is the Callista Dendrobiums. They look awful in the winter - canes shrivel but still stay green, usually leafless, and potting media is dry dry dry! Then about this time of spring, little bumps form on many of the canes (old and new) and gradually develop into a 'pine cone form' that differentiates into a tight cluster of buds. Suddenly, all the buds open at the same time into a showy pineapple shaped group of flowers. Some mature plants may have 50 to 100 blossoms per inflorescence. The lip of the flower has ruffles with fine velvety hairs. A delicate fragrance is suggested although my nose does not detect.

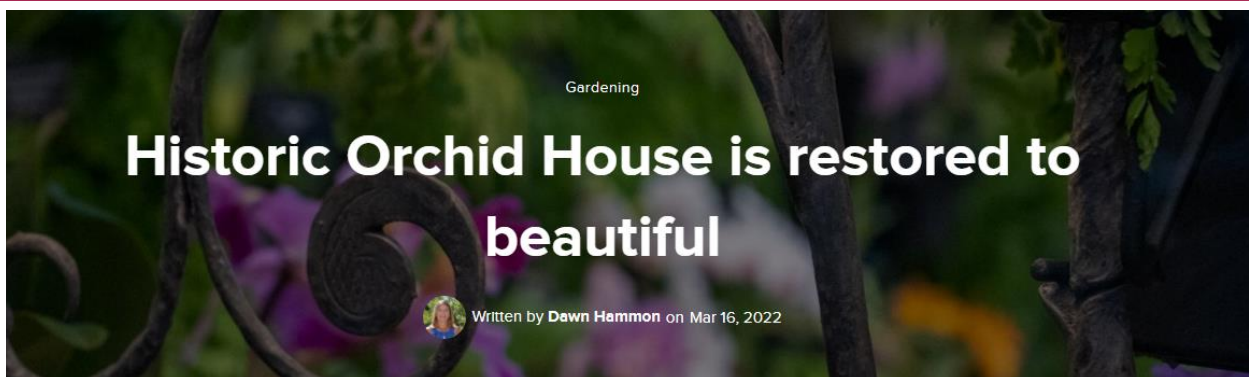


This top one is *Den. densiflorum*; all yellow with orange lip. The lower pictures are of *Den. thysiflorum* which is a larger plant with more flowers per cluster, They are white to cream with a ruffled butter yellow lip. They like to be pot bound - dry winter - wet and



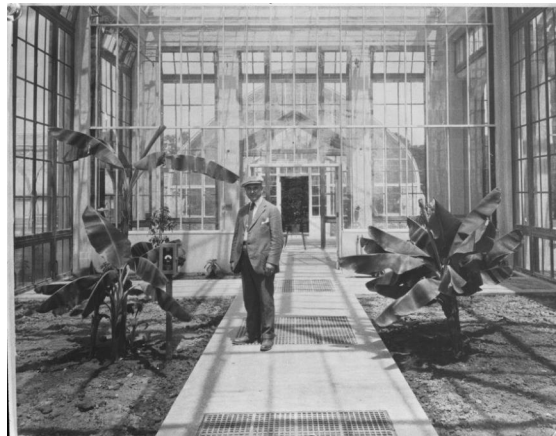
plenty of fertilizer in the summer. Don't give up on them - the Dead will come Alive again! Nile D





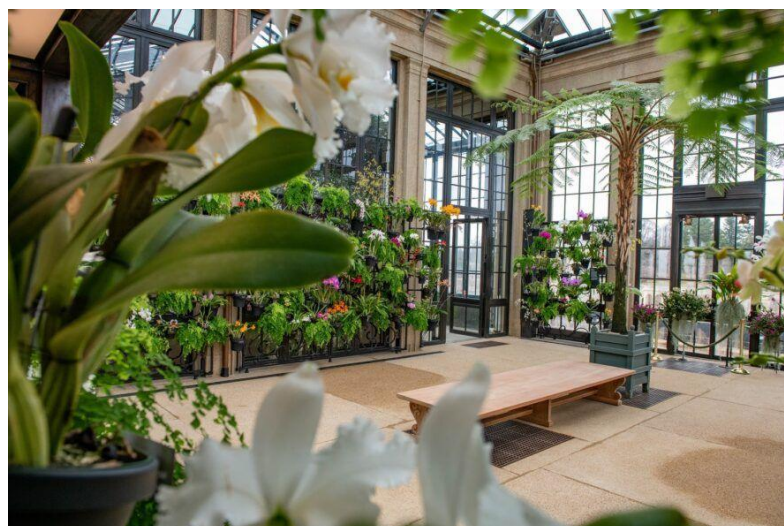
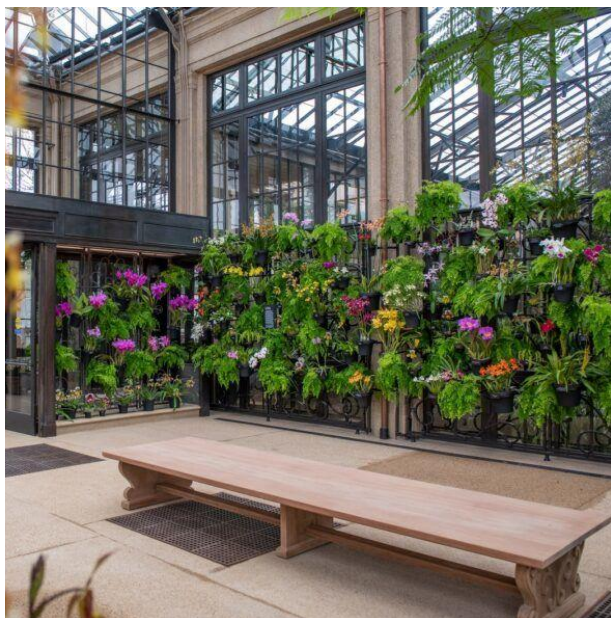
This was referenced in the Wisconsin Orchid Society Newsletter. Website: <https://inhabitat.com/historic-orchid-house-is-restored-to-beautiful/>

The history of orchids at Longwood begins with founder Pierre S. du Pont and his wife Alice. They were both founding members of the American Orchid Society. Beginning 100 years ago, the worldly collection grew with both domestic and international orchids. The orchid collection today comprises 5,000 plants of diverse origin, size and color. They represent 2,000 different taxa. It is now displayed in an original building on the property. Appropriately named Orchid House, it reopened to the public in late February following an extensive and painstaking renovation. The project is part of *Longwood Reimagined*, a thoughtful transformation of the garden's central 17 acres. The team at Longwood worked with John



Milner Architects and Bancroft Construction Company to preserve the original structure as much as possible. To achieve this end, they meticulously removed damaged areas and rebuilt the display area with a focus on original components. In addition to salvaging the best parts of the Orchid House, craftsmen painstakingly replicated all the iron trellises. They employed the same techniques used for thousands of years. The team rebuilt missing mosaic concrete in the traditional style with careful material selection and process to match the original design. Specifically, the Orchid House is curated by Greg Griffis, senior horticulturist and orchid expert at Longwood Gardens. He not only cares for the plants, but ensures they provide education to the public as well. "We have been building and caring for our collection since the 1920s," Griffis said. "Our restored Orchid House will enable us to better showcase the beauty and diversity of our notable collection, as well as continue to expand the collection and share these extraordinary plants with our guests for years to come."

Longwood Garden is located near Kennett Square, Pennsylvania - just north of Wilmington Delaware. Might be a place to visit this summer?



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

AOS NEWS!

Webinars-Coming Attractions!






When	April 19, 2022 8:30pm EDT Tuesday	April 27, 2022 8:30pm EDT Wednesday	May 04, 2022 8:30pm EDT Wednesday	May 17, 2022 8:30pm EDT Tuesday
Topic	More on Modern LED Lighting Answering Your Questions	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>	The Birds, the Bees and the Orchids Pollination in the Orchid World	Greenhouse Chat (Orchid Q&A) <i>Send in your Questions!</i>
Presenter	Kelly McCracken Owner High Desert Orchids, Miniature Orchid Specialist	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer	Doug Martin AOS Accredited Judge, Member-Native Orchid Conference	Ron McHatton Chief Education and Science Officer

(Continued from page 1)

up on repotting supplies and fertilizer so you can give your friends a fresh start and lots of nourishment.

Our next meeting will be on April 7th at the Shueyville United Methodist Church and our speaker will be Peter Tobias, who will present to us on the goals and the projects of the Orchid Conservation Alliance. He will be presenting virtually, so we will be using the same hybrid format that we used in March and those who do not wish to attend in person can view Peter's talk via ZOOM.

I hope at our meeting to present a slate of candidates for consideration before putting it to a vote at our May meeting. I have several people who have expressed interest in stepping up and I will contact them directly, but if you would like to pitch in and help with our meetings please let me know so I can include you.

Finally, there will be AOS judging the Saturday after our meeting. Nile will be out of town, but I will be driving in to the Chicago Botanical Garden; if you have a plant that you would like judged, please contact me so we can arrange a drop off/pick up. Happy Growing! Andy

Also plan to volunteer to help at our Noelridge Show-cases April 16,17 and May 8th.

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Joan Lorence

Directions to the First United Methodist Church in Shueyville, Iowa

This is half way between Cedar Rapids and Iowa City, The church is located 1 mile EAST of Exit 10 (Swisher-Shueyville) off Interstate 380. Our meetings begin with a social time at 6:30 pm; followed by the official meeting and program at 7:00 pm. Meetings are free and open to anyone interested in orchids! Our club displays orchids at regional orchid shows and participates in American Orchid Society orchid judging. Meeting programs include beginning orchid growing, discussion about various types of orchids and orchid conservation, plus plant sales and holiday party just for fun. Enjoy our website, easterniowaorchidsociety.org, read our newsletters, attend our Fall Orchid Show in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and come join us at our next meeting!