

In This Month's Newsletter: President's Blurb, photo gallery from members, Judge's perspective, EIOS annual meeting notes for approval at our Dec. meeting.

The Spike
December 2020

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.



Grand 'ole' hybrid: **Rlc. Meditation 'King's Ransom' AM/AOS.** Parent for several well known hybrids such as Erin Kobayashi, Good News, Hawaiian Princess: registered in 1974 from Hawaii. Several club members have pieces of this clone from our past auctions. The clone 'Queen's Dowry' has a touch of pink in the lip.

PRESIDENT'S BLURB

Hello, EIOS.

I hope everyone is continuing to stay safe and healthy.

The days continue to get shorter and hopefully your plants are responding to shortened day length by getting ready to bloom. Now is a good time to brush up on which of your plants require a period of dormancy and adjust your care for them accordingly. Some will require a reduced watering and/or fertilizing schedule... and some (like catasetums or habenarias) will want you to simply ignore them completely for several months until they are ready to break their dormancy. Tending to your orchids' specific needs will reward you for your efforts in the deep of winter when a little taste of the tropics is much needed and appreciated.

At our meeting on December 3rd, Peter Lin of Diamond Orchids will be

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Calendar of Events

EIOS monthly ZOOM meeting: Peter Lin "Weird and Wonderful Orchid Oddities." 6:30 social, 7 PM program	Dec. 3rd, 2020
EIOS monthly ZOOM meeting: New Years Holiday "Orchid Fun and Games"	Jan. 7th, 2021
BATAVIA invitation to their Go-To-Meeting program with Dave Sorokowsky 7 PM	Jan. 12th, 2021
EIOS monthly meeting - program pending.	Feb. 4th, 2021

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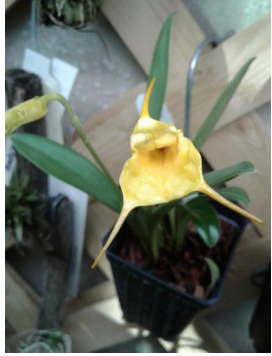


Great Growers!

Photos from EIOS members.



From **Bill Englert**: *Masd.* Aquarius (left); *Oncidopsis* Living Fire 'Glowing Embers' HCC/AOS (Middle); *Maxillaria variabilis* (top)



From **Bruce Byrum**: *Ctsm.* Ming Hsing Red Rose (Below.)

From **Bill Snyder**: No name *Dendrobium* from Farm and Fleet (right)



From **Dave Wujek**: Top *Cym.* Pipeta 'York'; middle *C.* Crystelle Smith 'Hampshire'; Bottom Rlc. Jerri Ann Richards 'Ruby Lips' a first bloom from a compot.



From **Marcia Whitmore**: (Clockwise) *C.* Cosmos 'Laine' AM/AOS; *Bulb.* Elizabeth Ann 'Buckleberry' AM/AOS; *Bulb.* Hot Lips; *Bulb.* auratum; & in bottom corner is *Zygonisia* Murasaki-komachi - How is that for an unusual name?



From **Sharon Neff**: *Paph.* Hsinying Alien. (Left.)



From A Judge's Perspective



Hknsa: (Ctna) (Jamaica Red x Mahalo Jack) 'Carmela' 11 flw 3 buds on 2 infl. NS horiz 6.5, vert 6.0 . First thing I did is to see if named and if we see awards. In OrchidPro - name is "**Cattleytonia Kat Golden Eye**". Overall the plant has a good amount of flowers on the 2 inflorescences and seems well flowered for the plant size. The splashes on the petals are very nice and the lip color seems very strong. Presentation is pretty good. The flowers seem to show a pretty thick substance, much better than Broughtonia /Cattleytonia typical thickness. Most of the flowers are open. Size seems good at 6.5cm horizontal NS: not as wide as broughtonia or narrow as some cattleytonias. It seems to get a more balanced shape from the *Cattleya* Mahalo Jack flower background. Overall, flower segments are good except the petals are more horizontal and do not upward balance the remainder of the flower segments, to fill in the flower in a more even manner. There are no awards to this hybrid. Looking deeper into typical awarded high HCC or low AM parents, this flower is a little smaller (Geometric means of parents would be half to a cm larger at 7.1 cm horiz by 7.4 cm vert). This plant does have more flowers at an average 7 flowers + buds. The average of the parents would be more like 5-6 flowers per inflorescence. I looked at *Cattleytonia* Jamaica Red 'Sentinel' AM 80 which is the only recent award from 2018 and C. Mahalo Jack 'Superb' AM 83, 2005 and 'Enza Wilson' HCC 77, 1994. I think this is a pretty well grown and flowered specimen, especially for the frozen north. Anything with broughtonia background needs lots of moisture and humidity when developing the new growth to pop out a plump inflorescence. I think that it would be interesting to see if the petals develop slightly larger to fill in. I would pass on a flower quality award (Cattleya scale) due to the size and fullness. Well grown, this plant can turn out more inflorescences providing to the grower a CCM and if the flowers correct, then it could be pointed.

These two plants were blooming in the Dusdiekers' greenhouse. The Paph was from a seedling compot. One more from Bruce Byorum is on the next page. Judges were Steve Gonzales, Larry Sexton and Andy Coghill-Behrends.

As most of you know: orchid shows and many other gatherings including some monthly judging sessions have been cancelled. With all the Zoom meetings and other virtual activity, I thought it would be fun to solicit an AOS judge's opinion of 3 plants virtually. I requested "*For a Plant you would like judged - send me 3 high quality pics - front and side of flower and full plant PLUS name and measurements of the flower - natural spread horizontally and vertical spread PLUS number of flowers and inflorescences.*" I asked 3 separate Chicago Center AOS Judges to render their opinions based on the photos - the plants were submitted anonymously. Nile D



Paphiopedilum Annabellchen (Paph. liemianum x Paph. delenatii) NS horiz 10.5 cm Vert 7.2 DS 3.0 x4.5 Petals 5.6 x 2.2. As a judge my first question of a hybrid: is this an improvement over both parents? My answer is yes. It has picked up the multi bloom trait of the *P. liemianum* but lost the distinct color of this parent. The color comes from the *P. delenatii* and gives a nice pastel color to the flower. How does this compare to other awards? This cross has three awards AM 80; HCC 79; HCC 77. In all three cases our plant has fewer flowers and buds and the natural spread comes in a little smaller than the other three. Our plant has good color going for it and also has as good if not better form compared to the other three. I would nominate it for an AOS award! My score HCC 76. It has enough going for it to get an award, but the low flower count and smaller size compared to the other awards would not let me score this higher than the other three awards already in the books.

More From A Judge's Perspective

Aliceara Sunday Best (*Brsdm.* Gilded Urchin x *Milt. spectabilis*) 10 Flowers, 9 Buds on 2 inflorescences
Size: 9.1cm Horiz, 10.5cm Vert.

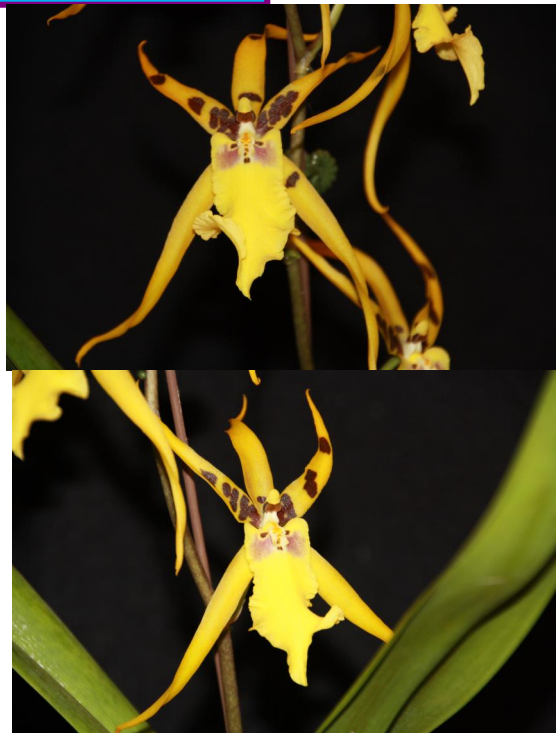
This is an absolutely stunning flower! It has bright, clear yellow color and bold mahogany spots at the center. The flowers are almost four inches across and over four inches from top to bottom. And there are a lot of them, with almost 20 flowers and buds on two inflorescences. If this plant were to come before one of my ribbon judging teams, it would be a top contender for the blue ribbon – and maybe even a Best of Class!

At the AOS Judging table, however, it might not fare as well.

In order to make a judgement as to whether a flower is deserving of an award, a judge looks at (1) the previous awards to a hybrid for comparison; (2) the “parents” of the plant to see if the plant being presented brings forth the best qualities of each parent.

Aliceara Sunday Best (*Brassidium* Gilded Urchin x *Miltonia spectabilis*) has received a half dozen HCC/AOS awards between 1982-2002. Compared to the previous awards, this plant has many qualities which are equal or superior to previous awards. The flower size is comparable to the awarded clones, the bright color is a definite advantage, and it has many more flowers: the highest count was 11 flowers on one inflorescence and the lowest count was only 6 flowers. After comparing this plant to the previous awards, I would be inclined to nominate the plant for judging, expecting it to receive an HCC/AOS.

But after a comparison with the parents, I took pause. This flower did not have the best qualities of both parents – because it had all the qualities of one parent (*Brassidium* Gilded Urchin) and none of the qualities of the other. If *Miltonia spectabilis* was a parent of this plant, the flowers would be expected to be smaller and rounder, with wider petals and sepals, and the deep yellow color would be tempered with white and pink hues. In short, this flower is nearly identical to Gilded Urchin in every way and – since I do not have the plant tag as a reference point – I would decline to nominate it based on a suspicion that it is a mislabeled plant and is actually *Brassidium* Gilded Urchin.



TO EIOS MEMBERS: IF YOU FIND THIS INTERESTING - NOMINATE ONE OF YOUR PLANTS AND WE WILL DO THIS AGAIN NEXT MONTH. WE NEED FRONT AND SIDE VIEWS OF THE BEST FLOWER, MEASUREMENTS OF FLOWER IN CENTIMETERS, AND FULL VIEW OF PLANT. PHOTOS NEED TO BE CLEAR WITH PLAIN BACKGROUND.

THE NEXT STEP IS TO SEND YOUR PLANTS IN FOR CHICAGO JUDGING WHEN THINGS REVERT BACK TO NORMAL.

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society Annual Meeting 2020

This meeting will be held December 3rd, 2020 virtually via ZOOM in conjunction with EIOS club virtual meeting. The following items and motions are up for approval.

Approval of Club Officers: Andy Coghill-Behrends, President; Vice President position is open; Michael Hampton, Secretary and Newsletter Co-editor; Cathy Wilcox, Treasurer; Laynez Ackermann, AOS Representative; Nile Dusdieker, MAOC representative, Newsletter Co-editor, and Web Master; Bill Snyder, registered agent in charge of filing nonprofit forms. Club currently has about 49 members.

Treasurers report: Cathy Wilcox will finalize year end and publish in the EIOS newsletter.

Approve the activities of the club and specifically the actions of the officers of the club for 2020 including Treasurer's report and documentation in the newsletter of club activities .

All club services are provided by members on a purely volunteer basis. This includes meeting preparation, refreshments, representing the club at regional orchid shows and orchid judging events, orchid field trips and arranging speakers and educational programs. **The club shall provide documentation of donated volunteer services upon request which states that no goods or services were received by the donors from the club.**

At times the club needs to purchase items for club activities such as holiday food, gift plants, and support items like ribbons and awards for our show. These items may be purchased and paid for by individual members at the direction of the club officers with bills submitted to club treasurer for reimbursement. **The club has a policy to reimburse individual members for purchase of items specifically designated by the officers for general club use.**

OTHER BZ:

In person activity by club members ceased in March of 2020 due to the CoVid19 pandemic. We hope to resume sometime in the spring to summer of 2021. Until then Andy Coghill-Behrends has developed virtual meetings on ZOOM which have been well attended. Club funds have been used to pay honorariums for the speakers.

CLUB DUES for 2021, SINGLE \$20, FAMILY \$30 due in January 2021: In lieu of the gift plant to each member at 2020 Holiday Party, the club subsidized an order from Sunset Valley Orchids in California this fall. Members not taking part in that order are credited \$10 toward 2021 dues. Members also received the AOS *Guide to Orchid Culture* in Memoria to Irene Leeson. Books are available for those who have not yet received their copy.

MOTION TO ACCEPT ALL THE ABOVE ITEMS PRESENTED TO THE VIRTUAL EIOS DECEMBER MEETING.

For questions on membership status and amount of dues owed please email either niledusdieker@gmail.com or Cathy Wilcox at cfwilcox952@gmail.com

Dues can be mailed to EIOS c/o Cathy Wilcox 119 Taft Speedway, Iowa City, Iowa 52245

If a member would like a copy of the current membership - email Nile and he will attach to the individual's email.

Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

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The Eastern Iowa Orchid Society

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

www.easterniowaorchidsociety.org



Who says “*you can’t bloom a Vanda in Iowa in the Winter?*”
Mary Horn certainly can! Congrats.

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presenting on “**Wild, Weird, and Wonderful: A Portrait of Orchid Oddities.**” Orchids have evolved some very bizarre mechanisms to assure their pollination and this will surely be a very interesting and enlightening discussion. Our social time will start at 6:30 PM; please join us to check in with other society members and bring your blooming plants for “show-and-tell.” The presentation at 7:00 will be followed by a short business meeting. We need to approve the motions for our annual business meeting as enclosed in this newsletter.

Thanks for all who have attended our virtual meetings on Zoom. Remember, you can sign in on your smart phone whether or not you use video. You will still see the presentation on your phone screen. Data rates may apply.

The Batavia Orchid Society has invited our members to attend their virtual meeting January 12 on go-to-meeting with Dave Sorokowsky from Paph. Paradise. A Link will be sent out when time approaches. To reciprocate, we invited Batavia folks to attend Peter Lin’s presentation this December. We will see a few new faces!

Happy growing!

-Andy

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Virtual Meeting on Zoom
Andy will send out an email invite

Directions to the First United Methodist Church in Shueyville, Iowa. **In person meetings on hold!**

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!