

In This Month's Newsletter: Note from the President
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The Spike
March 2023

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.



Anyone remember this plant? Rossioglossum Rawdan Jester exhibited by the Kansas City Orchid Society at our 2016 EIOS Orchid Show at Noelridge Greenhouse. Come to our March meeting where Andy Coghill-Behrends will tell us more about this genus that is known for some spectacular orchids.

PRESIDENT'S BLURB

I would like to begin by welcoming our newest members, Charlie Katzman and Emma Killoran. Welcome to the beautiful world of orchids. You have a great start, you'll do well.

Our next meeting is March 2nd. Andy is presenting a program on the genus Rossioglossum which is akin to Odontoglossum, now incorporated into Oncidium.

I hope your orchids are well. We have only three shows left. **Please consider contributing your plants to our society displays. Batavia Feb. 24-26, Racine Wisc is March 3-5 and the Illinois Show is March 10-12.** Take a couple days off, you deserve it. Take in one of the shows, dinner out, and theater or museums. You know you want to! (You are welcome to attend a show and help with setup)

Please consider donating a couple hours of your time to help with our society

(Continued on page 6)



Calendar of Events



Batavia Orchid Show: Cantigny Park, Wheaton, Illinois. EIOS will have a display. NOTE LOCATION CHANGE!	Feb. 25-26 2023, 10AM to 4PM daily
EIOS MONTHLY MEETING at Shueyville Church; program by Andy Coghill-Behrends on the genus <i>Rossioglossum</i>.	March 2, 2023 6:30 social 7PM program
Wisconsin Spring Show at Milaeagers in Racine, WI. EIOS will attend and display.	March 4-5 2023
Illinois Orchid Show at the Chicago Botanical Gardens. EIOS plans a display. Last show of the season.	March 11-12, 2023, 10AM to 4PM daily

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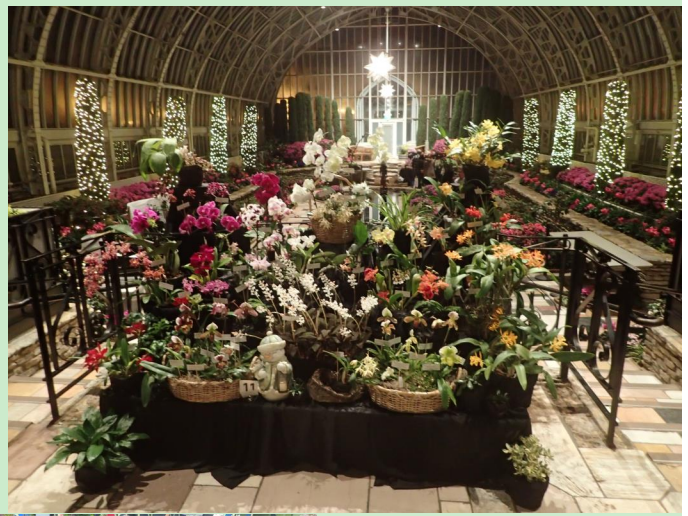
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St Paul, Minnesota, Winter Carnival: Burr Outside but Warm Inside for the Orchid Show!



Six brave Iowans ventured north to bring plants and setup a lovely exhibit atop the 'Sunken Garden' at the Como Park, Marjorie McNeely Conservatory, a 95 year old classic greenhouse. Our display received 1st place and Best of Class for Orchid Society Exhibits. We had close to 60 plants contributed by 10 members. It was dark by the time we were finished but the ambience made for a nice picture (right). Once the doors



opened Saturday morning, a continuous line of people viewed the orchid show and made it difficult to photograph the display. Tradition has that we take the little snowman as a seasonal accent along with the orchids. The ribbons added an extra touch. We had



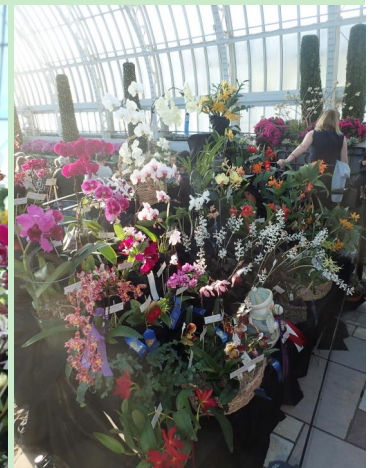
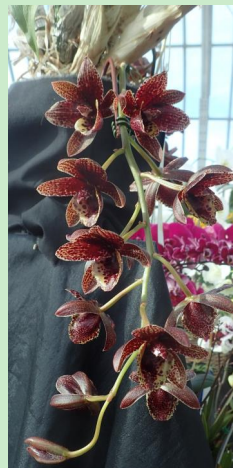
some truly spectacular plants shown here. Andy brought a huge *Ludisia discolor* with over 39 spikes in full bloom. This terrestrial is known for its colorful dark striped leaves. It was the centerpiece of our exhibit. Andy received a Special Award for best plant in the show. Jeff Metcalf brought many plants including *Wilsonara John Miller* that garnered a 1st and Best of Class for Oncidiums. For ease of transport, we placed the paphiopedilums in baskets up front. Competition was tough for that group of plants as Minnesota



is know for their outstanding slipper growers. Four AOS awards were given to paphs at the show (see page 4). Jon Lorence's *Dendrobium Yellow Song 'Canary'* (left) added color to the right top of the display and Phil



Mears Fdk. After Dark 'SVO' did the same for the other side (right). Jeff Metcalf's *Rth. Velvet Fire* was a 1st place winner and completed the color rainbow for the display. NILE



Orchid Quest: Madison, Wisconsin. Feb. 4-5, 2023

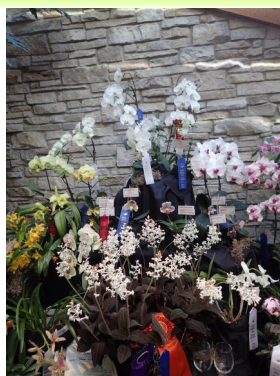
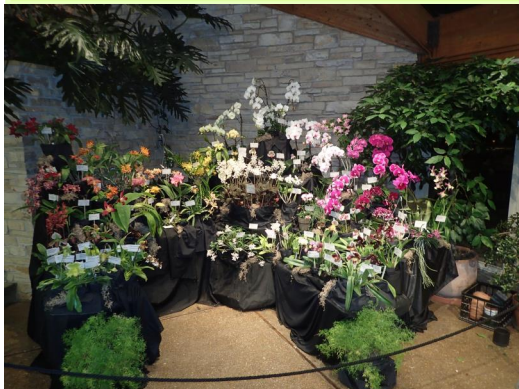
Just a one week turn-around (I now understand how basketball teams feels) and away we went to the Madison Show which is the first show attended by most of the orchid clubs in our judging region. With the help of Andy, Jeff, Jim, Bill, Deno, Nile and Lois, we put up a huge 100ft display in the atrium of the Olbricht Botanical Center.



We had 90+ plants from Des Moines, Iowa City, North Liberty, Cedar Rapids, Peosta, and the Quad Cities. We just about got kicked-out of the hall as we were putting the finishing touches (Nile calls it 'twinks') on the display as the botanical center had new rules and the boss person wanted to go home (we think). We accomplished our goals but unfortunately the host society (Orchid Growers Guild) did not get the computer judging sheets done. The next morning they could not get their computer to talk to the printer. The judges and clerks leisurely sat around and had coffee BUT finally as time was getting short before the public was allowed to enter, judging chair, Cheryl Erins, assigned teams to individual exhibits and we gave ribbons to worthy plants regardless of registration class. This was a novel approach and actually worked quite well. Our exhibit was bested by the home society but judging points were very high for both!

Thanks to all EIOS members who helped with the displays and provided plants; enjoy your ribbons.

Enjoy these photos of the display and special plants. I think it was one of our best! Nile



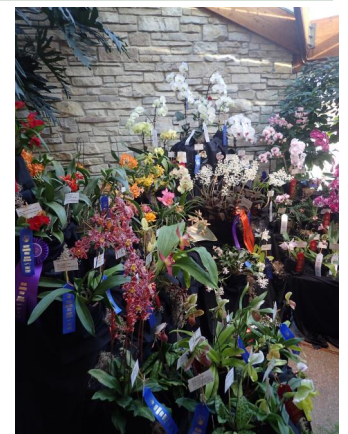
Before and after judging, the EIOS display above. We had wonderful Phals in the center and Andy's Ludisia again was the center piece - First place, Best of Class and Special award. **When we have something good-go for it!**



Doc Bannister's Phals really set off the right side of the exhibit. Further left - Deno's Phal Goldstaff, 1st place.



Lots of Paphs (left) a couple pulled for AOS judging. (right) Two Best of Class - Rth. Velvet Fire - upper left, 2nd showing for Jeff Metcalf, and Deno's Lysudamuloa Red Jewel (right lower) Far right is farewell to Madison just before take-down.



'We've Never Seen A Paph That We Didn't Like' - *Really?*

Chicago Judging Center awards a large number of Paphs because we have so many really good growers in our region. Here are some recent awards since Jan 1 2023.

Arnie Klehm is an AOS judge and has a commercial greenhouse just west of Chicago. He is a specialist in hybridizing complex paphiopedilums. This year he has presented for judging or exhibited in the orchid shows the following awarded yellow-green 'Bulldog' paphiopedilums. They all have common characteristics that make them award quality. 1- they are large 2- they are full and round with no space between sepals, petals and pouch 3- they are flat which is not all that common in complex paphs 4- they are symmetric such that a line can be drawn from point of the dorsal sepal vertical down through the staminode and pouch such that both sides are the same! 5- they have brilliant color 6- good overall substance!. See what you think



20232550a
Paph. Memoria
Randy
Herman
'Brother'
HCC 79 pts
Arnie Klehm



20232552a
Paph. June
Dunaway
'Ferdie' AM 84
pts Arnie
Klehm



20232553a
Paph. Helena
Klehm
'Kirkwood'
HCC 79 pts
Arnie Klehm

20232563a
Paph. Chuck
Wilde 'Ferdie'
AM 82 pts
Arnie Klehm



20232551a Paph. Memoria
Kay Dancy 'Ferdie' HCC 75
pts Arnie Klehm



20232568a
Paph. Blaire
Badgley
'Blair's' AM
82 pts Ar-
nie klehm

Another great grower and hybridizer is Ross Hella who has a nursery north of Minneapolis. Many of you will remember that he was a vendor at our last orchid show. His specialty is to breed smaller compact hybrids using some of the newly discovered miniature species such as *Paph thaianum*. Here are some of his awarded crosses - *Paph Tawan* (white) was exhibited by student judge Jim Vlastic. The other two are more traditional hybrids but do not have the shape of the 'Bulldogs' above. All photos are official AOS photos A Kotowski, N Dusdieker, L Cinert



20232574 Paph. Chiada Gill 'Debbie' AM 80 pts (Vlastic)
I especially like the spots deep inside the pouch (left lower)



20232561c Paph. Phyllis Prestia 'Yellow Glow' AM 82 pts
Ross Hella made by Fred Clarke in California



20232560a Paph. Kelsey's
Rose 'Deerwood' AM 81 pts
Ross Hella



20232557a Paph. QF Alanna 'Sunprarie' HCC 76 pts exhibited by
Bill Nelson - Quintal Farms Hawaii - *thaianum* in background.



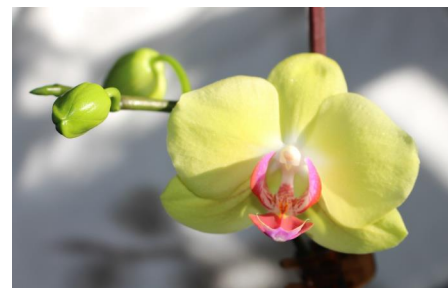
NOTE FROM JOHN LEESON: Not sure if you remember me, it has been a long time since I emailed or talked to you. I brought Irene's old Phalaenopsis which had sprouted a keiki to one of your meetings in the spring of 2021 or 2020-2021 winter. I would attend more meetings, I believe I am a member of the society, but unfortunately your meetings, the first Thursday of the month, are at the same time as meetings of the Cedar Amateur Astronomers, so I have not been able to attend, particularly because for the last 4 years I have been the Vice President or President of the CAA. As of this month, I am no longer an officer, so maybe I can make it to a meeting now... I'll work on it anyway.

Reason for the email is to update. As I mentioned, my one remaining orchid of Irene's was that Phalaenopsis which had sprouted the keiki. Well, I followed your instructions and eventually cut the keiki loose and gave it its own pot. It has been developing well and both the parent and child plant have been doing well, but had not flowered in 2 years. But just about 3-4 weeks ago both started to develop flower stems. I am attaching two pictures. One of the two plants together, the larger one is the parent. The other of the first fully open bloom of the season, one that is on the parent plant. I am really looking forward to seeing both of these orchids in full bloom!

Anyway.. just an update and a thank you for the help in me getting started enough with orchids to successfully manage to keep this one orchid, and now it's baby,



healthy enough to actually bloom again. The parent is at least 11-12 years old since Irene was growing it for at least 2-3 years before we went to Hawaii for our 50th anniversary in 2013. Irene Leeson passed away and was EIOS member.



AOS UPDATE ON AWARDS:

We have a new pricing structure for AOS awards! Due to the **fabulous digital award certificates** that can now be printed out by the exhibitors with color photograph inset, the price of awards is reduced by \$5, so AOS members **who opt to print their own certificate will pay \$35, non-members \$55.**

Should you still want a **mailed certificate** with the seal (but no photograph inset) they will now be an additional \$10 per award: A total of \$45 for AOS members, \$65 for non-members.

Sample Digital Certificate shown here. *Though I have not tried yet, I understand that if one is an AOS member, they can print past certificates with the award picture as well. NILE*



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



Our February meeting was a great success. Jon Lorence showed us how to repot orchids and ‘tear them apart’. He made it look simple and ‘they liked it!’ Several members got some fragments of the original (**C.G.Roebling**) which was quite large. Jon showed us how to remove most of the old media and dead roots and then put new bark in by shaking it down without overly compacting. We were reminded to water the plant when we got home. Nile brought a **Bc. Maikai** that had overgrown a basket which then rotted. It was unique in that it had a large mouse hole in the center. That didn’t seem to bother the plant blooming just before the holidays.

(Continued from page 1)

fundraisers at Noelridge Greenhouses. These two events are our only fundraisers. (We will have a small display and will sell orchids for \$20 in decorative boxes)

Easter Showcase: April 8th and 9th 11-5 both days.

Shifts perhaps 11-2 or 2-5

Mothers Day Showcase: May 14th 10-5

Perhaps 10-1 or 1-5

We are hoping to make the public more aware of our society as well as sell some orchids. You do not need to know a lot about either as there are informational handouts. Couldn't be easier. Besides, you can enjoy the greenhouses and perhaps purchase a beautiful, inexpensive new orchid while supporting your society. Sweet!

We had to get out of the house yesterday. Tired of being cooped up. We ended up at Earl May in IC. I needed bird feeding supplies. Walked out the door not only with the supplies but also with another plant. Orchid you might ask? No. Bird of Paradise. Just had to you know! Hurry up warm weather so I can order orchids through the mail and not buy tropicals. It is really cool though!

I hope to see you at the meeting March 2nd. Stay well!

Jon

Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

Denise Klemp and Sharon Neff

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!