

In This Month's Newsletter: Notes from the President, Keep Growing from our members, AOS page and international information.

The Spike
May 2020

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EASTERN IOWA ORCHID SOCIETY

The Spike

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



C. José Martí (C. Bob Betts x C. Bow Bells) 'Mother's Favorite' grown by Laynez Ackerman is a great 'old' hybrid (1959) whose fame includes cut flower sales for Easter and Mother's Day. Hausermanns' Nursery in Chicago had an entire greenhouse full of mature plants set to bloom for the above holidays. Most of our hobby plants bloom mid to late March (clearly too early for May sales of cut flowers). So, how did Hausermanns do it? They prolonged fall daily hour lengths with supplemental lights well into mid November which then delayed spring blooming.



PRESIDENT'S BLURB

Hopefully all of you are well. The virus epidemic has stalled the economy and isolated most of us at home. We should be thankful that we have our orchids to help keep us sane!. In this newsletter we feature your comments and pictures as to what you are doing! Fortunately we can enjoy our spring blooming orchids and maybe even a few surprise new bloomers. Lois and I have been systematically going through our orchids: repotting, adding long acting delayed release fertilizer, drenching or spraying for pests, fungal and bacterial diseases and just 'playing'

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Calendar of Events

EIOS MAY monthly meeting CANCELLED	May 7, 2020
Noelridge Mother's Day Event CANCELLED: Online sale of their spring plants available	May 12, 2020
EIOS JUNE monthly meeting is pending at this time	June 4, 2020
Central Iowa Speaker's Day at the Lions Club in Johnston, Iowa	July 25, 2020
EIOS SEPTEMBER monthly meeting - program pending	Sept. 3, 2020

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I sent out this email, "WE will NOT have a MAY EIOS meeting - We will try to get a newsletter out with some fun pictures - to that end: Please send to niledusdieker@gmail.com a picture of what you are doing with orchids with a short anecdotal comment and I will put it in the newsletter." Thanks to all who participated. NILE D

Keep Growing - What are You Doing?



Dorothy Hampton: I have been making masks for Hospitals, Family, Friends and us during this period of shelter in place. *Notice the orchid material!*



Phil Mears from his garden blog: (below)
 April 19, 2020- Are we there yet?
 On long car rides, a voice from the back seat would sometimes ask "Are we there yet?" Could that be the most asked question ever? What other questions could even compete? Maybe "How long?" You could add your own suggestions. "Are we lost?" This week in Iowa, gardeners asked the question "are we there yet?" Other questions include: When will it warm up again? When will it really be spring? On Wednesday it even surprise-snowed. From his blog: house with April snow and a bloom in the basement.
<http://mearsgarden.blogspot.com/>

Cathy Wilcox: Above is C.Parlova x C. Louis Georgiann. I've had an assortment of blooming orchids. This year, I had several catts in bloom and all my phals have put out spikes. I usually don't get many blooms from the catts or the phals. I'm sure it was because I used the fertilizer that Laynie told us about and we all got samples of it. After I brought them indoors in the fall, all plants were under lights and I brought them up to the kitchen area when they were ready to bloom.



Nancy Granner: I have two orchids blooming on my kitchen island which we think are pretty. I hope the photos come through. The small one is white with magenta (or purple) has no name so must be old and the other one is OX Black Face OX 1647. I think having a guild newsletter is a good idea to keep us all connected.

MORE *** Keep Growing - What are You Doing?**



Haley Peden: These are most of what I have blooming right now. They keep me happy and sane in these crazy times! The first picture is a phal I've been able to keep in bloom for at least 2, almost 3 months! It's amazing how long some can last. Miss our meetings!



Joe Bridge: Hope all is well. Recent bloomer, Dgmra. Plutos Drummer 'Pacific Pink' (left)

Dave Wujek: Blooming now! Oip. Celtic Sun 'Maya' (right)



Marcia Whitmore: I am painting orchids!....and doing colored pencil drawing consignments of dogs.



Thanks to our members!



Ester Retish: This is one I got at the (our) auction

A Wider View! Forwarded by Dave Wujek

Millions of orchids are being thrown out by top orchid exporter

From Bloomberg on [LINE messenger](#) for all the business news and analysis you need.

As global tourism collapses, so does the orchid industry in top exporter Thailand, where the flowers are regarded as a symbol of hospitality.

Global demand for cut flowers, from Thai orchids to Dutch tulips and Kenyan roses, has plummeted as businesses and hotels shutter worldwide and consumers stay at home. Millions of orchids -- used to decorate hotels and restaurants, and for celebrations and events -- are being cut and thrown out every day because they can't find a buyer, according to Sompong Thaveesuk, vice president of the Thai Orchids Garden Enterprise Association.

Orchid Destinations

Thailand sells more than a third of its exports to Europe and the U.S.

Source: Department of International Trade Promotion

Note: Data based on exports value in 2018

"There are barely any buyers, and even if we wanted to export flowers, we couldn't do it because most of the passenger flights, which usually carry them, have been canceled," said Sompong, who estimated demand was down 95%.

ADVERTISING

Thailand exports more than half of all the orchids it grows in a global industry worth hundreds of millions of dollars. But it's not just the exporters who are struggling. Demand from domestic buyers has also plunged because tourism, which normally contributes about a fifth of the economy, is at a standstill.

Thai orchid growers and exporters, employing some 50,000 workers, are just focusing now on keeping the farms going, while they wait for buyers to return. As coronavirus cases and deaths keeping rising across the globe, and lockdowns seem set to continue, that may be some way off.

AOS MARCH MADNESS: Each bracket voted on by AOS members and the winner
Phalaenopsis Long Trieu 'Phoenix' AM/AOS
More info on Aos.org



Bruce Byorum's No Show, Show Orchids that didn't make last month's newsletter. Thanks for sharing.



Phal. Happy Honeymoon



Paph. Petula's Moon



Paph. Delightfully Macabre



Paph. Robin in Purple (above)

Phal. Red Lion. (right)



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



*Even Lois' tomatoes in our greenhouse
are blooming!*

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with the plants learning secrets as to their cultural needs. So far the phalaenopsis, phragmepediums, and paphiopedilums are done. This has been a good time to repot Cattleya Alliance plants especially if new root growth is starting. I'm not an advocate to repot Cats on a regular time schedule but rather if they have out grown the pots or the media shows signs of rot when running water through the pot. Some of the catesetums are now large enough to begin regular watering (repotted in Feb - early March). Nature walks in the woods looking for mushrooms can be rewarding finding some native terrestrial orchids. Our cypripediums are just 'peaking' out from the mulch in our beds.

The AOS book the club ordered 'Orchids and Their Culture' should be arriving soon. Each paid 2020 member of EIOS club will receive a free copy. Will plan to distribute at June meeting OR setup a time for pickup so members can have their book for summer.
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Hosts for Upcoming Meeting

pending

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!